



LONGYEAR MUSEUM

Mary Baker Eddy's Vermont Sojourn

REPORT TO MEMBERS

FALL/WINTER 2021

A Research Case Study • Wonderfully Sustained by Truth
Gift Catalog

A Message from the President

Dear Friends,

Treasure hunters! That might be the best way to describe Longyear's research and publications team, and this issue of *Report to Members* features some of their latest discoveries. As a former writer and editor for *The Christian Science Monitor*, Stacy Teicher Khadaroo brings a reporter's curiosity and investigative skills to the lead article and opens a window on a brief but significant period in Mary Baker Eddy's experience — her sojourn in Vermont in 1882 after the passing of her husband, Asa Gilbert Eddy.

Unfoldment might best summarize the research process that introduced us to our new favorite young pioneer — Nezzell Christie. In "Following the Bread Crumbs: A Research Case Study," we trace how Kelly Byquist got to know Nezzell and how research for one project often informs another. Also in this issue, you can read a stirring testimony by Nezzell's mother, Mary, originally published in the *Christian Science Sentinel* after the devastating hurricane that hit Galveston, Texas, in 1900.

The two articles present new information drawn from the Longyear collection and other resources. They are examples of the countless stories that are just waiting to be uncovered — stories of "our shared family history," as Director of Research and Publications Heather Vogel Frederick likes to say. And most importantly, they contain timeless messages that speak to us today. They are about steadfast trust in God in the face of danger and challenges. They are about courage, fearlessness, healing, and dedication to Christian Science. They are history with the uniquely Longyear touch.

We hope you enjoy these gems that have been discovered and polished by Longyear's own treasure hunters.

Warmly,

Sandra J. Houston
Sandra J. Houston, President

Cover photograph of Vermont mountains at sunrise by Ken Canning/iStock.

The Stories Behind Beloved Hymns

"When the heart speaks, however simple the words, its language is always acceptable to those who have hearts."

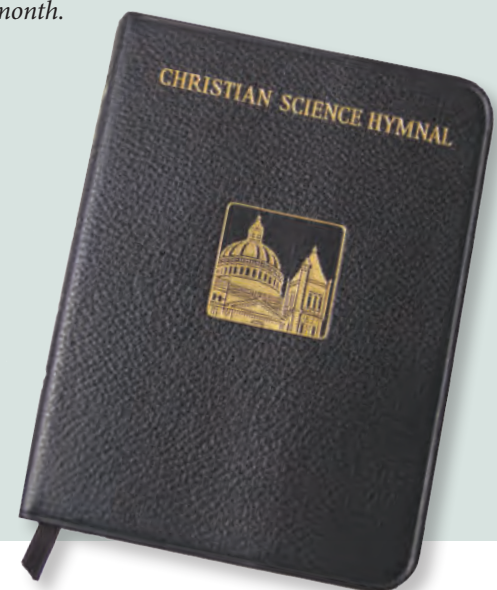
— Mary Baker Eddy,

Miscellaneous Writings 1883-1896, 262

There's a story behind each of Mary Baker Eddy's poems, especially the seven set to music in the *Christian Science Hymnal*. Her "Communion Hymn," for example, was first published in 1876 in the *Lynn Transcript* as "Hymn of Science." Revised by Mrs. Eddy over the decades and set to music by Lyman Brackett, it was the first hymn ever sung in The Mother Church.

Earlier this year, Longyear launched a video series called "When the Heart Speaks" that explores the historical context of each of these much-loved hymns. The videos draw on research done for a series of virtual programs that museum staff gave last winter for children and families at the invitation of CedarS Camps in Lebanon, Missouri. Presented by Director of Research and Publications Heather Vogel Frederick, the videos are appearing each month in the chronological order that Mrs. Eddy wrote them. Three were posted previously on the Longyear website: "Christ My Refuge," "Communion Hymn," and "Feed My Sheep." "Mother's Evening Prayer" and "Love" are newly posted this month. "Christmas Morn" will appear in December, and "Satisfied" in January.

You can find the videos at www.longyear.org/learn/videos. Or subscribe to the museum's e-newsletter by emailing letters@longyear.org and automatically receive a link to the videos each month.



Following the Bread Crumbs: A Research Case Study

By Alice M. Hummer

It was a scene that was sure to catch a researcher's attention: Six-year-old Nezzell Christie and her family standing on top of their stove, praying aloud, as flood waters filled their house. A hurricane was raging outside the Christie home in Galveston, Texas; it was September 1900. Little Nezzell had something important to contribute to the declarations of truth — the first verse of Mary Baker Eddy's newest poem:

It matters not what be thy lot,
So Love doth guide;
For storm or shine, pure peace is thine,
Whate'er betide.

"Satisfied" had only been published nine months before in the *Christian Science Sentinel*, yet the child knew the words from memory. The family stayed steadfast in their prayers for hours as the water rose to their chins and eventually swept the home off its foundation. When the storm quieted the next morning, they saw clear evidence of God's protection: The house had been carried safely to the highest point of their neighborhood, and they were unharmed.

Longyear research associate Stacy Teicher Khadaroo came across this testimony — written by Nezzell's mother, Mary Christie — in the Dec. 6, 1900, *Christian Science Sentinel*, as she was researching the history of "Satisfied." "This testimony just touched me so much — [showing] how people had applied the text of the hymn in their very practical and faith-filled prayers," she says. Stacy included the account in a talk she wrote for CedarS Camps, in Lebanon, Missouri, last winter. The camps had invited Longyear to do a series of online programs for children and their families about the historical context for Mrs. Eddy's seven poems set to music in the *Christian Science Hymnal*.

What happened next is an example of the way research at Longyear often unfolds, with one bit of information leading to another, until a historical picture is complete. During the online CedarS

program on "Satisfied," a woman commented in the chat that she had known Nezzell and had actually been named for the Christie family. "What a totally unexpected comment that would turn out to be incredibly meaningful!" says Kelly Byquist, who is also on Longyear's research staff.

Some months later, Kelly was working on a team collaborating with Peace Haven, a Christian Science nursing facility in St. Louis, to create three exhibits for their new building. One of the displays focuses on young people who were pioneers in the Christian Science movement — workers like James Neal and Emma Easton Newman, who entered the public practice in their teens or 20s and devoted their lives to the Cause. This exhibit also highlights younger children who did remarkable things, like raising funds to build churches. Kelly and the team decided Nezzell Christie belonged in this latter group, for her contributions to her family's demonstration of safety during the Galveston hurricane, which is still well known today for the destruction it caused.



Nezzell Christie, circa 1905. Courtesy of the Principia Archives, Elsah, Illinois. To read the account of the Christie family's experiences during the Galveston hurricane of 1900, see page 2.

The Christie family was previously unknown to Longyear researchers. Kelly called the woman who had posted the comment during the CedarS hymn program and learned that Nezzell Christie had grown up, married, and served the movement as a Christian Science practitioner in Houston for more than 50 years. The woman's family had often asked Nezzell for Christian Science treatment, and many healings had resulted. Kelly also learned that Nezzell might have attended Principia College in Elsah, Illinois, and that she had a daughter.

These small bits of information led to a wealth of resources. Principia confirmed that Nezzell Christie Dennis had not only attended both the Upper School and College, but had also served as a trustee for five decades. The Principia Archives yielded a scrapbook

that included a picture of Nezzell as a child (above) that was used in the Peace Haven exhibit. An internet search

Continued on page 11

LESSONS TAUGHT BY GALVESTON FLOOD

Subject Discussed in Many Rochester Pulpits Yesterday.

BROTHERHOOD OF MAN

A Great Disaster Brings the People of All the World Together—Gifts and Sympathy Evidences of the Oneness of Humanity.

Above: A headline from the Sept. 17, 1900, *Democrat and Chronicle* newspaper in Rochester, New York. Center: The 15-foot storm surge from the Galveston hurricane destroyed many homes and tipped this one on Avenue N on its side. Everett Collection/Shutterstock.com. Right: Mary Christie, Nezzell's mother, circa 1903. Elizabeth D. Rockwell Papers, Special Collections, University of Houston Libraries.



Wonderfully Sustained by Truth

This testimony, written by Mary E. Christie — mother of six-year-old Nezzell, who features in the Peace Haven “Young Pioneers” exhibit (see page 1) — appeared in the Dec. 6, 1900, issue of the Christian Science Sentinel.

When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee. — *Isaiah.*

It was on September 8 last, at the time of the Galveston flood, that I found *more* faith in God, and I am prompted to write my experience that others may see what Christian Science can do, and has done for us in the storm and darkness.

The tempest was raging and our home was situated only a short distance from the Gulf. At half past two o'clock in the afternoon my husband came home from town with great difficulty. At that hour the rain was falling in torrents and the sea water was gradually covering the streets in the lower parts of the city. However, we were not apprehensive of any danger, having always lived on the coast and being accustomed to ordinary coast storms. During the remainder of the afternoon we read the Bible and *Science and Health* constantly. As night came on, a neighbor sent for us to come over to her house as she was alone and becoming alarmed; but before we could get away, the water had risen to such a height and the storm increased in violence to such an extent that we were unable to leave our house. This was something altogether unexpected, as we had never, for a moment, thought the water would

reach our yard. It was right here that we began to appreciate what Science was to us, as conditions were becoming very serious from a mortal standpoint, but through the constant realization of Truth, we remained perfectly calm and felt safe in our own home.

We had our house girl (who is a Scientist) come in with us; and with Nezzell, our little six-year-old daughter, we all sat quietly down to realize the Omnipotence of God. My husband read the ninety-first and ninety-third Psalms. I read *Science and Health*, p. 189,¹ and we ceased to concern ourselves about our safety but left that entirely with God. The elements now seemed wrought up to their highest point, the house was rocking like a cradle, and it seemed almost beyond human belief that it could withstand such a terrific wind for even a single moment. Still there was no fear. Soon I discovered that the water was coming through the floors. My husband scuttled each room, while the water rose rapidly. In a few moments we felt an awful jar, and as the water came pouring in through the door casings, we knew that the house was off its foundations. The lights had gone out and we were groping in total darkness, in water to my waist. Here the following verse from Isaiah came to me: “Fear thou not; for I am with thee; be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.”

My husband took our little girl in his arms and we went to one door but failed to open it, quietly but swiftly we went to another and through it reached the kitchen, there a door had blown



open and we discovered that we were floating. Soon the water reached my chin, and we found that every piece of furniture in the house was floating. Something must be done, and that quickly, for in a very short time the water would be too deep for me. For just one brief moment fear tried to take possession of me, but its sway was brief, for almost with the next breath the thought came to me: “Underneath are the Father’s everlasting arms.” My husband told me to get up on the kitchen stove, which was two feet under water but was the only thing in the house that was stationary. So I was lifted above the wave. All four of us stood on the stove without difficulty.

It was suggested that each of us say aloud something Scientific. My husband repeated the Scientific Statement of Being (*Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*, p. 464²). C. repeated those dear consoling words of our Leader, “Peace, be still! our Father is at the helm.” Then I repeated the first verse of the ninety-first Psalm: “He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty,” and I was followed by our little one, who, throughout it all had been so courageous and brave, with the first verse of our Mother’s beautiful poem “Satisfied:” —

It matters not,
What be thy lot,
So Love doth guide;
For storm or shine —
Pure peace is thine —
Whate’er betide.³

We then silently tried to realize God’s Allness and to know that “He holds the wind in His fist.”

About eleven o’clock Nezzell noticed that the water was receding, and in some unforeseen way we found a lamp and some dry matches and were thus enabled to see.

Our experience lasted from five o’clock in the afternoon until half past two the next morning. Most of that time we were in the water. We never experienced the slightest trouble of any kind. Once, while standing on the stove, Nezzell (who was very thinly dressed) complained of being cold. Mr. C., without knowing how it got there or where it came from, reached out and found a coat of his floating around on something. It proved to be a heavy one, and although soaked with water, kept her warm nicely. Again, when I seemed to be chilled, he was able to reach a pair of portieres, which served to keep us warm, wet as they were.

But not until we were able to leave our house did we realize how wonderfully we had been protected and how much we had to be thankful for. We found that our house had floated a distance of two squares, and upon going around to where it had stood a realization of the awful destruction that had been wrought dawned upon us, for where, that afternoon, we had looked out upon hundreds of pretty homes in front of us, was now a barren waste, the houses were piled up in mountains of wreckage all around us, while our house had been carried to the highest part of the highest street in the neighborhood and there it stood perfectly intact, out of harm’s way from the floating debris which would surely have demolished it had we not gone when we did. Surely did we feel grateful that we had placed our safety in our Father’s hands with the feeling that “not my will, but Thine, be done,” knowing full well that “He doeth all things well.”

We attribute our safety entirely to Christian Science, and we are striving to show our gratitude to our Leader by following more closely in her footsteps, learning of her greater humility, deeper love, and broader charity for all mankind.

— Mary E. Christie, Galveston, Tex.

ENDNOTES

1. The 183rd edition of *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures* by Mary Baker Eddy was in use in 1900. As in preceding editions, page 189 included the following statement that Mary Christie might have been studying: “The rapid fury of mortal mind, expressed in earthquake, wind, wave, lightning, fire, bestial ferocity, shows this so-called mind to be self-destructive. They counterfeit divine justice, and are called, in the Scriptures, ‘the anger of the Lord.’ Really they signify His justice, in the self-destruction of error, and point to its opposite, the strength and permanency of Truth, whose supremacy is ever asserting itself. Christian Science brings to light Truth and its supremacy, universal harmony, the entirety of God, Good, and the nothingness of evil.” That paragraph was later revised, and today it is found on page 293 of *Science and Health*.
2. The scientific statement of being is found on page 468 of *Science and Health* today.
3. This was the original punctuation of “Satisfied” when it was first published in 1900. Mrs. Eddy later revised line breaks and punctuation of the poem.



“This was His Native State”

Mary Baker Eddy's Vermont Sojourn



Mary Baker Eddy (far left, circa 1880) and Asa Gilbert Eddy (circa 1870) were married in 1877. Gilbert, as he was known, was a strong support to his wife as she taught, published her writings, and organized her church. Longyear Museum Collection.

By Stacy Teicher Khadaroo

The Fourth of July, 1882, was a cloudy day in Boston, and while many people celebrated America's independence with clambakes, firecrackers, and patriotic speeches, Mary Baker Eddy was planning a sojourn amid the green hills of Vermont.¹

Just a month earlier, she had lost her beloved husband and bold supporter in the Cause of Christian Science, Asa Gilbert Eddy. She had tended to the necessities at their home on Columbus Avenue in Boston, making a statement to the press and arranging for the eulogy and songs at Gilbert's service, including "I Need Thee Every Hour" and "Nearer, My God, to Thee."²

Among the friends and students she called upon for aid at this time was Arthur True Buswell, a charter member of the Church of Christ (Scientist), which Mrs. Eddy had founded just a few years before.³

Mr. Buswell had witnessed the Eddys' mutual affection when the couple lived in Lynn, Massachusetts, in the late 1870s.

Gilbert Eddy, he would later write, had "watched, with tenderest care, the needs, and anticipated the wishes of his appreciative and equally devoted wife."⁴ Gilbert had been the first of Mrs. Eddy's students to advertise his healing practice as a "Christian Scientist," and had done much to promote the fledgling church and help her protect the copyright on *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*.

Now, Buswell offered his teacher the use of his family home in Barton, Vermont, for a respite. She accepted. Her dear Gilbert and his five siblings had been raised on a farm in the same state.⁵

Mrs. Eddy sought an additional companion for the visit to Vermont's "Northeast Kingdom," not far from the Canadian border. Using stationery from the Massachusetts Metaphysical College, which occupied the same four-story building where she lived, she wrote to her friend Alice Sibley on July 4:

"My very dear Alice,...[I] dip my pen in my heart when I ask you to accompany me on my trip into the country. Can you, will you go with me?"⁶

Still a teenager, Alice had developed a friendship with Mrs. Eddy after first hearing her deliver a Sunday sermon in 1879. Mrs. Eddy had given her a newly published third edition of *Science and Health* in 1881, which she described in a letter to Alice as "like a meteor of light."⁷

Opposite page: Vermont meadows, @Olgachwa | Dreamstime.com

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Barton, Aug. 7, 1882.

		Dr.
	M. B. E. in acct. with A. B.	4 00
July 10	50 R. R. tickets to Concord	25
	Baggage transfer	6 75
11	" Hotel at Concord	15 00
"	" R. R. tickets to New Bedford	4 00
12	" Hotel at Warren	1 50
"	" Hotel at Barton	1 00
21	" Horse hire at Barton	1 00
Aug. 2	" Landed on board bill	1 00
" 3	" Coach to and from depot at B. J.	3 00
" 4	" Board at Knight's Hotel	25
" 5	" Telegraph to Dr. Frye	1 95
" 5	" Dr. Frye's fare (advanced)	75
" 5	" Baggage transfer	10
" 5	" Street car fare	14 00
July 10	By Cash	10 00
11	" "	1 00
13	" "	2 90
30	" " on acct. Book sold	
	Balance (my due)	27 90
		15 10

Reads Raymond.
Arthur J. Buswell.



Left: A ledger page from Mary Baker Eddy's 1882 financial accounts with Arthur Buswell. Courtesy of The Mary Baker Eddy Collection. Original in The Mary Baker Eddy Library.
Above: The Methodist Church where Mrs. Eddy gave her talk in Barton, Vermont, is seen in this circa 1870 stereograph by J. N. Webster. Longyear Museum Collection.

The traveling party appears to have set out on their train trip July 10. Mr. Buswell kept a ledger of expenses showing they stayed in Concord, New Hampshire, and in Warren, Vermont, along the way.⁸ That would put them in Barton on July 12, after what Mrs. Eddy later described as a three-day journey.⁹

To the public, the trip may have looked like a grieving widow's retreat into the countryside. Yet for the Leader of Christian Science, the challenges always went far beyond what was outwardly apparent. Mrs. Eddy had to face not only the loss of her husband, but also continued attacks against herself, aiming to thwart the healing and saving mission of Christian Science.¹⁰

While Mrs. Eddy did not hide her struggles with sorrow and loss from her friends, she was also well practiced in turning to her understanding of God as omnipresent Love to demonstrate that "trials are but proofs of God's care for [H]is children," as she had written in the third edition of *Science and Health*.¹¹ Rather than surrendering to grief, she would pray

to rise above it. Her letters to students at this time would counsel them to follow the example of Christ Jesus, as she was doing.

During her Barton stay, Mrs. Eddy would spend a good portion of her time discussing church business with Buswell. She would also share Christian Science publicly and make momentous decisions to propel her Church and College forward.

"Green quiet valleys" and "still waters"

Barton, on the north shore of Crystal Lake, was home to about 2,400 people when Mrs. Eddy visited. In addition to the railway station and post office, the small town included farms, mills, manufacturing companies, woodworking firms, shops, and hotels that had built up around the river and its natural waterfalls. The town also boasted three churches, several schools, and a newspaper, the *Orleans County Monitor*.

Mrs. Eddy directed people to write to her at the post office, care of J.C. Buswell, the widowed father of Arthur and his brother Charles.¹² J.C. lived with Charles and his wife, Emma,



Above: Julia Bartlett sent a postcard to Mrs. Eddy in Barton, Vermont, on July 28, 1882. Courtesy of The Mary Baker Eddy Collection. Original in The Mary Baker Eddy Library.

most likely on a farm about a mile and a half from the center of Barton on the road heading east toward Willoughby Lake.¹³ Mrs. Eddy took drives and walks with Miss Sibley. These would have offered vistas of the three-mile-long Crystal Lake as well as Barton Mountain, rising 2,200 feet.¹⁴ She appreciated her beautiful surroundings.

“The tour so far has been delightful, filled as the picture is with earth’s finest views among the rock-ribbed rest of the sheltering hills, over the green quiet valleys along the still waters,” she wrote in a letter to Calvin Frye, who had taken a class on Christian Science with her in Lynn the year before.¹⁵

Mrs. Eddy especially loved how Miss Sibley, whom she described as “like a flower of light,” was “almost wild” over the scenery.¹⁶

Part of Mrs. Eddy’s time was spent in solitude, wrestling with her loss at night behind closed doors — yet she emerged each morning “with a radiant face and luminous eyes,” Mr. Buswell later recalled.¹⁷

On July 19, she wrote a poignant letter to Julia Bartlett, whom she had charged with overseeing the Massachusetts Metaphysical College in her absence¹⁸:

“I thank you very much for the good care you take of *your* college.... I shall try and eventually succeed in rising from the gloom of my irreparable loss.... I think of you at the fort and

always as little or rather great heroes and pray that my coming shall be a joy and not a sorrow to you.... I shall never forget dear, dear Gilbert, his memory is dearer every day, but not so sad I think as when I left home. It is beautiful here, the hills, vales, and lakes are lovely but this was his native state and he is not here.”¹⁹

Yet her struggles did not prevent her from sending strong encouragement to her students. She asked Mr. Frye, for instance, to share this message with others in Lawrence, Massachusetts:

“Jesus said, ‘My yoke is easy and my burden is light.’ If ‘the man of sorrows’ so construed his life-work, let us never murmur, but gather fresh courage and consolation in the struggle with the world the flesh and demonology. I find there is a sure way of triumph over it all and those who follow me will certainly find it also. Our master bade us come unto him when weary and heavy laden. O how sweet the thought that we can come and find peace in the fullness of Love and find it

Where no arrow wounds the dove
Where no partings are for love
Where are no rough seas of foam
Where joy dwells and is at home.”²⁰

Turning her thought to an eternal sense of home, Mrs. Eddy revisited that poem, whose lines are from *The Songs of La Colonna*, which was quoted in some American periodicals



Left: The farmhouse belonging to Arthur Buswell's father, where Mrs. Eddy stayed in Barton, Vermont, was about 1½ miles outside of town along the road in the top left quarter of this 1889 map by George E. Norris. Map reproduction courtesy of the Norman B. Leventhal Map & Education Center, Boston Public Library. *Right:* The final version of Mrs. Eddy's poem, originally written in Barton, Vermont. Print from Longyear Museum Collection. ©1931 Christian Science Board of Directors.

in the early to mid-19th century. Modifying a few of the stanza's words, she wrote in a letter to her student Ellen Clarke on July 27:

"...this earth is no longer my home. Where no arrow wounds the dove Where no partings are for love Where are no rough seas of foam Where peace reigneth, there is home."²¹

The next day, Mrs. Eddy noted her progress in another letter: "I am changed. I see it in the mirror and my heart tells me it every hour." Yet the need to keep striving remained: "We shall return soon to the stately halls of my Boston home but the walls whisper a secret they tell me home is not there since Gilbert has gone."²²

Barton hears about Christian healing

Midway through her stay in Barton, Mrs. Eddy gave a public talk. The announcement appeared in the July 24 issue of the *Orleans County Monitor*:

"Rev. Mary B.G. Eddy, pastor of the church of Christ, Boston, and author of 'Science and Health,' will deliver a free address on the subject of Christian Healing at the Methodist church, on Wednesday evening at 7½ o'clock. All are invited to be present."²³

Arthur Buswell's father was among the pew owners at Barton's Methodist church.²⁴ The 1833 brick building was in the central part of town on Church Street.²⁵ The Methodists had the first church bell in Barton, fashioned by the foundry started by Paul Revere in Boston.²⁶

Mrs. Eddy gave her talk there on July 26. She mentioned it in a letter to Clara Choate, one of her students back in Boston.

"Hold the Fort for I am coming. Be wise as a serpent and harmless as the doves that are cooing over my window.... My lecture made

a big stir, a Rev. Methodist called on me the next day and talked pretty much all the A.M., and an M.D. talks of studying."²⁷

Clearly the "stir" pleased Mrs. Eddy, never mind that one newspaper writer cast doubts — despite not being among her audience. "We did not hear the lecture on 'Christian healing,' by Rev. Mary Eddy," he wrote, "but understand she claims to have the power to heal the sick in as miraculous a manner as was done by Christ and the twelve disciples. We think she will get but few converts to her faith, here."²⁸

No record has been found detailing the content of Mrs. Eddy's address in Barton, but that critic was proved wrong. In fact, Christian Science spread quickly throughout Vermont, as it did elsewhere.²⁹

The oak on the summit

One of the views in Barton that inspired Mrs. Eddy was that of an oak tree atop a mountain. On Aug. 1, she wrote a poem that included these lines:

A lesson grave of life, thou teachest me —
I love the Hebrew figure of a tree.

Faithful and patient be my years as thine;
As strong to wrestle with the storms of time;
As deeply rooted in a soil of love;
As grandly rising to the heavens above.

The following spring, in April 1883, she would publish "The Oak on the Summit" in the inaugural issue of the *Journal of Christian Science*.³⁰ But first, she had to turn her attention to *founding* that periodical, which would later become *The Christian Science Journal*. It was during her time in Vermont that Mrs. Eddy decided that Arthur Buswell should form a publishing company for this purpose.³¹



THE OAK ON THE MOUNTAIN'S SUMMIT

OH, mountain monarch, at whose feet I stand,-
Clouds to adorn thy brow, skies clasp thy hand,-
Nature divine, in harmony profound,
With peaceful presence hath begirt thee 'round.

And thou, majestic oak, from yon high place
Guard'st thou the earth, asleep in night's embrace,-
And from thy lofty summit, pouring down
Thy sheltering shade, her noonday glories crown?

Whate'er thy mission, mountain sentinel,
To my lone heart thou art a power and spell;
A lesson grave, of life, that teacheth me
To love the Hebrew figure of a tree.

Faithful and patient be my life as thine;
As strong to wrestle with the storms of time;
As deeply rooted in a soil of love;
As grandly rising to the heavens above.

Mary Baker Eddy.

FROM POEMS BY MARY BAKER EDDY. ©1910.

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With her determination to move forward even more deeply rooted than the iconic oak tree, she committed to teaching a class later in August in Boston. Among the students in attendance would be Clara Choate and her husband, George, as well as Alice Sibley.³² (The faithfulness of these friends, though so helpful to her that summer, would not prove to be so deeply rooted. Within a few years, neither the Choates, nor Miss Sibley, nor Mr. Buswell, would still be practicing Christian Science.)

Another matter that held Mrs. Eddy's attention in Boston was the need to appoint someone to help organize the operations of her household, which served both as church headquarters and as the Massachusetts Metaphysical College. Julia Bartlett and Arthur Buswell were among the church workers living there at the time.

Her decision to act on this coincided with her readiness to return to Boston. At her request, on Aug. 4, Mr. Buswell telegraphed Calvin Frye, who met the returning party in Plymouth, New Hampshire, the next day so he could join them for the final leg of the train trip home. During that journey, Mrs. Eddy probed Mr. Frye's willingness to serve the Cause of Christian Science above all else.

Satisfied with his response, she followed through on her late husband's recommendation to hire him for bookkeeping, secretarial, and other assistance. Gilbert had spoken to Mr. Frye's former Congregational pastor about him and had concluded that Mrs. Eddy could trust him. This proved true, as Mr. Frye went on to serve the Leader of Christian Science for the next 28 years.³³



Calvin Frye, circa 1882. Longyear Museum Collection.

Upon her return to Boston, Mrs. Eddy noted in her Bible that she opened to Isaiah 54, which includes among its many tender assurances to "the servants of the Lord": "Thy Maker is thine husband."³⁴

That fall, the Church Mrs. Eddy had founded in 1879 began holding Sunday services at her residence and the home of the Massachusetts Metaphysical College at 569 Columbus Avenue. She taught classes in August, October, and January.

Near the end of October, she reflected on the preceding months in a letter to future student Emily Meader: "I thought when my dear husband departed I needed more than ever



The Massachusetts Metaphysical College in Boston in 1882. Longyear Museum Collection.

friends, but when I learned that adversity proves our friends I was enabled to turn more utterly to the one source, and bear the proof of desertion by many who had claimed to be true to me, with patient pardon, and more consecration to Christ."³⁵

There would be more trials to come, but that fall Mrs. Eddy was buoyed by her work. Her letter continued: "We had a pleasant little number in last evening to sing and play the piano, and the hours passed swiftly. I have on hand the largest class I ever had, and our Sunday services fill all our rooms with interested hearers. I think in the spring we shall graduate about fifty. The ship of science is again walking the wave, rising above the billows, bidding defiance to the flood-gates of error, for God is at the helm."³⁶

Stacy Teicher Khadaroo is a research associate at Longyear Museum. She is a former reporter and editor for The Christian Science Monitor.

ENDNOTES

1. *Boston Globe*, June 5, 1882.
2. Sibyl Wilbur, *The Life of Mary Baker Eddy* (Boston: The Christian Science Publishing Society, 1966), 273; *Christian Science Hymnal*, 1898, B00142, The Mary Baker Eddy Collection, The Mary Baker Eddy Library (hereafter referenced as MBEL); “Hymns that Mary Baker Eddy ‘particularly loved,’” July 5, 2017, marybakereddylibrary.org; *Boston Globe*, June 4, 1882.
3. She had sent Arthur Buswell to Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1879 to plant the seeds of Christian Science, but sometime between April and June of 1882, he returned to Boston to help at the church and the Massachusetts Metaphysical College. Arthur True Buswell, typed manuscript, Longyear Museum Collection (hereafter referenced as LMC).
4. Arthur True Buswell, “Reminiscence: Biographical Sketch of Asa Gilbert Eddy, Relating to His Active Part in Laying the Foundation for Christian Science,” 7–8, LMC.
5. Mary Beecher Longyear, *The Genealogy and Life of Asa Gilbert Eddy* (Boston: Press of Geo. H. Ellis Co., 1922), viii–ix.
6. Mary Baker Eddy to Alice Sibley, July 4, 1882, L13366, MBEL. The letter notes she would feel safer if a female companion joined her.
7. Yvonne Caché von Fettweis and Robert Townsend Warneck, *Mary Baker Eddy: Christian Healer* Amplified Edition (Boston: The Christian Science Publishing Society, 2009), 510; Mary Baker Eddy to Alice Sibley, March 5, 1881, L13357, MBEL.
8. Mary Baker Eddy to Calvin Frye, July 1, 1882, L08109, MBEL; ledger page, Mrs. Eddy’s accounts with Arthur True Buswell, Aug. 7, 1882, MBEL.
9. Mary Baker Eddy to Julia S. Bartlett, July 19, 1882, L07691, MBEL.
10. Mary Baker Eddy statement, A10213A; Mary Baker Eddy to Benjamin F. Atkinson, June 3, 1882, L13467; and Clara E. Choate to Mary Baker Eddy, June 8, 1882, 025A.10.029, MBEL.
11. Mary Baker Eddy, *Science and Health*, Third Edition, Vol. 2 (1881), 161.
12. Mary Baker Eddy to Calvin Frye, 1882, L07361, MBEL.
13. Map of Lamoille and Orleans Counties, Vermont (F. W. Beers & Co.), 1878; *Orleans County Monitor* (Barton, Vermont), Sept. 3, 1906; United States Federal Census, 1880, Barton, Orleans, Vermont; obituary of John Cromwell Buswell, *Orleans County Monitor*, Oct. 10, 1898.
14. Wilbur references “drives and walks,” based on interviews with Buswell. Wilbur, *Life of Mary Baker Eddy*, 275.
15. Mary Baker Eddy to Calvin Frye, 1882, L07361, MBEL.
16. Mary Baker Eddy to Clara E. Choate, July 16, 1882, L04089, MBEL.
17. Wilbur, *Life of Mary Baker Eddy*, 274, based on Buswell interview.
18. Ibid. In addition to Miss Bartlett, Mrs. Abbie Whiting was also charged with the care of the college.
19. Mary Baker Eddy to Julia S. Bartlett, July 19, 1882, L07691, MBEL.
20. Mary Baker Eddy to Calvin Frye, 1882, L07361, MBEL. The verse comes from a poem, “Where is Home?” published in *The Songs of La Colonna* in London in 1835 and republished in some American periodicals of the era.
21. Mary Baker Eddy to Ellen Clarke, July 27, 1882, L04664, MBEL.
22. Mary Baker Eddy to James Ackland, July 28, 1882, L10643, MBEL.
23. *Orleans County Monitor*, July 24, 1882.
24. *Orleans Independent Standard*, Aug. 2, 1867.
25. In 1887, the church was replaced with a new edifice. *Centennial Book of the Methodist Episcopal Church*, Barton, Vermont, 1928; map of Lamoille and Orleans Counties, Vermont (F. W. Beers & Co.), 1878. It has since been renovated again and is now home to the Solid Rock Assembly of God. The current Barton United Methodist Church occupies what was the First Congregational Church at the time of Mrs. Eddy’s visit.
26. *Centennial Book of the Methodist Episcopal Church*, Barton, Vermont, 1928; *Vermont Christian Messenger* (Montpelier), Sept. 28, 1882. Two months after Mrs. Eddy’s talk, this newspaper announced the bell would be taken back to Boston to be enlarged with more metal. The man who had originally brought the bell to Barton when the church was built was the first male born in the town, and by the time of Mrs. Eddy’s visit, he had become a “hale and hearty” octogenarian.
27. Mary Baker Eddy to Clara E. Choate, July 27, 1882, L04090, MBEL.
28. *Express and Standard* (Newport, Vermont), Aug. 1, 1882, in a column of items from Barton.
29. Miss Bartlett would make a brief visit to Vermont in 1884 to give talks and do some healing work. By 1890, two Christian Science churches would be established within 75 miles of Barton, and at least 17 Christian Science practitioners would be advertising in the state.
30. *Journal of Christian Science* (April 14, 1883): 3. The poem was published again later that decade in *The Christian Science Journal* 7 (Aug. 1889): 5. Later, a slightly edited version appeared as “The Oak on the Mountain’s Summit” in Mrs. Eddy’s books *Miscellaneous Writings 1883–1896*, 392, and *Poems*, 20.
31. Wilbur, *Life of Mary Baker Eddy*, 274–275. Mrs. Eddy was the editor, and within a few months she would dissolve the company and become the publisher herself.
32. Mary Baker Eddy to Clara Choate, July 27, 1882, L04090, MBEL; receipt for tuition for Clara and George Choate, L10779, MBEL.
33. Wilbur, *Life of Mary Baker Eddy*, 276; ledger page, Mrs. Eddy’s accounts with Arthur True Buswell, Aug. 7, 1882, MBEL.
34. Robert Peel, *Mary Baker Eddy: The Years of Trial* (New York: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1971), 118.
35. Mary Baker Eddy to Emily M. Meader, Oct. 25, 1882, L0488, MBEL.
36. Ibid.

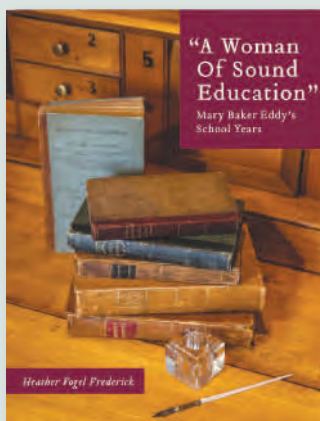
Following the Bread Crumbs

Continued from page 1

for Nezzell’s daughter, Elizabeth Dennis Rockwell, led to the University of Houston, Elizabeth’s alma mater, to whom she had left all of her family papers — including photographs, newspaper clippings, letters, passports, and information about her parents and grandparents. This trove provided a photograph of Mary Christie for use in the Peace Haven exhibit (see page 3). Some additional digging found that Mary Baker Eddy, well known for her philanthropy, had actually made a contribution to the relief efforts after the Galveston hurricane. All of this went into the section about Nezzell in the Peace Haven exhibit.

“One bread crumb leads to another bread crumb that leads to another,” Kelly says. “Even a tiny detail about someone’s life might be just the thing that can bridge connections, reveal a collection in an archive, and unpack a history that’s well worth retelling.” The internet has been a game changer for Longyear researchers, with historic newspapers, censuses, military records, maps, photographs, and so much more now digitized and accessible with a few keystrokes — records that weren’t easily available even a decade ago. Kelly adds, “There are so many gems out there — in private collections, public collections, institutions, museums, libraries, universities — and there is so much to discover.”

A Sampler of Gifts from LONGYEAR MUSEUM



"A Woman of Sound Education" — Mary Baker Eddy's School Years

by Heather Vogel Frederick

This recent book from Longyear Museum Press draws on a wide range of sources, including Longyear's unique collection of Baker family material, in presenting the most up-to-date historical research on the subject of Mary Baker Eddy's education.

Richly illustrated with historic images and full-color photographs.

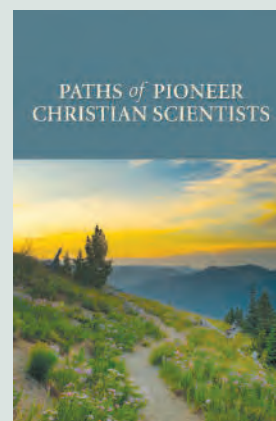
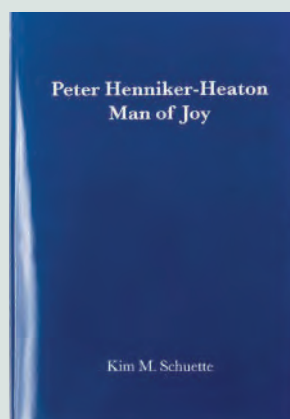
Paperbound. 80 pages.
\$20

Peter Henniker-Heaton: Man of Joy by Kim Schuette

Peter Henniker-Heaton's landmark healing through Christian Science of a decade-long paralysis introduces this overview of his fruitful life, explored here through his many poems and other writings.

Illustrated with both black-and-white and full-color images.

Hardbound. 197 pages.
\$40



Paths of Pioneer Christian Scientists by Christopher L. Tyner

The stories of pioneer Christian Scientists remain largely untold, although their lives have relevance and freshness for today. This volume profiles four pioneering workers of the first order. Each one came to this new religion in the 1880s in urgent need of healing: Annie M. Knott, Emma Thompson, her daughter Abigail, and Janette Weller. The healings that resulted proved to be new beginnings, as each of these women dedicated her life to helping and healing others. These well-documented accounts form a unique record of what extraordinary courage, fierce dedication, and love for God and Christian Science can accomplish. Longyear Museum Press.

Paperbound. 162 pages.

Now available as an audiobook and digital download

Book	\$24
Audiobook (6 CDs)	\$35
Digital download	\$15

Life at 400 Beacon Street: Working in Mary Baker Eddy's Household by Heather Vogel Frederick

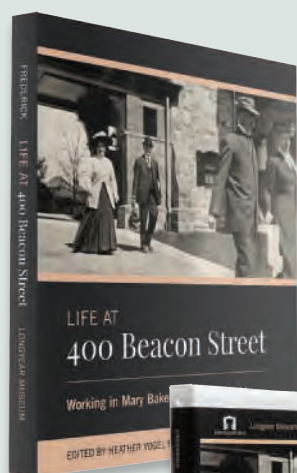
Have you ever wondered what it was like to work for Mary Baker Eddy? This recent book from Longyear Museum Press explores this question, introducing nearly two dozen men and women who came to Mrs. Eddy's home in Chestnut Hill between 1908 and 1910. Each chapter also shares some of the priceless instruction that Mary Baker Eddy shared with her "family," as she called these stalwart pioneers, whose dedication, faithfulness, and tireless efforts helped support the important work of the Discoverer, Founder, and Leader of Christian Science during the crowning years of her mission to mankind.

Abundantly illustrated with both historic images and full-color photographs.

Paperbound. 457 pages.

Now available as an audiobook and digital download

Book	\$40
Audiobook (10 CDs)	\$50
Digital download	\$28



The Oak on the Mountain's Summit by Mary Baker Eddy

During the summer of 1882, Mary Baker Eddy spent several weeks in Barton, Vermont, after the passing of her husband, Asa Gilbert Eddy. Her stay at the home of one of her students gave her a refuge while she worked through grief and made decisions to propel her church forward. Just days before her return to Boston, she wrote "The Oak on the Mountain's Summit." Considered in the context of her life, the words of this poem take on deep poignancy and vision. It is presented in a decorative folder with gift envelope.

8½" x 11"
\$9

NEW



Historic Houses Tote

The new tote bag features hand-sketched designs of the eight Mary Baker Eddy Historic Houses in Longyear Museum's collection. Made of sturdy cream canvas with crisp black accents, the handcrafted tote offers handles that can slip over a shoulder, a zippered top and side pocket, and a bottom gusset that allows the tote to stand on its own.
Size: 17" W x 14" H x 4.5" D
\$35

Verses for Children by Mary Baker Eddy

Mary Baker Eddy's verses "Mother's New Year Gift to the Little Children" and "To the Big Children" first appeared in *The Christian Science Journal* of January 1896. Later, they were published in her book *Miscellaneous Writings 1883-1896*.

These plaques can be hung on a wall or displayed on a table. The artwork is from an original Scherenschnitte (scissors cutting) by Claudia Hopf of Kennebunk, Maine.

8 1/4" x 6 1/4"

- Little Children** \$20
- Big Children** \$20



Longyear's Cross and Crown Jewelry Collection



Cross and Crown Pendant with verse from Matthew 10:8

Designed by Nikki Paulk, this pendant depicts the registered trademark owned by the Christian Science Board of Directors. It is being manufactured under license.

Size: Small approximately 0.71" diameter
Large approximately 0.89" diameter

Silver	Small	\$60	Large	\$69
14K Gold	Small	\$344	Large	\$495

Longyear offers a large selection of cross and crown jewelry. Please visit our website to see the complete collection of pendants and pins.

Musical Lamb

This soft, cuddly lamb makes a perfect gift for a baby or young child. Its music box plays an excerpt from Hymn 304, "Feed My Sheep," by Mary Baker Eddy, from the *Christian Science Hymnal*.

Choice of ribbon color: yellow, blue, pink, green, lavender

14"

\$45



TO ORDER, VISIT www.longyear.org/store

A complete catalog of products may be found in our online store. Payment may be made by cash, check, Visa, MasterCard, or PayPal.
For information: 617.278.9000 • 800.277.8943 Monday-Friday 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

2021 ANNUAL APPEAL

Announcing a \$75,000 Matching Challenge

As we look back on 2021, all of us at Longyear have much to be grateful for. It's been a year of forward momentum on many fronts. Some of the highlights of our year include:

- Receiving the National Historic Landmark status for the Mary Baker Eddy Historic House in Lynn, Massachusetts.
- Continued progress on restoring the houses in Amesbury and Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts — we look forward to reopening Amesbury in 2022!
- Collaborating with other Christian Science organizations including: CedarS Camps (seven presentations for families and young people about Mrs. Eddy's hymns); Peace Haven (developing three exhibits for their new Christian Science nursing facility in St. Louis); and the Association of Organizations for Christian Science Nursing (a talk on West Coast pioneer Christian Scientists).
- Welcoming an international audience to our virtual programs — friends have tuned in from England, France, Germany, Indonesia, South Africa, the Bahamas, Canada, Brazil, Japan, Switzerland, and other countries.

These activities are just a few of the ways Longyear is advancing an understanding and appreciation of Mary Baker Eddy, the Discoverer, Founder, and Leader of Christian Science. And your contribution to the Annual Appeal — which supports our all-important general fund — helps make all these programs possible.

Won't you consider making a gift this year? All donations will be matched dollar for dollar up to \$75,000, thanks to a matching challenge by generous Longyear friends.

To make a gift, please use the envelope included in this newsletter or go to longyear.org/support.



Members of Longyear's media team confer behind the scenes in the impromptu "control room" during last June's virtual celebration at the Mary Baker Eddy Historic House in Lynn, Massachusetts.

LONGYEAR MUSEUM Established 1923
 1125 Boylston Street, Chestnut Hill, MA 02467-1811
 800.277.8943 or 617.278.9000
www.longyear.org

LONGYEAR MUSEUM is an independent historical museum dedicated to advancing the understanding of the life and work of Mary Baker Eddy, the Discoverer, Founder, and Leader of Christian Science.

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Longyear Museum owns eight historic houses in which Mary Baker Eddy lived:
 Amesbury, Mass.
 Chestnut Hill, Mass.
 Concord, N.H.
 Lynn, Mass.
 North Groton, N.H.
 Rumney, N.H.
 Stoughton, Mass.
 Swampscott, Mass.