

*The Plainfield Independent
Newsletter*

Number 178

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OUR THOUGHT FOR EACH DAY

By Mary Baker Eddy

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

THINK UPON THIS

Trials are proofs of God’s care.
S&H (66:10-11)

A QUOTE FROM THE PAST

William Shakespeare
He hath a daily beauty in his life.

GEMS FROM OUR HERITAGE

By Doris White Evans

There are no insurmountable problems.
There’s only victory, and joy, and glory.

**QUOTES FROM
PETER V. ROSS**

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You are master of the situation. Say to
the annoyance, “Get out and stay out.”
You can.

JIM’S CORNER

What does Proverbs suggest is more
desirable than great riches?
A good name – Proverbs 22:1

**FROM MISCELLANEOUS
WRITINGS**

Page 133:22-26.

Three times a day, I retire to seek the
divine blessing on the sick and
sorrowing, with my face toward the
Jerusalem of Love and Truth, in silent
prayer to the Father which “seeth in
secret,” and with childlike confidence
that He will reward “openly.”

FLY YOUR FLAG

As the 14th of June approaches, do
remember to “fly your flag.” This is the
day on which we honor our flag, that
symbol which recalls, “One nation under
God.” From our earliest days, the days
of Betsy Ross, our flag has been that
symbol to all that freedom prevails.

**A WELCOME “HOUSE
GUEST”**

A short time ago I was surprised to find
a new “house guest” had moved in to
share my home. She was beautifully
adorned, and we became friends
immediately. I proceeded to often chat
with her, but there was seldom a “chirp”
from her.

I have a wind chime on my patio I had constructed a number of years ago which has a flat metal divider on the top. It was on this surface that this hummingbird decided to build her nest. The construction of this nest appeared to be a laborious task, for it had to be just right. Can anyone not appreciate and give thanks for God's creation and all His creatures?

Although she flies off when others enter the patio, she is not too disturbed at my presence.

I have a hummingbird feeder, but she seldom uses it, but rather goes to a cork oak tree that is emitting sap from its leaves. She makes a feeding pilgrimage just about every 15 or 20 minutes. What a loving creature of God to behold and enjoy!

There are two babies in the nest now and shortly after mother bird feeds the young ones, each young bird perches on the edge of the nest and flutters its wings. Most likely, each babe will be leaving the nest to accomplish a "skyward flight."

THE FOURTH OF JULY

Most likely the most honored national holiday in the year is the Fourth of July. It dates back to July 4, 1776. Here again, display your flag in honor of all who gave so much that we might enjoy freedom from an oppressive monarch. So often a nation finds it necessary to enter hostilities to gain freedom. The Revolutionary War was just such a war, as the name implies.

As we have suggested in remembering past Fourth of July celebrations, again this year make a part of your celebration the thoughtful study of our most precious Constitution. This document is a wonderful example of the power of the Eternal Hand of God.

THE JOYS OF SUMMER

Each Season of the year is unique and provides its joys for all. The Autumn Season provides the beauty of Fall foliage, God's handiwork. For Winter, can any not enjoy the calmness displayed by an untouched fallen snow, God's handiwork? Nothing can surpass the blossoming of Spring, again, God's handiwork. Consider these Seasons but one can never omit Summer. The radiant expression of the full beauty of God's handiwork is displayed in absolutely lovely weather, beautiful foliage, the happiness of Summer vacations. The blessings of God abound for all.

A RIB FOR YOU

"Why is Adam the patron saint of Western pork raisers? Because he had the first spare rib."

Christian Science Journal, 1884
Obviously Mrs. Eddy recognized the need for humor!!

TITHING

Two hours and twenty-four minutes – what does that represent? Does it not indicate a tenth of a day? Therefore we could say it represents a tithe of our day.

Over the weekend it occurred to me that I should determine if I were tithing my time to Christian Science. I must say that I was not. I discovered that, although I thought I was tithing, with my time I was not.

I recorded the time devoted to reading the Lesson, doing my daily studying, and my daily watches. Yes, it was close to 2 hours 24 minutes, but it did not quite reach the goal.

This alerted me to watch my time more closely and strive to definitely tithe my time to this Cause, which I am accomplishing now.

GEORGE WASHINGTON

Excerpt from THE SPIRITUAL JOURNEY
OF GEORGE WASHINGTON

by Janice Connell

The prism of history shows the depth of Washington's trust in the love and providential Hand of God in his life. He was forthright in his belief that loving Providence guides human history. Washington was a man of few words. Yet people were drawn to him and felt the warmth of his kindness. Still waters do run deep. Prayer was Washington's friend. Prayer freed his heart from inordinate attachments. Prayer revealed the purpose of his life: to cooperate with the loving guidance of the God of his forefathers. Washington's life discloses that there is much merit for those who cooperate with God's loving plan for mankind. All things of the earth pass away but His Sacred Word. George Washington was a dedicated, life-long student of Biblical revelation:

During his residence in Philadelphia, as President of the United States, it was the habit of Washington, winter and summer, to retire to his study at a certain hour every night. He usually did so at nine o'clock. ... A member of the household observed the President on his knees at a small table, with a candle and open Bible thereon. ... Such behavior is characteristic of George Washington. He had more responsibilities that impacted others than any other person of his era. He truly needed divine guidance. On August 20, 1778, he wrote the following to General Thomas Nelson:

"The Hand of providence has been so conspicuous in all this [Revolutionary War], that he must be worse than an infidel that lacks faith, and more than wicked, that has not gratitude enough to acknowledge his obligations."

THE BLUE BOOK, RED BOOK, & THE BROWN BOOK

I have an ancient copy of *Divinity Course and General Collectanea* ("the Blue Book"), the cover of which is more a shade of gray rather than blue. I do not know the source of that book, but I suspect it was given to my wife by a Christian Scientist.

Several months ago I discovered *Essays and Other Footprints* ("the Red Book") on Amazon and purchased a copy. One of our "Watches" was quoted from *Mary Baker Eddy's Lessons of the Seventh Day* ("the Brown Book"), and I found this book was also available from Amazon. I also now have this book.

These books are also available from heal@christianscience.org (Phone 1-800-962-1464).

Other books available are: *Mary Baker Eddy's Six Days of Revelation* ("the Green Book"), *Mary Baker Eddy's Other Writings (in addition to those in Prose Works) 1895-1910* ("the Yellow Book"). These books are a treasure, and I have found them very helpful.

RICHARD OAKES' BOOKS ONLINE

For anyone who prefers to read these books on your computer, free PDFs of Richard Oakes' books are available. On the Plainfield Church website, under the "Weekly Lessons" tab, choose "Useful Links," then click on the link to The Mary Baker Eddy Science Institute. From their home page you can click on "Author" and scroll down to "Richard F. Oakes." When you click on his name, you will have access to, and can download all of the books mentioned in Jim's article above.

Submitted by Lynda Spencer

A REAL GEM

What a joy it is to be a part of our church by participating in a *Watch* on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday evenings each week. Each session is unique, and each opens our thought to an issue that is pertinent to our current situation.

Mrs. Eddy early saw the need for such metaphysical work on a *regular* basis. Can we do less than support such an activity?

My constant prayer is to see all members regularly in this essential program.

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Report of the Board of Trustees

Gary Singleterry

This church is very active. Nobody sits still here. Our website is accessed by people from 180 different countries from around the world. 93 people receive e-mails regularly about our watches, and watching is one of the most important things we can do. We have over 1,000 subscribers to our YouTube channel. Our services are broadcast around the world; our Bible Study sessions and our Roundtable are broadcast around the world. We are so grateful for all of you who are participating and contributing to this tremendous cause. Whether you are writing Lessons, reading for the services, leading a Bible Study session, doing translating work—this is all extremely valuable.

As most of you are discovering, it is a challenge to work for the church because you have to handle the animal magnetism that would oppose your work

for the church; and in that regard, everybody who steps up to do something for the church is growing spiritually, and that is the point of what we are doing. It is spiritual growth, and the healing of sin, disease, and death as a result.

A few of us visited the Mother Church in Boston recently. It was quite an eye opener to see the Mother Church all fenced off and the grounds being dug up. Probably the most telling sight was this very tall hotel and condominium being built right next to the Mother Church extension, on land provided by the b.o.d. It was as if the b.o.d. was allowing the materialism of this age to grow and overshadow Mary Baker Eddy's spiritual blessing for the world. It was a very sad sight, but it was a reminder to all of us of the importance of what we are doing.

The world is ready for Christian Science. Mrs. Eddy wrote that Christian Science will not necessarily come to the world through the churches. She foresaw that Christian Science would come to the world through other means besides churches. That is why our website and the internet are there to be used for God's purpose, and we had better do the best we can to use it as God directs.

So, we do what we can to give Christian Science to the world. The best thing any one of us can do is to live a Christian life. A wise worker once said, "The life you live may be the only sermon somebody ever hears." This is a great work and God is clearly in control. There are no people here in control. God alone is in control, and it is very evident that He is. Thank you all very much.

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.