

## FOREWORD

When this book was first published in 1987, on the 200th anniversary of our Constitution, Christian Scientists in particular had reason to be grateful. Without the Constitution and Bill of Rights there would have been no place on this planet where Christian Science could have gained a foothold. Until America was prepared, and our Bill of Rights guaranteed religious freedom, there was no nation that would have protected Mary Baker Eddy and enabled her to found Christian Science in human consciousness.

Today, as the 200th anniversary of our God-inspired Constitution makes way for the 2000th anniversary of the advent of Christ Jesus, it is especially appropriate to consider how the founding of the United States set the stage for the second coming of the Christ.

Mrs. Eddy, after giving a short history of her life as it was lived before her discovery of Christian Science, wrote:

It is well to know, dear reader, that our material, mortal history is but the record of dreams, not of man's real existence, and the dream has no place in the Science of being.... The heavenly intent of earth's shadows is to chasten the affections, to rebuke human consciousness and turn it gladly from a material, false sense of life and happiness, to spiritual joy and true estimate of being.

The awakening from a false sense of life, substance and mind in matter, is as yet imperfect.... The mortal life battle still wages, and must continue till its involved errors are vanquished by victory bringing Science; but this triumph will come! God is over all. He [the kingdom of God within our spiritual consciousness] alone is our origin, aim, and being. The real man is not of the dust, nor is he ever created through the flesh; for his father and mother are the one Spirit, and his brethren are all the children of one parent, the eternal good" (Ret. 21:13-22:21).

"True history is the record of the development in the human consciousness of a truer idea of God and man." This is the history the author attempts to unfold in these pages.

"The human footsteps leading to perfection are indispensable" (S&H 254:1). Running through this book, America: Cradle for the Second Coming of the Christ, is the human history of the United States of America showing the indispensable human footsteps leading up to the moment of humanity's arousal from its long slumber in the Adam dream.

These human footsteps illustrate the ethics of Truth. They show what America is, what it stands for spiritually, as the outward evidence of man's individual oneness with God. They reveal that America is not just a nation bounded by oceans on the east and west; America stands for the spiritual idea everywhere present. Only on the solid rock of this spiritual idea could infinite good lay the foundation for the city foursquare, our understanding of the kingdom of God within our Mind.

The prophecy of America dates back thousands of years. The Bible shows that Great Britain and America fulfill the prophecy of God's latter-day Israel, as Manasseh and Ephraim, Joseph's two sons. Mrs. Eddy's poem regarding Britain and America, "United States to Great Britain," identifies Britain as the only royal throne left in the world as "Judah's sceptered race." The birthright promise made to Ephraim, Joseph's

younger son, is fulfilled in the "company of nations" later revealed as the United States. (See pages 34-58 of Paul Smillie's book, *Mary Baker Eddy: The Historical and Prophetic Perspective*.)

Doubtless, it was part of the fulfillment of this prophecy that this nation was not named "Columbus" or "Columbia," but "America." Some historians trace this name to the mapmaker, Amerigo Vespucci. Others believe the name AmERICa was already in use by native Americans, a reference to Norse explorer Leif Ericson, who reached the coast of North America in 1000 or 1003AD, shortly after his conversion to Christianity.

Historians agree that old Scandinavian literature bears out the indisputable fact that Leif Ericson's discovery of America resulted in its subsequent colonization by the Norse. An article entitled "America" from *Norse Words* explains:

Thereafter, the "western land" was known among the Norsemen as America, in honor of the family name "Eric," of its discoverer, Leif Ericson. The prefix is derived from the Norse word, "Amt," meaning "A country or province under rulership."

The Norse called the western world "Land of Eric" (Amt-Erica), or "America." A writer in the *Kansas City Times* (and quoted in the *New York Sun and Globe*) brings out this circumstance in the following words:

Ask any old Indian medicine man what was the name of this country before the white man came, and he will invariably say "Amaroke." This has been written in no book for him, has not been drilled into his mind by any white man, but has been handed down from generation to generation . . . The antiquity of the name is so established, that it can never for a moment be assumed that Vespucci brought this name to America, when, in truth and in fact, by all the evidence, he took it from America.

The Icelandic literature and history are so little known to the public, and the Latin culture and propaganda have been so zealously spread, that the truth regarding America's name, and its discovery by Leif Ericson, in the year 1000, has been covered, and almost entirely kept out of sight.

It was inevitable that this land should be named America. The very name "America" was an intentional part of infinite good's plan.

But why?

Mrs. Velva Odland and Mrs. Lois Stoneman distinctly recall their teacher, Mildred LeBlond, C.S.B., an authority on America and on the ancient derivation of word meanings, informing their class that the root of the word "America" means the second coming of the Christ!

Scriptural prophecy of the central role the United States of America would play in this event occurs in Revelation 12:14: "To the woman [the Discoverer and Founder of Christian Science] were given two wings of a great eagle that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she was nourished....from the face of the serpent [the great red dragon]."

Spiritually interpreted, the "great eagle" represents that which flies above the storm, above illusion and error. The eagle is also a symbol for the United States of America, a nation carved out of the "wilderness," a "place" which would "nourish" Mary Baker Eddy. With the two wings of the great eagle understanding and demonstration Mrs. Eddy would soar above the illusions, above the material sense of the world.

Another compelling prophecy linking America to the second coming of the Christ is even older; it was made in stone nearly forty-six centuries ago with the building of the great Pyramid of Gizeh. Dr. Worth Smith informs us that "Gizeh," from the root Jizeh, means "the Man of God in Us." The word "Pyramid" comes from "pyr am us" or "pyr em us," which interpreted means "Far Resplendent Fire" or "Far Resplendent Light."

Scholars, deciphering root meanings, note that "The Geometrical Expression of Divine Revelation" (the Pyramid, meaning in the ultimate: a "Beacon of Reflections," or a "Monument of Measures") was built by "Heavenly Light" (Suphis) upon the foundation of "The Man of God in Us" (Gizeh).

Jeremiah 32:18-20 states: "The Great, the Mighty God...has set signs and wonders in the land of Egypt, even unto this day." Indestructible through the ages, the Great Pyramid has stood, a witness in stone to all humanity, that "the man of God in us," meaning the Christ, has always been present to show forth "the omnipresence of present perfection;" that God's or infinite good's reflection is without beginning or end. It stands as a reminder that what is called "man" has never been separated from God, the Mind of man.

"For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid which is Jesus Christ" 1st Cor., 3:11.



The "rejected stone" finds its resting place on the "Bible in stone" the Great Pyramid and its divine prophetic message.

The Great Seal of the United States of America (shown on the following page) came forth at the time of the Revolutionary War. It must have been a radiant flash of divine inspiration, since in 1776 nothing whatever was known to mortals regarding the prophetic or scientific features of the Great Pyramid.

Above the pyramid pictured unfinished, just as it was left in Egyptis poised its missing apex an illuminated triangle dissolving in a blaze of light. In the heart of the triangle is an open eye, representing the "All-Seeing Eye" of the one Mind, "the kingdom of God within" our spiritual consciousness.



GREAT SEAL  
of the UNITED STATES of  
AMERICA

slowly, but it stands and is the miracle of the hour, though it may seem to the age like the great pyramid of Egypt, a miracle in stone. (Hea. 11:6)

Divine prophecy was fulfilled when the Biblical "headstone" was symbolically placed on the Holy Scriptures by Mary Baker Eddy. Truly we can say, "Despise not prophecy." (For fuller information on this subject see the author's "Appendix" to her book, *Mary Baker Eddy: A New Look*.)

As we turn to mortal history and see why "the human footsteps leading to perfection are indispensable," we will become aware that when America is understood spiritually it will be seen to be Christian Science, the law of God, which can be defined as "the omnipresence of present perfection." We will see that behind what looked to mortals like the discovery and settling of America was always the one Mind, God. Though invisible, it was ever-present, guiding, leading, imparting vision, will, wisdom, as Jesus' prophecy concerning the "Comforter" the second coming of the Christ was being fulfilled.

As Mind urged forward the heroes who are the subject of this book, the path behind them was "with glory crowned." As we pursue their ventures we will see the Principle, God, showing Itself forth in examples of Its infinite ability to create love in the hearts of men love that urged them to act in the cause of justice, mercy, and Christianity.

In this book when we speak of "America," it is never to localize it, but to reveal God's everywhere present, wonderful America universal, triumphant, and fulfilling Mind's already existing Law, which is Christian Science. "Christian Science [and thus its manifestation in God's everywhere-present America] is

Some license prevailing in the interpretation of the two mottoes of the Great Seal, the inscriptions read: "He (God) has favored our undertakings," or "He (God) has prospered our beginning." "Novus Ordo Seclorum" equals "A mighty order of the ages lives anew," or "An ancient order is born again."

The pyramid, with its capstone suspended above it in a halo of glory, symbolizes the crowning of the Scriptures with the Christian Science textbook (and other writings of Mary Baker Eddy.)

Mary Baker Eddy herself, describing Christian Science, the miracle of the ages, likened it to the Great Pyramid:

We are in the midst of a revolution; physics are yielding slowly to metaphysics; mortal mind rebels at its own boundaries; weary of matter, it would catch the meaning of Spirit. The only immortal structure is built on Truth; her modest tower rises

more than 200 years old... It is as old as God, although its earthly advent is called the Christian era" (Mess. '01.24:19).

When we speak of the Constitution of the United States with its Bill of Rights, and the religious liberty protection it gave to Mary Baker Eddy in founding Christian Science in America, it must be remembered that Truth or Christian Science may indeed sponsor a document, but the document (the Constitution) cannot produce or predate the LAW (Christian Science). Rightly understood, the 1787 document called the Constitution is a concrete example of everlasting fundamental law, which could not be, of course, unless Law (Christian Science) were already in place.

When the laws of God are understood it will be perceived that there is one spiritual Nation, one spiritual State, universal and triumphant; and that "one infinite God, good, unifies men and nations; constitutes the brotherhood of man; ends wars; fulfils the Scripture, 'Love thy neighbor as thyself'; annihilates pagan and Christian idolatry - whatever is wrong in social, civil, criminal, political, and religious codes; equalizes the sexes; annuls the curse on man, and leaves nothing that can sin, suffer, be punished or destroyed" (S&H 340:23).

All through this book we will find illustrations of the Principle which is always at work behind the scenes, and is always the reality behind the symbol. "The spiritual idea must have its visible expression, its incarnation, or else Christian Science is only abstraction." For example, Mary Eddy Baker gave the full and correct definition of Church, which begins with the statement: "Church [is] the structure of Truth and Love" (S&H 583:12). She then illustrated it with a building and certain activities in Boston. The materialist oblivious of his true spiritual being, that his own real Mind is Truth and Love, "the kingdom of God within" his consciousness thinks the building and activities is church and that mortals must be coaxed into that church or deservedly perish.

In this book we will endeavor to make it clear that America, seen in its true identity, is not localized. It is a spiritual, universal idea, representing the love of God encircling the universe and man. "When will mankind awaken to their present ownership of all good?" There is no division of estate; just as in mathematics when we know the principle, we have all of math, no division of estate.

America: Cradle for the Second Coming of the Christ explores the inspired history of the United States which divine Love has brought to pass. It reveals certain of the pertinent "human footsteps leading to perfection" which have already been taken, and which were, and will continue to be, indispensable in bringing the glorious Science of being into daily living.

In pursuing the saga of suffering and misery that seemed to accompany the epic deeds of this book's heroes as they took the indispensable "human footsteps leading to perfection" (S&H 254:1), we find allegory, dreams, claims to be the only correct worshippers, "cried-out-unto-the-Lords," "forsook-the-Lords," etc. All of these make an interesting compilation, but they could have done no more "than can moonbeams to melt a river of ice," had not the one universal Spirit, the one Mind, and the laws of God been the leading and guiding light.

Because of the grave danger that today threatens the human sense of America, the author has not neglected to sound a warning in this book in accordance with Mrs. Eddy's instruction:

Many are willing to open the eyes of the people to the power of good resident in divine Mind, but they are not so willing to point out the evil in human thought, and expose evil's hidden mental ways of accomplishing iniquity....it requires the spirit of our blessed Master to tell a man his faults, and so risk human displeasure for the sake of doing right and benefiting the race....[Therefore] designate those as unfaithful stewards who have seen the danger and yet have given no warning" (S&H 570:30).

The America that became the cradle for the second coming of the Christ, the America which had been prophesied for thousands of years, is God's grand America spiritual, universal, triumphant and fulfilling Mind's already existing Law which is Christian Science. This America always existed, but to become aware of it, humanity must take the indispensable "human footsteps leading to perfection."

As these footsteps unfold let us not lose sight of the spiritual fact that "our mortal material history is but the record of dreams, not of man's real existence.... [and that] the heavenly intent of earth's shadows is to chasten the affections, to rebuke human consciousness and turn it gladly from a material, false sense of life and happiness, to spiritual joy and true estimate of being" (Ret. 21:13).