

Report of Committee
on
= Church History =
Appointed by the Board
of Trustees. December 22, 1922

FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST SCIENTIST

NEW YORK CITY

Organized Thanksgiving Day, 1887
Chartered under Religious Corporation Law February 3, 1888
First Edifice, 143 West 48th St., Dedicated September 27, 1896
Present Edifice, Central Park West at 96th St., Dedicated Thanksgiving Day, 1903
Architects, Carrere and Hastings.
Original Cost *Handwritten: \$1,250,000* \$1,250,000
Seating Capacity, normal 1,600
" " with extra seats under galleries 2,000
Building Material, Concord, New Hampshire granite.
Interior, Istrian, Numidian, Cippillano, Sienna, and other Italian marbles.
Pews, Circassian and French walnut.
Organ, by Hutchins Votey Co., of Boston, Mass., cost \$25,000
East windows designed and executed by John La Farge.
Side windows reproductions of design by Michael Angelo.

Handwritten notes:
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REPORT
of
Committee Appointed by the
Board of Trustees
of
First Church of Christ, Scientist
of
New York City
December 20th 1932
to draft an
Historical Statement
Relating to the inception of
Christian Science
in New York City.

(PMP)

History of the
"Church of Christ, Scientist,"
afterwards entitled
"First Church of Christ, Scientist"
New York City.

In the early part of the year 1885, some three years prior to the organization of the "Church of Christ, Scientist" in New York City two students of Mary Baker Eddy by name Mr. J. Allen Campbell and his wife Mrs. Lysbeth L. Campbell took up residence and began the practice of Christian Science at rooms in "The Northumberland" 672 Lexington Avenue near 56th Street. In the fall of the same year Mr. Campbell taught his first class consisting of twelve students. Early the following year Mr. and Mrs. Campbell went to Boston and took the normal course taught by Mrs. Eddy at "The Massachusetts Metaphysical College" and each received the degree of C.S.B.

On their return to New York Mr. and Mrs. Campbell adopted the title "New York Metaphysical Institute", "established 1885" and on their professional cards they added the words "Students taught the rudiments of Christian Science."

In the early autumn of 1885 Mrs. Laura Lathrop, also a normal course student of Mrs. Eddy's with the degree of C. S. B. began teaching and practicing Christian Science at 137 West 34th Street. Her professional card first appeared in "The Christian Science

Journal", for June 1886 and in the September issue the card of the "New York Christian Science Institute" of which Mrs. Lathrop was Principal was published for the first time. In November 1886 Mrs. Laurence Brown A.M., M.D., C.S.B., who had been practicing Christian Science for some time in Boston, Mass. came to New York and began practicing at her home 108 West 42nd Street. Early in the following year (1887) she founded "The New York Academy of Christian Science" and received students as well as patients. Mrs. Laurence Brown while second vice-president of "The National Christian

Scientist Association" served as the presiding officer at the meeting held in New York City in the Spring of 1886. (See Christian Science Journal Vol. VI p. 155).

In December 1886 Miss Jane Stoll C.S. entered the practice of Christian Science at 165 West 23rd Street and her card was published in the Journal continuously for nearly two years thereafter.

In May 1887 Mr. and Mrs. Fremont D. Snider C.S.B. came to New York from Kansas City, Missouri, where they had been practicing and teaching Christian Science since December 1886. They located at 27 West 26th Street and established the "Metropolitan Christian Science Institute." Associated with them soon after were Mrs. Sarah H. Jefferson C.S. and Mrs. Persis Maverick C.S. and Mr. Julius D. Harlow. (See April Journal 1888). In July 1887 Mr. & Mrs. J. H. Richards joined Mrs. Laurence Brown as assistants in the "New York Academy of Christian Science".

When the autumn of the year 1887 arrived it had become evident that the time was ripe for a church organization in New York City. Apparently in response to Mrs. Eddy's wishes Dr. Silas J. Sawyer C.S.D. Principal of the "Wisconsin Metaphysical Institute" of Milwaukee, then manager of the Christian Science Publishing Society (see Journal Nov. 1886) came to New York to assist in this work. Mrs. F. J. Stetson C.S.B. who had studied with Mrs. Eddy in 1884 and had spent most of the winter of 1886-1887 in New York doing Christian Science healing work also came from Boston to New York under Mrs. Eddy's direction in the early fall to help organize the church. (See affidavits from Mrs. Isabella C. Dam and Miss Marion Bandman.) Mrs. Stetson had been holding small gatherings of prospective students at the home of Mrs. Louisa Colton afterward Mrs. Laurence at 141 East 39th Street. Mrs. Stetson's name appears in the Christian Science Journal of July 1885 as a contributor under the heading of "Letters and Cases of Healing". She had also given public talks on Christian Science in and around Boston and on at least one occasion she had preached by invitation of Mrs. Eddy in Chic^kering Hall when the services of The Mother Church were being held there.

By Thanksgiving 1887 enough people had become interested in Christian Science in New York City to justify the hiring of a temporary meeting place in "Columbia Institute" 729 Sixth Avenue (near 42nd Street) and on Sunday, November 27th the first service was held there. Dr. Silas J. Sawyer

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conducted the meeting and delivered the address. The subject was "Christian Healing" from the text Mark 16: 17-18. The singing was led by Mrs. Gano, Mrs. Stetson, Mrs. Lathrop and others. Among those present were the following. (See Volume 1 Minutes of First Church of Christ, Scientist, New York City.)

Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Campbell C.S.Bs.

Mrs. Laura Lathrop C.S.D.

Mr. and Mrs. F. D. Snider C.S.Bs.

Mrs. F. J. Stetson C.S.B.

Mrs. Laurence (A.) Brown C.S.B.

Dr. Silas J. Sawyer C.S.D.

Besides the above named graduates of "The Massachusetts Metaphysical College" in Boston the following students of Christian Science were present.

Mrs. E. P. Skinner

Mrs. V. D. Gano

Mrs. C. W. Frame

Mrs. F. A. Kingsley, also Dr. J. M. Gano, Mr. R. Skinner, and many others interested in Christian Science.

The following Sunday, December 4th Mrs. F. J., afterward known as Mrs. Augusta E. Stetson gave her first address in the same Hall. In the meanwhile steps were being taken to obtain a church charter and the three preliminary business meetings necessary to comply with the Religious Corporations Law were held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. F. D. Snider, Dec. 29th 1887, Jan. 5th and 13th

1888 respectively. The following named persons were present at the first of these meetings and others were added on Jan. 5th and 13th.

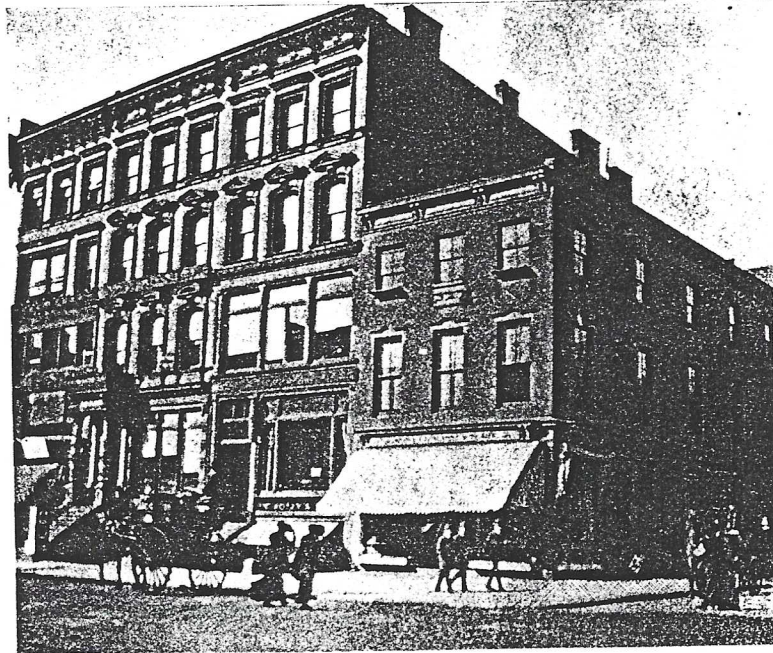
Mr. and Mrs. F. D. Snider
 Mrs. L. Lathrop
 Mrs. F. A. Kingsley
 Mr. O. C. Frost
 Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Richards
 Mrs. F. J. Stetson
 Mrs. V. D. Gano
 Mrs. Laurence Brown
 Dr. S. J. Sawyer

The certificate of Incorporation of "The Church of Christ, Scientist" of the City of New York was granted under the Religious Corporations Act of 1813 and was filed and recorded in the office of the County Clerk on Feb. 3rd 1888.

The signers of the charter were as follows:

Mrs. F. J. Stetson
 Dr. S. J. Sawyer
 Mrs. Vena D. Gano
 Mr. F. D. Snider
 Dr. J. M. Gano
 Mrs. Frances Kingsley
 Mrs. Carrie W. Frame
 Mrs. Laura Lathrop
 Mr. Reuben Skinner

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 On Jan. 29th 1888 the first service was held in a



578 Fifth Ave. Where Services

were held, - January to June 1888.

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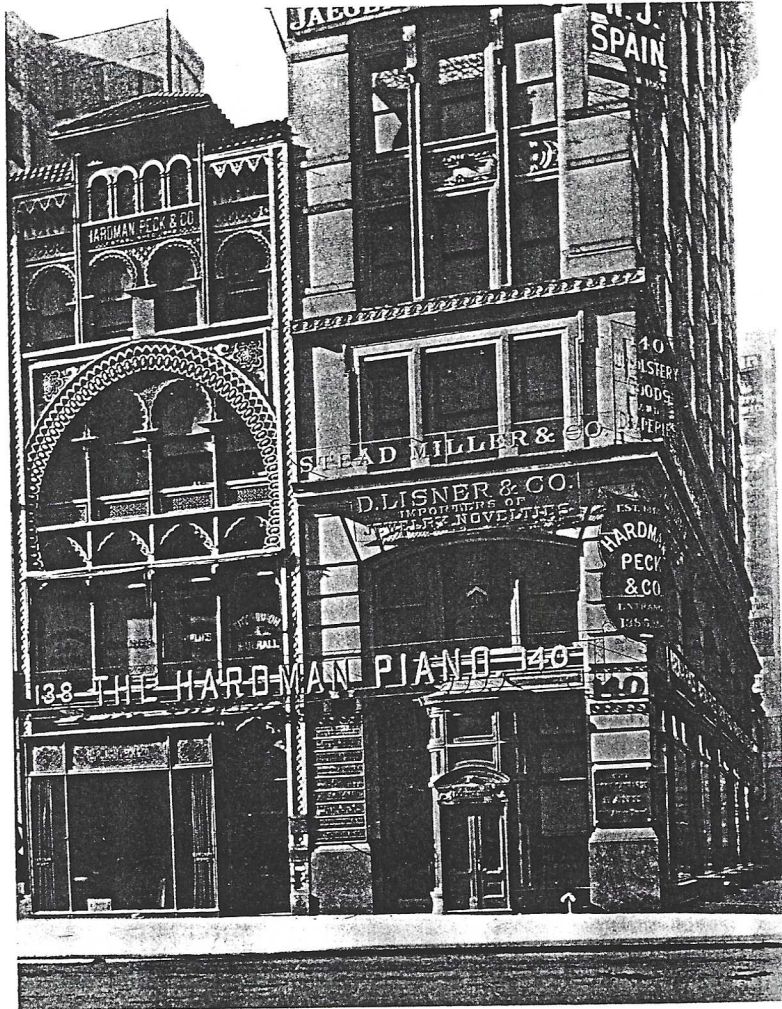
Hall at 578 Fifth Avenue S. W. corner of 47th Street over Caswell and Massey's drug store, at which nearly a hundred persons were present. Mrs. Stetson conducted the services and on Feb. 20th she was appointed pastor.

The New York Journal on April 15th 1888 published an item which said in part "A Christian Science Church has been established in a hall opposite the Windsor Hotel, Forty-seventh Street and Fifth Avenue at which the speaker is Mrs. F. J. Stetson. They hold services every Sunday afternoon. They recognize the Bible and they believe in silent prayer and song."

The "Rules and Regulations" or "By-Laws" of "The First Church of Christ, Scientist" of Boston, after having been adopted in part on Feb. 20th 1888 were adopted as a whole on June 26th of the same year.

During the summer of 1888 services were discontinued and on October 14th they were resumed at Crescent Hall 138 Fifth Avenue, S. W. corner of 19th Street, at four in the afternoon. The first Sunday School session was held there the same day at three P. M. The teachers were Mrs. Lathrop, Mrs. Snider, Mrs. Thomas and Mrs. Dam. In December the property which included Crescent Hall was purchased by the Hardman Piano Co. and the Hall was redecorated and renamed "Hardman Hall". All meetings of the church were held there till June 1891 when a lease was signed for a spacious reading room at 98 Fifth Avenue where Sunday evening services and mid-week meetings were held thereafter.

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Hardman Building

No 138 Fifth Ave.

Where Services were held Oct. 1888 to Apr. 1894

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On Jan. 6th 1889 the Rev. F. E. Mason, Assistant Pastor of The Mother Church exchanged pulpits with Mrs. Stetson. Three weeks later the "Christmas Sermon" (see Miscellaneous Writings page 161) written by Mrs. Eddy and delivered in The Mother Church Dec. 23rd was read by Mrs. Stetson by permission.

The great event of the year took place on Feb. 15th 1889 when Mrs. Eddy herself came to New York and on twenty-four hours notice a thousand people gathered at Steinway Hall to hear her lecture on Christian Science. (See affidavit by Mrs. Dam also Christian Science Journal Vol. VI #12 March 1889)

On March 3rd the Rev. F. E. Mason again exchanged platforms with Mrs. Stetson and on May 19th the Rev. D. A. Easton delivered a sermon at Hardman Hall that he had given the week previously in Boston.

Christian Science Reading Rooms were opened at Hardman Hall on March 10th 1889 and on Oct. 6th it was voted to remove them to 10 East 22nd Street where space was obtained for "Headquarters, Reading Room and Dispensary". Miss Emma Wiley was placed in charge, hours 9 A. M. to 9 P. M. and Mrs. Charles H. Thomas was appointed "President of Mission and Dispensary" with authority to purchase literature.

On May 27th-29th of the following year (1890) the fifth Annual Meeting of the "National Christian Scientist Association" was held at the Lenox Lyceum in New York City. The address of welcome was delivered by Mrs. Augusta E. Stetson. Dr. E. J. Foster Eddy presided and Mrs. Eddy's ⁸ _{AMP} students from many parts of the Field were present.

In the fall of 1890 Mr. Carol Norton of Eastport, Maine became interested in Christian Science through his healing in New York City. (See "From Unitarianism to Christian Science" Journal July 1892.) His love for and ability to serve in the cause was quickly recognized and on Oct. 16th a special meeting was held at the Reading Room at which he was tendered the position of Assistant to the Pastor and custodian of the Reading Rooms at a salary of fifty dollars per month, which offer he accepted. Thereafter Mrs. Stetson preached at Hardman Hall in the morning and Mr. Norton at the Reading Room in the evening.

The card of "The New York City Christian Science Institute" with Mrs. Augusta E. Stetson C. S. B. as Principal, Mr. Carol Norton C.S. Assistant, and Mrs. Josephine Curtis Otterson C.S.B. Secretary, 138 Fifth Avenue, first appeared in the Christian Science Journal for February 1891. The card included the following line, "engagements made for preaching and teaching".

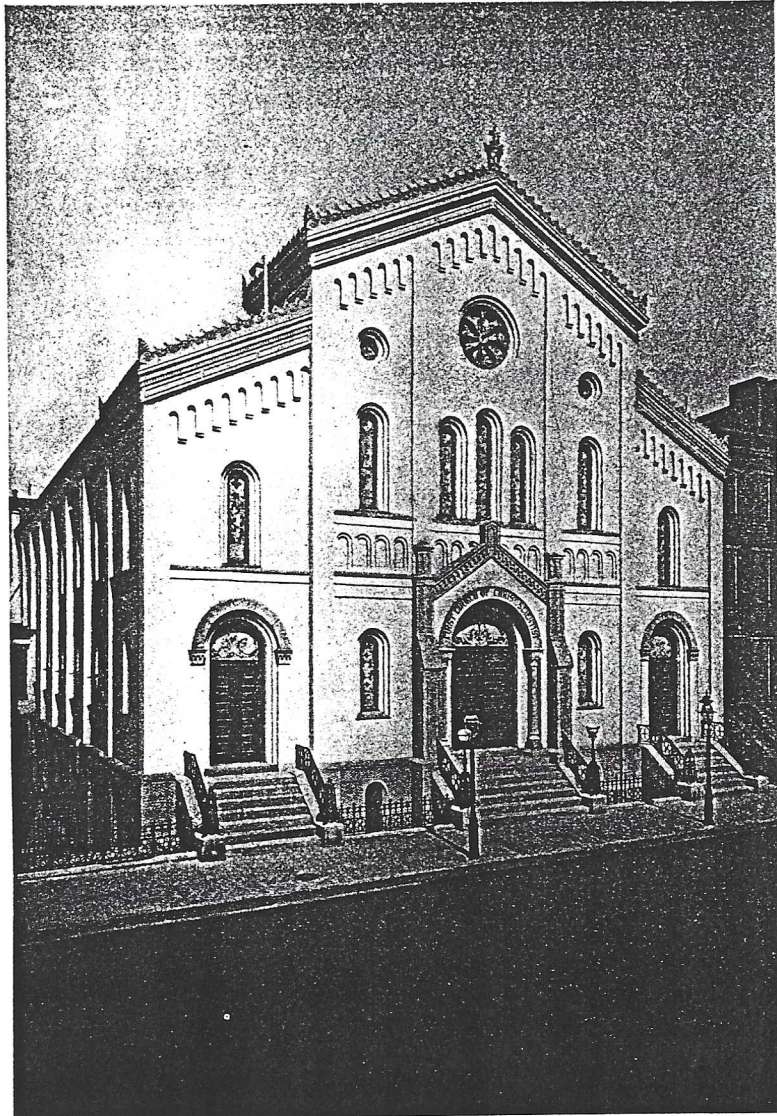
In May 1891 the Reading Rooms were removed across the street to the Manhattan Building at 96 Fifth Avenue, where a suite of five rooms was made into one large meeting room and additional space for offices for the pastor and assistant later was acquired.

On Sept. 28th of the same year a special meeting was called "to extend to our sister Mrs. Laura Lathrop & a Godspeed in the establishing of a Church of Christ, Scientist in the upper part of the city". Mrs. Lathrop in replying said that



"Scottish Rite Hall", Madison Ave. at 29th St.

April 1894 to Sept. 1896.



Forty Eighth St Church

Sept. 1896 to June 1903

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" while accepting the duties of the new position she still remained in perfect at-one-ment with this church." (See Christian Science Journal November 1891.)

The seating capacity of Hardman Hall having now been outgrown, both morning and evening services were held in Scottish Rite Hall, 29th Street and Madison Avenue on and after Sunday, April 15th 1894. Just a year later the Bible and "Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures" was ordained by Mrs. Eddy as Pastor of The Church of Christ, Scientist throughout the world, and Mrs. Stetson and Mr. Norton became First Reader and Second Reader respectively.

At a meeting held on Jan. 7th 1896, in order to comply with a new rule of The Mother Church bringing all of its branches into numerical order, it was voted to change the title of the church to "First Church of Christ, Scientist" of New York City". At the same meeting all members of the church were made a general Building Fund Committee to raise funds to purchase an existing church edifice at 137-143 West 48th Street. A contract for its purchase from the "New York Church Extension and Mission Society" was signed Feb. 6th and title was taken April 7th. After suitable alterations had been made during the summer months the new building was ready for occupancy in the fall, and on Sept. 27th 1896 the opening services were held. The following year, on Oct. 29th 1897 Mr. Carol Norton resigned as Second Reader and Mr. Edwin F. Hatfield was elected in his place. Shortly afterwards Mr. Norton withdrew his membership and joined Fourth Church Manhattan. At

the Annual Meeting on Jan. 18th 1898 Mr. Norton gave a talk to the members by invitation at the close of which he announced his appointment by Mrs. Eddy as a lecturer; on Oct. 26th of the same year Mr. Norton lectured in the 48th Street church before a large and appreciative audience.

On April 17th 1899 a special meeting was called to consider the purchase of a piece of vacant property two hundred feet by one hundred feet at the north-west corner of 96th Street and Central Park West at the cost of one hundred and seventy-five thousand dollars for the purpose of building a new church edifice. Title was passed on May 9th and ground was broken Sept. 19th with appropriate reading and prayer.

Messrs. Carrere & Hastings were chosen as architects and on Thanksgiving Day 1899 the cornerstone was laid in the presence of a few of the church members including Mrs. Laura Lathrop C.S.D. of Second Church, Manhattan. A letter sent by Mrs. Eddy to Mrs. Stetson as First Reader, was placed together with a complete set of Christian Science literature, within the corner stone. The text of the letter follows:

"Pleasant View, Concord, New Hampshire
Nov. 28th 1899.

To Mrs. A. E. Stetson:

Beneath the corner stone in this silent,
sacred Sanctuary of Earth's sweet song, peans of
praise and records of Omnipotence, I leave my name
with thine in unity and love.

Mary Baker Eddy."

"*print*"

Accounts of the laying of the corner stone were published in the New York World of Dec. 1st and the New York Mail and Express of Dec. 2nd.

On April 10th 1902 the church property on 48th Street was sold for one hundred and twenty thousand dollars and a lease was entered into for its use until the new church edifice should be completed. On June 14th 1903 the first service was held in the new building and on Thanksgiving Day of the same year the church was dedicated, free of debt. A letter written by Mrs. Eddy especially for the occasion (see Miscellany page 193) was read at each of the four services.

In response to a telegram presenting the church to Mrs. Eddy, our Leader sounded an ominous note of warning which was soon to have far reaching consequences, although it was not heeded at the time. She said in closing "may you
'Who stood the storm when seas were rough,
Ne'er in a sunny hour fall off'."

(see Miscellany page 194.)

The total cost including the land was approximately one million two hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

Only one hundred and fifty feet of the original plot measuring two hundred by one hundred was used for the church edifice. The remaining fifty feet being still vacant was sold to Mrs. Stetson by the church in January 1905 subject to a deed which contained an option of repurchase by the church at the original sale price plus the original

12
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cost of improvements at any time within one year after she ceased to occupy it. (This option was exercised in 1929 when the church purchased and resold the property to a building corporation for an apartment house at a profit of approximately forty thousand dollars.) No private or secret passage ever existed between the house and the church as has been frequently and mistakenly rumored.

Soon after the house next to the church known as No. 7 West 96th Street had been finished and was occupied by Mrs. Stetson and her sister Mrs. Stella Stimpson, also a pupil of Mrs. Eddy's, it became more and more apparent that Mrs. Stetson's zeal for further achievement was not operating in accord with true Christian Science. The growing tendency toward democracy in Church government promulgated by Mrs. Eddy and the demands of the Manual of The Mother Church for rotation in office and obedience to rules and By-laws found Mrs. Stetson out of step with the present trend of the movement. It became increasingly evident that her genius had always been more for personal leadership than for cooperation with others and that her ambition was more to impress the world with her own achievements than to selflessly demonstrate the divine Principle of Christian Science.

^{135MP} The climax was reached when a movement was initiated by Mrs. Stetson and a few of her wealthy students and followers to build another even more magnificent church edifice in New York City. Land for this purpose had actually been secured

by a group of individuals under Mrs. Stetson's direction on Riverside Drive. It was when this extreme case of self aggrandizement came to the notice of Mrs. Eddy that she wrote the letter entitled "The Way of Wisdom" which appears on pages 356 to 357 of "First Church of Christ, Scientist and Miscellany."

Mrs. Stetson did not take this warning in the spirit in which it was intended but rather chose to interpret it in her own favor and to justify her own conduct. While the land was re-sold and the building project abandoned Mrs. Stetson endeavored to impress her students with the thought that Mrs. Eddy instead of disapproving of her plan was merely protecting her against the jealousy of the Christian Science field. Events now moved rapidly in the direction of discipline by The Mother Church and the series of letters written by Mrs. Eddy which appear in "Miscellany" pages 358-363 were received. On November 22nd 1909 Mrs. Stetson received notice of her excommunication from The Mother Church and on the same day she resigned from First Church of Christ, Scientist, New York City. Since then she never again attended any of the church services or meetings.

^{14 B7mP} The minority of the church members who had taken their stand with The Mother Church against Mrs. Stetson and her followers grew steadily in numbers until by the Annual Meeting held January 20th 1910 they in turn had become a majority and were able to elect four loyal trustees to fill

vacancies then occurring. Mrs. Susanne Thomas who had served on the board of trustees since 1888 threw her vote against the old regime and thus gave a majority of five to four in favor of the new order. From that time the renaissance of the church was assured and has gone on steadily ever since. While the convalescent period has been long and sometimes difficult the spiritual growth of the church has been steady and the outlook for the future is fraught with unity of purpose, love for our sister churches, and great gratitude to The Mother Church and all that it stands for.

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard P. Verrall Chairman

Josephine L. Phelps

Bertha M. Presley Secretary.

March 1st 1933.

15 AMP

Affidavits, Personal Reminiscences,
Memoranda,

and

Chronological Data

Compiled from Early Volumes of

The Christian Science Journal,

and

Minute Books

of

First Church of Christ, Scientist

New York City.

163MP

COPY.

New York February 7th 1933.

Christian Science was first brought to my attention in 1887 by my sister-in-law, then known as Mrs. Louisa Colton,- later as Mrs. Louisa C. Lawrence.

Mrs. Colton told me she had heard through a friend, of a Mrs. F. J. Stetson, (afterwards more generally known as Mrs. Augusta E. Stetson,) a Christian Science healer who had come to New York from Boston, and was doing some wonderful healing work.

A few days later I met Mrs. Stetson, and at once became interested in the subject of Christian Science.

Mrs. Colton opened her home at 141 East 39th Street, for informal meetings for the people Mrs. Stetson had personally interested in this wonderful subject. These meetings commenced with an attendance of four or five, but the number kept steadily increasing. Mrs. Stetson commenced to regularly teach Christian Science in 1887 and held classes at the home of one of her students, Mrs. Kingsley, with whom she lived at that time.

The first Church Service I recall was held in a Hall at 45th Street and Fifth Avenue, New York City over Caswell and Massey's Drug Store, on December 4th 1887, and Mrs. Stetson preached her first sermon at that service.

Mrs. Stetson was formally a professional elocutionist and supported her invalid husband by this work. She was a resident of Somerville, Mass. where she lived with her husband in the home of her parents.

17 BM^P Mrs. Stetson had taken up the study of Christian Science hoping by so doing she could lift her husband out of invalidism.

She had studied with Mrs. Eddy, and while a comparatively young student, had performed some remarkable demonstrations of Christian Science healing, in and round Boston, and on one or more occasions she had been called by Mrs. Eddy to substitute for her in giving public talks on Christian Science. Although there had been several students of Mrs. Eddy's already practicing Christian Science in New York City, for two or three years, no steps had been taken to start a Christian Science Church, and Mrs. Eddy sent Mrs. Stetson to New York for this purpose.

Mrs. Stetson's home was still in Somerville, Mass. Her early days in New York were quite a struggle. She had given up her only means of livelihood (her elocution work) and in response to Mrs. Eddy's request had come to New York City. At that time it was Mrs. Stetson's desire to constantly keep before the thought of her students absolute obedience to the Leader, Mrs. Eddy. Quoting from a letter received by me from Mrs. Stetson, dated Somerville, Mass. January 12th 1888 written while she was spending a few days with her family, she writes, "My home (in Somerville) is so pleasant, -but I know I am needed there, and I shall do the best I canIn some way I shall be able to remain in New York this winter, God will provide."

It was not until the fall of 1889 that Mrs. Stetson took up permanent residence in New York City, and placed her card as a Christian Scientist, together with Mrs. Josephine C. Otterson, C.S.B. in the Christian Science Journal. Their office was at 138 Fifth Avenue.

JFBMP An outstanding event during these years was a visit of Mrs. Eddy to New York in February 1889. I well remember the day when Mrs. Stetson told me Mrs. Eddy was coming to New York City and was to lecture in Steinway Hall, then in East 14th Street.

About one thousand people attended that lecture, on twenty-four hours notice.

My feelings, as I stood in the presence of our great Leader can perhaps, best be described in the words of the late Lord Dunmore, who said, "He had stood in the presence of all the so-called great of the earth- but never until he was in the presence of Mrs. Eddy did he feel such royalty of individualism."

Signed-- Isabelle C. Dam.

Sworn to before me this 7th
day of February, 1933.

F. A. Massey, Notary Public N. Y. Co. 109
Reg. No. 3-M-107, Reg. No. 17-M33
Term expires March 30, 1933.

19/33MP

COPY.

The following is my understanding of what I was told by my teacher, Mrs. Laura Lathrop, of the starting of Branch Churches in New York City.

Mrs. Lathrop was sent here by Mrs. Eddy to start the work, which she did, healing and teaching. When the time came, Mrs. Eddy wrote to Mrs. Lathrop telling her to start a Church.

Mrs. Lathrop had come out of a Church where there had been much friction and bickering and one of the great attractions of Christian Science, to her, was the fact that there were no Churches, but the healing and teaching were being done as in Jesus' time. So when Mrs. Eddy's letter came she paid no attention to it, but was deliberately disobedient, believing it to be a mistaken step. She received a second and then a third letter which she ignored. Mrs. Eddy then wrote to Mrs. Stetson telling her to start a Church, which Mrs. Stetson did at once.

After this had been done Mrs. Eddy sent for Mrs. Lathrop and told her that she had given her the privilege of being the first to start a Church in New York, as she had earned this right by her work, but through her disobedience had been deprived of it.

Mrs. Eddy then told Mrs. Lathrop to go home and start another Church, which she did. This being later known as Second Church. This was told to show how Mrs. Eddy demanded obedience, and to illustrate how disobedience can rob one of the fruitage of ones² work; and how self will blinds one into believing evil to be good, or good to be evil.

Signed-- Marion N. Bandman
8 West 40th St.
New York, Jan. 31, 1933

Sworn to before me this
15th day of February, 1933

F. A. Massey, Notary Public, N. Y. Co. No. 109

20 BmP

COPY.

Mrs. Isabella C. Dam, now residing at 1349 Lexington Avenue, New York City, is a member in good standing of First Church of Christ, Scientist, New York City.

Mrs. Dam became interested in Christian Science in 1887 and was one of the first members, as our church records show.

Mrs. Susanne S. Thomas a former member of this church also became interested in Christian Science about this time (1887) and both Mrs. Dam and Mrs. Thomas studied Christian Science with Mrs. Augusta E. Stetson then known as Mrs. F. J. Stetson.

A warm friendship existed for many years, between Mrs. Dam and Mrs. Thomas. Both of these members gave untiring devotion to this church, and we owe much to these pioneer members.

A Sunday School for the children was started in 1888 with two pupils. Mrs. Dam's small son and Mrs. Thomas' little daughter. Mrs. Dam was appointed the teacher.

During the years following conditions had developed in the church which made it necessary for our Leader, Mary Baker Eddy, to prune this branch of The Mother Church. At this time the friendship of Mrs. Dam and Mrs. Thomas seemed to be broken, but only to be taken up again a few years later.

Both Mrs. Dam and Mrs. Thomas were members of the Board of Trustees of this church at this period. Mrs. Thomas at once accepted the counsel of our Leader as given in her letter to this church November 13, 1909 "I advise you with

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all my soul to support The Directors of The Mother Church, and unite with those in your church who are supporting The Mother Church Directors" (see First Church of Christ, Scientist and Miscellany page 360.)

Mrs. Dam's mistaken sense of loyalty for her teacher Mrs. Stetson to whom she felt she was greatly indebted led her to be blinded for a while longer to the personal domination being exercised by her teacher Mrs. Stetson.

After a few more years of wavering between a sense of loyalty and fealty Mrs. Dam put aside personal sense and took her stand for Principle. Her friendship with Mrs. Thomas was then reestablished.

Mrs. Thomas having taken up permanent residence at Interlaken, New Jersey asked for a letter of dismissal from this church in 1920. - to join a church at Asbury Park, N. J. This letter was granted with regret.

Mrs. Dam is still carrying on proving her Principle, and through all these years (now 46) has depended absolutely upon her understanding of Christian Science for her health and happiness.

Signed Josephine Leighton Phelps
201 West 79th Street
New York City.

State of New York
County of New York

Sworn to before me this 25th day of
February 1933.

Margaret L. Keiler
Notary Public, New York County
New York County Clerk's No. 323
New York County Register's No. 4K481
Commission expires March 30, 1934.

27-AMP

COPY.

From Mrs. Stetson to Mrs. Dam.

Somerville Jan. 12th 1888.

My darling Bella:

Your sweet loving letter is before me and I needed no assurance of your love for me for I feel it always.

You are in God and He is Love. I never expect to find you elsewhere for I have anchored you to the rock of Truth and tho the waves of error may surge below you You are safe. I had to come home on business. It was peremptory but I had no idea of not returning tho I felt I could not go back there, for I had not business to warrant it and I am too independent to occuoy those lovely rooms and have Mrs. Kingsley pay for them. If I take the pulpit I must be quiet, and I can't take practice enough to pay what large rooms are worth. I shall find something reasonable and go out to my patients (if I have any). I don't think Mrs. Kingsley feels any worse than I do about it for I have been so happy with her and Mrs. Zinn. I shall go right there when I go back then look about for my room. It really makes me so lonely to think of going elsewhere; but I must not murmur. It is so happy here. My home is so pleasant but I know I am needed there and I shall do the best I can. I hope to get through with this in a week but may not so soon. I was so weak when I left I could not take my last lunch or say good bye for I knew I was leaving my old home, tho I was coming back. I dont want you to say anything to anyone of my change. Tell Mrs. K. not to for

23AMP

mortal mind likes to destroy and pull down and keep the faithful from the field. In some way I shall be able to remain in New York this winter. God will provide. Give oceans of love to Mrs. Kingsley and tell her I will soon be in her "waiting arms". I am sure to gravitate there. Give my love to Mrs. Zinn, and for your own precious self take my heart. It is over-flowing for all my dear ones and you in very particular.

Do not mind your indebtedness to me. I know that will be all right. Send me strong thoughts.

Lovingly in Truth,

Yours always

Signed A. E. Stetson. [To Mrs. Dam]

24/13MP

(COPY)

Mr. Ralph Moody, now residing at 2508 Broadway, New York City, is a regular attendant at First Church of Christ, Scientist, New York City. His name appears on the church records January 1888.

It was Mr. Moody's great privilege to be a member of the March 1889 Primary Class of the Massachusetts Metaphysical College, taught by the Discoverer and Founder of Christian Science, Mary Baker Eddy. After which he was instrumental in organizing the Christian Science Society of Norwalk, Connecticut (now First Church of Christ, Scientist, Norwalk) where he has always retained his membership, although for many years a resident of New York City and a regular attendant at First Church since 1910.

JOSEPHINE LEIGHTON PHELPS,
201 West 79th Street,
New York City.

STATE OF NEW YORK,)
COUNTY OF NEW YORK.)

Sworn to before me this 27th day of February, 1933.

MARGARET L. KEILER,
Notary Public, New York County.
New York County Clerk's No. 323
New York County Register's No. 4 K 431
Commission expires March 30, 1934.

Among those who signed the original membership roll were:

Arabell Gillespie
Rowena B. Zinn
Jos. Curtis Otterson
Henrietta E. Chanfrau, Long Branch, N.J.
Ralph Moody, Norwalk, Conn.

Mrs. Annie Dodge
Miss Annie Dodge
Marcus Ward
Emily Blanche Ward
Alice Jennings
Carol Norton
Arthur E. Stillwell
Mrs. Jennie Stillwell, Kansas City
Wm. F. Becket
Mrs. Susie Becket

24/3/33

1886.

March

"National Christian Science Association."

J. Allen Campbell C. S. D. President

Roger Sherman C. S. D. Vice President

~~Mrs. Laurence Brown~~ 2nd Vice President.

Mrs. Laurence Brown A.M. MD. C.S.B. A

Mrs. B. Welcomed editorially as a contributor to the Christian Science Journal. Card appears for the first time at 526 Columbus Avenue, Boston.

April

Vol. iv Moved to 4 Yarmouth Street, Boston

(3) "Students taught the rudiments of Christian Science."

J. A. and L. L. Campbell become C. S. B. (1st time)

May

Mrs. A. M. Harvey C. S. B.
Cincinnati, Ohio.

"Meeting of National Christian Science Association",

Mrs. Laurence Brown, presiding, See also Vol. vi p. 155.

June

Testimony of healing my Mrs. Lathrop

First insertion

Mrs. Laura Lathrop C. S. B.
137 West 34th Street

Students taught the rudiments of Christian Science.

Sept.

The New York Christian Science Institute

Mrs. Laura Lathrop C.S.B. Principal.

Oct.

"The Recent Festival" p. 180

Mrs. Augusta E. Stetson C.S.B. gives readings.

Nov.

J. S. Sawyer Manager Christian Science Publishing Society

26 Bmp

Vol. iv.
1886.

Professional Card.

{ Mrs. Laurence Brown A.M. M.D. C.S.B. (1st insertion in
New York City.)
Obstretician and Surgeon
108 West 42nd Street.
New York City.

Dec. Professional Card.

Miss Jane Stoll C. S. (1st insertion)
165 West 23rd Street.

~~Mrs. Lathrop's card taken out of Journal.~~

Mr. and Mrs. F. D. Snider C.S.B.
Kansas City, Mo.

1887.

Jan. "The New York Academy of Christian Science"
108 West 42nd Street.
Mrs. Laurence Brown A.M. M.D. C.S.B. Principal.

Volume v

April "Brooklyn Institute of Christian Science
462 Green Ave.
Mrs. P. J. Leonard C.S.B. Principal
Incorporated Sept. 1886.

~~Mrs. Lathrop's cards return.~~

May Mr. and Mrs. F. D. Snider C.S.B.
formerly of Kansas City 1st. insertion
27 West 26th Street.

June Mr. and Mrs. Campbell moved to 1244 Broadway near 31st St.

July Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Richards join Mrs. Laurence Brown
as assistants.

Sept. Testimony by Mrs. Laurence Brown page 310.

27/3MP

Vol. v.

1887

Dec.

"Academy of Christian Science
108 West 42nd Street
Mrs. Laurence Brown A.M. M.D. C.S.B. Principal.

"Wisconsin Metaphysical Institute" Chartered 1884
S. J. Sawyer C. S. D. Principal
Mrs. J. E. Sawyer C. S. D. Teacher
A. G. Stohl C. S. B. Associate.

1888.

Jan.

"New York Metaphysical Institute". Est. 1885
J. A. Campbell C. S. D. and L. L. Campbell C. S. D.

Vol. vi.

May.

"New Institute in New York"
"Metropolitan Christian Science Institute" page 95
Trustees Mr. Fremont D. Snider 27 West 26th Street
Mrs. Carrie H. Snider 27 West 26th Street
Mrs. Sarah H. Jefferson 217 West 23rd Street
Mrs. Persis Maverick 34 West 24th Street
Julius Harlow
Reported in the "New York Journal" April 15th 1888.

Sept.

Miss Jane Stoll Christian Scientist's card withdrawn
Mr. and Mrs. Campbell cards withdrawn

Oct.

Mrs. Laurence Brown A.M. M.D. C.S.B. card withdrawn.

Nov.

"Churches and Associations" Pages 415 - 538 - 592 - 659
"Church of Christ, Scientist" New York City
Services held every Sunday at 4 o'clock
in Crescent Hall 138 Fifth Ave. near 19th Street
Regular Speaker Mrs. F. J. Stetson
Sunday School 3 o'clock

(No other church listed but Boston.)

1889.

Jan.

Formerly of Cincinnati
Mrs. A. M. Harvey C. S. B.
27 West 26th Street, *New York City*
Teaches and Practices.

Feb.

"News from Abroad" page 587

28/27MP

The Church of Christ, Scientist of New York City"

1889.

Vol. vi

- March 2 "A Crime of Malicious Mesmerism" page 617
by C. H. Snider
- / R. F. D. Snider's passing page 586.

Rev. Mary Baker Eddy lectures in New York City at Steinway Hall on the evening of February 15th to an audience of one thousand who came together on twenty-four hours notice. Rev. J. C. Ager, Pastor of the New Jerusalem Church of Brooklyn introduced the speaker.

Mrs. R. Skinner C. S. B. (1st mention June 1888)
50 West 50th Street
"teaches and practices."

Vol. vii

April

"A member from New York reports defeat of a proposed medical enactment to limit Christian Science practice" Page 8.

page 88

Rev. Mary Baker Eddy introduces
Rev. D. A. Easton former Congregational Minister.

Christian Science Publishing Society page 107
138 Fifth Avenue.

Another bill defeated page 153
"Christian Science and Legislation"

Mrs. F. J. Stetson C. S. D. (1st mention)

Mrs. Josephine C. Otterson C. S. B.
138 Fifth Ave.

Dispensary and Reading Room
10 East 22nd Street

Mrs. Harvey unites with ^{her daughter} Mrs. Snider
at 27 West 26th Street.

July

Mrs. Harvey opens office part time in
46 New Street
Newark, N. J.

29 BmP

1889.

Vol. vii

Sept. "The Advent of Christian Science" by Mrs. Laura Lathrop C. S. D. page 283

Dec. Miss Annie Dudge C. S. B. Murray Hill Hotel 1st mention.

1900.

Jan. National Association meets at Cleveland, Ohio
Mrs. Lathrop and Mrs. Stetson speak
"In accordance with the expressed desire of our Teacher" it was moved that the next convention meet in New York.

Mrs. Carrie Harvey Snider C. S. D.
44 West 32nd Street
"Preaches and teaches."

March Mrs. A. M. Harvey C. S. D.
moves to 2011 Olin Street
St. Louis, Mo.

Mrs. R. Skinner C. S. B.
50 West 50th Street
"Practices and teaches"

Mrs. Laura Lathrop C. S. D.
moved to 114 West 49th Street

Mrs. F. J. Stetson C. S. D.
Mrs. J. C. Otterson C. S. B.
138 Fifth Ave.
Practices and teaches.

July Account of meeting of "National Christian Science Association" in New York City
Address by Mrs. A. E. Stetson Page 147

Vol. viii

Oct. Mr. Carol Norton C. S. tendered position of
custodian of the Reading Room and assistant
to the Pastor at salary of \$50.00 per month
30Bx1 (Church Minute Book)

1891

Vol. viii
Feb.

"The New York City Christian Science Institute"
(1st mention)

1st--Rev. Augusta E. Stetson C. S. D.
Mr. Carol Norton C. S. Assistant
"engagements made for preaching and teaching"
Mrs. Josephine C. Otterson C. S. B. Secretary
138 Fifth Ave.

Article "Opposition to Christian Science" by A.E.S. C.
pages 516-523

Church Card New York City
Services at Hardman Hall 10.30 A. M.
Bible Class at 12
Sunday and Tuesday Evenings at 8
96 Fifth Ave/
Rev. Augusta E. Stetson Pastor

March

The New York Christian Science Institute moved to
81st Street and Columbus Ave.

Vol. ix
Sept.

"New York City Christian Science Institute" Inc. 1891
96 Fifth Ave.
Rev. Augusta E. Stetson C. S. D. Principal
Carol Norton, C. S. Assistant
Mrs. Josephine C. Otterson C. S. B. Secretary

Nov.

The formation of Second Church New York City
"Notes from the Field"

1892.

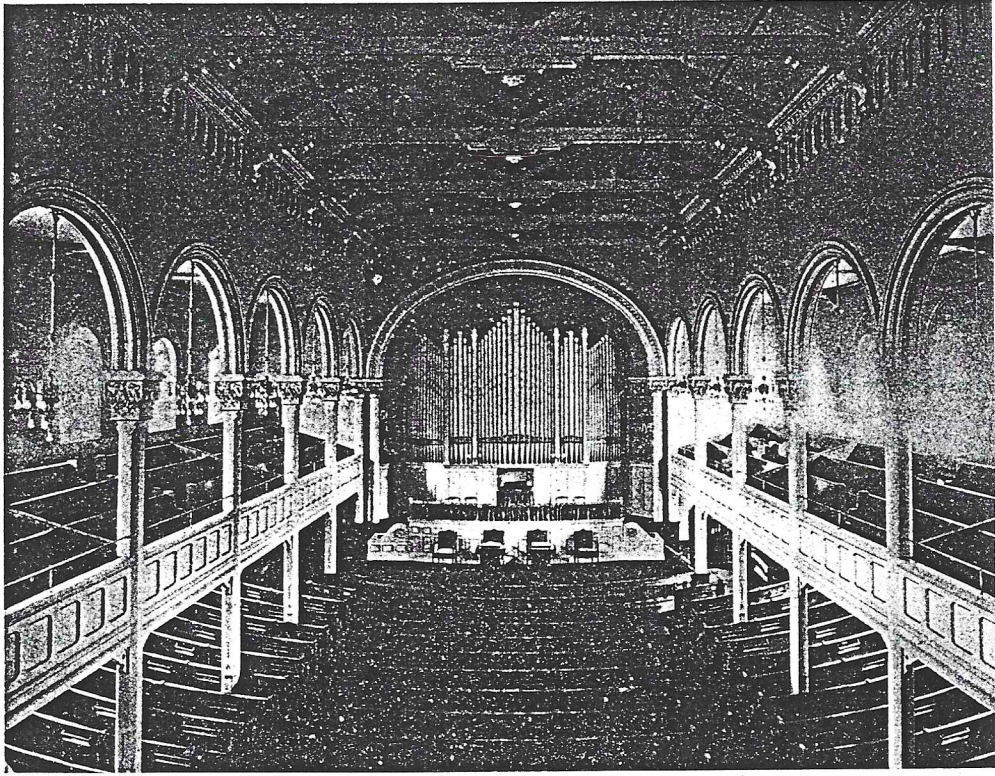
March

Christian Science Dispensaries and Reading Rooms
No. 117 West 42nd Street
Rooms 5, 6, 7 and 8
96 Fifth Avenue.

31 Bmp

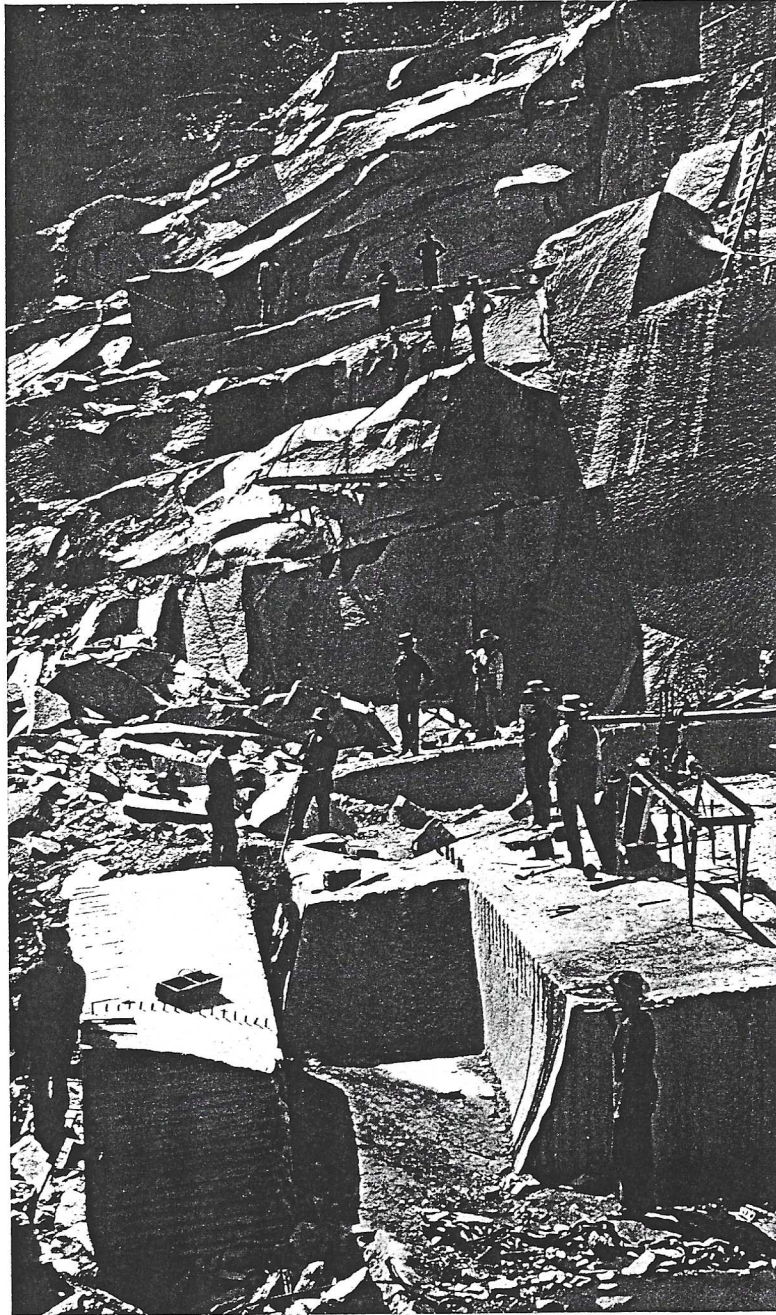
1907

May 4th Issue of the "Christian Science Sentinel"
"History of The New York Organizations"
Reprinted from "Broadway Magazine", May 1907.
31 Bmp



*Forty Eighth^{St.} Church, Interior,
Looking North.*

2
PMP



New England Co's Granite Quarry

Concord, N. H.

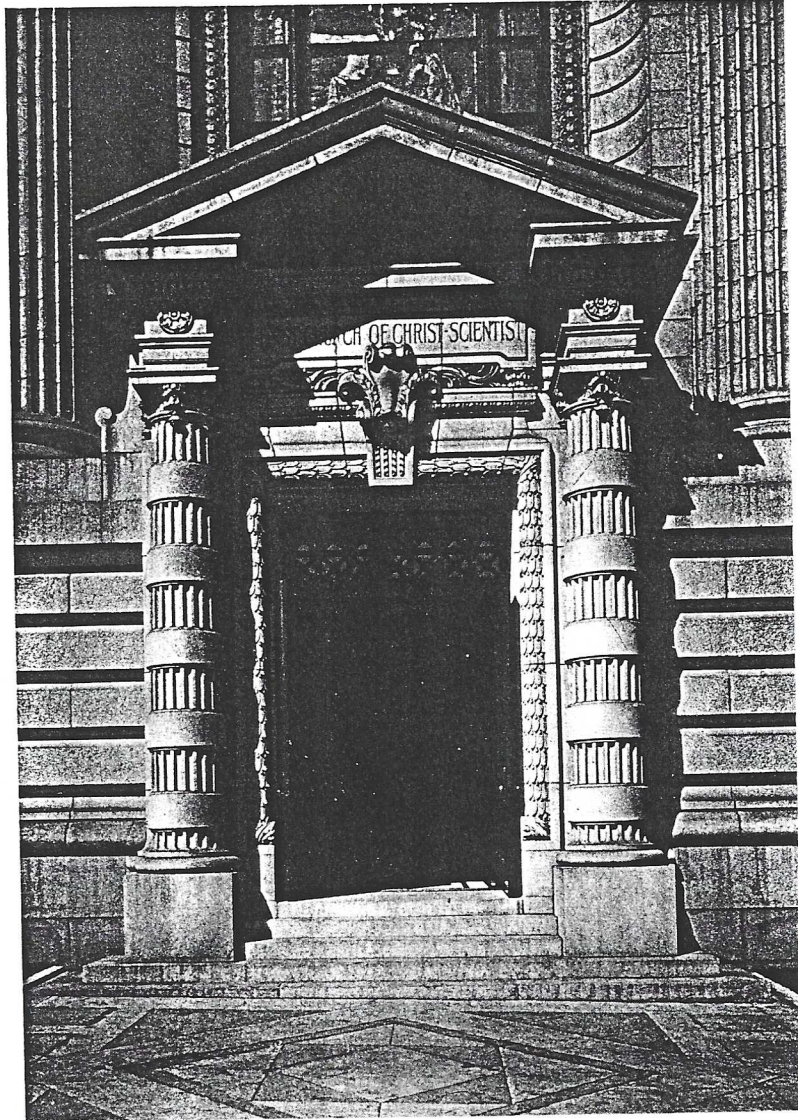
Where stone was obtained for the 96th St. Ch.

*f
mmp*



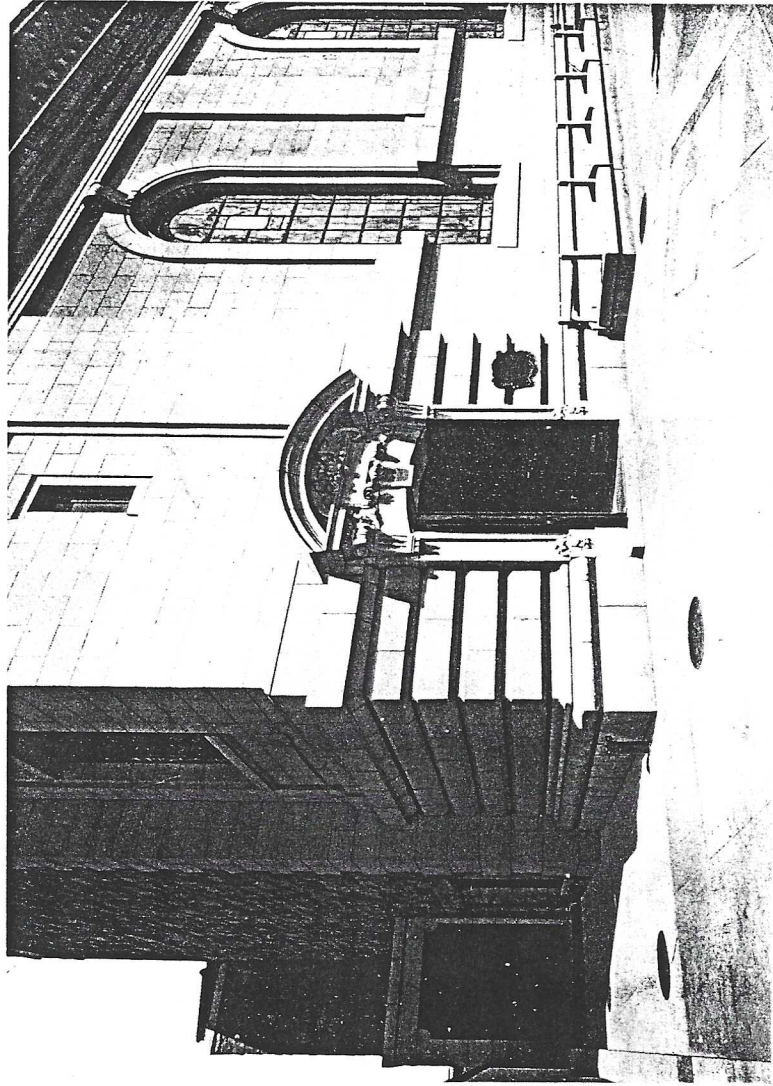
*"First Church of Christ, Scientist,"
At 96th St and Central Pk West.*

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mp



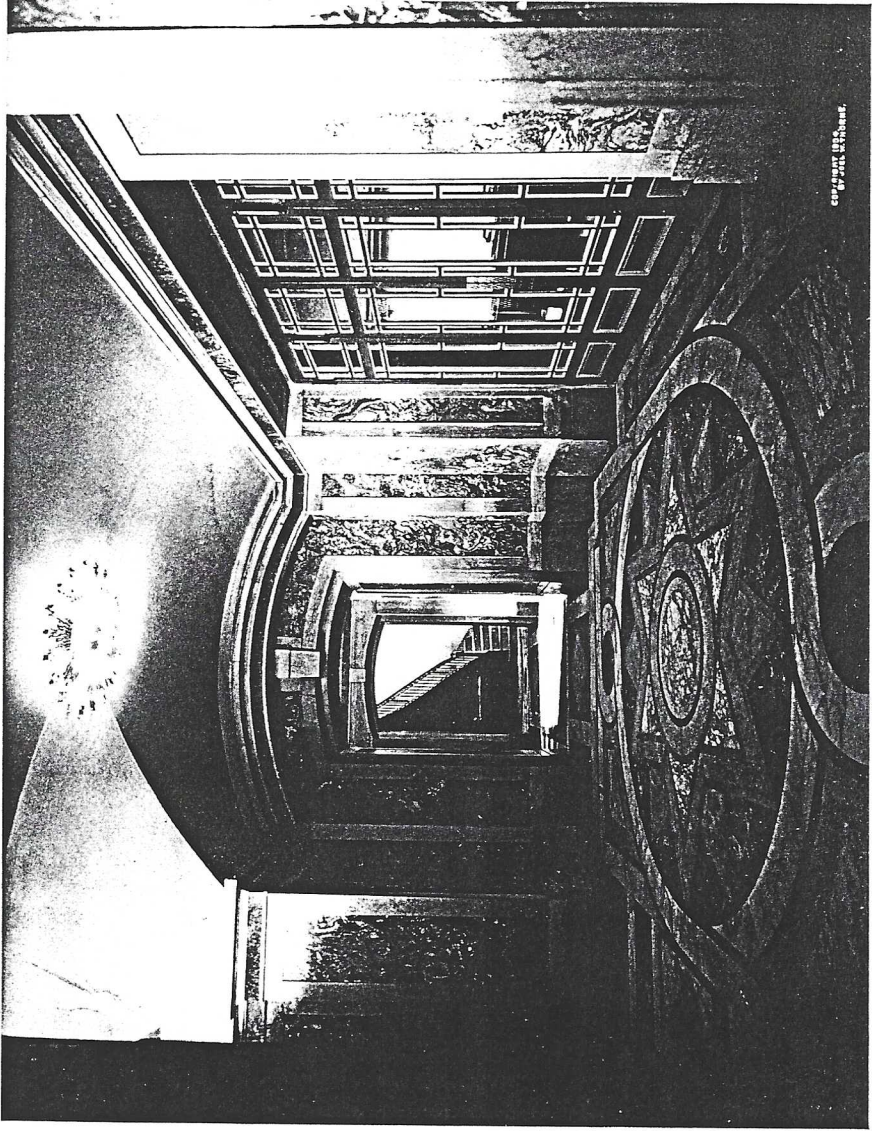
Main Entrance

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amp



96th St Entrance

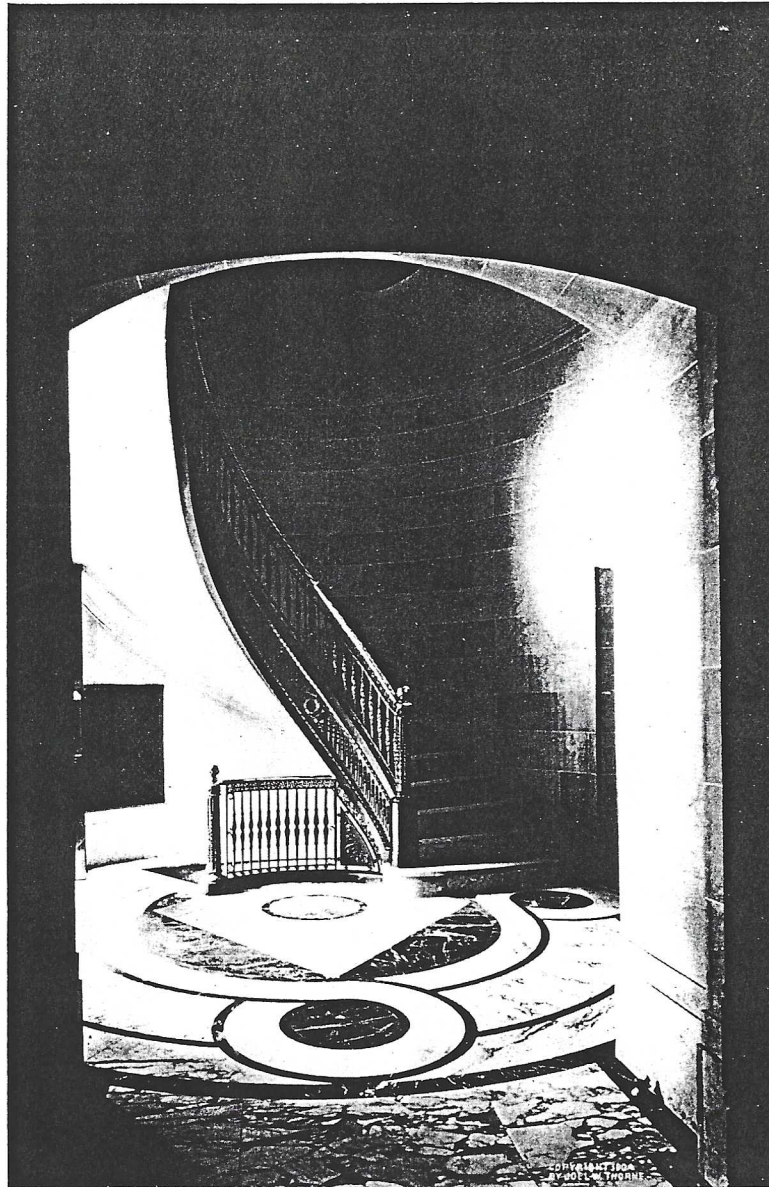
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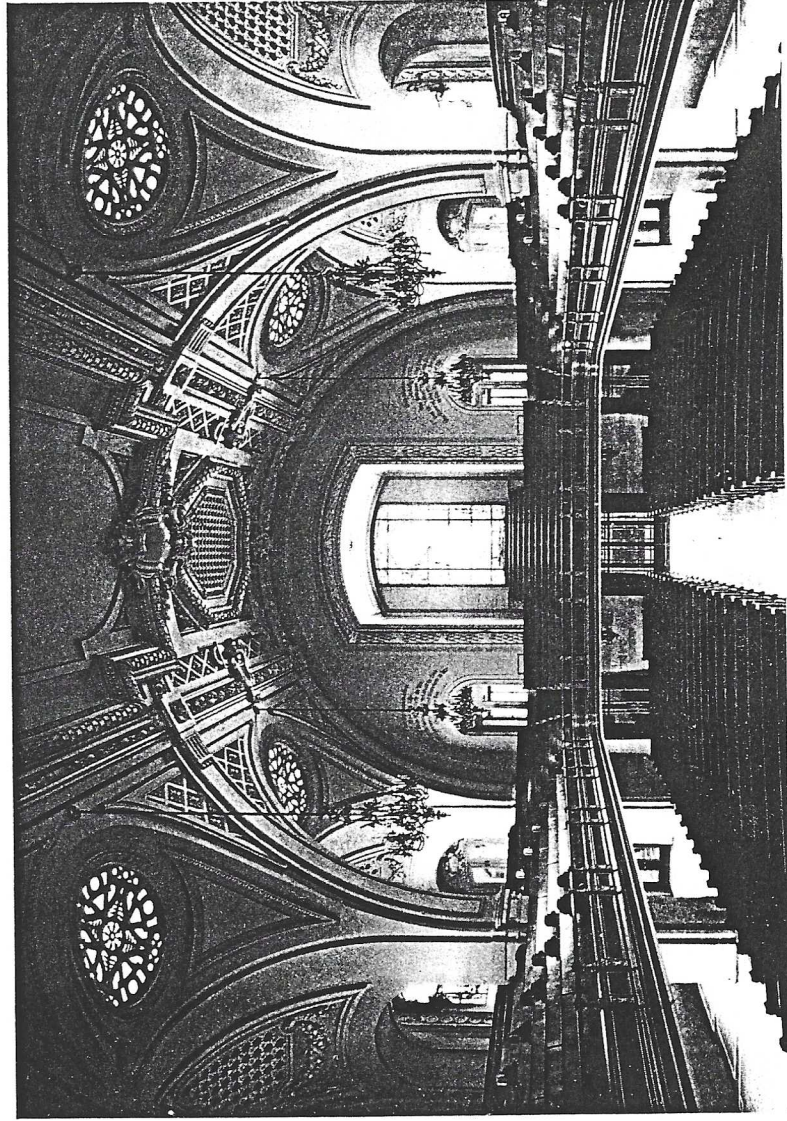
Main Vestibule

x
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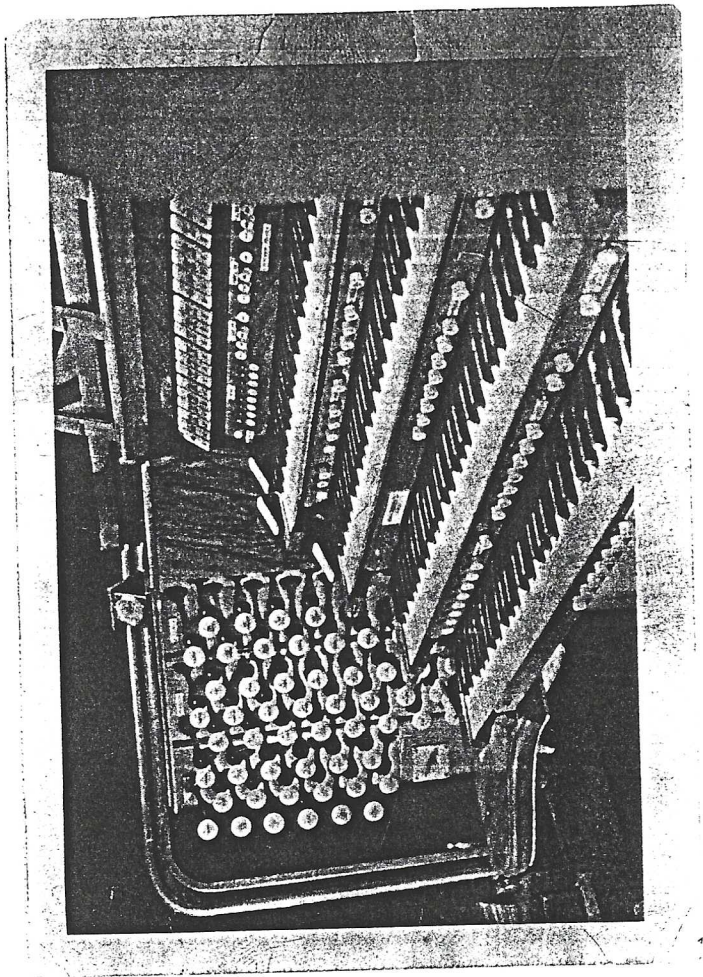
S.E. Stairway

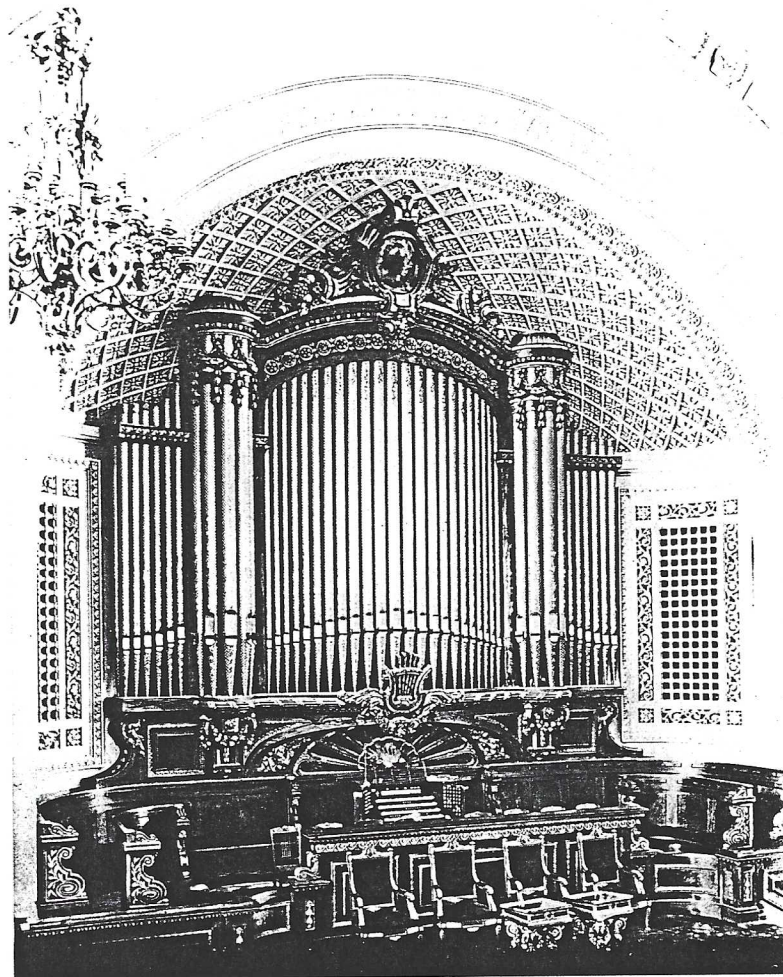
to
AMP



Auditorium looking East

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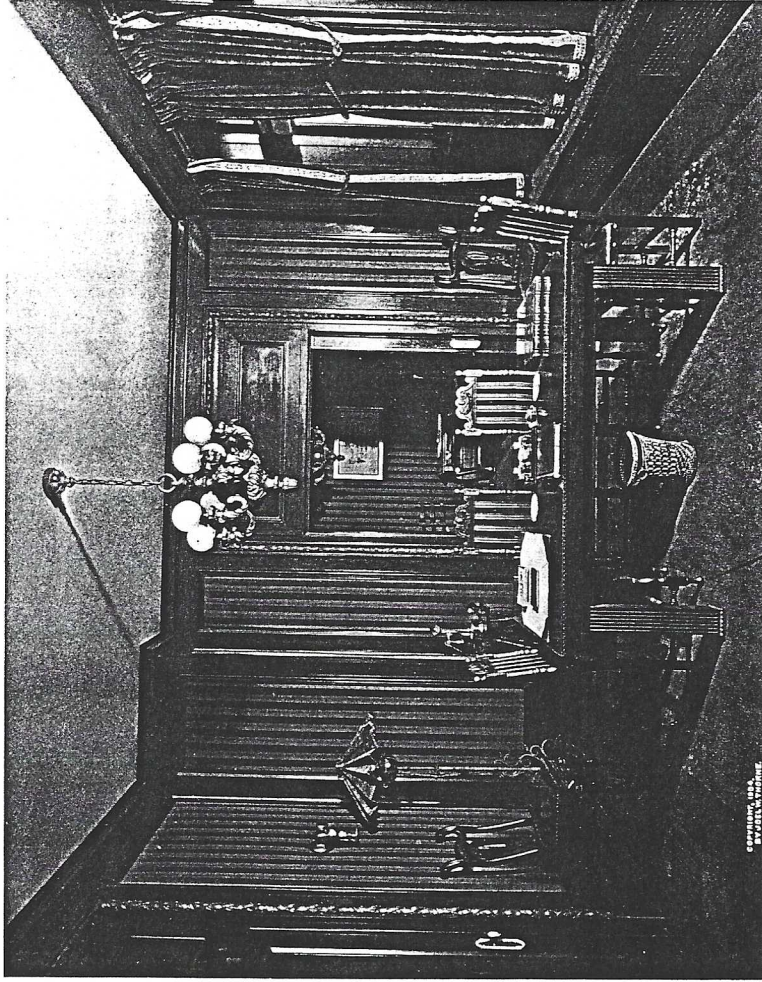


Organ Front

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PMP

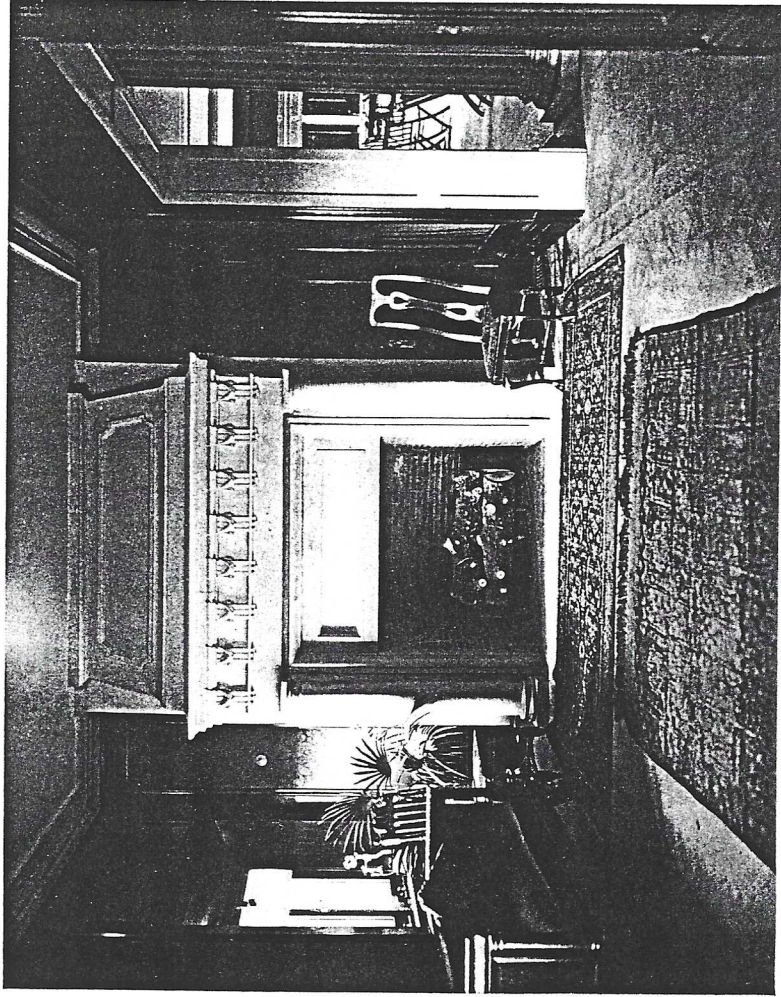


Memorial Window



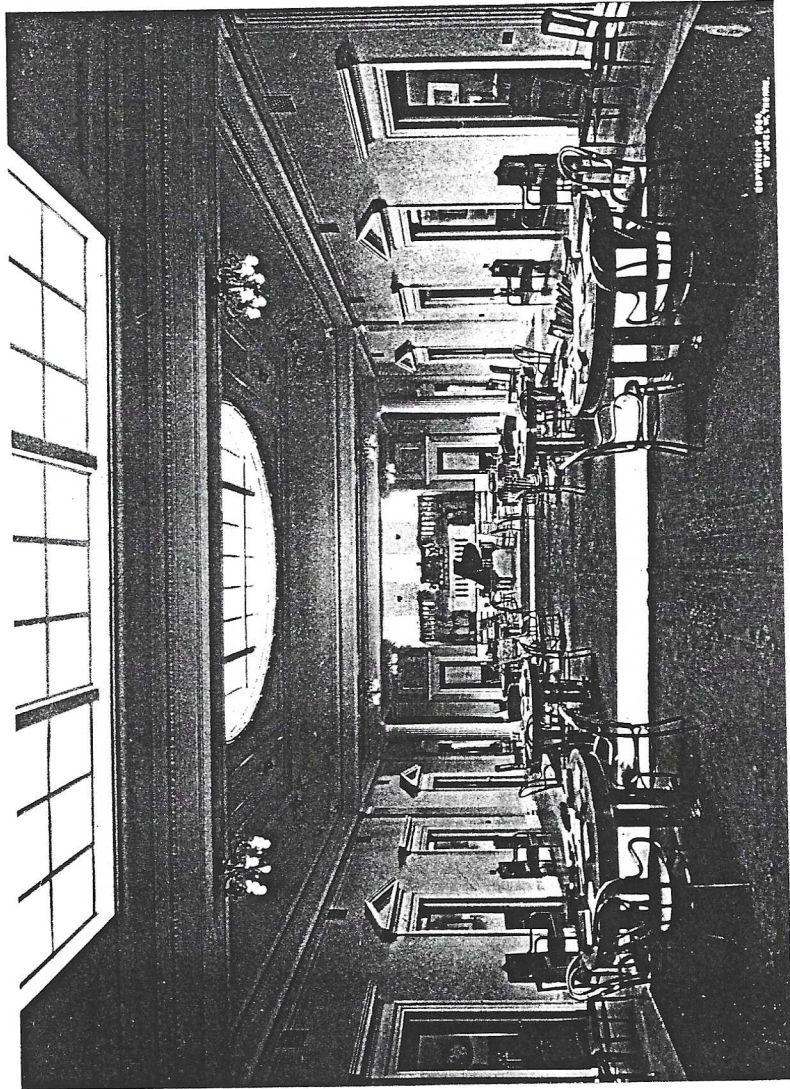
Board Room

or
MMP



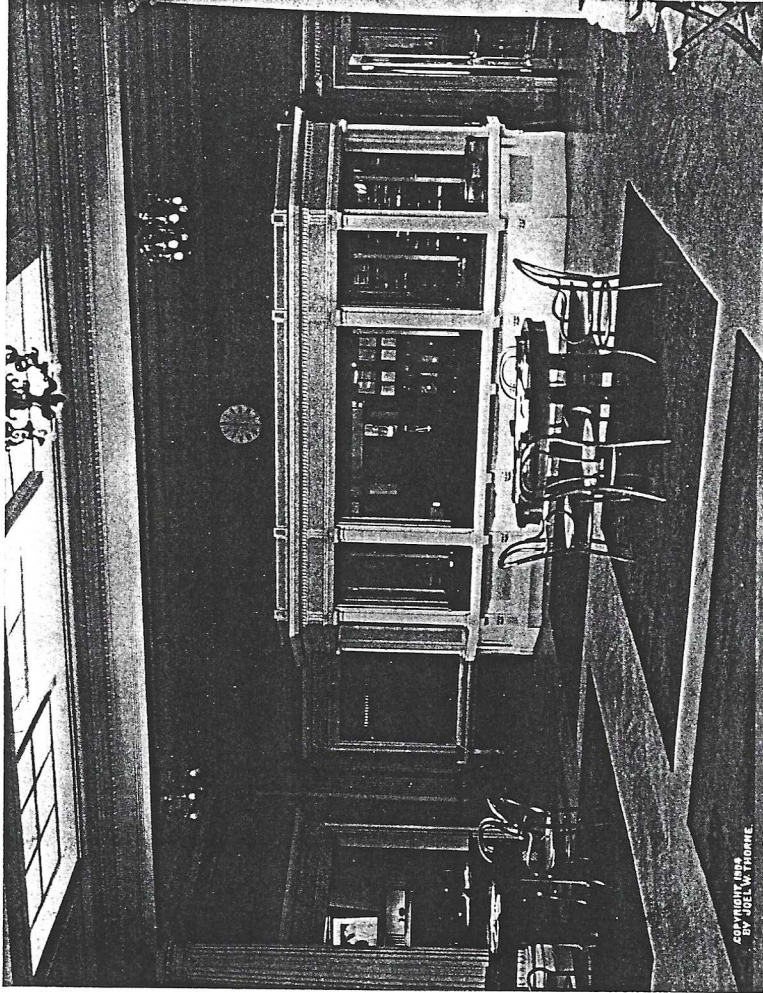
Top Floor AnteRoom

to
Ante



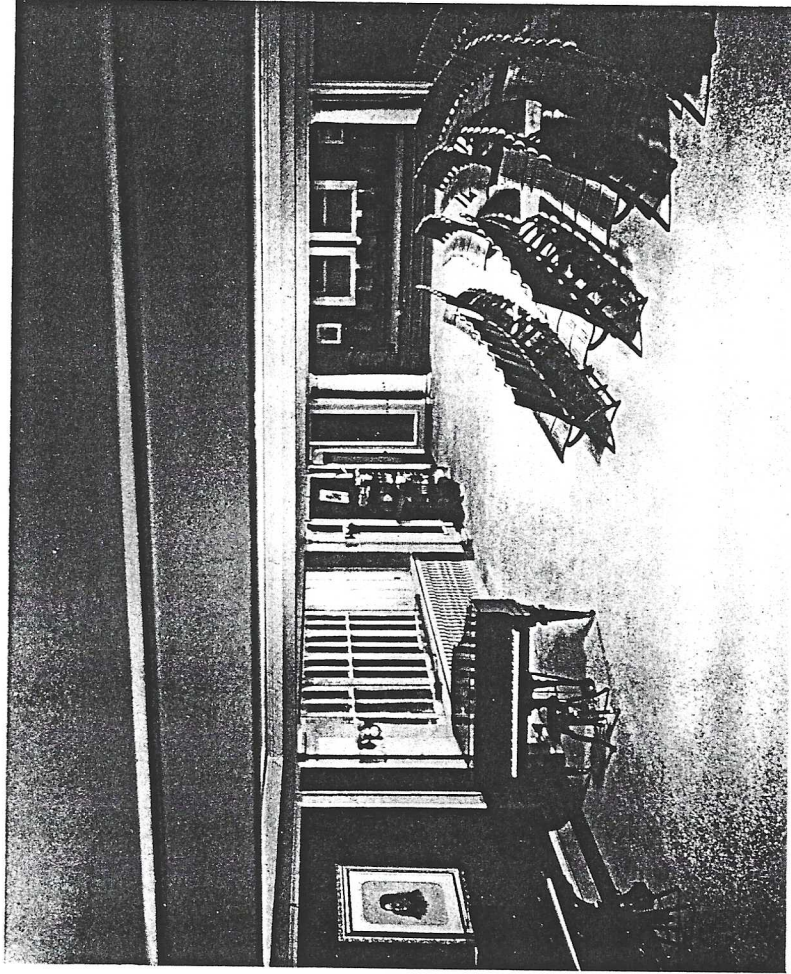
Reading Room

85
mm



Librarians' Office

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PMP



Basement Assembly Room

*R
BMP
(end)*

①

References from Church Minutes
for the

Report of the Committee on Church History
of First Church of Christ, Scientist
1 West 96 St. New York City

The first entry in the Minutes of Meetings Vol. I
of Church of Christ (Scientist) is as follows: —

"Sunday November 27th A. D. 1887, the first
regular Sabbath Service of the Church of Christ,
(Scientist) was held in the Hall of Columbia
Institute 729 Sixth Ave. Cor. 42nd St.

"Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Campbell C. S. B's
Mrs. Laura Lathrop C. S. D.
Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Snider, C. S. B's
Mrs. F. J. Stetson, C. S. B.
Mrs. A. Brown C. S. B.
S. J. Sawyer C. S. D.
graduates of the Massachusetts
Metaphysical College of Boston,
also
Mrs. E. P. Skinner
Mrs. V. W. Gano
Mrs. C. W. Frame
Mrs. Kingiey
students in Christian Science,

Mr. R. Skinner

Dr. J. M. Gano and many others, students of students in Christian Science or interested in the same, were present and assisted in this inaugural service.

"The address was delivered by S. J. Sawyer C. S. D. the subject Christian Healing from the text of the 16th Chapter of Mark 17 & 18 verses. The singing was conducted by Mrs. Gano, Mrs. Sletson, [Mrs.] Lathrop and others."

"New York December 29, 1887
25 West 31st Street. Business meeting of the church there were present

- "Mr. and Mrs. F. D. Snider
- Mrs. L. Lathrop
- Mrs. F. A. Kingsley
- Mr. O. C. Frost
- Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Richards
- Mrs. F. J. Sletson
- Mrs. V. D. Gano
- Mrs. Lawrence Brown
- Dr. S. J. Sawyer

"The chair made the announcement that the object of the meeting was to organize a church and incorporate the same under Act of Legislature, of the Laws of 1813, for the incorporation of religious Societies of the State of N. Y. and that in accordance with the requirements of the Law, there would be another meeting held at the same place to make the same announcement as provided by law; one week hence; viz; Jan'y 5th 1888 and that 15 days hence; viz; Jan'y 13th there would be another meeting held at the same place at which time those assembled would proceed to incorporate a church and elect a board of Trustees and the respective officers."

Signed F. D. Snider Sec. "

The Clerk was later authorized "to make out a certificate of incorporation and file it in the office of the County Clerk." [Ibid]

Under date of "Sunday, January 29, 1888, the Minutes show that the Church held its meetings in new quarters. "Sabbath services were held in Hall 578 Fifth Avenue. Attendance nearly 100. address by Mrs. Stetson."

"A Motion that Mrs. F. J. Stetson be appointed as Pastor of this Society was carried. Feb. 20, 1888." [Ibid p. 16.]

[By-laws] "The Rules and Regulations or By-Laws of the Church of Christ Scientist of Boston are adopted in part. Feb. 20, 1888." [p. 7] Later, on "June 26, 1888 the Mother Church By-Laws were adopted as a whole at 27 West 26 St." [p. 13] On "Oct. 11, 1889 voted that the Constitution and By-Laws contained in the August Journal be recommended as a Constitution and By-Laws of our church." [p. 37] "By-laws amended Mar. 21, 190." [Vol. II p. 67]

Business meetings were held at this early date at "the residence of F. D. Snider, Clerk." 27 West 26 St "He was the "Principal of the Metropolitan C. S. Institute of N. Y. also Clerk of the Church of Christ (Scientist) of N. Y. also Superintendent of Sunday School." [Ibid] Vol

The Church held its meetings at 578 Fifth Ave from January 28, 1888 to May 13, 1888. The church then made another change in location "Services were discontinued May 13, 1888 in Hall 578 Fifth Avenue and were resumed October 14 when the first session of the Sunday School was held at 3 P. M. in Crescent Hall 138 Fifth Ave Teachers Mrs. Rathrop, Mrs. Snider, Mrs. Thomas, Mrs. Dam." [p. 13]

An entry in the said minutes under date of December 30, 1888 states that "Crescent Hall was redecorated and entrance made on 19th Street [one door west of Fifth Ave.] and name changed to Hardman Hall." [p 19 Ibid]

The church then held all of its services and meetings in Crescent or Hardman Hall from Oct. 14, 1888 to June 1, 1891 when a lease was signed for 96 Fifth Ave.

Events chronicled at Hardman Hall continue as follows:

On "Jan. 6, 1889 the sermon was preached by Rev. F. E. Mason, Assistant Pastor of the Mother Church, having exchanged pulpits with Mrs. Stetson." [p 20] "On March 3, 1889 Rev. F. E. Mason held service at 4 o'clock." [p. 29] and on May 19, 1889 Mr. D. A. Easton Scientist Speaker delivered a sermon by request that he preached in Boston the week before."

On "Jan. 27, 1889 Christmas sermon written by Rev. M. B. G. Eddy read by Mrs. Stetson." "The Church of Christ (Scientist) - Mrs. F. J. Stetson Pastor held services at 4 o'clock P. M. in Hardman Hall. The sermon was a delight and surprise. It was written by our leader Rev. M. B. G. Eddy and delivered in Chickering Hall Boston December 23 1888 as a Christmas Address. The text was in Isaiah 9 - 6 verse "For unto us a child is born unto us a son is given." [Ibid p. 26]

February 15, 1889 Lecture by M. B. Eddy in Steinway Hall, New York City. [See Christian Science Journal] Vol. VII No. 12 Mar. 1889

" Feb. 24, 1889 Announcement was made of Mrs. Eddy's class to commence the following morning - 9 or 10 members of our church would enter. [p. 28]

" March 10, 1889 New Reading Room opened in Hardman Hall, 138 Fifth Avenue. [p. 30]

October 6, 1889 It was voted that rooms be secured at 10 East 22nd St. for Christian Science Headquarters Reading Room and Dispensary. [37]

Oct. 15, 1889 Resolved that Mrs. Emma Wiley be at the Reading Room from 9 A.M. to 9 P.M. [4]

" Nov. 16, 1889 Resolved that Mrs. Charles W. Thoma President of Mission and Dispensary be authorized to purchase literature. [p. 57]

" The Fifth Annual Meeting of the National Christian Science Association was held at Lenox Lyceum New York City May 27, 28, 29, 1890. Address of welcome to visiting delegates was given by the Pastor, Mrs. F. J. Stetson. [p. 68]

" Oct. 16, 1890 - Special Church meeting was held at Reading Rooms 98 Fifth Ave. to consider the subject of the election and alternation of the Pastor. Resolved that Carol Norton be tendered the position of custodian of the Reading Room and assistant to the Pastor at a salary of \$50.00 a month. [pp. 70 - 72]

Oct. 21, 1890 Ordination and Installation of Mrs. Augusta E. Stetson C. S. D. as Pastor. Rev. Larson P. Norcross Pastor of Church of Christ, Scientist in Boston and Rev. F. E. Mason (Pastor Church of Christ Scientist, Brooklyn) officiating. [Hardman Hall, Tuesday Evening at 8 1/2 o'clock].

[p. 73] From Program from Minutes of Meeting Vol. I

" March 1st 1891 - 1st regular Sunday evening service - preaching at Hardman Hall by Mrs. Augusta E. Stetson and on Mar. 15th - the evening service was conducted by Carol Norton."

Another change in the location of the church was effected when arrangements were made on May 19, 1891 - lease entered into between Demarest and Little and the Church of Christ, Scientist from June 1, 1891 to Sept. 1, 1892 for rent of rooms 1, 5, 6, 7, 8 in Manhattan Building No. 96 Fifth Ave. at \$95 a month." (p. 82) (p. 88)

On "Sept. 28, 1891 [there was a] Special meeting held at Reading Room to extend to our sister Mrs. Laura Cathrop a Godspeed in the establishing of a Church of Christ Scientist in the upper part of this city. x x x x Mrs. Cathrop replied to this expression of love and stated that while accepting the duties of the new position, she still remained in perfect at-onement with this church." (Mins. (p. 92) (See Christian Science Journal) Vol. IX November, 1891

On "Oct. 18, 1891 Study of International Bible Lessons (interpreted according to Christian Science) commenced at Sunday evening services at the Reading Rooms." On "Sept. 11, 1894 this study was changed from Sunday to Tuesday evenings" [and on] "February 24, 1895 the evening Bible Lessons were discontinued and testimony meetings instituted." [Later, on] "Oct. 9, 1896 regular Friday evening testimony meetings commenced." "First Wednesday evening testimony meetings for the same purpose June 8, 1898." "testimonies given by those who had been healed in Christian Science." (p. 26-54)

The "First Communion service" [was held on] "April 3, 1892" (p. 110) Sept. 20, 1893 The Presentation Congress of Christian Science was held in the Memorial Art Palace at Chicago. (37 B.M.P)

"Apr. 15, 1894 First Sunday Service in Scottish Rite Hall 29th Street and Madison Avenue. Lease executed on Sept. 26, 1894" (p. 11) [Meetings continued here until Sept. 27, 1896.]

"Jan. 6, 1895 Owing to dedication of the Mother Church in Boston of which the members of this Church attended, no services were held." [p 18]

"Apr. 7, 1895 Regular Sunday morning service, our Leader having ordained the Bible and Science and Health as Pastor of the Church Rev. Augusta E. Stetson reading selections from the Bible and Mr. Carol Norton from Science and Health." (Quarterly Lessons Commenced, (p. 28)

"Apr. 14, 1895 First and Second Readers and members of the choir [were] called to Boston by invitation of Reverend Mary Baker E. Eddy" (p. 29), and two years later on "July 5, 1897 the choir sang in the parlor at Pleasant View on invitation from Mrs. Eddy." (p 83)

"Jan. 7, 1896 All members were made General Building Fund Committee (opened for purchase of suitable buildings) etc." (p. 39)

"Annual meeting of the church. — On motion voted that Mr. Edwin Hatfield in the name of the church change the name from Church of Christ, Scientist to First Church of Christ Scientist (p. 38)

The 48th Street church was next occupied.

"Feb. 6, 1896 Contract with New York Church Extension and Mission Society for the purchase of 48th Street Property, title to take effect Apr. 7, 1896" (p. 42)

"Sept. 27, 1896 Opening service in church edifice 137-143 West 48th Street." (p 52)

38
3mP

Of interest: →

1st lot purchased
was actually at 66th
and CPW, unbeknownst
to 2nd church, which
had bought the lot on
68th St.

Events relative to the 48th Street Church (8)
continue as follows:

"lease executed April 10, 1902."
"terminated July 1, 1903." (p. 52)

"Oct. 29, 1897 Resignation of Mr. Carol Norton
as Second Reader - Mr. Edwin Hatfield (p. 103)
appointed Second Reader."

"Jan. 18, 1898 - Annual meeting. at the close
of the address Mr. Norton by consent spoke
of his appointment as lecturer." p. (115)

Early lectures in this church etc. were as
follows:

"Oct. 26, 1898 Lecture by Carol Norton C. S.
Member of the Board of Lectureship.

"Mar. 16, 1899 Lecture by Mr. Arthur S. Vosburgh
C. S. B. "Christian Science, Its Work and its Work."

Apr. 16, 1899 Lecture under the auspices of
seven C. S. Churches and Societies [at] Academy
of Music in Brooklyn at 3.30 by Carol Norton.

Oct. 17, 1900 Arrange lecture in Carnegie Hall
by Judge Clarkson.

Nov. 20, 1902 Lecture by Judge Ewing."
(Vols. I + II)

In the spring of 1899 the church began
to decide on the new location where its
first building was to be erected. To this end
it held a meeting of the Board as recorded
in the minutes.

(over)

" Apr. 17, 1899 Special Meeting of the Board to consider purchase of building site at 96th St. and Central Park West."

Vol. I (p. 17 - 2nd part)

" May 19, 1899 Title of Church site - 96th Street and Central Park West passed from Charles de Rham (widower) to Joseph A. Jerger and through said Jerger as conduit to First Church. Price \$175,000" (p. 22)

" Sept. 19, 1899 Ground broken 12 noon." (p. 32)

" Architects - Carrere and Hastings, 76 East 41 St. N.Y."

" Cost of church \$1,250,000.

" Style of Architecture - French."

" Dedicated free of debt - November 29, 1903 "

" Nov. 29, 1899 Letter from Mrs. Eddy for laying of corner stone." (p. 43)

" A letter was received from our "Mother" directed to Mrs. A. E. Sletson, First Reader, relative to the laying of the corner stone which letter will be found in the proceedings of laying of corner stone." (p. 43)

" To Mrs. A. E. Sletson, Beneath this corner stone in this silent sacred sanctuary of earth's sweet songs, paeans of praise and records of Omnipotence I leave my name with thine in unity and love. Mary Baker E. Eddy."

" Nov. 30, 1899 Corner Stone laid Thanksgiving Day 8 o'clock in the morning." (p. 44)
The original letter from Mrs. Eddy is deposited within this corner stone."

" Resolved that this corporation First Church of Christ, Scientist of New York City sell its property

on the northerly side of 48th Street."

"Apr. 10, 1902 Sale of present Church property [48th St.] to Herbert L. May for \$125,000 Consummated." (p. 188)

"July 20, 1902 Trustees act in conformity with the Mother Church By-Law. 3 year term for Church readers [See Sentinel May 22, 1902] Mrs. A. E. Stetson C. S. D. First Reader also Mr. E. F. Halford Second Reader resign as readers." (p. 194)

"Upon motion duly seconded it was Resolved that the Secretary be instructed to forward a copy of motion to the Editor of the Christian Science Periodicals." (p. 269)

"June 10, 1903 Reading Room ordered to be closed at noon on Saturday June 13th to be reopened at 1 West 96 St. Monday Morning June 15, 1903."

"June 14, 1903 - First Regular Sunday services held at new church 1 West 96 St. N. Y. C." (p 272)

"July 12, 1903 - Communion Service" (in the new church) p. 272

An option on lots adjoining the church is recorded as follows: (p. 116 Vol. III)

"Jan. 13, 1905 - The Board expressed the willingness to accord to Mrs. Augusta E. Stetson C. S. D. privilege to erect house on said lots, to be used for personal residence and to approve openings [etc.***] provided Mrs. Stetson would give to the Board a perpetual and exclusive option to purchase said property at such time as the same should for a period of two years not have been used as her personal residence, the then value to be determined by appraisers, one appointed by either interest and the two appointing a third. Mrs. Stetson agreed to give to the church such an option subject to any mortgages that might be placed on the premises for building purposes."

41
37M

"1906. We the undersigned Trustees
of First Church of Christ Scientist
of New York City, do hereby severally ratify
and approve the action taken by the said
Board at its said meeting held on the eleventh
day of January 1906 and at each meeting held
during the year 1905 as recorded in the foregoing
minutes.

[Signed]

- Augusta E. Stetson
- Sibyl M. Huse
- Suzanne S. Thomas
- Isabelle C. Dam
- E. F. Hatfield
- W. H. Taylor
- J. B. Whitney
- Adolph Rusk
- J. D. Higgins
- John Franklin Crowell

42BMP

Addenda.

In order to correct a misapprehension or unfounded rumor that there was an architectural structure connecting the present building of First Church of Christ Scientist, N. Y. C. with the home of Mrs. Augusta E. Stetson which adjoined the church property, the committee, making this report wishes to state that it has definite knowledge to the contrary.

In re the property upon which Mrs. Stetson's home was built, the following excerpts from the Minutes of February 24, 1929 and of March 13, 1929 are hereby given.

Resolved that the Chairman and [the] Clerk be and hereby are authorized to sign, and to affix the seal of the church to the notices to be sent to the heirs, executors and administrators of Augusta E. Stetson, that the church elects to exercise its option to purchase # 7 West 96th St. And be it further

Resolved that our attorneys be advised that any contract entered into with relation to # 7 West 96 Street must be in accordance with the Resolutions passed by this Board on February 12th 1929 and embodied in the letters of the same date containing instructions to our attorneys. Motion carried Sheet No. 3308

Moved and seconded and carried that the Chairman and the Clerk be and they hereby are authorized to sign the contract of sale of the property # 7 West 96 Street to the Espraybel Realty Corporation for \$ 180,000 in accordance with the recommendation of the sub-committee and of our attorneys. Sheet No 3333

In 1909 when our Leader Mary Baker Eddy found it necessary to admonish First Church of Christ Scientist, New York City, and waken its members and waken them from the error of personal domination which had blinded them to the true support of the Directors of the Mother Church, there was cause for great gratitude that many of its members had gradually responded to the power of Truth and had recognized the seemingly great wrong to be overcome. Then it was that the wisdom of her inspired letter roused them to action and enabled them to take the right stand for Truth and righteousness.

[see First Church of Christ, Scientist and
Miscellany p. 360] [Finis.]