

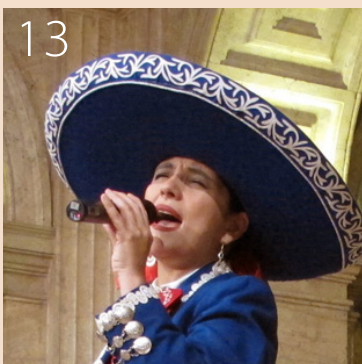
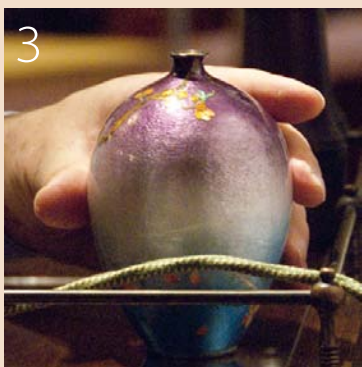
Newsletter

Fall 2012

the
**MARY
BAKER
EDDY**
library™

THE
MARY
BAKER
EDDY
LIBRARY
FOR THE
BETTERMENT
OF
HUMANITY

MASSACHUSETTS
THE MARY BAKER EDDY LIBRARY
FOR THE BETTERMENT OF HUMANITY
150 STATE AVENUE, BOSTON



On the cover:
A scene from 2001 during
Library construction.

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The Library Celebrates Ten Years

Vision: A world in which Mary Baker Eddy and her unique contribution to humanity are better understood and appreciated, and the ideas she discovered are more broadly touching, educating, inspiring, and changing peoples' lives.

Mission: 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.

Reaching our first ten years on September 28 is an achievement on so many levels. Many of you have supported the Library since its inception twelve years ago. Without such loyalty it would have been hard to continue providing all the services we have for community groups, for Mapparium® visitors, and for those seeking research and reference services.

Another huge achievement is in the composition and professionalism of the staff—some of whom have been with the Library since the beginning and many for five years or more.

LIBRARY NEWS



But, change is inevitable when an organization moves from concept to rapid implementation to day-to-day operations. The Library now has a staff of under 30 (a quarter of its size on opening day) who between them accomplish the following:

- **Visitor Services** welcomes over 60,000 visitors a year, interacts with numerous school and tour groups, and runs a profitable shop which sells items related to the Library's collections, vision, and mission;
- **Research & Reference Services** answer over 5,000 research queries a year while they dive deeply into the collections to learn and share more about Mary Baker Eddy's life, achievements, and ideas;
- Library **Curators and Archivist** preserve and maintain the Library's collections to the industry's highest standards;
- The **Communications Team** maintains a growing website and social media presence that includes providing a mobile app for visitors and those who wish to visit the Library remotely. The team reaches other audiences through print and editorial coverage;
- **Creative Services** produces all our marketing material including four online newsletters a year that contain original research and current information about what's new at the Library;
- The **Exhibits Team** produces inspirational and educational exhibits and displays about the life and ideas of Mary Baker Eddy;



- The **Programs Team** puts on more than a dozen adult programs a year, caters to hundreds of children through school vacation programming, and puts on three annual community events that draw many thousands of families to the Library. Through programming, the Library also partners and supports cultural and charitable groups in our community, working with them to improve the lives of those living in underserved areas of our city.

Thank you, Library supporters! And thanks to the staff of the Library for their dedication and focus on the Library's mission. Over ten years, we've seen increasing interest in the Library and have come to know our visitors a whole lot better. We look forward in the next few years to creating a new look for the entrance of the Library and producing permanent exhibits in that space that better introduce Mary Baker Eddy to a public that often does not even know her name.

And finally, thank you to the Christian Science Board of Directors of The First Church of Christ, Scientist, for the original vision for the Library—*open and accessible to all*—for their continuing support and their acknowledgment of the Library's ever increasing reach and value. Here's looking forward to another explosion of activity in the next ten years!

Lesley Pitts
Executive Manager and President
The Mary Baker Eddy Library

The Call for Culture

A week before its actual anniversary date of September 28, the Library celebrated its first ten years on Thursday evening, September 20. It was an occasion marked by joy, pride, and reflection. With a reception in Quotes Café, serenaded by a string quartet from Project STEP, a local music program for youth, about 130 well-wishers gathered to honor this milestone. With a retrospective slideshow of the Library's first ten years projecting on the wall, the excited crowd awaited the star event of the evening, the keynote address by world-renowned director Peter Sellars on "The Call for Culture."

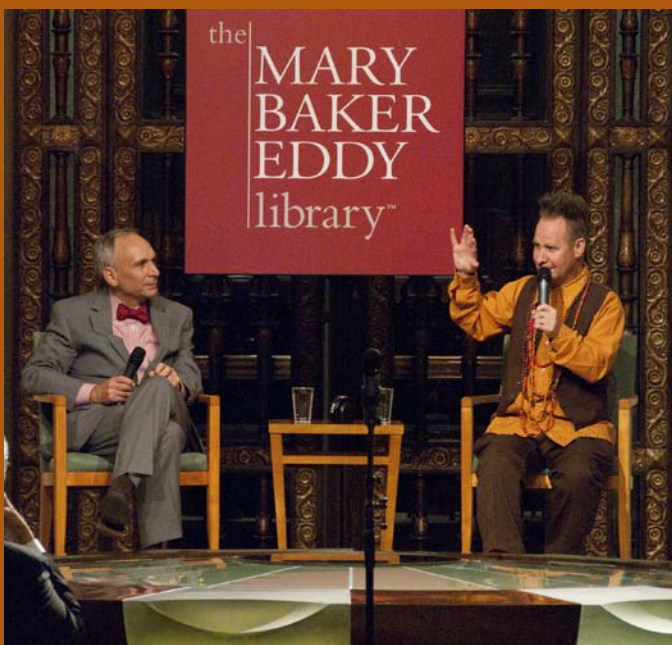
The proceedings opened with a welcome from Library Trustee Chair Margaret Rogers. She commented upon the Library's founding vision in pulling down the walls of protection that had built up around Mary Baker Eddy, so that a research, educational, and cultural institution could be born, allowing scholars and the general public to have free open access to her papers, history, and ideas. Saluting Virginia Harris and other founders of the Library, Rogers recognized "the tremendous courage" it took to establish this new form of outreach to the world.

Lesley Pitts, the Library's President, echoed Rogers's sentiments, characterizing the Library's opening as a bold move, befitting the magnitude of its namesake's accomplishments and ideas. "Nothing that Mary Baker Eddy did could ever be called small," noted Pitts. At the ten year crossroads, Pitts asserted that the vision for the Library could be simply stated "as a world in which Mary Baker Eddy and her unique contributions to humanity are better understood and appreciated—and the ideas she discovered are more broadly touching, educating, inspiring, and changing peoples' lives. But," she added, "it's no less a bold statement than when the Library opened ten years ago."



Peter Sellars, joined by Library Programs Producer Jonathon Eder, then bounded up on stage, signaling the kind of energy and enthusiasm he would share during his address. In framing the evening's topic, "The Call for Culture," Eder explained that Sellars's career in answering to societal needs and voices through the arts serves as a model and inspiration to the Library and other cultural institutions as to how to make unique collections and areas of expertise relevant and meaningful to the wider community.

Sellars, who has been described as "the most remarkable and unique talent in the arts in our time," drew on the depth of his vision for culture and its importance to society to consider the accomplishments and promise of the Library.



“Congratulations on the tenth anniversary,” he exclaimed ebulliently. “That’s a really great sign that something is correct ... and it’s now time to radicalize.”



“Congratulations on the tenth anniversary,” he exclaimed ebulliently. “That’s a really great sign that something is correct, and, meanwhile, that you’ve only just begun, and it’s now time to radicalize. And that’s thrilling. It’s a thrilling moment when you have a track record; you have something you’ve achieved, something to be proud of, and you say: ‘Now what is the horizon? And where is the vision? And how far can that vision take us?’” Sellars went on to give insights from his career on the importance of a boldness of vision and a sensitivity of spirit in making room for the full breadth of humanity to have a voice and stake in the building of society and culture.

Sellars covered a huge expanse in his remarks, engaging in such themes as democracy and the arts and the importance of fearlessness in opening the human spirit to transformation and uplift. “The work we do in culture and the arts is to create a zone of no fear,” he explained. Referring to the Library, he said, “This has to be a place that demonstrates no fear.”

Sellars addressed some of the major currents defining the 21st century and their relationship to the outreach of cultural institutions. “The science

of the 21st century is going to be the science of sharing,” he observed. In this context, he saw the Library’s move towards openness, transparency, and engagement as very much in step with this momentum. “I think one of the most powerful things you’ve done so far is the radical move towards openness. That is the hallmark of the 21st century...radically open, radically open ended.”

A standing ovation greeted Sellars at the conclusion of his talk, which set the tone and offered a roadmap for the Library going forward with further outreach and embrace of the changing vista of the 21st century. Sellars is perhaps best known for asking new questions of classic works of the Western canon and bringing them into a contemporary context. “When you’re dealing, as we all are, with sacred texts, with Mozart, with Shakespeare, these texts are waiting for you to ask a deeper question and they will give you an answer they have never given before to anyone when they are asked a question that no one has ever asked.” One could say that it was with a deep trust in that spirit of inquiry that the Library opened ten years ago, a spirit which will continue to define its way going forward.

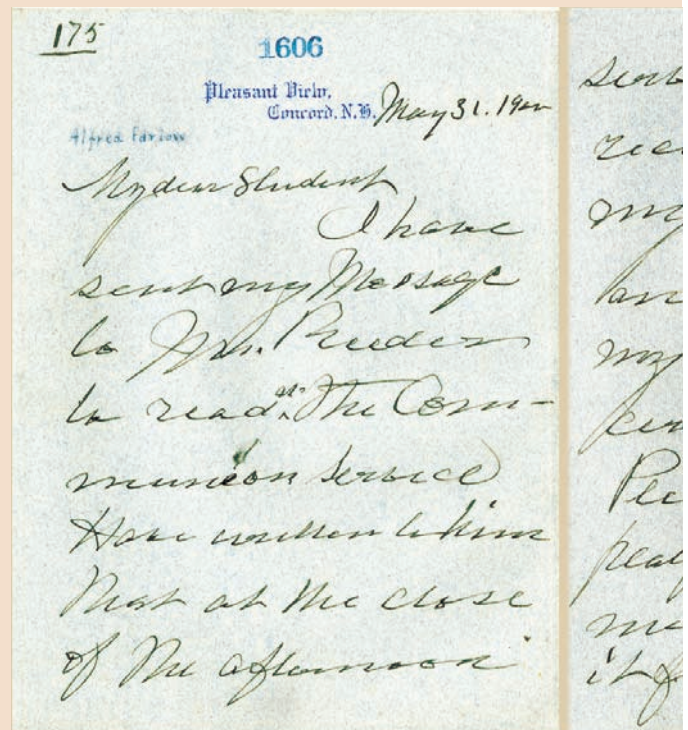
The Annotation Project

Have you ever used the computer database in Research & Reference Services to search Mary Baker Eddy's letters and manuscripts? Many people, including academic scholars, independent researchers, and Christian Science church members, have found it to be a wonderful resource; however, nearly every day the Library is asked if this database will ever be available online for remote access.

In order to meet the needs of our remote patrons, the Library is happy to announce that staff members are working on a pilot project, the Annotation Project. Their goal is to make a selection of Mary Baker Eddy's sermons, examples of which can be found in her book *Miscellaneous Writings 1883-1896*, available online.

All of these documents will be complete with annotation, context that will help people understand each document better. Annotation includes providing information that was obvious to the writer at the time but may be little known today. Right now, there is little in the way of annotation provided in our current transcriptions; there is nothing to tell the reader who a particular person was or to define obscure Christian Science terminology. The current transcriptions are somewhat more accessible to those entrenched in the history of Christian Science and the writings of Mary Baker Eddy. For the majority of people, there is little help as they navigate historic documents.

We look forward to sharing this collection with you, furthering the Library's ongoing mission of providing public access and context to our collections, and allowing our remote Library users the ability to access Library resources from anywhere, at anytime.



The Annotation Project goal is to make a selection of Mary Baker Eddy's sermons available online complete with annotation, context that will help people understand each document better.

Accession: L01606
Date Created: 1900/05/31
Author: MARY BAKER EDDY
Recipient: ALFRED FARLOW¹

May 31, 1900

My dear Student¹

I have sent my Message² to Mr. Reeder³ to read at the Communion Service⁴. I have written to him that at the close of the afternoon service you will receive⁵ from him my copy of Message and attend to my directions concerning it.

Please go up to the platform⁶ and immediately receive it from Mr. Reeder then do your best to get the Boston Herald to publish it entire⁷. But if it asks too much for doing this then let that paper and others publish extracts. But be careful or they will do us harm in this way for a word might change my entire meaning⁸. Work mentally and get Mr. Neal⁹ to help. Begin now.¹⁰

With love

M B Eddy

¹ Alfred Farlow served on the Committee on Publication in Boston from 1899 to 1914 and was the Church's contact point with the news and publishing media. Farlow first studied Christian Science with Janet Colman and then later took Primary class (twice) and Normal class with Eddy.

² Message to The Mother Church for 1900. Eddy's address was presented in lieu of the Bible Lesson for this service. It was later published as a pamphlet.

³ John W. Reeder. Reeder, a Normal class graduate of the Massachusetts Metaphysical College, was First Reader of the Roxbury Christian Science church, later 2nd Church, Boston. Eddy asked Reeder to read her address during the Communion service at The Mother Church. See L15513, L15514, L15515, L15516, and L15517.

⁴ Her message to The Mother Church was read at five communion services (9:00 and 11:00 a.m.; 2:00, 4:00, and 7:30 p.m.) held on Sunday, June 3, 1900. In June 1908, Eddy established the Manual By-Law abolishing Communion services at The Mother Church. Communion services continue in branch churches and coincide with the Bible Lesson on Sacrament. (See Article XVIII of the Church Manual.)

First Floor Redesign

2012 has been an exciting year for Visitor Services Associates (VSAs), as we make preparations for the big reception desk move this winter! The VSAs moved offices this summer from right next to the Library shop into the Hall of Ideas. The new space is not only painted a soothing blue, but it is also wider, so we are now able to put in our own conference table for lunches and meetings. So far, everyone is quite pleased with the new space! The old office will become storage for shop products, and the old shop storeroom will make way for kids' craft materials and other items needed for Library programs. This new office and storage situation will make things much more user friendly, not only for VSA activities, but also for shop and programs needs.

The moves we've been able to implement so far have been fantastic, but everyone is really looking forward to the reception desk move in early 2013. As it is now, the reception desk makes the Library space a bit difficult to navigate for both staff and visitors. Visitors are required to walk halfway through the lobby before they can speak with staff, and oftentimes have to walk back to hang up coats or discard food items. The new desk will be situated right next to the Massachusetts Avenue entrance, so visitors can get information as soon as they enter the building. It will also be in view of the doorway between the Hall of Ideas and Lobby, so visitors who enter the Hall of Ideas from the Plaza, will see where to check in right away. The new desk will be equipped with an organized bag check system, saving staff and visitors some time and hassle.

With the desk moved out of the center of the lobby, there will be plenty more space for the exhibit team to work its magic. We can expect to see more expansive and detailed temporary exhibits on the first floor by 2014. This is truly an exciting time for the Library to not only look back on the past ten years, but look forward to the next ten. While we are implementing changes such as the desk move and exhibit space redesign, we continually strive to enhance the visitor experience for all our guests here at The Mary Baker Eddy Library.

Thank You Interns!

Every year the Library welcomes summer interns to work in all areas of the museum, from handling the collections to welcoming local youth to our annual summer programs. Although we receive applications from many college students annually, we are only able to offer spaces to a few. This year, three interns shared their diverse talents and gained professional experience over the months of June, July, and August.

EliSabeth Meindl, archival intern, was integral to the productivity of Research & Reference Services this summer. Patrons and staff alike were grateful for her assistance in answering research queries and assisting the public in accessing and researching our collections.

Terry McKelvey, curatorial intern, worked behind the scenes of the Library with our curators. He was very busy scanning and archiving historic photos as well as helping with the special project of preparing and relocating historic items from the stacks.

Alistair Brockmeyer, marketing and communications intern, was seen all over the Library this summer. He produced videos for our website and mobile tours, wrote content for an array of print, online, and social media outlets, as well as assisted with tours for special groups visiting the Library. Visit the Library's blog at mbelibrary.org/blog to read about Alistair's experiences at the Library, from his own perspective.

A heartfelt 'thank you' goes out to EliSabeth, Terry, and Alistair for all the great work they contributed to the Library this year.

CURRENT PROGRAMS

First Saturday

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.

Food in Mary Baker Eddy's Household Saturday, November 3

This delicious topic will cover information pertaining to the cultural, social, regional, and economic practices and customs relating to producing, cooking, and eating food in Mary Baker Eddy's time and household.

New online content will feature a few of the original recipes made for Eddy.

11a.m., *in person in the Library atrium*; 2 p.m. EDT, *conference call*

Please contact Research & Reference Services at 617-450-7218, research@mbelibrary.org, or visit mbelibrary.org/first-saturday to RSVP, or for further information and updates regarding these programs.

Making a Difference

Handmade for the Homeless

"Charity is quite as rare as wisdom, but when charity does appear, it is known by its patience and endurance" (Mary Baker Eddy, *The First Church of Christ, Scientist, and Miscellany*, 227).

Inspired by Eddy's legacy of philanthropic giving, and building upon the amazing work of our group from last year, we are happy to invite you to join us as we once again knit and crochet items for our neighbors in need. Since last winter, we have already received over 100 items for our 2012 charity drive from people across America, from Maine to California.

Whether you make a hat, scarf, or pair of mittens, each project will be helpful in fighting off the bitter cold of a long New England winter. All skill levels and projects are welcome. Feel free to make items, size youth to adult, in any yarn of your pleasing.

If you are meeting us in Boston, materials and instruction will be available in the Library's atrium on two Sundays, November 4 and December 2, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Please visit mbelibrary.org/programs for further information about our Handmade for the Homeless group, for information about the charities we donate to, or for project ideas and our mailing address. Visit facebook.com/mbelibrary to see our project album.

Holiday Charity Drive

Sunday, November 25 to Sunday, December 16
Make a difference in the Boston community this holiday season by joining our charity drive. Collection boxes will be in the Library lobby through Sunday, December 16 to collect items for our charity drive partners: The Home for Little Wanderers, On the Rise, and The Friends of Boston's Homeless. A donation wish list is now available online; please check our website for further information.

2012 Library Fellows Share Findings

Each year, The Mary Baker Eddy Library encourages academic research in its collections by awarding fellowships to scholars and independent researchers from around the world. Our collections, which center on the papers of Mary Baker Eddy and records documenting the history of the Christian Science movement, offer scholars countless opportunities for original research. Fellowships result in original contributions to diverse fields of study, from women's history and religious studies to journalism and architecture. Books and scholarly articles are regularly published by past fellows referencing the Library's collections and offer new analysis of the context and present-day impact of Mary Baker Eddy's life, ideas, and achievements.

In 2012, the Library awarded fellowships to three outstanding scholars, Jean-Louis Marin-Lamellet, Tim Noddings, and Ronit Stahl. As part of our program requirements, fellowship recipients are asked to speak at an informal lunchtime gathering of Library and Church employees to introduce their work and describe their experience researching at the Library. Fellows often comment about how helpful these gatherings are to their research, specifically after lively question and answer sessions with inquisitive employees.

Tim Noddings, a Masters candidate in Religious History at the University of Victoria, British Columbia, Canada, came to the Library to work on a project that covers both women's history and religious history in post-Victorian America. His project, entitled "Between the Pulpit and the Press," challenges the common thought that American Protestantism was "masculinized" after 1880 as a rejection of the "feminized" Victorian church and looks instead at the rise of the news media as the reason for the increase in male celebrity preachers.

Ronit Stahl, a PhD candidate in history at the University of Michigan, researches the records of religious groups, including Christian Science,

which supplied and endorsed chaplains to the military as well as advocated for policies beneficial to their faiths. Stahl worked at the Library exploring the state's role in the public expression and negotiation of religion in the United States with its specific interest in facilitating chaplaincy as a way to consider the multi-directional influences of religion, the state, and American society.



Jean-Louis Marin-Lamellet is a PhD candidate at Université Lumière Lyon 2. Marin-Lamellet's dissertation examines B.O. Flower's atypical take on health issues and how he related his Progressive ideals to Christian Science and other alternative religious and medical practices. Flower (1858-1918), saw Christian Science as part of a vital reform movement—socially, physically, morally, spiritually. Marin-Lamellet's work, focuses on Flower as a reformer and offers an analysis of his various magazines and publishing ventures, giving new connections between Christian Science and Progressive thought.



PAST PROGRAMS



One World

Tuesday, July 10–Tuesday, August 14

The Library was bustling with activity this summer thanks to the seventh annual One World, a multi week children's enrichment program. Every Tuesday morning for six weeks, different musical performers visited the Library to perform and engage children, while Library staff introduced craft activities tied closely to the Library and its collections.

This program was offered free of charge and, thanks to generous donations from local publishing companies, each child left with a free age appropriate book. We would like to thank our Library donors and **Eastern Bank** for their generous support of our programs, targeted at children and low-income families.

We look forward to continuing to invite our community into the Library with One World for years to come.





Museum Day Live!

On Saturday, September 29, The Mary Baker Eddy Library joined hundreds of museums across the country for the eighth annual Museum Day Live!, hosted by *Smithsonian* magazine. In the spirit of Smithsonian Museums, who offer free admission every day, each participating institution opened their doors for free to anyone presenting a Museum Day Ticket.

Opening Our Doors

Monday, October 8 marked the 11th annual "Opening our Doors" festivities in the newly appointed Fenway Cultural District of Boston. And we were thrilled to once again open our doors to our community to celebrate this fantastic day of free arts and culture. Throughout the day, admission was free to the Library's world-famous Mapparium and interactive exhibits. Scavenger hunts, a mural drawing, and educational crafting projects kept families busy from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.



Project STEP

Veronica Robles

We also hosted an amazing lineup of talent in the Hall of Ideas, including the talented youth of Project STEP and ZUMIX's Divercity Band, as well as the traditional Mexican singer and dancer Veronica Robles. Our afternoon storytelling sessions were also a hit and gave kids and adults alike an opportunity to catch their breath from all the excitement!

Library Fellows Colloquium

Every summer the Library welcomes recipients of its fellowship award program into the Library's archives. On October 4, the Library welcomed back four previous fellows to discuss their research and how their work has impacted their respective disciplines. The resulting presentation was a lively and engaging display that showcased the value of original research as the presenters discussed the primary sources from the Library's collections that formed the basis of their work. These treasures from the archives included a log kept by watchmen at Mt. Auburn Cemetery where Mary Baker Eddy's body was interred; Eddy's own copies of *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures* with her marginal notes; the papers of Georgine Milmine, author of the sensational *McClure* series about Eddy; and the materials on branch Churches of Christ Scientist.

Ann Braude, PhD, Senior Lecturer on American Religious History and Director of the Women's Studies in Religion Program at Harvard Divinity School, was the evening's moderator. She encouraged an active dialogue between each speaker while highlighting their unique contributions to their varied fields of study. The evening's panelists included Dr. Paul Eli Ivey, Dr. Ashley Squires, Dr. Lisa Stepanski, and Amy B. Voorhees, ABD.

Lisa Stepanski, PhD, an Associate Professor of English at Emmanuel College in Boston, returned as a fellow for the second time to research a document in the archive that she had happened upon in her previous fellowship. She explained its contribution to the "urban myth" that a telephone was placed at Mary Baker Eddy's tomb. Stepanski explained what this simple misunderstanding reveals about attitudes in the media toward women in religious leadership in the media then and today. She also shared highlights from her first fellowship on Eddy's correspondence with Bronson Alcott.



Ann Braude, PhD



Lisa Stepanski, PhD



Amy B. Voorhees, ABD

Amy B. Voorhees, a doctoral candidate in Religious Studies at the University of California, Santa Barbara, has authored several articles, including "Mary Baker Eddy, the 'Woman Question,' and Christian Salvation: Finding a Consistent Connection by Broadening the Boundaries of Feminist Scholarship," forthcoming in *Journal of Feminist Studies in Religion*, for which she won the Elisabeth Schüssler Fiorenza New Scholars Award. She shared experiences about her fellowship while researching the topic "Writing Revelation: Mary Baker Eddy and the Major Editions of *Science and Health*" which is also

the subject of her dissertation. Voorhees offered a textual and historical analysis of Mary Baker Eddy's revisions to her primary work.

Ashley Squires, a recent PhD graduate of the English Department of the University of Texas at Austin, used her Library fellowship for research on her dissertation, "Religious Healing in the Progressive Era: Literary Responses to Christian Science." Squires discussed how her original findings overturned decades-old inaccuracies regarding the publication and authorship of "Mary Baker G. Eddy: The Story of Her Life and the History of Christian Science," the serial biography published in *McClure's Magazine* from 1907-1908.

Paul Eli Ivey, PhD, Associate Professor of Art History at the University of Arizona and author of *Prayers in Stone: Christian Science Architecture in the United States, 1894-1930*, talked about his fellowship project, "Building Respectability: Influences from the American Christian Science Building Boom in Britain 1897-1930." He drew from the organizational archives of The First Church of Christ, Scientist, including the Field Collection, a collection of histories, photographs, and other records donated by branch Churches of Christ, Scientist, for his research.

If you would like to see a video of this fascinating program, don't forget to check out the Library's online Streaming Video Archive this winter.



Dr. Ashley Squires



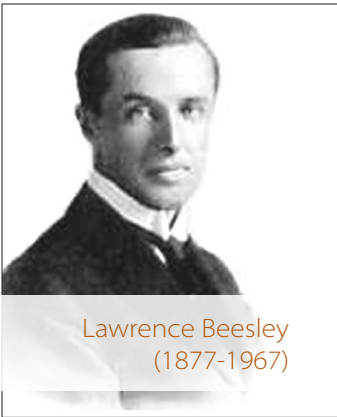
Dr. Paul Eli Ivey



Lesley Pitts, Library President

From the Archives: Spotlight on Lawrence Beesley

The 100th year anniversary of the sinking of the *Titanic* was in April of this year, so it seemed appropriate to investigate a Christian Scientist who survived the tragic event. While those familiar with the sinking of the *Titanic* may know the name of one Christian Scientist on board the ship—Charles H. Lightoller, the second officer (and highest ranking crew member to survive)¹—another was Lawrence Beesley (1877-1967).



Lawrence Beesley
(1877-1967)

A member of Second Church of Christ, Scientist, London, England, at the time of joining The Mother Church in 1907, Beesley later became a Christian Science practitioner. His grandson, Nicholas Wade (a science writer for *The New York Times*),

recently gave some background on his grandfather in an article appearing in the *Times*. “He left his...job as a physics master... to become a Christian Science practitioner.... It was to meet one of his brothers, also a Christian Scientist, in Toronto that my grandfather bought a second-class ticket on the *Titanic* for £13 (about \$60 at the time).”²

Beesley wrote two articles for *The Christian Science Journal*: “The Passing Away of Human Theories” (June 1909), and “Constancy” (October 1911). He also wrote a testimony in the *Christian Science Sentinel* about his *Titanic* experience, which goes into great detail of how his faith aided him during such a trying experience.

“...I am convinced that if it had not been for the knowledge of Christian Science, and the application of such knowledge to overcome conditions of fear and danger, my name would now be on the list of the missing....But, in this case the way in which a small knowledge of Christian Science protected me, and led me out of danger, is so unmistakable that it may be helpful to relate it.



"At the first sign of danger, after the collision occurred, I went to my cabin and read the ninety-first psalm through carefully three times. I had just turned from this study to the interpretation of the twenty-third psalm as given in *Science and Health* (p. 578), beginning, [Divine Love] is my shepherd,' when the final call on deck was made. I put the Bible and *Science and Health* in my pockets and responded to the call, armed with the knowledge which Christian Science reads into the ninety-first psalm, known as it is to every Christian Scientist as a refuge in time of danger. In this mental condition I was able to remain quietly in the position where I first placed myself, on the starboard side, and watch the boats, which had been lowered to the deck below, fill with the women and children collected there, descend to the sea, and row away into the darkness...."

"It seemed more in harmony with the spiritual sense of the ninety-first psalm, more in tune with the teaching of Christian Science, to 'be still, and know that I am God,' to avoid the crowd and remain quietly on the starboard side until some opportunity of escape presented itself."³



Wade, taking from Beesley's account that he later wrote about in his book, *The Loss of the S.S. Titanic*, describes what happened next.

"...in those few critical moments he had the confidence to think differently from the crowd."

"My grandfather was standing on the top starboard deck of the boat with a large group of men when a rumor went around that the men were to be taken off on the port side. Almost everyone moved across the ship. Only he and two others stayed where they were.

"Shortly after, he heard a cry of 'Any more ladies?' from a lifeboat swinging level with the deck below. Leaning over the edge of his deck, he looked down at the boat. 'Any ladies on your deck?' a crew member asked him.

'No,' my grandfather replied.

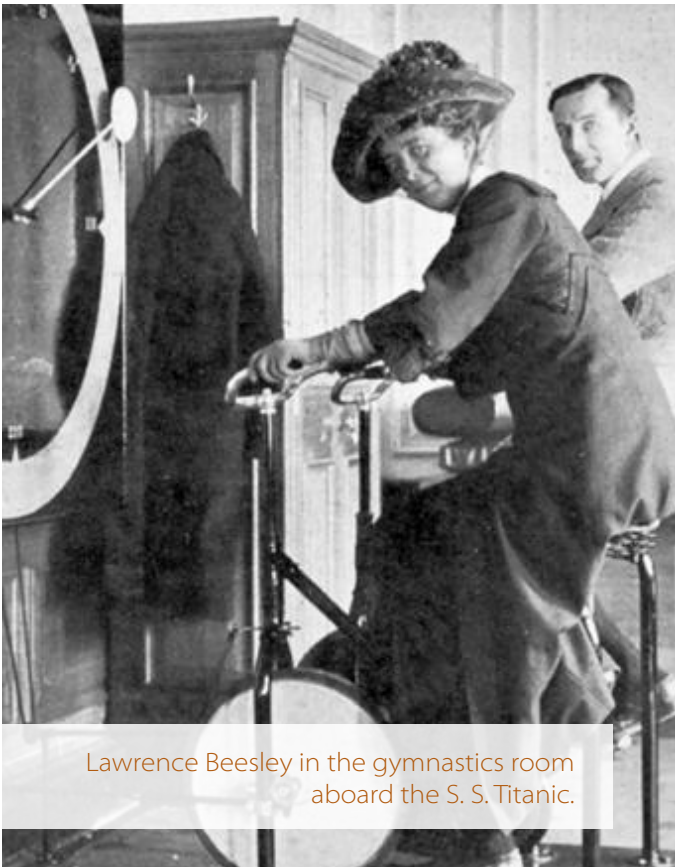
'Then you had better jump.'

My grandfather put his feet over the side of the deck, threw his dressing gown ahead of him, and dropped onto the stern of the lifeboat."⁴

Wade adds, "I owe my existence to the fact that in those few critical moments he had the confidence to think differently from the crowd."⁵

Beesley's book, *The Loss of the S. S. Titanic*, was published in June 1912, just weeks after the sinking in April of that year. The majority of the text is spent giving what the *The New York Times* described "as authoritative and comprehensive an account of the greatest marine disaster of modern

times as will ever be written, and as completely true and exact as it would be possible for anyone to write.”⁶ And while it doesn’t mention Christian Science, it *does* speak often to Beesley’s plea that the dead should not have died in vain. Numerous pages are spent deploring the lack of governmental legislation, both in America and Great Britain, that allowed for ships to be launched that did not meet certain safety specifications, including enough lifeboats for all passengers.



Lawrence Beesley in the gymnastics room aboard the S. S. Titanic.

“No living person should seek to dwell in thought for one moment on such a disaster except in the endeavour to glean from it knowledge that will be of profit to the whole world in the future. When such knowledge is practically applied in the construction, equipment, and navigation of passenger steamers—and not until then— will be the time to cease to think of the Titanic disaster and of the hundreds of men and women so needlessly sacrificed.”⁷

Thanks to cries for new regulations from Beesley and others on both sides of the Atlantic, the United States and Great Britain approved changes that demanded higher safety standards for ships, including a requirement that they carry enough lifeboats for all those aboard, in the hopes of averting such a tragedy in the future.

Visit:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=2ChwGrhx9Lc to see a video clip of the premiere of the 1958 film *A Night to Remember* (including an appearance by Lawrence Beesley at the 0:40 mark).

Footnotes:

¹ His recollection of the event can be found in the October 1912, issue of *The Christian Science Journal*, page 414.

² Nicholas Wade, “As Hundreds of Men Perished, One Ignored a Rumor to Survive,” *New York Times*, April 9, 2012, <http://www.nytimes.com/2012/04/10/science/beating-the-odds-to-survive-the-titanics-sinking.html>.

³ Lawrence Beesley, “It would be impossible...,” *Christian Science Sentinel*, December 20, 1913, 314.

⁴ Wade, “As Hundreds of Men Perished....”

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ “Lawrence Beesley’s Admirable Description of the Disaster,” *New York Times*, July 28, 1912.

⁷ Lawrence Beesley, *The Loss of the S.S. Titanic* (New York: Houghton Mifflin, 1912), 4.

From the Collections: Object of the Month

Visit mbelibrary.org/object to see more about our latest items and to learn about many others.

June 2012

"Oh, You Dear Busy Bees"

Through the summer, objects pertaining to the Busy Bees were on display in Research & Reference Services. Visitors saw artifacts featured in the June "Object of the Month" column, as well as other historic objects and documents from the Library collections. If you couldn't make it to Boston, we also filmed a short gallery talk that discussed the exhibit for our July First Saturday program. Visit mbelibrary.org/first-saturday to see our Researcher Amanda Gustin talk about the "Dear Busy Bees."



July 2012

Tokens of recognition and love:

Gifts for Mary Baker Eddy and Calvin Frye

Learn more about a special loving cup that was given to Mary Baker Eddy and a new desk given to Calvin Frye as a thank you for his over 20 years of service.

August 2012

The White Steam Automobiles

We've already talked about the first automobile that Mary Baker Eddy owned (a Yale Touring Car), and now it's time for a sequel. Learn more about the White Steamer that Eddy's household owned.





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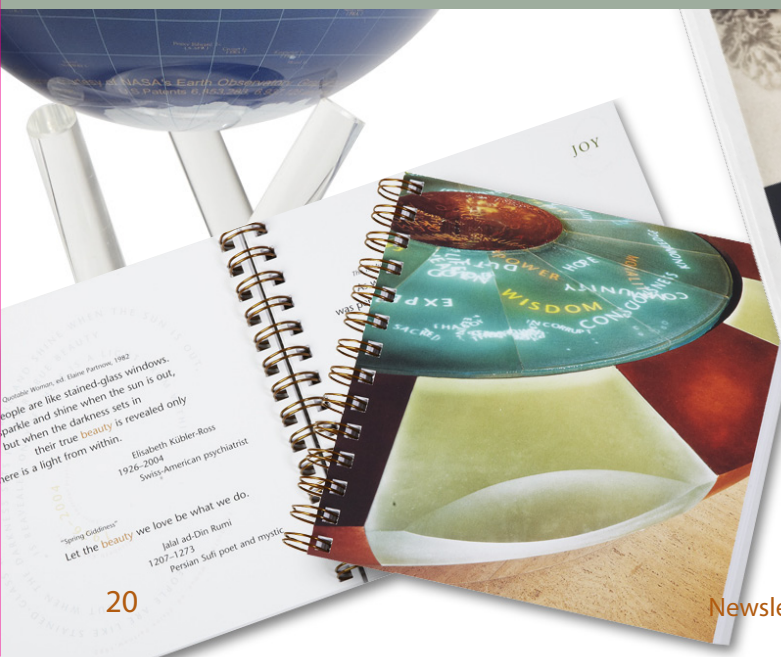


MUSEUM MERCHANDISE

BOOKS & STATIONERY

MAPS & GLOBES

SEASONAL ITEMS



Ongoing	
through December 31	IMPRESSIONS ON PAPER: MARY BAKER EDDY, WRITER – <i>Lobby</i> Discover the life of a writer who challenged the constraints of a time when women had few opportunities. This exhibit also brings Eddy's study to life with original furnishings.
November	
21-22	LIBRARY CLOSED Thanksgiving holiday
November 25 to December 16	HOLIDAY CHARITY DRIVE – <i>Lobby</i> Every holiday season the Library collects items for local charities. Drop off unwrapped items in the Library's lobby; all donations are tax deductible. Wish lists for designated charities are on the Library's website under "Caring for Christmas."
December	
1	FIRST SATURDAY –11 a.m.– <i>Atrium</i> , 2 p.m. <i>EDT conference call</i> Join our research staff for an exploration of Winter and Christmas in Mary Baker Eddy's time and household.
2	HANDMADE FOR THE HOMELESS – <i>Atrium</i> , 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Join us as we knit and crochet hats, scarves, and mittens for our neighbors in need. All skill levels are welcome. Projects range in size from youth to adult; free materials and instruction available.
2	CARING FOR CHRISTMAS – <i>Hall of Ideas</i> , 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. The Library kick-offs this holiday season with a fun and educational event for the whole family as local actors and performers present our fourth annual dramatic revue. The audience is always asked to participate in the fun and join in with the singing of carols. Donation to a local charity may be made in lieu of admission.
24-26	LIBRARY CLOSED Christmas holiday
31	FIRST NIGHT BOSTON –10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Library welcomes in the New Year with a fun day full of activity for First Night Boston 2013. Join us for crafts, a scavenger hunt, face painting, and to view performances by three groups: The Chinese Dulcimer Guzheng Youth Band, Odaiko New England, and Back Bay Ringers. First Night buttons are on sale in the Library Shop.

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

ABOUT

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/mailling-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 more than 1,200 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 webpage 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.

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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.



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