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Front cover: A desk displayed in the bedroom where Mary Baker Eddy stayed in Amesbury, Massachusetts, includes a copy of a Bible dictionary given to her by a friend she healed. She spent countless hours in this house owned by the Bagley family, writing notes on the Scriptures.
Photograph by Webb Chappell.



LONGYEAR FOR KIDS

Nine-year-old Will Cooper visited Pleasant View, Mrs. Eddy's home in Concord, New Hampshire, in 1897. Read about his trip with his mother and sister in a special article for children on page 13. Hand-tinted photograph of Pleasant View, circa 1900. Longyear Museum Collection.

LONGYEAR Review

SPRING/SUMMER 2022

The Amesbury Restoration



Dear Friends,

Welcome to our newly redesigned and renamed newsletter—*Longyear Review*. It marks the public debut of a project we've been working on for the last year, a complete refreshing of all of our publications. You can read about this process in the article on the facing page—including our work to simplify the Pleasant View gate logo.

We've sometimes been asked why we chose the Pleasant View gate as our logo. The stately granite and wrought-iron gate has been a treasured part of our collection since the 1970s when it was given to Longyear by The First Church of Christ, Scientist. It originally welcomed visitors to Mary Baker Eddy's Pleasant View home in Concord, New Hampshire, and today it is one of three outdoor artifacts that greet visitors when they arrive at the Museum. It has been Longyear's logo for more than 20 years.

We love the gate's close connection to Mrs. Eddy: She specifically requested that it be installed at the entrance to her home and that her name be on the front. We also appreciate the sense of welcome depicted in the open gates, as our hope is that all who visit the Museum feel welcomed and embraced. For these reasons and more, it seems like a fitting mark for Longyear.

This winter, thanks to a generous gift from a Longyear member, we were able to restore the wrought-iron gate to its original beauty and condition. It was reinstalled on the Pleasant View Walkway in early May in time to welcome our spring and summer visitors.

But the Pleasant View gate is not all that has recently been restored. Earlier this year, we completed the restoration of the Mary Baker Eddy Historic House in Amesbury, Massachusetts. Over

the past four years, the exterior and interior of this modest 18th-century structure has been completely renovated. It's been a major project, and the result is a home that more closely resembles what Mrs. Eddy would have known when she found shelter there on two occasions soon after her discovery of Christian Science. Many thanks to our members and friends who helped make this restoration possible.

It has been especially meaningful to finish this project in 2022—exactly 100 years after Mary Beecher Longyear purchased the Amesbury house for her growing collection. We hope you will visit in person, but in the meantime, please enjoy a glimpse of the house through the following pages.

And finally, a comment about the two words at the top of this letter. As we reviewed possible designs for the new newsletter, this page in particular resonated with us. "Dear Friends" perfectly expresses how we think about each and every one of you. We so appreciate your commitment to our mission and your loving support of our work, and we're more than grateful to count you as one of our very dear friends.

Warmly,



Sandra J. Houston



Longyear Museum Collection

New and Old, Blending

The lace curtains gave me the first hint of what was to come.

A Longyear colleague and I had just pulled into the snow-covered yard of the Mary Baker Eddy Historic House in Amesbury. The last time I had been at the house, seven months before, it had been an active construction zone. Plywood had replaced the windows that were being restored and reglazed in the basement. A few of the walls were still open to pipes. Woodwork throughout the house was being stripped for repainting, and wallpaper was just in the planning stages.

But now! As I looked up at one of the windows from the car, I could see delicate lace patterns hanging behind the glass. Everything about it said "home" to me.

Inside the house—where Mary Baker Eddy found refuge in 1868 and 1870—bright winter light played through the curtains, creating lovely patterns on the freshly painted gray floor in the dining room. Next door, in the Garden Room, where Mrs. Eddy taught some of her earliest students, a Bible and handwritten reproduction manuscripts were laid out on a round table to set the scene.

Elegant historic wallpaper—and oil paintings—were on the walls, and original furniture dating from Mrs. Eddy's time filled the space. Throughout the house, my colleagues had thought of every detail as they arranged the rooms in a way that would best tell the story of the Discoverer and Founder of Christian Science.

It was warm and welcoming. And it was old—faithful to the feel of this humble house when Mrs. Eddy lived there—and beautifully new at the same time.

We hope you'll find that same combination of what is very familiar about Longyear and what is new and beautiful in this wholly redesigned and renamed newsletter. The

new *Longyear Review* is the first public glimpse of our ongoing communications work over the last year. It has been more than a decade since we have refreshed our publications across the board, and during that period, the proliferation of screen-based communications has presented issues that we now need to address.

Take our much-loved logo, for example, a rendering of the gate from Pleasant View, Mrs. Eddy's home in Concord, New Hampshire. The original was beautifully drawn, capturing the delicate filigree of the wrought-iron gate and the outline of the



granite stones and capstones. However, many of those details disappeared when viewed on cell phones (and business cards, too) and also needed to be enhanced when we used the logo very large (think of a Longyear video and the large logo at the start of those films). The type fonts used for the name of the Museum were similarly delicate and also were not as legible at a small size.

We obviously wanted to keep the open gate and all of its associations—with Mrs. Eddy herself, with an important artifact that is now at the Museum, and with a sense of welcome. The new logo that you see above maintains much of the original detail while still allowing it to "read" at

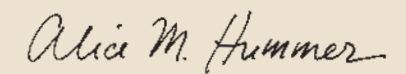
small sizes. The new fonts were selected to bring visual harmony between gate and font, to hold up to the weight of the gate. We love how the new logo and type work together on stationery, business cards, and other publications.

As for refreshing the newsletter and brochures, we are striving for a signature look across all of our printed materials, something that always says, "This is from Longyear." When a printed piece arrives in your mailbox from the Museum, we want you to recognize it and know immediately that it is full of carefully researched, accurate information about Mary Baker Eddy and the early history of her church.

In that way, we hope that this newsletter is, like the Amesbury house, both new and old at the same time. In this issue, you'll find pieces by Longyear researchers you're probably already familiar with: Kelly Byquist, Heather Vogel Frederick, and Stacy Teicher. You'll be able to read about the Museum's work to restore the house with the most accurate historic-preservation techniques and about Mrs. Eddy's formative years in Amesbury. But you can also gain fresh insights into an early worker in the Christian

Science movement—Mary Armstrong, who just happened to enjoy painting ceramics in her spare time (watch for the new column, "From the Vault")—and find an account written especially for children about the visit of a 7- and 9-year-old to Pleasant View in 1897. New and old, blending.

We hope there are some lace curtains here that will catch your eye and welcome you in!



Alice M. Hummer
Editor

AN OLD HOUSE MADE NEW



By Stacy A. Teicher
Photographs by Webb Chappell



Longyear has completely restored the home in Amesbury, Massachusetts, that welcomed Mary Baker Eddy in 1868 and 1870, soon after her discovery of Christian Science.

It all started with the storm windows. Longyear's recently completed renovation of the Mary Baker Eddy Historic House in Amesbury, Massachusetts, began with the intent to replace storm windows to better shield it from the elements. But instead of sealing up the house, that project actually opened it up to a host of other opportunities.

Now, sunlight pours through windows that are not only protected but also fully restored—along with the rest of this significant house, which sheltered Mrs. Eddy in the summer of 1868, when she was turned out on a stormy night from another rented room nearby. (She was known as Mrs. Glover at the time, after her second husband, Daniel Patterson, deserted her.)

At Longyear's first meeting with Allied Window representative Denis Semprebom, it quickly became clear that he had the expertise to assist Longyear with the restoration of this 18th-century house. As the owner of Beacon Hill Restoration, Denis was equipped with decades of experience

renovating historic buildings. Longyear hired him to serve as a preservation consultant, and he and his staff mentored the Longyear staff as they trained them in preservation techniques. He guided the project as longtime issues surfaced, including rot, caused by moisture and insects, that was hidden in parts of the 18th-century timber frame.

Pouring concrete footings, replacing sills, putting new cedar shingles on the roof, installing new copper gutters, improving the drainage, adding a new electrical system, and replacing siding with historically accurate wooden clapboards are just some examples of the thorough work accomplished by Longyear staff and the Beacon Hill Restoration team. Supported by Longyear members and friends, including donations through a matching challenge for the window restoration in 2018, the exterior work was completed in 2021.

"This house is thoroughly restored, and with proper maintenance, good for another 100 years," says Longyear President and Executive Director Sandra J. Houston. "It

looks very inviting. I love thinking about Mrs. Eddy being welcomed into this home on two occasions." (She lived there again for some weeks in the spring of 1870.)

The Mary Baker Eddy Historic Houses enable Longyear to tell Mrs. Eddy's history in the very rooms where it occurred. This requires properly caring for the houses, furniture, and other items in the collection. "When you work with a specialist like Denis, you are applying the very best stewardship, . . . with high-quality workmanship and materials," Sandy says.



The goal was to save as much original fabric as possible, and when original material wasn't available, Denis found the most historically accurate replacements. This is especially significant at the Amesbury house, Longyear's oldest historic house. Built around 1780, it was owned by Squire Lowell Bagley and his family and features artifacts from the Bagleys, including from Mrs. Eddy's time with them.

To structurally repair damaged corner



Mrs. Eddy first stayed in this upstairs bedroom in the summer of 1868. The tool on the floor is a wooden bed key for tightening the ropes that hold up the mattress. The motto above the bed, "He shall give his angels charge over thee," was hanging in the bedroom when Mrs. Longyear purchased the house.



Above: New wallpaper lightens the kitchen, where visitors can see items used for cooking in the mid-19th century. **Previous page:** This 1840s hand-crafted reed organ (left) was among the items in the Bagley family home when Mary Beecher Longyear purchased it in 1922. In the large bedroom upstairs, a blanket chest made in 1749 (right) displays a straw bonnet that the Bagley women, who worked as milliners, would have finished with flowers or ribbons.

posts, the crew spliced in new wood—a technique that reminded them of working on a three-dimensional puzzle. And just as the Bagleys would have done, Longyear purchased many of its supplies nearby. Board sheathing was custom-made at the Bartlett Sawmill in neighboring Salisbury, Massachusetts, based at a family farm that goes back more than 10 generations. The nails used on the exterior came from Tremont Nail in Mansfield, Massachusetts, which still makes steel-cut nails the way it did in the mid-1850s.

In 2019, another generous matching challenge enabled Longyear to restore the interior. This phase of work was also extensive—removing wallpaper, stripping and repainting the interior woodwork and floors, repairing plaster, and restoring the original window sashes. Staff members Gray Carlson and Lauroa McLeland spent many hours working at the Amesbury house, including stripping the old window paint and glaze and carefully applying the new. Gray has been putting his carpentry skills to work at the house since the start of the project in 2018 and worked alongside

former Longyear staff member Bryan Reed for much of it.

"I've been looking at the windows for so long that I didn't realize how pretty they were until they were actually installed—very delicate, and the details are still there for the most part," Gray says.



With the restoration completed, the Historic House and Collections teams brought home the furniture and other artifacts from nearby storage units this past December.

As chairs, trunks, andirons, desks, framed pictures, and dozens of other items came into a staging area in the kitchen, they were cleaned with a small vacuum and cotton swabs. Collections Assistant Sarah Sampson kept track of each item on inventory sheets and occasionally added new details to the records, such as the height and width of a dresser.

The Historic House team has put together a notebook for each room, documenting the furniture and other items so that tour guides will be able to answer visitors' questions. "We've been living with these

artifacts for a long time, and it's really fun to see them actually back here," Sarah said.

The team was especially eager to move an 1840s reed organ back in place in the front parlor, known as the Garden Room. It was in the house when Mrs. Longyear purchased it 100 years ago. In 2020, an organ restoration expert cleaned it, shored it up, and gave a thorough report on its construction. Prior to that, any attempt to move it was hampered because the legs and bellows were not secure.

As Gray and Rex Nelles, the historic house manager, began to move the reed organ off the truck, Senior Collections Manager Deb Wold peeked over their shoulders like a mother hen. Soon she was viewing the wooden instrument safely in its place and happily exclaiming, "It made it!"

Perhaps Mrs. Eddy and her hosts sang together around the organ. What's known for certain is that the Garden Room is where she taught a few eager students about her discovery and her early understanding of how to heal through prayer. One of those students was Sarah Bagley, who grew up in the house and still lived there with her

“This house is thoroughly restored, and with proper maintenance, good for another 100 years.”

Sandra J. Houston, president and executive director

widowed mother when Mrs. Eddy arrived.

Miss Bagley’s father, Squire Bagley, had performed many public service roles in the community. His desk is displayed in the versatile dining room and family room, which cheers visitors with its luminous blue and yellow wallpaper.

Inside a narrow cupboard on the side wall of the fireplace is a large sample of wallpaper that would likely have been in the home when Mrs. Eddy stayed there. Its colors match the tones of the “Rainbow Deerfield” pattern now on the walls. The pattern was first reproduced by Pocumtuck Valley Memorial Association’s Memorial Hall Museum in Deerfield, Massachusetts, and Longyear received permission to reproduce it for this house.

“We’ve worked really hard to strip back the layers of wallpaper and other parts of this house to see how we can get back to an authentic depiction of what Mrs. Eddy might have seen here,” says Pam Partridge, director of education and historic houses. This winter, Pam’s team made several trips to the house—and to area antiques stores—to add finishing touches that will enrich public tours, which began again on May 1.



Denis Semprebbon returned for a look at the finished interior in February. As he walked through the house, he delighted in how the rooms were set up, and took note of the items that tell Mrs. Eddy’s story, such as the trunk in her second-floor bedroom. “This is really stunning,” he said.

Squire Bagley’s diary revealed that this bedroom was created in 1852 by adding a wall. In the small hallway that remained at the top of the stairs after the bedroom was partitioned off, a window butts up directly—and unconventionally—against



The dual-purpose family room and dining room features the 18th-century mahogany desk of Squire Lowell Bagley (left). The wallpaper resembles an early 1800s sample found near the fireplace.

the wall, proof of the 1850s renovations which opened the way for the Bagleys to take in Mrs. Eddy.

Pam says that as she thought about Mrs. Eddy writing her notes on the book of Genesis during her time in Amesbury (see “Mary Baker Eddy: The Amesbury Years” by Kelly Byquist, page 10), she added a desk to the bedroom, along with a *Dictionary of the Bible* edited by William Smith, a copy of the book that Mrs. Eddy received at that time from a friend whom she had healed.

The restored Amesbury house also highlights some special architectural details.

“New England was dotted with numerous modest 18th-century houses, but many of them haven’t survived or haven’t been properly maintained unless they have remained in a family for generations or have been designated as a historic site early on,” Denis says. But this house has been well preserved, he adds, first by the Bagleys and later by Mary Beecher Longyear and the organization she founded.

Denis found the outline of an original cornice return where the roof trim meets

the eaves, so he added that detail back on during the restoration. (See photo D on the opposite page.) The “bowed” roof trim, called a rake, is tapered, getting wider as it approaches the eaves, an architectural style that Denis says was common in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, and somehow made its way to this house.

Preserving historic houses is “very rewarding,” Denis says, “because you’ve left your mark.”

He means that both figuratively and literally. Nearly 100 years ago, a workman hired by Mrs. Longyear signed his name, Ernie Courtemanche, on the plaster of one of the two chimneys. Partial renovations of the Amesbury house also took place around 1950 and 1999. This time around, the Beacon Hill Restoration and Longyear craftsmen signed their names in various spots, now hidden away for future generations to discover.

Like the work of peeling back the layers to restore the house’s original details, the ultimate purpose of the restoration is to reveal—to make better known to the public

Mrs. Eddy’s role as the Discoverer, Founder, and Leader of Christian Science.

“Here she was in Amesbury in a rented room, just beginning her ministry,” Sandy explains, and for those who go on to visit other houses in Longyear’s collection, what will stand out is “tremendous growth and progress, unfoldment, and work, work, work.... Mrs. Eddy was constantly growing in her understanding of Christian Science, always moving forward. She was a tireless worker.”

Longyear’s work, as well, is never finished, Sandy adds. “We’re constantly preserving these houses ... [asking] what do we need to be doing now, to make sure they stand for another 100 years.”

The Mary Baker Eddy Historic House in Amesbury, Massachusetts, is located at 277 Main Street. It is open 12–3 P.M. on Fridays and Saturdays through the end of October, and by appointment (48-hour notice is appreciated). To make reservations, call 1-800-277-8934, ext. 100.

Stacy A. Teicher is a research associate at Longyear Museum.



While working on her early writings about Christian Science, Mrs. Eddy taught its metaphysical healing method to Sarah Bagley and another local student in the Garden Room.



A



B



C



D



E



F

A Staff member Lauea McLeland sands one of the original Amesbury window frames that had been restored and primed. The project included restoring and reglazing 23 windows.

B Clapboards were installed with period-appropriate skived joints: Each end of the clapboard was shaved down to a 45-degree angle so that it overlapped the one next to it. Modern clapboards are installed with butt joints where the two ends meet but do not overlap.

C When this photograph was taken mid-restoration, the old clapboards and some of the window sashes had been removed in preparation for restoring the window casings.

D Denis Semprebou of Beacon Hill Restoration recreated this cornice return (the dark horizontal piece), where the roof trim meets the eave. The faded outline of the original cornice, long vanished, was found on the exterior of the house. New copper gutters were also added.

E Staff member Gray Carlson affixes Plexiglas over a sample of original wallpaper found in the dining room.

F Restoration of the chimneys included adding venting, new copper caps, and a through pan to stop water from penetrating the house. The bowed roof trim is visible at the top right on the end of the main part of the house.

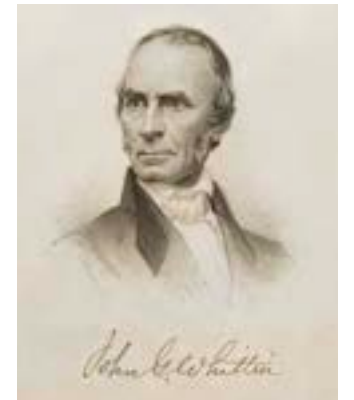
— MARY BAKER EDDY —

THE AMESBURY YEARS

BY KELLY BYQUIST



Mary Baker Eddy's life immediately following her discovery of Christian Science in 1866 found her largely bereft of human aid, home, and support. But Mrs. Eddy described what took place during these years in very different terms. "The search was sweet, calm, and buoyant with hope, not selfish nor depressing," she later wrote in *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*.¹ Though not without challenges, her days were filled with searching the Bible, putting her findings into writing, teaching students, and healing—all laying the foundations for her future work to establish Christian Science. One place she found refuge during these transitional and formative years was in Amesbury, Massachusetts.



Left: An undated historic photograph of the Mary Baker Eddy Historic House in Amesbury, Massachusetts, probably taken in the 1930s or '40s. **Above:** Poet John Greenleaf Whittier. **Opposite:** Mary Baker Eddy in 1870, the year she returned to Amesbury for a second, brief stay. All Longyear Museum Collection.

A Quiet Respite

The quiet town of Amesbury, home to poet John Greenleaf Whittier, lies sandwiched between the New Hampshire border and the placid Merrimack River. Mrs. Eddy first ventured there in the autumn of 1867, at the suggestion of friends who knew she was in search of a peaceful place to study and write.² The previous year had been a momentous one for her. In February, she had experienced a transformative healing after a severe fall on icy pavement, through spiritual means alone.³ Two months later, she was deserted by her second husband and, struggling to make ends meet, moved several times before arriving in Amesbury. (At the time, she was known as Mrs. Patterson, but soon resumed use of her name from her previous marriage, Mrs. Glover.)

For 10 months, she rented a room in a home owned by a retired sea captain and his wife.⁴ But that sojourn came to an abrupt end when her hosts' son cleared the house of boarders in preparation for his summer vacation, putting Mrs. Eddy and her trunk out on a rainy night. Sarah Bagley, who lived not far away on Main Street, offered her a spare second-floor bedroom in June and July 1868. Later, after a year-and-a-half stay in Stoughton, Massachusetts, Mrs. Eddy would return to Miss Bagley's house in the spring of 1870.⁵

Mrs. Eddy later recounted that she spent these formative years seeking to know how her healing had happened—and to understand the divine laws that brought it about. "For three years after my discovery," she wrote of this period in *Science and Health*, "I sought the solution of this problem of Mind-healing, searched the Scriptures and read little else, kept aloof from society, and devoted time and energies to discovering a positive rule."⁶ She added, "I won my way to absolute conclusions through divine revelation, reason, and demonstration."⁷ She was also quietly pondering her mission.⁸

Writing

Amesbury provided a place where Mrs. Eddy could put on paper what she was learning from her prayerful search.

"Writing, writing, writing, she was always writing, the sheets falling to the floor beside her," an acquaintance observed. "She seldom went out, she saw few people; she simply sat and wrote."⁹

Mrs. Eddy made hundreds of pages of notes full of spiritual interpretation of the Scriptures during this time. "In following these leadings of scientific revelation," she explained, "the Bible was my only textbook. The Scriptures were illumined; . . ."¹⁰ Despite their rudimentary nature, she cherished these exploratory writings. "These

early comments are valuable to me as waymarks of progress, which I would not have effaced."¹¹

Mrs. Eddy's comments on the Bible, including on the book of Genesis, "laid the foundation of my work called *Science and Health*," she added.¹² When the sixth edition was published in 1883, it included for the first time a glossary of biblical terms in a new section titled *Key to the Scriptures*. A number of the definitions can be traced to her scriptural notes from this period.¹³

Teaching

Shortly after arriving at Miss Bagley's, Mrs. Eddy took out an advertisement in the *Banner of Light*. The Boston weekly's editor was a native of Amesbury, and historical evidence shows that he and Mrs. Eddy crossed paths at least once at a gathering with local literati. This spiritualist newspaper was, perhaps, a place where unconventional thinkers might be reached, though her ad clearly distinguishes her discovery from spiritualism. As one of her students later explained, "When she was asked why so many of her early converts and early friends were among Spiritualists, she replied: 'Because they were liberal, kind-hearted people, and were quite ready to accept new ideas.'"¹⁴

That ad, placed in the July 4, 1868, issue, read: "Any person desiring to learn how to

heal the sick can receive of the undersigned instruction that will enable them to commence healing on a principle of science with a success far beyond any of the present modes. . . .” The conclusion underscored Mrs. Eddy’s confidence in what she was discovering and her ability to impart it to others: “No pay required unless this skill is obtained.”

Mrs. Eddy had taught her first student in early 1867, but after a year and a half of steadily gaining clearer glimpses of her discovery, the time was ripe for further teaching. One of the individuals who answered the call was Sarah Bagley herself.¹⁵

One manuscript that Mrs. Eddy worked on during this period was *The Science of Man*. Copyrighted in 1870, this teaching manual was filled with questions and answers and, like her notes on the spiritual interpretation of the Bible, also laid the foundation for a future chapter in *Science and Health*: “Recapitulation,” which was introduced in the third edition in 1881.¹⁶

Healing

Throughout these years, Mary Baker Eddy carried on her healing work. “I am torn asunder almost by requests to heal the sick and somehow they keep me at it continually,” she wrote Miss Bagley in 1868.¹⁷ John Greenleaf Whittier, who lived just down the street from the Bagley home, was one who was healed—of what Mrs. Eddy

later described as “incipient pulmonary consumption.”¹⁸ Visiting him, she found him coughing and unable to talk above a whisper. Speaking to him “in the line of Science,” she soon noticed a shift: “By and by his countenance changed and the sunshine of his former character beamed through the cloud. . . .” Before she left, he told her, “I thank you Mary for your call, it has done me much good.”¹⁹ Other healings recorded during this period include a mentally ill man who had escaped from a psychiatric hospital and a woman suffering from pneumonia.²⁰

During a period in her life that outwardly appeared transitory and largely bereft of human support, Mary Baker Eddy’s resolute inward search for God went on unencumbered. Through writing, teaching, and healing, her time in Amesbury helped pave the way for the forward movement of Christian Science.

Kelly Byquist is a research associate at Longyear Museum.

- 1 Mary Baker Eddy, *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*, 109.
- 2 See Robert Peel, *Mary Baker Eddy: The Years of Discovery* (New York: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1966), 219.
- 3 Mrs. Eddy recovered from a severe fall on the ice after reading passages from the New Testament. This healing revealed to her that “all causation was Mind, and every effect a mental phenomenon.” Mary Baker Eddy, *Retrospection and Introspection*, 24.

- 4 Captain Nathaniel Webster’s kind-hearted wife, known locally as “Mother Webster” thanks to her generosity in offering shelter to those in need, gave her boarder a room with a view of the river and a desk at which to write. Peel, *Years of Discovery*, 219-222; Sibyl Wilbur, *The Life of Mary Baker Eddy* (Boston: The Christian Science Publishing Society, 1976), 169.
- 5 Mrs. Eddy’s second visit lasted from March 23 to May 13, 1870.
- 6 *Science and Health*, 109.
- 7 *Ibid.*
- 8 *Retrospection and Introspection*, 24.
- 9 *The Christian Science Monitor*, Feb. 21, 1914.
- 10 *Science and Health*, 110 (note marginal heading: “Scriptural foundations”). See also *Science and Health*, ix, and Mary Baker Eddy, *The First Church of Christ, Scientist, and Miscellany*, 114.
- 11 *Retrospection and Introspection*, 27.
- 12 *Ibid.*
- 13 “The Major Editions of *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*,” Aug. 9, 2011, <https://www.marybakereddylibrary.org/research/the-major-editions-of-science-and-health-with-key-to-the-scriptures/>, The Mary Baker Eddy Library (hereafter referenced as MBEL).
- 14 Alfred Farlow, “Incidents in the Life of Mary Baker Eddy,” 158, Longyear Museum Collection.
- 15 Mrs. Eddy’s first student was Hiram Crafts, whom she taught in Lynn (see *Science and Health*, xi). Sarah Bagley took classes from Mrs. Eddy in 1870.
- 16 The chapter “Recapitulation” is still used for teaching Christian Science today. Mrs. Eddy completed *The Science of Man* while living in Stoughton, Massachusetts. Although published in 1876, copies of it were “in friendly circulation” from 1867 until 1875. *Science and Health*, ix.
- 17 Mary Baker Eddy to Sarah O. Bagley, Nov. 8, 1868, L08307, MBEL.
- 18 Mary Baker Eddy, *Pulpit and Press*, 54. See “Whittier and Mrs. Eddy,” published Feb. 20, 2018, on Longyear’s website for further details about this healing.
- 19 Mary Baker Eddy, undated, A11063, MBEL.
- 20 Rev. Irving C. Tomlinson, *Twelve Years with Mary Baker Eddy Amplified Edition* (Boston: The Christian Science Publishing Society, 1994), 57; Mary Gale to Mary Baker Eddy, May 30, 1868, Mary Gale Subject File, MBEL; *Miscellany*, 105.



Left: Sarah Bagley, circa 1865. Mrs. Eddy lived in Amesbury with Miss Bagley in 1868 and 1870. **Center and below:** Mrs. Eddy’s advertisement for people “desiring to learn how to heal the sick” appeared in the July 4, 1868, issue of the *Banner of Light*. All Longyear Museum Collection.

ANY PERSON desiring to learn how to heal the sick can receive of the undersigned instruction that will enable them to commence healing on a principle of science with a success far beyond any of the present modes. No medicine, electricity, physiology or hygiene required for unparalleled success in the most difficult cases. No pay is required unless this skill is obtained. Address, MRS. MARY B. GLOVER, Amesbury, Mass., Box 61. —June 20.

LONGYEAR — FOR — KIDS



A Visit to Pleasant View

By Katie Beth Haydon

Will was asleep when his mother came into his bedroom to tell him the news. She woke him gently and said with a hint of excitement, “We have an invitation to visit Mrs. Eddy in Concord [on] July 4th!”¹

It was 1897, and Will and his family lived in Kansas City, Missouri. The city where Mary Baker Eddy lived, Concord, New Hampshire, was half a country away. It would take more than two full days and nights to ride the trains all the way east. But that didn’t seem like too long! Will was 9, and he loved eating and sleeping on the trains.

He was up in a flash. Nothing would stop him from going on this adventure. The opportunity to see Mrs. Eddy was a special privilege. After all, her discovery of Christian Science had changed the course of

many people’s lives. Her book, *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*, helped them understand how much God loves and cares for His children. Reading the book, many people were healed of sickness, injuries, and other troubles in their lives.

On July 1, 1897, Will boarded the train in Kansas City with his 7-year-old sister Helen, his mother Jessie, his aunt Eleanor, and some Christian Science friends, including two other seven-year-old girls.

For hours at a time, Will watched the shifting landscape of fields and farmlands, cities and towns pass by as he gazed out the window. One of the most thrilling parts of the trip was the Hoosac Tunnel, where the train chugged through almost five miles of darkness underneath the mountains of western Massachusetts! But there was just one thing interrupting all this

Pleasant View: Things to Think About



Grown-ups and children who visited Mrs. Eddy's home on July 5, 1897, posed for a picture in their best clothes.

THINK ABOUT:
The thermometer on the porch of Pleasant View that day showed 102 degrees. Can you imagine wearing a three-piece wool suit or a long skirt in that weather? What might it have felt like?



The Eagle Hotel in Concord, New Hampshire, where Will and his family stayed.

THINK ABOUT:
It took Will and his family two days of train travel to get to New Hampshire. Why might a family spend so much time and money for such a short visit to see Mrs. Eddy?



A postcard showing Pleasant View, Mrs. Eddy's home in Concord, New Hampshire. She lived there from 1892 to 1908.

THINK ABOUT:
Did you know Mrs. Eddy was one of the most famous women in the United States during her time? Why do you think people might have bought postcards of her home?



Will and his family rode a horse-drawn vehicle called an omnibus from their hotel to Mrs. Eddy's home. It may have looked something like this. Did you know that an omnibus was sometimes called a "barge" back then?

THINK ABOUT:
We talk about riding a "bus" all the time—to school, for example. Where do you think the word "bus" might have come from?

excitement: his sister, Helen. Every time their mother tried to comb her thick, curly hair, she shrieked and cried.

In the last few days, a painful red bump had appeared on the top of Helen's head. She was very uncomfortable in the hot and crowded train, and her head hurt. Every time she cried, Will got more and more annoyed. Finally, he told her she was spoiling the whole trip for everyone!

Can you imagine how Will's mother responded to his outburst?

All the time, Will's mother and aunt were comforting Helen and praying for her, and they continued to pray as the train moved on.

When the group finally arrived at the Eagle Hotel in Concord, New Hampshire, Mother and Aunt Eleanor settled Helen into bed, and then they prayed for her some more.² Neither of them ever told anyone exactly how they prayed, but it was certainly a chance to remember how much God loves and takes care of each of His children, including Helen.

The next morning, Will was amazed at the all-you-can eat breakfast at the hotel, especially the dishes of

sliced pineapple that waiters brought to their table one after another! But his mother was focused on getting Helen ready for the day's events at Mrs. Eddy's home and fixing her hair around the bump. She prayed again while she washed and trimmed the hair, and so did Aunt Eleanor. Tears streamed down Helen's face, and she didn't want to wear her pretty straw hat with daisies around the brim. Finally, they were ready to do what they had come to do: take the horse-drawn omnibus from the hotel to Pleasant View, Mrs. Eddy's home.

When the group arrived at Pleasant View, Will was allowed to explore the grounds. He soon found the table where lemonade was being served and he drank a cold, sweet glassful. When it was time for Mrs. Eddy to speak, she talked about freedom and "the liberty of the sons of God,"³ because the day before had been the 4th of July. Other adults spoke too, including some men who had fought in the Civil War.

After everyone spoke, Will, Helen, and their mother joined the long line of people filing past the porch to say hello to Mrs. Eddy. As their family neared, a gentleman told Will to take off his hat, as a sign of

respect. Mrs. Eddy waved at Will when she saw this. He felt her eyes were smiling every time she looked at him.

Will and Helen looked up at Mrs. Eddy with joyous faces. She gazed at them and at their mother, and then threw both children a kiss. Mrs. Eddy expressed the most perfect motherly love, so it was easy to understand why so many of her students called her by the affectionate name of "Mother."

Later, Will's mother walked by herself toward the trees that lined the front yard. She was very quiet, and Will had to remind her when it was time to go back to the hotel. Afterward, she said she learned about God's mothering love that day, when she watched Mrs. Eddy with Will and Helen. She remembered, "There was a bird sitting on the limb of a tree, and I saw the same love poured out on that bird that I had seen flow from Mrs. Eddy to my children. I looked down at the grass and the flowers, and there was the same love resting on them. ... This Love was everywhere, like the light."⁴ It was the love of God, she said.

Will and his family took a carriage back to the hotel. Up in their room, when Aunt Eleanor went to

wash Helen's hair, she noticed something wonderful. The bump was gone and there wasn't even a red spot left. Helen was completely healed!

Will remembered that joyous day for a very long time. When he grew up, he became an engineer. He was an active Christian Scientist who had healings of his own, and he even wrote a testimony for the *Christian Science Sentinel*!⁵

Some years after their trip to Pleasant View in 1897, Will Cooper and his mother, Jessie B. Cooper, wrote down their memories of their visit. This story is based on those memories.

Katie Beth Haydon is a Longyear member and a writer.

¹ Will Cooper reminiscences, The Mary Baker Eddy Collection, the Mary Baker Eddy Library, Boston, Massachusetts (hereafter referenced as MBEL).

² Jessie B. Cooper reminiscences, MBEL.

³ Mary Baker Eddy, *Miscellaneous Writings 1883-1896*, 251.

⁴ Jessie B. Cooper reminiscences, MBEL.

⁵ Will Cooper, *Christian Science Sentinel* 51 (Jan. 22, 1949): 171.

FROM THE VAULT



“Your Beautiful Souvenir”

By Heather Vogel Frederick

In 1895, Mary Armstrong hand painted a cocoa pot, tray, and matching cups as a gift for Mary Baker Eddy, who enjoyed hot chocolate and drank it often. Mrs. Armstrong was part of a wave of interest in china decorating that rippled across the United States in the last quarter of the 19th century, prompting one art historian of the era to quip that enthusiasm for the craft had caused “the loveliest and purest maidens in the land to smell of turpentine.”¹

Mrs. Armstrong had good reason to be grateful to Mrs. Eddy. When she’d first heard of Christian Science in 1886, she was living in Irving, Kansas, with her husband, Joseph, enjoying a comfortable life. Mr. Armstrong was a successful businessman, and the family had been blessed with two little boys. Mrs. Armstrong, however, was grieving the loss of her mother and suffering from a chronic illness that physicians had been unable to cure. It was at this point that she received a letter telling of a cousin’s healing through Christian Science.

Her own quick healing soon followed.

Impressed, her husband took up the study of Christian Science as well, and later that year the couple enrolled in a class with Mrs. Eddy’s student Janet Colman. The following year, 1887, they traveled to Boston for Primary class instruction with Mrs. Eddy herself, returning for Normal class in 1889.

The Armstrongs were instrumental in helping establish Christian Science in Kansas and Ohio, and moved to Boston in 1893 so Joseph could serve as manager of The Christian Science Publishing Society.² Mary worked for the movement as well, and for Mrs. Eddy personally—entertaining visitors for her in Boston, for example, and helping shop for her clothing and food. She also dropped everything and went to Pleasant View one blistering August when there was an urgent need for domestic help.

“[A] hot kitchen to cook in was terrible, and I thought I would melt,” she later wrote, “but I stood it knowing God would help me to do what our dear Leader needed.”³

Mrs. Eddy praised Mrs. Armstrong’s culinary skill and knack for domestic details,

telling her at one point, “You are an artist.”⁴

That artistry also shone through in Mrs. Armstrong’s hand-painted gift. Mrs. Eddy was delighted with it and wrote to her, “How can I tell you how much I value your beautiful souvenir and Christmas gift. It is too pretty for me to comment on. I took my first drink out of one of its beautiful cups on Christmas.... Mother holds you near and dear.”⁵

“This chocolate set... is still in the home at Chestnut Hill,” Mrs. Armstrong later noted.⁶ And it will remain in the home! Now part of Longyear’s collection, this lovely set will be on display when 400 Beacon Street reopens to visitors.

Heather Vogel Frederick is Longyear’s director of research and publications.

- 1 Edward Strahan, *A Book of the Tile Club* (Boston: Houghton, Mifflin and Company, 1886), 5.
- 2 He would later serve on the Christian Science Board of Directors and as publisher of Mrs. Eddy’s works.
- 3 Mary Armstrong reminiscences, “History of Mary F. Eastaman,” Longyear Museum Collection (hereafter LMC).
- 4 Ibid.
- 5 Mary Baker Eddy to Mary Armstrong, Dec. 27, 1895, 1926.004.0008, LMC.
- 6 Mary Armstrong reminiscences, LMC.

2022
HISTORIC HOUSE
APPEAL



Announcing a \$100,000 Matching Challenge

Welcome home!

We are delighted to be opening the doors of the Mary Baker Eddy Historic Houses this month for a full schedule of tours and programs. After two quiet seasons, our 2022 calendar is filling up with group tours and community events. And we are looking forward to welcoming drop-in visitors all season long. It’s wonderful to be “home again,” ready to greet visitors in person!

The eight historic houses are gems in the Longyear collection, enabling us to share Mrs. Eddy’s story in the very places where her mission unfolded. Programs at the houses are one of the ways Longyear fulfills its educational purpose. And as the feature article about the Amesbury restoration attests (“An Old House Made New,” page 2), preserving these homes is no small task.

Each spring, the Mary Baker Eddy Historic House Appeal plays a vital role in helping us operate and maintain these important landmarks. Gifts to the campaign help pay for utilities, security, snow removal and lawn care, insurance, repairs, educational materials, and much more.

Thanks to several generous Longyear members we are happy to announce a \$100,000 matching challenge grant—all gifts up to that amount will be matched dollar for dollar—essentially doubling your donation.

Thank you for considering a gift to this year’s Mary Baker Eddy Historic House Appeal.

To make a gift, please use the enclosed envelope, call 617.278.9000, ext. 231, or go to www.longyear/support.



Artifacts like the stereoscope shown here in the Amesbury house introduce visitors to 19th-century life, helping to provide context for Mrs. Eddy’s story.

Longyear Museum Established 1923
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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:

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