

#### CONTENTS









On the cover: Classical music filled the Hall of Ideas during Opening Our Doors day.

#### 3 LIBRARY NEWS

Digitizing the Incoming Correspondence Collection New Trustees on The Mary Baker Eddy Library Board Behind the Scenes: Expanding the Library Blog Chaplains Under Fire Inspires Future Programming

#### 6 DID YOU KNOW?

#### 7 CURRENT PROGRAMS

First Night 2012 School Vacation Week Programming Paths of Peace in Crisis Series First Saturdays, Winter 2012

#### 10 PAST PROGRAMS

First Saturday Book Discussions Author Talk with Adam Nicolson Opening Our Doors

#### 12 COLLECTIONS

Object of the Month
Highlighting Projects from Patrons
Christian Science in Classical Hollywood

- 14 NOTEWORTHY
- 15 WHAT'S NEW
- 16 ABOUT



# Digitizing the Incoming Correspondence Collection

As the primary resource for information pertaining to Mary Baker Eddy and the Christian Science movement, the Library balances the preservation of our historical collections with our mission to provide public access to these records. Many libraries, museums, and archives have moved towards digitizing their collections as technology improves, costs decrease, and as their users expect the ability to access more of the institutions' content online. Following their example, the Library has digitized much of its collection, most recently the large volume of correspondence sent to Mary Baker Eddy during her lifetime.

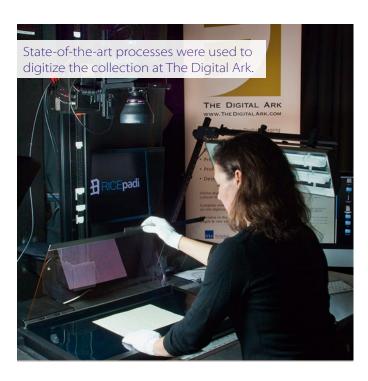
Digitizing the collection creates a database of high quality photographs. When properly formatted and catalogued, this permits any number of people to effectively search our documents, journals, photographs, and even three-dimensional objects such as textiles and sculptures. Creating such a database is a practical way to allow more people access to our collections without exposing the objects themselves to less than ideal conditions.

3

#### LIBRARY NEWS

For the monumental task of digitizing the Incoming Correspondence File, the Library chose The Digital Ark Corporation (TDAC) in Providence, Rhode Island. They worked offsite at their state-of-the-art studio, and after eight months, all 98,326 pages were meticulously photographed. The final digitized correspondence collection contains 33,234 documents from 6,919 people and groups who wrote to Mary Baker Eddy and her secretary Calvin A. Frye, between the years of 1870 and 1910.

available for on-site Library users. The digitized Incoming Correspondence File collection completes the story already told by the Library's digitized Outgoing Correspondence File collection. Looking to the future, the Library's curatorial and archival departments hope to complete a similar project for the Reminiscence File, an archive of approximately 800 documents. These mostly firsthand accounts and personal recollections are from men and women who knew Mary Baker Eddy personally.

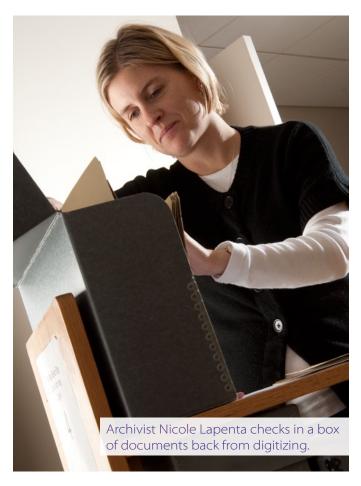


...after eight months, all 98,326 pages were meticulously photographed.

Included are letters from a number of sources such as Eddy's own students, the Christian Science Board of Directors, Christian Science Publishing Society Trustees, churches, the public, charitable organizations, bills from vendors, and personal messages from family members.

In September 2011, these digital files were imported into the administrative area of the Library's ReDiscovery database, and the Library staff is in the final phase of making these files

4



The Library would like to thank Archivist Nicole Lapenta for her diligent project management and all the work that went into this considerable undertaking. We would also like to thank our generous Library donors who made this project possible by supporting our ongoing efforts to preserve our collections while extending the Library's presence and mission to an even greater audience.

### New Trustees on The Mary Baker Eddy Library Board

Following the adoption of new bylaws last summer, The Mary Baker Eddy Library Board of Trustees has continued to recruit new members and advisors to provide expertise and support of Library operations and initiatives. This past fall, they were happy to announce the addition of three new Trustees to the board: Lyle Young, John T. Fawcett, and Sandra Rygel.

Young is a Christian Science practitioner and teacher in Ottawa, Canada. He has lectured and given workshops in 35 countries, on five continents, and speaks English, French, Spanish, Portuguese, and basic Dutch. Young has had over 100 articles published in church periodicals. He has served on the Christian Science Board of Lectureship, as First Reader of The First Church of Christ, Scientist, in Boston, MA, and as Secretary-Treasurer of the Ontario Multifaith Council on Spiritual and Religious Care.

Fawcett was a longtime Advisor to the Library and has led a distinguished career within the field of libraries and archives. He is the former Director of the Office of the Presidential Library System at the National Archives and Records Administration in Washington D.C. and former Archivist at the Lyndon Baines Johnson and Herbert Hoover presidential libraries. Currently, Fawcett is a Business Management Consultant with his own firm, John T. Fawcett Associates.

Rygel has an extensive background in finance as a former Vice President and Associate Director of the Short Term Asset Management Group at Scudder, Stevens & Clark. She was also the co-founder and Executive Vice President of Payden & Rygel. Active in the Christian Science community, she served as a Trustee to Gifts and Endowments and to the pension plan at The First Church of Christ, Scientist, in Boston, MA. Currently, Rygel is a Consultant at Laurel Grove Capital.

# Behind the Scenes: Expanding the Library Blog

In the past year, the Library's blog delved into the work of our curators, designers, researchers, and visitor services staff as they created *Finding Peace*, our 2011-2012 special exhibit. Almost 2,000 readers read about the conservation of our objects, peeked at design sketches, and even watched the exhibit installation through a timelapse video.



This year, the blog has been expanded. In addition to profiling the development of our 2012-2013 special exhibit, it will venture into archival projects, our evening programs, and the day-to-day work of the Library. By providing this behind the scenes view, we hope not only to share the Library with those too far away to visit, but also to highlight new resources that are available to our patrons, and the important work our staff is completing.

By moving the blog to its own designated site, we hope readers will enjoy increased opportunities to share their ideas, ask questions, and find the content that is most relevant to them. For those interested in browsing, content will be tagged by topic, from "programs" to "conservation." Others may choose to have blog posts sent to them directly by e-mail. To find out more, visit the blog at mbelibrary.blogspot.com and start reading!

# Chaplains Under Fire Inspires Future Programming

#### by Jonathon Eder, Programs Producer

One of the great rewards in developing programs at the Library is the opportunity it offers to build relationships with our guest presenters and deepen our understanding of, and association with, the particular communities that are drawn to our programs. Our screening of the independent documentary Chaplains Under Fire in particular has been a springboard for the development of future programming. The film expanded upon the profiles of chaplains past and present, also highlighted in our special exhibit, Finding Peace. Joining us that evening from the Boston University School of Theology were Dr. Shelly Rambo and current Christian Science chaplain candidates. Not only did the chaplains' comments on their own calling to the military ministry enhance others' appreciation of the film, it also offered an opportunity to reach out to them as scholars.

Dr. Rambo will return in January to open our winter speaker and conversation series. She, along with her colleague and student Reverend Michelle Walsh, will offer their perspectives on trauma and treatment in a Christian context. This will lead to connections about the spiritual discovery and insights into similar topics made by Mary Baker Eddy over a century ago. The final session of this series, led by female chaplains, will return more directly to the experiences and perspectives of those in the military ministry who create peace in wartime.

The Library is pleased to be a forum for ideas of import in today's world. Although every program draws its focus from the life and ideas of Mary Baker Eddy, the broad reach of her life and the extraordinary scope of her accomplishments provide a rich resource for program and exhibit development that can speak to a diversity of audiences. In building our community through our various forms of outreach, awareness of Mary Baker Eddy's ideas and contributions becomes an active part of thinking and conversation on contemporary issues. In looking back at *Chaplains Under Fire*, we see that it sparked a vision and kindled a strong and purposeful fire of engagement for the Library, carrying us through the end of our 2011-2012 program cycle.

#### DID YOU KNOW?

6

In October, Chet Manchester, former Creative Director at The Mary Baker Eddy Library, gave a talk on Eddy at the Mount Auburn Cemetery in Cambridge, Massachusetts as part of a regular speaker series on prominent figures interred at this large historic site. Manchester, who has also written scripts on Eddy, commented on the current interest and focus on producing a film about her, indicating that he sees the momentum building for such projects. Manchester explored the challenges of bringing Eddy to the screen in a 2010 Library panel discussion with actor Val Kilmer and Library researcher Mike Davis. Visit mbelibrary.org/videos to watch this Writer/Performer/Producer Talk.



### First Night 2012

Celebrate the New Year at the Library! On December 31, 2011, we will be among 40 cultural institutions joining Boston's First Night celebration. Stop in from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. for face painting, winter themed arts and crafts, and crown making for the city-wide parade. The Society for Instrumental Chinese Music (youth dulcimers) will perform at 11:30 a.m., followed by Zili Misik (Haitian, Brazilian, and West African inspired rhythm group) at 1:30 p.m. and the Back Bay Ringers (handbell ensemble) at 3 p.m. Refreshments of cookies, apple cider, and hot chocolate will be served all day. Official First Night Buttons will be on sale at the Library Shop in December.

# School Vacation Week Programming

Each year, the Library looks forward to hosting entertaining and educational programs which provide visitors with fun experiences and new insights about Mary Baker Eddy and the Library's collections. Family programming includes involvement in community events, such as First Night and Opening Our Doors, as well as original programming that coincides with school vacations during February, April, and throughout the summer.

This year, join us from Tuesday, February 21 to Friday, February 24, as the Library hosts a week of free programming to encourage children to look at maps, including the Mapparium, in a new way. Various activities will touch upon key skills of making and reading maps, highlight the history of mapmaking, and share more about Mary Baker Eddy's life, time period, and personal travels. During school vacation week, showings of *Big Blue Earth* are featured in the world-famous Mapparium and admission to the Library is free for children ages 17 and under. Please visit mbelibrary.org/programs for updated information about this fun Library activity.

#### Paths of Peace in Crisis: Speaker and Conversation Series

During the winter months, the Library will continue to explore the theme of *Finding Peace* with a speaker and conversation series. This series explores contemporary complements to Mary Baker Eddy's pioneering insights as a nineteenth-century woman challenging the conventions of science, theology, and medicine. Presenters will include women who continue to break down barriers as spiritual caregivers and professional peacemakers; individuals who push the boundaries of societal expectations pertaining to healing and peace; and scholars who deconstruct longstanding religious and spiritual perspectives, and reinterpret their peace giving and healing efficacy.

#### Trauma and Theology Tuesday, January 10, 5 p.m.

Join us in the Library's third floor conference room for a discussion about trauma and theology with Dr. Shelly Rambo and Reverend Michelle Walsh, of the Boston University School of Theology.

Dr. Shelly Rambo is an authority on trauma studies, especially in regard to the military. In 2010, she published a book entitled *Spirit and Trauma: A Theology of Remaining* where she examined varied approaches to trauma from a Christian perspective. Reverend Michelle Walsh is an ordained Unitarian Universalist minister who has worked for over seventeen years in lay and professional urban ministry and is currently studying for a ThD in practical theology at Boston University.

### Spiritual Writing in Response to Crisis Thursday, February 16, 5 p.m.

Join Reverend Dr. Carl Scovel as he discusses spiritual autobiography and its place in the pursuit of peace, healing, and transformation in response to crisis. A member of the Library staff will also speak about Mary Baker Eddy's spiritual autobiographies, including her 1891 work, *Retrospection and Introspection*, as well as *Footprints Fadeless*, a document in The Mary Baker Eddy Collection, published as part of

the 2002 book Mary Baker Eddy: Speaking for Herself.

Reverend Dr. Carl Scovel is the Minister Emeritus of Boston's historic King's Chapel. He regularly teaches classes on religious writing and spiritual autobiography and gives talks and workshops on spiritual classics, including spiritual autobiographies such as Julian of Norwich's Revelations of Divine Love and T. S. Eliot's The Four Quartets, a spiritual autobiography in poetic form.

#### Women in Military Ministry Thursday, March 15, 5 p.m.

As March is Women's History Month, the Library will acknowledge the positive influence women have in spirituality and healing within the field of military ministry. A range of denominations will be represented, including Christian Science, as well as different branches of the armed forces. This session will explore the transformational influence of women in the largely male-dominated military tradition, both in its effects on the women themselves and on the armed forces.

#### First Saturdays, Winter 2012

Since First Saturday launched in January 2011, it has offered a range of free and informal instructional and educational programs that highlight the vast and varied resources of the Library collections. Past events have delved into the life of Mary Baker Eddy, highlighted resources for researching the history of the Christian Science movement, and included lively book discussions.

Research & Reference Services thanks those who have visited the Library for these events, as well as those across the country who have participated online or via conference call. We hope to see and hear from even more participants as this monthly series continues.

#### We Knew Mary Baker Eddy Book discussion, part I Saturday, January 7

Join us at 11 a.m. in Research & Reference Services or at 2 p.m. EST, from anywhere via conference call, to discuss pages 1 to 257 of the book *We Knew Mary Baker Eddy*. This fascinating book includes the stories of 22 people who knew Mary Baker Eddy in various ways. The first session of our two part book discussion will review the accounts from Mary Godfrey Parker, who as a child knew Mary Baker Eddy, to Daisette McKenzie, a Christian Science teacher who was a student of Eddy's.

#### We Knew Mary Baker Eddy Book discussion, part II Saturday, February 4

On February 4, join our staff at 11 a.m. in Research & Reference Services or at 2 p.m. EST, via conference call, to discuss *We Knew Mary Baker Eddy*, pages 258 to 483. Share your ideas about the reminiscences of John Lathrop, a Christian Science practitioner and teacher who served in Eddy's household, and Martha Wilcox, a practitioner who worked as a housekeeper for Eddy.

#### Collections orientation to Library resources Saturday, March 3

This First Saturday will be a collections orientation to Library resources. Meet our staff in Research & Reference Services at 11 a.m. to learn about what resources are available in the Library and online, as well as how best to use them in your personal research project. Join us at 2 p.m. EST via conference call to get a walkthrough of the Library website and an orientation of online resources specifically geared for remote Library users.

To find out more, visit mbelibrary.org/first-saturday email research@mbelibrary.org or call 617-450-7218



#### First Saturday Book Discussions

In the fall of 2011, Research & Reference Services held two lively book discussions about *God's Secretaries: The Making of the King James Bible* by Adam Nicolson. Patrons from the Boston community joined us on-site and others participated from across the country via conference call; all were ready with opinions about the making of the King James Version of the Bible and full of questions about the religiopolitical climate of seventeenth century England that helped shape it. The staff appreciates the time that people put into reading the book and is happy that these discussions gave participants of Adam Nicolson's author talk new and interesting insights for the event.

#### Author Talk with Adam Nicolson

This year, the Library provided the final venue for the Massachusetts Bible Society's annual Beck Lecture Series and was proud to have its rare 1611 edition of the King James Bible on display in the Library atrium. Author Adam Nicolson spoke about his book *God's Secretaries* and gave colorful details about how the King James Version of the Bible came into being amidst the tense and fractured religious conditions of England at the outset of the

seventeenth century. Attendees also enjoyed examining our rare King James Bible, pictured above. Visit mbelibrary.org/videos to see a recording of this event.





### Opening Our Doors

On Columbus Day, The Mary Baker Eddy Library took part in celebrating the 10th anniversary of Boston's largest single free day of arts and cultural events. President Lesley Pitts and Chair, Margaret Rogers, helped to kick off the day. Over 1,300 visitors joined us for musical performances, face painting, fall-themed crafts, and a scavenger hunt. Performers included the gifted students of Project STEP (String Training Education Program for Students of Color), Annual Snowfall, an all girl rock group from the ZUMIX program in East Boston, as well as Odaiko New England, a high-energy taiko drumming group.







### From the Collections: Object of the Month

Every month, the Library's Archivist selects a piece from our historical collections to share, specifically highlighting the ideas that the piece represented to Mary Baker Eddy, as well as the significance it may have had to others. We have showcased an object from our collections each month since June of 2009, including documents, jewelry, photographs, books, and textiles.

Visit mbelibrary.org/object to see more about our latest items and to learn about many others, such as Mary Baker Eddy's diamond cross pin and *The Christian Science Monitor* in early photographs.

October 2011

The White Student
A special gift to Mary Baker Eddy from the Sunday School of Second Church of Christ,
Scientist, in Kansas City, Missouri.



November 2011
Yale Automobile
Purchased in April 1902 by Calvin C. Hill
to help Eddy's horses become accustomed
to automobiles.

December 2011

Mustache Cup
Owned by Mary Baker Eddy's son George W.
Glover II, this mustache cup was given to him
by his daughter Mary Baker Glover Billings.



### Highlighting Projects from Research & Reference Patrons

Since opening its doors in late September of 2002, the Library has developed into a vital resource for exploring the story and ideas of Mary Baker Eddy as they relate specifically to her and to broader themes. Access to the Library's archives has resulted in a significant stream of papers, academic journals, books, and published scholarship praised at the highest levels. The Library has also been pleased to support various artists in assorted stages of research and development, each with a passion for applying Eddy's history to talks and works for the stage and the screen.

## From the Archives: Christian Science in Classical Hollywood

With recent discussions about the possibility of new movies about the life and work of Mary Baker Eddy, Library Researcher Amanda Gustin thought it would be interesting to write an article about an early silent film influenced by Eddy's ideas. The following information was found in archival documents, memoirs and biographies, interviews, and newspaper coverage of film releases.

From the early silent films of the 1910s, to the later movies of the 1940s, Hollywood was home to many Christian Scientists. Some of them were famous actors such as Ginger Rogers but many more worked in the technical aspects of filmmaking.

King Wallis Vidor (1894–1982), a famed American film director, producer, and screenwriter, was born and raised in Galveston, Texas. As a young child he was constantly ill. After his mother found Christian Science, he recovered and lived a healthy childhood. At the beginning of his career in Hollywood, Vidor published a public "Creed and Pledge" in *Variety* magazine. Influenced by his background in Christian

Science, he outlined his principles for making films. Among them he wrote, "So long as I direct pictures, I will make only those founded upon principles of right, and I will endeavor to draw upon the inexhaustible source of good for my stories, my guidance and my inspiration."

In his 1919 feature film *The Turn in the Road*, Vidor tells a story about a handsome young heir to a small town's industrial fortune. When his wife dies, he leaves behind his small son to travel the country in search of an answer to one question: "What is God?" At the end of the movie, the protagonist, worn out from his personal quest, comes across a small child (the man's own son) whose answer is that "God is Love." *The Turn in the Road* premiered on March 8, 1919 and went on to gross over \$365,000 in 1919; the equivalent of almost 5 million dollars today (based on average Consumer Price Index inflation).

Over six decades, Vidor made sixty-six films that lived up to his creed and pledge. Throughout his long career, he was nominated five times for a Best Director Oscar, won eight international film awards, and was granted an Honorary Academy Award for his achievements as a cinematic creator and innovator. Vidor also wrote three articles for the Christian Science periodicals.

Contact Research & Reference Services for more about early silent films made on Christian Science themes including *Jewel* and *A Chapter in Her Life*, based on a popular book by Clara Louise Burnham, and *One Still Small Voice* directed by Bertram Bracken.

### Stop by our online shop!

For 10 years, the Shop has offered exclusive books, stationery, and souvenirs in addition to a wide variety of inspirational and educational products. Whether you want to show your support for the Library with signature logo merchandise or delve into our archival collections with *In My True Light and Life*, there's something for everyone.

You now have three ways to shop at the Library: in person, online, or by phone. The shop loves to refresh their inventory and displays; swing by to check out what's new. If you don't live near Boston, visit our new eStore at shop.mbelibrary.org to browse or purchase items from anywhere, at any time. If you prefer to call in an order, please contact us at 617-450-7222, Tuesday through Sunday, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and a Library Associate will be happy to help you. Happy shopping!



Ongoing	
through March 20	FINDING PEACE EXHIBIT—Main Lobby Explore the meaning of peace in printed quotations from Eddy and other great thinkers, objects from the collection, and four selected characteristics of a peacemaker: kindness, reflection, forgiveness, understanding.
January & February	HALF-PRICE ADMISSION Official First Night Boston buttons will be accepted at the Library for half-price admission.
January	
1	NEW YEAR'S DAY–Library Closed
7	FIRST SATURDAY-11 a.m. on site, 2 p.m. remote We Knew Mary Baker Eddy book discussion, part I (pages 1 to 257)
10	SPEAKER & CONVERSATION SERIES-Tuesday, 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. Paths of Peace in Crisis: Trauma and Theology with Dr. Shelly Rambo and Reverend Michelle Walsh.
February	
4	FIRST SATURDAY–11 a.m. on site, 2 p.m. remote We Knew Mary Baker Eddy book discussion, part II (pages 258 to 483)
16	SPEAKER & CONVERSATION SERIES-Thursday, 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. Paths of Peace in Crisis: Spiritual Writing in Response to Crisis with Rev. Dr. Carl Scovel.
21-24	SCHOOL VACATION PROGRAMMING–Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 12 noon Free entertaining and educational programs to encourage children to look at maps in a new way. Learn about making and reading maps, the history of mapmaking, and about Mary Baker Eddy's life, time period, and personal travels. Showings of <i>Big Blue Earth</i> are featured in the world-famous <i>Mapparium</i> ® and admission is free for youth ages 17 and under.
March	
3	FIRST SATURDAY-11 a.m. on site, 2 p.m. remote Collections Orientation: Learn about what resources are available in the Library and online.
15	SPEAKER & CONVERSATION SERIES-Thursday, 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. Paths of Peace in Crisis: Women in Military Ministry with representatives from a range of denominations and branches of the Armed Forces.

Visit mbelibrary.org/whats-new for more information about these listings.

JOIN OUR MAILING LIST to receive monthly e-mails and quarterly newsletters with in-depth reporting about Library exhibits, collections, programs, and news. Visit mbelibrary.org/mailing-list or click on "Join Our Mailing List" at the top, right-hand corner of any page on our website.

**LIKE US ON FACEBOOK** to join the community of almost 1,000 people who follow daily life at the Library. With behind-the-scenes photo albums and an opportunity to join the conversation, facebook.com/mbelibrary is a dynamic picture of what we do at the Library.

VISIT OUR "WHAT'S NEW" PAGE at mbelibrary.org/what's-new for a one-stop resource of current information about the Library. This single web page orients you to everything the Library offers online, from answered research queries to blog posts, newly posted videos, upcoming programs, and more.

#### **MISSION STATEMENT**

The Mary Baker Eddy Library provides public access and context to original materials and educational experiences about Mary Baker Eddy's life, ideas, and achievements, including her Church. The Library promotes exploration and scholarship through its collections, exhibits, and programs.

©2011 The Mary Baker Eddy Library®. All rights reserved. Images and quotations from this e-newsletter, except those credited otherwise, are used by permission of The Mary Baker Eddy Collection or are from the Library's collections.

Page 4 Digital Ark photo by Edward P. Coderre.



#### MARY BAKER EDDY

At a time when women had few rights or opportunities, Mary Baker Eddy (1821-1910) founded a college, established a church, wrote a landmark book, and—at the age of 87—

founded a newspaper. Discover her extraordinary life, ideas, and achievements at The Mary Baker Eddy Library in Boston.



#### 200 MASSACHUSETTS AVE. • BOSTON, MA 02115

617-450-7000 • Open Tuesday to Sunday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Closed on Mondays • e-mail: librarymail@mbelibrary.org • Before visiting on a holiday, please check mbelibrary.org

#### VISIT OR LINK TO THE LIBRARY ANYTIME, FROM ANYWHERE











mbelibrary.org facebook.com/mbelibrary twitter.com/mbelibrary