

THANKS FOR HER CROWN.

Mrs. Mary Baker Eddy's Letter of Gratitude to Her Kansas City Admirers.

To attest their love and veneration for Mrs. Mary Baker Eddy, the founder of Christian Science, a society of Christian Scientists of this city sent her a gift or token of remembrance in the shape of a crown—containing forty-six pearls and twelve diamonds. At the time the present was sent, which was several weeks ago, great secrecy was observed by the Scientists here about the affair, but a dispatch from Concord, N. H., Mrs. Eddy's home, made the matter public and with Mrs. Eddy's consent they gave out the following telegram from her:

"Your superb gift arrived safely. Will write."

Following this came a letter, which was made public to-day for the first time. It is as follows:

Your regal gift from loyal hearts was indeed a surprise. Its worth and artistic beauty I cannot duly name, but both are deeply appreciated. Your letters, coupled with the gift, seal its inestimable value.

I cannot say how much I thank you. My feelings are too deep for expression. I only pray to reach the crown of divine love, and to be worthy of your crown so emblematical of your love. For this fitness I shall continue to strive; since to be worthy of your heart's intent and be your "queen" in meekness and love, that I may better serve you, is my whole desire.

To the dear members of the Western Students' Christian Scientists' association I beg to say, "Thank you deeply for the confidence and love wherewith you honor me."

May each day unfold to each of you the manifold treasures of Christian Science, and may you become the rich partakers thereof. Remember, that the power to heal is gained through peace, wisdom, love, dominion over ourselves, and good will toward men. You possess these graces of spirit, or Christ power, only by loving God, good supremely. After this cometh the recognition of but one mind, which enables you to know there is no power or presence that can resist good or can prevent your prayers being effectual. While you remain in this attitude of mind you are obedient to the principle of your being, and naught can hinder your healing the sick and the sinner. With love, Mother Mary Baker Eddy.

In explaining the sending of the "crown" a Scientist said to-day:

"On July 5 last a party of Scientists from this city went to Concord, N. H., to see Mrs. Eddy. When we returned to Kansas City we wished to show our love and veneration for the founder of our religion and we sent her the crown, which was selected because a crown appears as an imprint on all Mrs. Eddy's publications.

"Mrs. Eddy fulfills the prophecies of the Scriptures. The crown sent her contained twelve stars, referred to in Revelations xii:1: 'And there appeared a great wonder in heaven, a woman clothed in white with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars.'

"And again in the tenth chapter of the same book, first and second verses: 'And I saw another mighty angel come down from heaven, clothed with a cloud and a rainbow was upon his head, and his face was as it were the sun, and his feet as pillars of fire. And he had in his hand a little book open, and he set his right foot upon the sea, and his left foot upon the earth.'

"That book is 'Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures,' which gives the true idea of God and the spiritual interpretation of the Scriptures, that which heals the sick and reforms the sinner."

Mrs. Eddy's Crown

Mrs. Woodbury, an early student who turned against her Leader, brought a lawsuit against Mrs. Eddy, claiming that she, Mrs. Woodbury, was the one Mrs. Eddy referred to as the Babylonish woman in her Communion address of June 4, 1899 (*My*, 125:5). In her lawsuit against Mrs. Eddy, Mrs. Woodbury also charged that Mrs. Eddy considered herself the Woman in the Apocalypse and that *Science and Health* was divinely inspired. If Mrs. Woodbury could show that Mrs. Eddy taught that the Woman in the Apocalypse was humanly represented by Mrs. Eddy, she at the same time could prove that Mrs. Eddy was referring to Mrs. Woodbury as the Babylonish woman. This was a very dangerous time for Mrs. Eddy, as she and Judge Hanna had recently completed an article for the *Journal* that showed Mrs. Eddy did indeed fulfill Bible prophecy. Mrs. Eddy felt it wise at that time not to print the article. This is the article "Isaiah's Vision" by Judge Hanna which The Gethsemane Foundation has available for distribution. Because Judge Hanna wrote this article and intimately understood its contents, he could only answer in the affirmative to the question, "Does Mrs. Eddy consider herself the Woman in the Apocalypse?", and had to leave town so as not to be ques-

tioned in court. The others who spoke to the court concerning this issue were all told to be very careful with their answers.

In an interview in the June 8th, 1901 issue of the *Boston Journal*, Edward Kimball answered the question, Does Mrs. Eddy consider herself to be the woman clothed with the sun? He answered, "She does not. She does not

teach or want anyone to teach that.

On the contrary, we do not believe that the word 'woman'

means any particular woman, but rather refers to conditions of thought, or the revelations of truth."

(Reprinted in *Christian Science Sentinel*, June 13, 1901.) Had Mr. Kimball answered in

the affirmative, Mrs. Eddy would most certainly have lost the case for libel which Mrs. Woodbury had brought against her. It is beyond question that Mrs. Eddy considered herself that woman but this did not mean that Mrs. Eddy considered Mrs. Woodbury the Babylonish woman, but the court probably would have deduced that Mrs. Eddy was writing that Mrs. Woodbury was the Babylonish woman. Even Mr. Knapp, who indeed held that Mrs. Eddy was the

woman, answered very carefully in court without saying that Mrs. Eddy was not that woman of prophecy. Almost all of Mrs. Eddy's early students recognized that she was that woman. Mrs. Woodbury also knew that Mrs. Eddy's students had this understanding. **If she had not known this she would not have used it against Mrs. Eddy.**

It is interesting, indeed, that today's

Christian Scientists accord to Mr. Kimball the title of the foremost thinker in the Christian Science Movement, then and since. This is not true and Mrs. Eddy had to correct Mr. Kimball's metaphysics quite often. Strangely, today, Mr. Kimball's words on this

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Every organ or function of the body is an idea of God, and all there is to stomach is the truth about it; it is all right at all times, imperishable, perfect.

Man ~~is~~ understanding of God and is perfect and has no capacity to receive or manifest error, sin, sickness, or death in any form, now and forever.

(Your hands are ideas of God which manifest His power, freedom and perfection.) You are naught but a reflection of Infinite Good. *ah*

How does God handle error? By knowing it is nothing; so must we. We know God is all, therefore error exists outside the Infinite realm of God, and we dwell in Good, so we have nothing to fear from it.

it does not exist at all

A REPRODUCTION OF MRS. EDDY'S PENCILLED CORRECTIONS ON PORTIONS OF A MANUSCRIPT THAT WAS WRITTEN BY HER STUDENT, EDWARD A. KIMBALL.

subject, carefully given to the press, carry more weight on this subject than do Mrs. Eddy's own words or the words of almost all of her other students at that time. Mrs. Eddy dearly loved Mr. Kimball and strove to help him overcome the limitations of his character. Apparently, Mr. Kimball found it difficult to be told what to do by a woman. Mrs. Eddy invited Mr. Kimball into her home to serve as a worker for her, but Mr. Kimball refused. Mrs. Eddy considered this

request so important for her cause that she placed a By-law in the *Manual* concerning the importance of this call and the penalty for refusal was excommunication. (*Manual* p. 67, Article XXII, Sect. 11.) Mr. Kimball rejected all of Mrs. Eddy's entreaties in this direction. It was a marvelous opportunity for him to get his metaphysics correct and to also gain a clear appreciation of her. Mrs. Eddy loved Mr. Kimball just as our Lord loved Peter. She saw his marvelous potential and hoped to make him a clear channel for Christian Science.

Mr. Kimball, when making his well-intentioned statement to the press, did not know that Judge Hanna and Mrs. Eddy had completed an article dealing with Mrs. Eddy's place in Bible prophecy. But it must be remembered that all of those early workers, both men and women, did marvelous work considering the short time they had been in Christian Science. But for today's Christian Scientists, who have studied Christian Science for forty and fifty years and more, to use any of these early workers and their metaphysics as standards instead of Mrs. Eddy and her revelation, is as unthinkable as Christians giving more weight to the teachings and examples of Peter, James and John than to that of Jesus Christ and his revelation. In the eyes of Mrs. Eddy, all of her followers were children who did not even begin to compare to her understanding, and the same holds true today for any Christian Scientist whether he thinks he is on her level of thought or not.

Why do we find Mr. Kimball being carried forward through the years as the clearest thinker in the Movement? He was one of the very few who did not take a stand for Mrs. Eddy's place in

Bible prophecy. Why should Christian Scientists be trying to determine who was the best male thinker in the Movement when Mrs. Eddy, a woman, was the only one to be considered? Isn't this scholastic theology at work? The statement in *Miscellany* p.297:18 in regards to Mr. Kimball's "clear, correct teaching of Christian Science. . . ." was not included in the packet that Mrs. Eddy left to be printed at the time of her death. It was added by someone. Who? Why?

So effective was Mrs. Woodbury's attack on Mrs. Eddy that it can truly be said that she has erroneously influenced the Christian Science Movement far more with a false concept of Mrs. Eddy than has any other Christian Scientist. Mr. Kimball, one of the very few early students who did not see Mrs. Eddy's place clearly, has through one statement, had a more adverse effect on Christian Science than all of Mrs. Eddy's statements on the same subject. Why? John V. Dittmore, an early apostate, circulated two letters to achieve the following: 1. Mrs. Eddy was not the woman of Revelation 12. 2. Mrs. Eddy took drugs. 3. Mrs. Eddy was a plagiarist. Today we find that Christian Scientists under the influence and mesmerism of attacks by Mrs. Woodbury's and others, have accepted Mr. Kimball's and Mr. Dittmore's statements as correct. Why?

While speaking to Mrs. Eddy, Victoria Sargent stated, "My students recognize you to be God's witness and mouthpiece. They are convinced that God is guiding you in this work which you are carrying on for the cause of Christian Science. They feel that you fulfill the prophecies of the Scriptures-- that you represent the God-crowned woman mentioned in the Apocalypse." Mrs.

Eddy answered by pointing her finger upward and saying, "That is from above."

Isn't it fascinating today to see malicious animal magnetism having totally reversed the correct perspective held once by the early CSB's and CSD's, that Mrs. Eddy is the woman of Bible prophecy? Is not this the result of the most active organized "ism" at work against Christian Science? Mrs. Eddy said, "Keeping the truth of her character before the public will help the students, and do more than all else for the Cause. Christianity in its purity was lost by de-

faming and killing its defenders. Do not let this period repeat this mistake. The truth in regard to your Leader heals the sick and saves the sinner. The lie has just the opposite effect, AND THE EVIL ONE THAT LEADS ALL EVIL IN THIS MATTER knows this more clearly than do the Christian Scientists in general." (*Collectanea*, p.74, emphasis added) In Mrs. Eddy's day almost all loyal teachers taught Mrs. Eddy's place in Bible prophecy, but now no CSB who teaches this is considered loyal to the Board of Directors.



This is a reproduction of the picture of Mrs. Eddy's room where she worked and prayed. This picture appears on page 168 of *Twelve Years with Mary Baker Eddy*, by Irving C. Tomlinson. There appears a crown on the left side of the desk.