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Growth of Christian Science

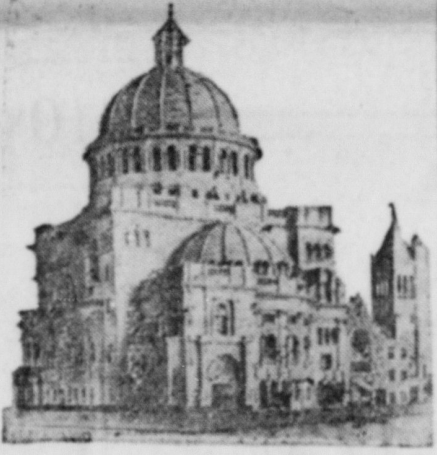


MRS. MARY BAKER
G. EDDY.

THE great church erected by Christian Scientists in Boston, which was dedicated on June 10, is one of the largest churches on the American continent and cost about \$2,000,000. Boston is the home of the "mother church" of this denomination, and this immense structure was built as a recognition of the life work of Mrs. Mary Baker Glover Eddy, who founded the organization in Boston in 1879. Ten years later there were but eleven churches of the denomination. There are now 657, besides some societies not yet organized as churches. The listed membership is 42,000, but the number of those accepting Christian Science tenets is supposed to be considerably in excess of this number. About five-sixths of the listed members in the local churches throughout the United States and other parts of the world are members of the mother church in Boston, which gives the latter an actual membership of about 35,000. Each member pays an annual assessment of \$2. All authorized practitioners and all persons who serve as readers in the local organization must be members of the parent institution and amenable to its discipline.

The first society receiving the teachings of Mrs. Eddy was organized on April 19, 1879, in a private house in that part of Boston known as Charlestown. Mrs. Eddy was called as pastor. The first Christian Science edifice was erected in Orono, Wis., in 1886. It is a wooden building with a seating capacity of only a few hundred.

The society in Boston now known as the "mother church" built an edifice in 1894 and 1895 at a cost of \$250,000, which was considered a handsome structure, but it is very much eclipsed by the larger building which may now



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THE NEW "MOTHER CHURCH" AND THE OLD.

be seen adjoining it. The original church edifice seats about 1,200, while the new seats 5,000. Its style of architecture is Italian renaissance. The pews and other interior woodwork finishings are of mahogany, while the walls are Concord granite and Bedford stone, with decorative carvings. The inside finish is a soft gray to harmonize with the Bedford stone columns supporting the dome. The structure has a height which makes it most imposing. From the ground to the top of the lantern is 224 feet, so that the highest point of the structure is just one foot more above ground than the highest point of Bunker Hill monument. The dome is eighty-two feet in diameter and is covered with terra cotta to match the Bedford stone. The extreme height of the auditorium from the floor to the domed ceiling is 108 feet. The auditorium contains about one and one-half miles of pews, and back of the readers' platform is a great organ. It has an architectural stone screen and is an impressive feature of the interior. The steam heating and ventilation systems are of the most approved character, and filtered and washed heated air is to be forced into the building by powerful fans in the winter season. There is a large Sunday school room, and cloakrooms and offices are provided. One of the features of the new "mother church" is a splendid chime of eleven bells. The smallest bell weighs 400 pounds. The great auditorium is on the second floor, with two tiers of galleries on one side and three tiers on the other. Colored and carved marbles in designs symbolical of religion and scenes from the Bible decorate the walls. When the entire scheme for the cathedral is carried out spacious grounds and lawns will surround it instead of the apartment houses and vacant lots that now confront it on all sides.

The founder of Christian Science, Mrs. Eddy, is still living at the advanced age of eighty-five. Her home is in Concord, N. H., upon an elevation that overlooks the town in which she was born. The books she has written in explanation of her teachings have had a wide circulation, and the principal text book of her followers, "Science

and Health, with Key to the Scriptures," which she wrote in 1875, has reached a sale of 300,000 copies.

SENATOR AND MRS. SMOOT.

The Mormon Apostle and His Only Wife.

The long battle in the senate committee on privileges and elections over the case of Reed Smoot ended on June 1, when the committee voted to report that the senator from Utah was not entitled to his seat. This action was taken mainly upon the ground that his position as an apostle of the Mormon hierarchy imposed upon him an allegiance inconsistent with his duties as a senator and an officer of the national government. The case of Senator Smoot was first taken up about three and a half years ago, and the investigation which has been made has brought out many startling facts in regard to Mormon practices.

In statements he has made about his case Senator Smoot has said that



SENATOR REED SMOOT AND MRS. SMOOT.

he does not advocate polygamy or practice it himself. He says that the only wife he has ever had is the one who has resided with him in Washington during his service as senator. Mrs. Smoot was Miss Alpha M. Eldredge, and she became the wife of Mr. Smoot on Sept. 17, 1884.

Brigham H. Roberts was ousted from the house of representatives on the ground of being a polygamist. Opponents of Mr. Smoot assert that polygamy still is practiced in Utah and that whether he has more than one wife himself or not he is responsible as a member of the Mormon hierarchy for violation of the law by others.

Senator and Mrs. Smoot have six children, three girls and three boys. The family home is at Provo, forty-five miles from Salt Lake City. Mrs. Smoot is of youthful appearance, was born and bred in Salt Lake City and is a firm champion of her husband.

AN ARTISTIC NOOK.

Cozy Corner Formed by a Japanese Lacquer Screen.

The cozy corner of earlier days, with its heavy, dust inviting draperies, mass of cushions—oftentimes an incongruous array—and divan more or less artistic, has become a thing of the



SCREEN COZY CORNER.

past. Its successor is a nook artistic enough to suit every reasonable requirement and yet not infringe upon hygienic rules. Not every admirer of the cozy corner, however, can devote the necessary space to it, especially the apartment house dweller, and therefore ingenuity is called into play and the most effective use is made of whatever space is at the command of the mistress of the house.

An instance of this ingenuity is seen in the accompanying sketch, where a handsome old Japanese lacquer screen is utilized to form a cozy corner with successful results. The hinges have been made fast at the ends of the back formed by the three panels as well as at the junction of those three panels with those on either side of it. A movable double hinge is fixed between the fourth and fifth panels to the left and the feet turned inward, as indicated in the sketch.—Brooklyn Eagle.

Whether there will be a fair next fall in Huntingdon county is yet to be decided. It is said that the business men of Huntingdon have not yet given the management sufficient encouragement for a positive statement to be made.

West Point's Summer Campaigns

WEST POINT is a name which arouses pride in the heart of an American whenever it is mentioned. He may not know a great deal about the renowned military institution at this place, but he knows at least that its name is a synonym for manliness of the best American type. And there is good ground for this pride. Lord Roberts, the great English general, hero of the South African war and other campaigns, not long ago declared that the academy at West Point is the greatest military school in the world. At this time, when another class of West Point graduates is going forth to become captains and colonels and generals in the regular army of the future, the eyes of the nation are directed especially to the picturesque site on the banks of the Hudson where for generations brave soldiers have been trained and where the national government is now erecting a group of new buildings whose beautiful and majestic aspect will greatly enhance the attractions and dignity of the institution.

West Point academy presents a spectacle of exceptional interest and beauty because of the splendid view of the buildings that may be obtained from the Hudson river and because of the charm and grandeur of the natural surroundings. When projected improvements costing millions of dollars have been completed, the view of the academy as a whole will indeed be one worth going far to behold.

No extensive architectural improvement in this country has been planned with greater care. When congress provided for the undertaking it stipulated that no work should be done until a broad general scheme had been laid out and improved. The West Point of the future will provide for the housing, training and recreation of 1,200 cadets. The academy now has room for less than one-half that number. The maximum number of cadets under the present law is 523, one for each congressional district, two from each state and



CIRCUS RIDING AT WEST POINT.

large and forty from the country at large, the latter appointed by the president. There were about 470 cadets at the institution the past year, and accommodations were not sufficient even for that number.

To train a boy to become a soldier in the United States army requires discipline of a severe type and a curriculum of study that is sufficiently difficult to stimulate all his mental powers. In general the programme for a day at the academy is like this:

Reveille at 6 o'clock, roll call at 6:20, breakfast at 6:25, guard mount at 7:15, recitations and study hours from 8 until 1, dinner 1 until 1:40, recitations and study from 2 to 4, drill from 4 until 5:20, parade at 5:30, supper at 6, study from 7 till 9:30, tattoo, then taps and sleep.

There are no recitations on Saturday afternoons, and the cadets then receive what is called "release from quarters," with permission to visit each other at the barracks or to roam about the reservation. The West Point cadets do not get a long summer vacation, as do the boys at the colleges and universities of the country. They have only one long vacation in their four years' course, and that comes in the third year. The summer months for other classes are devoted to practical field work. The graduation exercises over, those who are still cadets go into camp, and for the following weeks there are practice marches, target practice, sham battles, exercises in horsemanship, scouting, patrolling, advance guard and outpost work, bridge building, surveying and numerous other duties such as devolve upon soldiers in the field and engaged in fighting an opposing army. The life of the cadet is full of work, and discipline is ever the uppermost thought, whether in the barracks or camp. That is the way good soldiers

are turned out, and west point has made some of the best that were ever produced.

A COLOSSAL BLUNDER.

The career of Senator Penrose since he became the nominal head of the Machine in Pennsylvania by the death of Matthew Stanley Quay has been a succession of blunders, and he never made a greater blunder than in forcing the nomination of Edwin S. Stuart, of Philadelphia, for Governor.

Of all the candidates who aspired to the nomination, Stuart is the most vulnerable and in every way the most objectionable. As Mayor of Philadelphia, he was the obedient servant of David Martin and Charles A. Porter, who dictated every appointment under the administration from the heads of the great departments of Public Works and Public Safety down to sub-policemen, clerks, messengers, janitors and scrub women. During the four years of his administration in Philadelphia, Martin and Porter amassed great fortunes, and the fact that afterward by stock gambling or unwise investments they lost most or all of their money does not affect the fact. The company in which Senator Porter was the controlling spirit did all the street paving that was done during Stuart's administration and that immediate following, aggregating many millions of dollars, the specifications being so drawn that nobody else could get a contract.

During Stuart's administration began the era of mal-administration, extravagance and fraud which culminated last year in the revolt of the people of Philadelphia against the Penrose-Durham Machine, successor of the Martin-Porter Machine. During his administration the police force and every department of the force and every department of the city government under the control of the Mayor was used for partisan ends.

After Mr. Stuart retired from the Mayor's office he sank back into the position of boss of the Twenty-sixth ward, which he held through the successive administrations of Charles F. Warwick, Samuel H. Asbridge and John Weaver up to the time of the overthrow of the Penrose-Durham Machine, of which he was a part.

During the upheaval last year, which resulted in the absolute rout of the Machine, if Mr. Stuart's sympathies were with the people, he made no sign, he gave them no comfort or assistance, but sat upon the fence waiting to see which side would win.

If, by any unfortunate possibility, he should be elected Governor of Pennsylvania, he would be, as he was when Mayor, the mere executive of the orders of the Machine whose creature he is now as he was when Mayor of the greatest city in the State. Personally, Mr. Stuart is an amiable and so far as we know an

honest man, but a Machine politician through and through of negative character, who could not assert his independence of boss dictation if he would, and would not if he could.

We believe that the time has passed when a man of such character and calibre and so nominated can be elected Governor of the Great Keystone State.—From The Harrisburg Patriot, June 7.

ELECTING U. S. SENATORS.

The State of Oregon has adopted a method of choosing United States Senators by popular vote which successfully steers around the provision of the Federal Constitution requiring choice at the hands of the State Legislature. It is made incumbent on the Legislature to ratify the popular choice, no matter what may be the legislative preference. At the recent election the republican candidate, Jonathan Bourne, Jr., having received a majority over John M. Gearin, democrat—present Senator from Oregon,

serving out the unexpired term of the late Senator John H. Mitchell—will be duly elected by the Legislature when that body shall convene. The majority in the Legislature is republican, but it would have been bound to elect Gearin had he been endorsed by a majority at the polls.

When Mr. Bourne shall take his seat in the Senate he will be the first Senator directly chosen by popular vote. The innovation may be adopted by other States that have favored popular choice of Senators.

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