

# *The Plainfield Independent Newsletter*

Number 213

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## OUR THOUGHT FOR EACH DAY

By Mary Baker Eddy

“Every day, every hour, our work increases in effectiveness and power.”

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## THINK UPON THIS

Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else.

Isaiah 45:22

## A QUOTE FROM THE PAST

The energy, the faith, the devotion that we bring to this endeavor will light our country, and all who serve it, and the glow of that fire can truly light the world.

Thomas Jefferson

## GEMS FROM OUR HERITAGE

*Sermons and Articles p. 64*

By Doris White Evans

It's wonderful how truths unfold when we are ready for them. God is ever waiting to reveal Himself, and as we are "willing and obedient," we shall eat the fruit of the land, the pure truths of Christian Science.

## JIM'S CORNER

If you find yourself in a hole, the first thing to do is stop digging.

## THOUGHTS FROM MISCELLANEOUS WRITINGS

Page 230

Success in life depends upon persistent effort, upon the improvement of moments more than upon any other one thing.

Mary Baker Eddy

## QUOTES FROM PETER V. ROSS

*Lectures on Christian Science*

Every individual can make the world better. He can have part in quieting the present unrest. This he can accomplish by recognizing and insisting that the Lord God omnipotent reigneth. We all know that He does reign, reign wisely and absolutely. We should be sufficiently alert and reverent to admit the fact. In this very admission, this very recognition, we help to make of none effect the turbulence at large in the earth.

## QUOTES FROM BICKNELL YOUNG

*1936 Primary Class*

You do not choose Christian Science; when you are ready, Truth comes to you, as it did to Christ Jesus and as it did to Mary Baker Eddy.

## **“A BEAUTIFUL DAY IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD”**

**A Visit to Australia with  
Jenny and Phil Grimm**

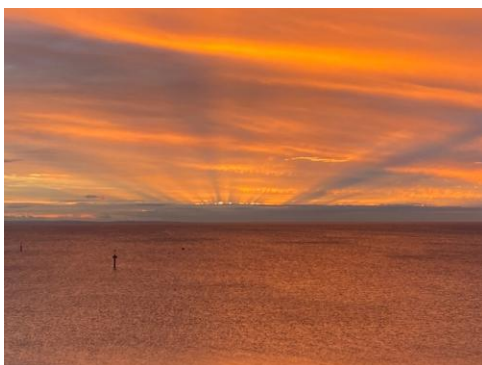
Greetings or G'day from down under from the beautiful Mornington Peninsula 70 km south of Melbourne in the state of Victoria in Australia.



Mornington Peninsula: where coastal charm meets countryside bliss.



Originally home to the indigenous Boonwurrung tribe before Europeans settled here in the 1840's.



A large pier was built in 1858 which opened the way for the steamships to dock, and it became the social and economic gateway for the Mornington Peninsula.



Mornington is a cosmopolitan seaside town which attracts many tourists particularly during the busy summer season who along with the locals, enjoy beach activities, sailing, fishing, cycling, walking, restaurants, cafes, festivals, markets and the vibrant music, theatre and arts scene. We enjoy buying our fresh fish caught by the local fisherman and spectacular sunsets.



We feel very blessed living in this beautiful, friendly community environment and dipping into these activities. We have the opportunity to swim every day which we cherish, and rejoice with Hymn 342, “This is the day the Lord hath made;

Be glad, give thanks, rejoice; Stand in His presence, unafraid, In praise lift up your voice. All perfect gifts are from above, And all our blessings show The amplitude of God's dear love Which every heart may know."



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### **Library Committee Report Thomas Richards**

The Library Committee has been working for several years to organize and preserve the books of the Plainfield Christian Science Church, Independent. The goal of this effort is to properly care for the books, ensuring they are preserved for future generations. Additionally, the Committee has been fortunate to acquire many rare and valuable books through the generous donations of the church's members.

In 2024, the Library Committee began cataloging the books using an online catalog service. The Committee has also searched for digital copies of the books available online and added links to these copies, creating a virtual library for easier access.

The Committee is excited to introduce some of the books that have been cataloged, starting with one written by Clara Clemens, the daughter of Mark Twain. Ernest J. Brosang published a book in 1990 that provides a comprehensive overview of nearly all

Christian Science publications up to that time. He includes a biographical note on the author and offers a detailed and extended bibliography of her work.

### **Clara Clemens**

Below is his write-up on Clara Clemens and her book:

### **Biographical notes on Clara Clemens**

"The author is the third child of Mark Twain, who at first was very opposed to Christian Science, but after the healing of one of his children, he became a Christian Scientist. In 1895, she accompanied her father on his famous lecture tour around the world. In 1930, Miss Clemens began publication of a series of articles in the *North American Review* under the title *Recollections of Mark Twain*. A year later, her book, *My Father, Mark Twain*, was published. While living in Vienna and studying with the famous piano teacher, Theodore Leschetizky, she met the noted concert pianist Ossip Gabrilowitsch, and married him. She also wrote *Memoirs of her late husband, Ossip Gabrilowitsch*."

### **A Descriptive and Extended Bibliography**

Clemens, Clara. *Awake to a Perfect Day*. Citadel Press. 1956. 160 PP.

"With warm sincerity and simple, moving prose, the author describes the events in her life that led her to accept the Christian Science religion. She sought for decades to alleviate a series of distressing illnesses. Finally, after a serious illness, she turned hopefully to the study of Christian Science. The results were truly remarkable, and her gratitude compelled her to record her experience with Christian Science. She says "The only purpose I have in recording my experience with Christian Science is to share as far as possible the help I have received both physically and metaphysically." This account also

throws new and interesting light on her father and helps to correct many misconceptions concerning Mark Twain's attitude toward religion in general and Christian Science in particular."

### **Additional Comments**

Clemens dedicated her biography of her father to Albert Bigelow Paine, a close friend of Mark Twain and the author of Twain's biography, as well as other works about him. Paine also wrote several children's books that were read to me as a young child. These stories remain some of the most delightful and enchanting tales. They center around the Coon, the Possum, and the Old Black Crow, who lived in the "depths of the Big Deep Woods." Each of them resided in one of the large, hollow branches of a big, hollow tree, and they were all very good friends.

Clemens begins her book by noting that many people are aware Twain wrote a book against Mary Baker Eddy. However, she points out that the public tends to overlook the fact that Twain also gave "extravagant praise" to her, as recorded in Paine's autobiography. Paine captures the following comments by Mark Twain:

"Christian Science is humanity's boon. Mother Eddy deserves a place in the Trinity as much as any member of it. She has organized and made available a healing principle that for two thousand years has never been employed except as the merest kind of guesswork. She is the benefactor of the age." —Mark Twain

In her book, Clemens not only explores Mary Baker Eddy and Christian Science but also delves into her thoughts on the Bible. On page 96, Clemens discusses "Mrs. Eddy's masterful technique for detaching our attention from the spurious laws of matter" which is followed by a conversation between her "warring impulses, the human, and the spiritual." On page 158, Clemens expresses her gratitude for the many healings she has experienced, which she lists in detail. There is much that can be learned from her book about how she practiced Christian Science.

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### **A True Story**

A rattlesnake bit one of my sheep in the face about a week ago. Deadliest snake that lives around here. The sheep's face swelled up and hurt her terribly.

But the old rattlesnake didn't know the kind of blood that flows through the sheep.

Anti-venom is most often made from sheep's blood. The sheep swelled for about two days but the blood of the lamb destroyed the venom of the serpent.

I was worried, but the sheep didn't care. She kept on eating, kept on drinking, and kept on climbing because she knew she was alright. Don't worry about the serpent or his bite, just make sure that the Lamb's Blood is flowing through your veins.

Author Unknown

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This is an informational newsletter for members of the Plainfield Christian Science Church, Independent, intended to be a means for communication with each other, and is supported and provided by the efforts of the membership at large. Each member shall do his part to ensure the continuing success of Independent Christian Science as a worldwide activity. Let us begin with our Newsletter.