

CONCORD CONNECTIONS:

Louisa May Alcott "reluctant Concordian"

As the year of our Lord, 1886, progressed, Bronson Alcott, self-styled "seer of Concord", disabled by a stroke, resided in Boston with his remaining loved ones. Principal among these "loved ones" was his daughter, Louisa May, who had been her father's "guardian angel" during the last several decades. Her own success as a world-renowned authoress had made it possible for her to provide material support for the Alcott family while Bronson pursued his own dreams. Though she herself confessed to never actually comprehending these "dreams", devotion to her mother had driven her to assume the role of patron for the philosopher-father, a responsibility she remained faithful to despite her mother's death a decade earlier in 1877 and her own dislike for the bucolic lifestyle typical of Concord.

Princeton, Massachusetts February, 1888

Mary Baker Eddy
Louisa May Alcott

Eddy: EXCUSE ME,
 ARE YOU Miss Alcott ?

Alcott: YES,
 I AM Louisa May Alcott.
 DO I KNOW YOU ?

Eddy: PROBABLY NOT !
 I DO NOT RECALL
 HAVING HAD THE OPPORTUNITY
 TO BECOME ACQUAINTED
 WITH ANY MEMBERS
 OF THE Alcott Family
 OTHER THAN Bronson.