

November 20, 1946

Dictated and signed by Mrs. Hay. No
acknowledgment necessary.

M. E. L.

My brief glimpses of Mrs. Eddy

In the year 1896 I attended the first Christian Science service held in public in London, England. It took place on a Friday afternoon in a small hall at the "Portman Rooms" on Baker Street. About eighteen or twenty people were present, half of whom were Americans. About one and a half years later I visited Boston where I stayed for four months.

I think it was in May 1897 that I visited the Bakers in Concord, New Hampshire. Dr. and Mrs. Baker lived in an apartment connected with Christian Science Hall where services were held. They had kindly invited me to spend the week-end with them. They promised to take me to see Pleasant View and hoped that I might get a glimpse of Mrs. Eddy. When I arrived, they told me they felt very happy on my behalf for Mrs. Eddy was coming there that afternoon and would be speaking to two of the lecturers from her carriage. One of these lecturers, I believe it was Mr. McKenzie, had been waiting there for three days, but Mrs. Eddy had been very busy writing and could not be disturbed. The other, Mr. Tomlinson, had come up in the same train that I had travelled in. I had seen him but did not know who he was until we met at the Baker's home.

In the afternoon Mrs. Eddy's carriage drew up to the door and the two men went out to speak to her. I stood just inside the open French window, only a few feet away from her. They told her who I was and that I had come over from England and she looked at me very steadily with those dark eyes that seemed to glow, bowed her head twice, quite slowly and gravely, and then she broke into a smile and her whole face lighted up and she blew me a kiss. She then turned her attention to the lecturers. I did not catch what was said, but I could hear her voice and see the color come and go in her face. She got quite animated for a few moments and enforced what she was saying by the movement of her hand up and down. When the talk was finished, as the two men withdrew, Mrs. Eddy looked up at me again and smiled and kissed her hand once more.

The next day I was walking alone in Concord and she passed me in her carriage. I had not been expecting to see her, but she recognized me and leaned out of the window and smiled and kissed her hand to me--for the third time.

I felt I had such a lovely, lively impression of her that for a long time I never could bear to look at any photograph or picture of her. In later years, when remembering this happy episode, I have realized how wonderful it was that to human sense she was over forty years of age when she first discovered Christian Science and she seemed to have had absolutely no physique--(she appeared to me to be quite ethereal, as if a puff of wind would blow her away)--and yet what she faced and achieved during the forty-five years after her discovery! Truly her strength was the power of Spirit alone, and truly she proved that Love alone is Life!

In October 1903, I attended the Primary class taught in the Board of Education by Edward A. Kimball. We received a telegram from Mrs. Eddy: "You are to make some healers." The class sent back a telegram of thanks to our Leader and later decided to write a letter expressing gratitude for the privilege of the class and expressing the loyalty of the students to our Leader and to the Christian Science movement.

