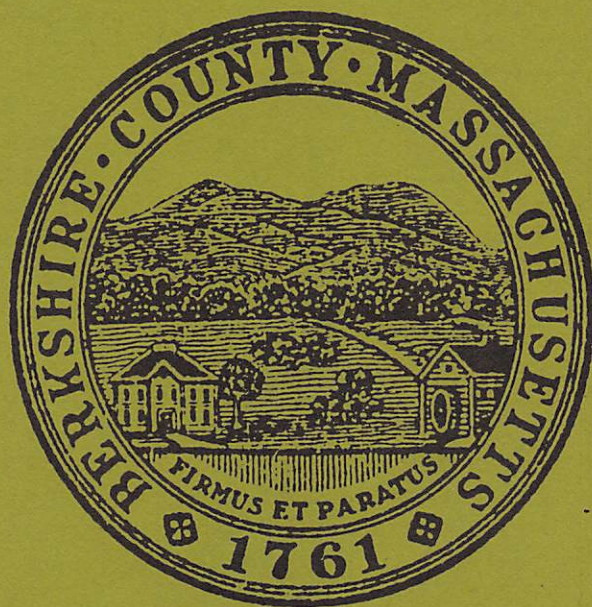


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The Berkshire Genealogist



~~Vol 3 #2 1982~~ Vol 1 #1 (see 1st pg. this is 1st edition)

The Berkshire County Commissioners granted permission to use the County Seal at their meeting of March 16, 1982.

The Seal shows lofty Greylock, the grandest mountain in the Commonwealth. In the foreground, a flock of sheep and some stacked grain stand for the Berkshire agricultural interests, and a mill and a schoolhouse stand for thrift and steady advancement in learning. It denotes that the Berkshires stand fast as the everlasting hills but is progressive with everything that is good. Firmus et Paratus. STEADFAST AND READY.

The first agricultural fair in the United States was held at Park Square on October 1, 1810, promoted by the Berkshire Cattle Association.

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Exactly how much do you value genealogy? The question is far from an idle one. The recent termination by the National Archives of its inter-library loan service of United States Census microfilms is only the most recent and most severe sign that genealogy faces some serious problems. A number of divergent factors - budget problems, abuse of public records, concern over privacy - have converged to threaten access by genealogists to records and research materials on the local, state and national levels. How many researchers have found themselves legally prohibited from using vital records or discovered that libraries and other research institutions can no longer answer correspondence and queries?

If you care about genealogy, now is the time for you to act. Contact your federal representatives and make known your displeasure over the halt to inter-library loan of United States Census microfilms. Support efforts in your own state to maintain or create open access to public records. Demand that your government officials properly fund your library or agency that has genealogical material and records.

Equally important, begin today to help organize, preserve and transcribe public records. The Berkshire Family History Association project to transcribe the Pittsfield Vital Records will assure easy, continued public access while decreasing pressure and demand upon the City Clerk's office. If every genealogical organization could do the same for their surrounding communities, genealogists would be guaranteed an information source that is vital to their needs. We all have ancestors - let's make sure we all have a chance to find them.

- Denis J. Lesieur

THE BERKSHIRE GENEALOGIST

VOLUME 3

NUMBER 2

NOTICE: to Mr. Hearst and Mr. N.Y. Times

Don't sell your presses yet - this is our first edition. We are bound to please some and displease others. To the "pleased ones" thank you. To the displeased, we are open to suggestions and your contributions of articles and time.

Anne M. C' Connor, Editor

Editors from:

Dalton: Persis Caverly, Christina Faye
Down County: Charlotte Davis, Marcia Eisenberg, Virginia Siter
Lanesboro: Peg Owens
North Adams: Marjorie Griggs
Peru: Mary Wheeler
Pittsfield: Meta Stark
Williamstown: Annette Jenks and Dot Seney

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A NINETEENTH CENTURY TRAVELER'S DIARY

(Continued)

June 2nd 1817 Monday

Pleasant in the morning - While discharging the baggage of the Discharged passengers - Saw the Fishermen on Shore Make several Hauls with their nets - they say this has been a poor Season for them - Bade Adieu to Five of our fellow passengers - fired a Salute with our small arms - weighed Anchor And got under Way - about 10 Oclk...Past Chapmans Ferry 1/4 before 11 Oclk with several other Towns bordering on this River - but of not enough consequence to mention...the land bordering on the river generally looks barren - with exception of a few places...Haddam Street in sight - the Shiretown of Middlesex County - Came too off Haddam Street to Land two passengers the Country here assumes another Aspect from that which we've past - it being here very rocky and Mountainous - several Stone Quarries are in Sight - Stone being the main Article of traffic in the Towns - the qualities of the Stone of the several Quarries in this District - are nearly the same - they being Mostly all in one Ridge of Rocks - varying only in soft and hardness ... We past several vessels along the River loading with Stone -- In Sight of Rock landing - our destined Port - this Landing is so called on account of a very large rock that lies just above it - the landing contains but one Stone - which is White - Came too off the Landing - Bade Adieu to the Ship and passengers - and Were Landed - 12 Oclk - Left our Trunks at the White Store and walked a foot up to our relations.

June 11th 1817 Thursday

After parting with our relations and Friends - Took passage with Capt. Russel in the Sloop Morning Sun - 4 Oclk in the afternoon - Left Rock Landing - but intend to Stop at East Haddam - to take in our Deck Load and Start from there Tomorrow Morning...Walked up about 3/4 of a Mile to make Colⁿ Gates a Visit - Very Glad to see us - Staid all night --

June 13th 1817 Friday

Left the Colonel 10 Oclk in the Morning...past Pettepaug or Coots Borough 1/2 past 3 Oclk. this is considerable of a village - and was a considerable place for Building Vessels - it appears to be very pleasant - but the Inhabitants it appears acted very unmanly last war - as I've before mentioned - Got aground about two Miles below - on the Rocky Low Tide - Lay untill 1/2 flood - got off about 7 Oclk... Came to an Anchor... about 6 miles this side of Saybrook...We saw Fisherman all along the river industriously at work -

(to be continued)

Contributed by Flora Cone

QUERIES FOR THE BERKSHIRE GENEALOGIST

1. DORMAN. Need info on Alfred Dorman, son of Levi R. Dorman (1822 - 1899) and Carrie Dorman; Rennie Dorman, daughter of Levi R. Dorman of Great Barrington, MA Will exchange info. Write: Mrs. Mable (Dorman) Wirsing, Star Rte 4, Box 109, Fifield, WI 54524.
2. HASTINGS. Ozial W., Son of Clarinda; b. 1796 Mass. Husband of Ruth Sarah Stevens; Lived in Richmond-Lenox area. Desire info on ancestors and descendants. Write: Barbara J. Halseth, 233 10th N.W., Mason City, Iowa 50401.
3. PALMETER. Daniel Palmeter m. Lydia West in Sheffield, MA Nov. 11, 1798; d. Dec. 10, 1860, age 82 in Wilmington, VT. Death record states b. in Sheffield. Need b.date and parents. Write: Elizabeth Fjetland, 609 Main St., Farmington, MN 55024.
4. STEVENS. Ruth Sarah, Dau. of Orrin Stevens; wife of Ozial W. Hastings of Lenox. b. 1797 Vermont, d. 1876 Lenox. Desire info on ancestors and descendants of Stevens family. Write: Barbara J. Halseth, 233 10th N.W., Mason City, Iowa 50401
5. WATKINS. Seek parents of James, b. July 7, 1787; m. Tabatha Perry January 1, 1807; d. Peru, MA October 9, 1845. Raised family of 9 children in Peru, MA. Several migrated to Ohio, including great grandfather James Franklin Watkins. Write: Mrs. Robert C. Harsh, 3010 Derby Road, Columbus, Ohio 43221
6. WEBB. Thomas, Husband of Catherine; b. 1797 England, d. 1853 Lenox; Came to U.S. 1847; children: Joseph C., Mary C., Francis F., Ann C., William H., Catherine C. Desire info on this family. Write: Barbara J. Halseth, 233 10th N.W., Mason City, Iowa 50401.
7. WELDON/WHITE. Seek info/ancestry of John Weldon of Mass or NY who had eight children born 1745-1766, including Mary who m. Luther White in 1793 in NY. Write: Mrs. Patrick A. Yates, P.O. Box 2047, Ridgecrest CA 93555.
8. WRIGHT/SHELDON. Seek info regarding Luther Wright, son of Noah and Mehetable (Sheldon) Wright of New Marlborough, Mass., who m. Thankful Sheldon 1796. Why did Luther go to Pompey, Onondaga County, NY late 1700's and who was Amasa Wright (administrator of Luther's estate)? Write: Mrs. Patrick A. Yates, P.O. Box 2047, Ridgecrest, CA 93555.
9. CURTIS. John, Husband of Martha Newell, b. Apr. 12, 1773, Oxford, MA, d. Dalton, MA 1852. Seeking marriage date. Thought to have been married by Parson Allen in Pittsfield. Write: Joe Mannix, Jr. 33-18 161 Street, Flushing, NY 11358.
10. CURTIS. John Jr., Husband of Mary Smith. b. Dalton 1804, d. Sept. 1885. Seek marriage date. Write: Joe Mannix, Jr., 33-18 161 Street, Flushing, NY 11358.

****QUERY****

****QUERY****

TOWNSEND

Marietta Townsend was born twice in Hancock MA
(1) 2/24/1817, father James W Townsend, mother
Polly ----- and (2) 1820, father Hiram Townsend,
mother unknown. Marietta married Daniel Alonzo
Buckley in Williamstown, MA 11/28/1843

WANTED: any Vital Statistics on her real parents.
Richard D Sweet, PO Box 448 Presidio TX 79845

WRIGHT

Fanny Wright was born Williamstown MA abt 1781
She married Gurdon Bulekley there 11,22,1798

WANTED: Names of Fanny's parents w/any Vital
Statistics

Richard D Sweet PO Box 448 Presidio TX

CARD

Job Card was born RI 1710 to 20. He married and
died in RI, producing a dtr Amy, who married Ichabod
Babcock. The locale is probably N Kingston RI

WANTED: General info.

SPRING

Henry Spring born _____ Watertown MA, m. Abigail
Chadwick 1732; d _____. Son Henry b 1733 Middlesex
Co, Mass. m Hannah Whitney 1757, d _____ Son Henry
b 1761 Brookfield

WANTED: Did Henry b 1761 ever marry? (Looking to
connect this Henry Spring with SPRINGS of Otis, MA
Carole McCarty 40W081 Prairie Spring Dr
St Charles IL 60174

From AMOC:

"The Reference Department of the Berkshire Athenaeum is an
invaluable help for the genealogists. There are telephone books
from all sections of the U.S.; from which you can obtain relatives,
undertakers, consulates of foreign governments, and reference
books. Maps are helpful, too.

Most of my genealogy was found in U.S. census files,
Canadian films, and Atlases. The places I couldn't go to, came
to me"

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts is unique among the States,
in that divorce proceedings and divorce records are in the
Probate Court. (Elsewhere, they are kept in with marriages
and deaths.

RESEARCH SOURCES IN NEW YORK STATE

by Marcia Eisenberg
Main Road, Tyngham, MA 01264

What records are available? Where are they located? If you would like to inquire, we will try to answer in this column.

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK

To start the ball rolling, we will talk first about gems in the County Clerk's office. Deeds and mortgages come to mind at once but in New York State upwards of 70 different types of records are or have been the responsibility of the County Clerk and may be found in his or her facility.

EARLY VITAL RECORDS

In 1880, the State Board of Health was created and most vital records date from then.

However, in 1847, the legislature attempted to establish a process for registry of births, marriages, and deaths. Whatever remains of the registrations in this four year abortive attempt are, for the most part, to be found in the office of the County Clerk.

Records were kept, if at all, for 1847, 1848, 1849, and 1850 only. If you are so lucky as to locate such a record for an ancestor, the information given will be as shown in these examples:

Births in the Town of Farmersville, Cattaraugus County, 1847.

Alanson Northrup to Harry and Almira Northrup, October 3.

Marriages in the Town of Colesville, Broome County, 1848.

Henry Jacobs, age 21, of Cold Springs, to Juliette Muson, age 21, of Colesville, by Mr. Hoyt of Ninevah, April 29.

Deaths in the Town of Nanticoke, Broome County, 1849.

James Pellet, age 52, blacksmith, of consumption November 27, of Spencer, Mass.

Rarely was more information than this recorded. A statement of color of child born was required but not usually noted unless the child was not white.

The Act (Laws of 1847, Chapter 152) was unenforceable. Too many officials were involved. The school district clerk was to report to the town clerk, the town clerk to the county clerk, and the county clerk to the secretary of state. Physicians and midwives were to record births. Physicians were to record deaths, clergymen the funerals, and sextons the burials. Clergymen and magistrates were to record marriages. The poor clerk of the school district was to inspect the registers of these physicians, midwives, magistrates, and sextons before making his report to the town clerk. Is it any wonder so few records were made and even fewer survive?

These vital records are in the County Clerks' offices. They are not in the State Health Department in Albany, as the post-1880 records are. To find which counties have these records, you may check the Guide to Public Vital Statistics Records, volumes 1, 2, and 3 of the WPA Historical Records Survey which, it must be noted, is now close to 40 years old and much of it has strayed or been lost since it was made. A trip to the County Clerk's office of the county where you think your ancestors may have been is the most satisfactory approach. And think of all the other goodies you can look at while you are there. We will tell you about more of them next time.

HAPPY HUNTING!

A T T H E A T H E N A E U M

The books listed are gifts to the Local History & Genealogy Collection of the Berkshire Athenaeum. The name and address of the person from whom the book may be purchased is included unless otherwise requested.

ALEXANDER. The Alexanders of Mendon, Mass. By Victor J. Alexander, 1981. XVIII & 430 pp., index, maps. \$25.00. Write: The Author, St. Jeanne d'Arc Rectory, 129 Fourth Avenue, Lowell, MA 01854

AYERS. The Ayers Family, Descendants of William Eayers of Londonderry, New Hampshire. Compiled by Azuba Ruth Ward, 1980. 252 pp., illus., maps, index. \$15.00. Write: The Compiler, 1615 151st Ave., SE, Bellevue, WA 48007

BARNARD. Barnard and Allied Families, Volume 2. By Walter Charles Barnard, 1981. XIV & 160 pp., charts, index, \$25.00. Write: The Author, 3869 Gershwin Ave. No., Oakdale, MN 55109

CALIFORNIA. San Diego County California Census Index. Edited by Evelyn Jean White, 1981. 136 pp. \$5.00. Write: North San Diego County Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 581, Carlsbad, CA 92008

DICKINSON. The Loyalist Dickinsons of New York. By N.M. Whiston, 1979. 31 pp., map \$5.00 - write the Author, Apt. 10, Cambrian House, RR No. 1, Brookfield, Colchester Co., N.S., Canada, B0N 2 C0

ELWELL. Descendants of Nehemiah and Martha (Babcock) Elwell. Compiled by Leonard H. Elwell and Joyce Elwell Pickett, 1980. 102 pp., chart, index. Write: L.H. Elwell, 515 SW Bancroft St. Portland, Or. 97201

FISH. 1600-1941. By Stuyvesant Fish, 1942. 329 pp., illus., index. \$7.50. Write: James Tenety, Jr., 27 Mountain St., Camden, ME 04843

HINCKLEY. Some Descendants of Samuel Hinckley who Came to America in 1635, and Some Ancestors of Their Wives. By Vera Norton, 1976. 92 pp., illus., maps, charts, notes, biblio., index. \$4.00. Write: The Author, Apt. 212, 1500 Lucerne Ave., Lake Worth, FL 33460

HUGGINS. The Descendants of James Huggins (1752-1819) of Granby, Connecticut. By Seth P. Holcombe, 1979. 151 pp., illus., index. \$20.00. Write: The Author, 90 Silver Street, North Granby, CT 06060

LE CODY. Philip and Martha: Their Sons and Daughters. Volume 1. Compiled by Aldus Morrill Cody 1981. 316 pp. \$20.00. Write: Cody Publications, Box 2028, Kissimmee, FL 32741

G I F T S

MAYFLOWER. Mayflower Ancestral Index, Volume 1. Plymouth, MA.: General Society of Mayflower Descendants, 1981. Compiled by Milton E. Terry & Anne Borden Harding. XIII & 717 pp. \$35.00. Gift of Thelma Sykes Owens.

POLISH. Pol-Am; A History of the Polish Americans in Pittsfield, Massachusetts 1862-1945. By Florence W. Clowes. \$5.00. Write: The Author, P.O. Box RFD 2, Danielson, CT. 06239

ROGERS. Thomas Rogers, Pilgrim, And Some Of His Descendants. Edited by Elizabeth S. Daniel & Jeanne E. Sawtelle. Baltimore: Gateway Press, 1980. XIV & 662 pp., index. \$25.00. Gift of Thelma Sykes Owens.

STEERE. A Record of the Descendants of John Steere. By James Pierce Root. Cambridge, MA.: Riverside Press, 1890. 216 pp., map, illus, index. Gift of Thelma Sykes Owens.

STEERE. John Steere Family: Branches. By Robert E. Steere, 1972. 853 pp., index. Gift of Thelma Sykes Owens.

WHIPPLE. A Whipple Family History. By Judith C. & Darrel K. Whipple, 1981. 130 pp, maps, photos, index. \$12.00. Write: The Authors, RT 1, Box 222, Rainier, Oregon 97048

M I C R O F I L M

BERKSHIRE COUNTY.

United States Census.
"For the year 1800",
1 reel. "For the Year
1900", 3 reels.
Gift of the Berkshire Family
History Association in
memory of Ruth Bass and
Thelma Horahan.

CARD. Descendents of Richard Card of Rhode Island. By Maxine Phelps Lines. 1 reel. \$39.50. Write: The Author, 1550 N. Stapley #11, Mesa, Arizona 85203

WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS.

Episcopal Church Records.
21 reels. Comprises the
following towns:

Ashfield
Ayer
Blackington
Dalton
Great Barrington
Lanesboro
North Adams
Pittsfield
Shelburne Falls
Williamstown

D I Y O K N O W ?
D U O W ?

THE IRISH FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY -

is a non-profit, educational society whose purpose is to promote and encourage the study of Irish Genealogy and other Irish Studies. It is non-political and non-sectarian. It serves primarily the interests of residents of the United States and Canada. There is a Greater Boston Chapter and a Stonehill Chapter. A new Connecticut Chapter is being formed under the leadership of Robert J. Fitzsimmons.

The Society publishes a MANUAL FOR IRISH GENEALOGY which costs \$11.00 plus postage and \$.55 sales tax when sold in Massachusetts or to residents of Massachusetts. A MANUAL FOR NORTH AMERICAN GENEALOGY is also available. Out of this manual the editor is developing a GUIDE TO NEW ENGLAND GENEALOGY as described in the NEW ENGLAND GENEALOGY Newsletter. In all of these publications the 19th Century is emphasized and the principal focus is on records needed to trace back to ancestors born around the year 1800 or to your 16 great-great-grandparents.

Membership is open to anyone of Irish birth, residence, or descent, or who is interested in Irish Genealogy or the purposes of the Society.

For further information, contact Joseph M. Glynn, Fr., Director/Librarian, 173 Tremont Street, Newton, Ma 02158. P.S. Queries are free to members!

Submitted by Thelma (Peg) Owens

Crane's

Crane Paper Makers of Dalton, Mass. -- who ever heard of it? Chances are that right now, you own two of its products: - - - this sheet of paper, and a piece of paper money..... Yup; they were both made at Crane's.

Since January 4, 1776, the "Government Mill" has been making the paper for your money. Of course, there are many other kinds of paper, ranging from exquisite stationery through the bond papers. If you should ever visit the Berkshires in the ever-lasting hills of western Massachusetts, dont miss the CRANE MUSEUM in Dalton; it takes you back in time. For the local people who have missed seeing the museum -- dont put it off.

CRANE'S has graciously donated a years's supply of Crane 'CREST' for our publication.

NEED HELP?

(We assume you have sought relatives, town records and Probate - to no avail)

HAVE YOU TRIED -----

The DAUGHTERS of the AMERICAN REVOLUTION Magazine --

Genealogical Department?

It's in your Berkshire Athenaeum -- compliments of Peace Party Chapter D.A.R. Family names are in bold type, followed by the request and the inquirer's name and address. Thus, one can scan it quickly for one of your family lines. People from all over the country advertise here, and it is well read.

This Genealogical Dept is not just for members - anyone may advertise. The rates are reasonable (details in the magazine)

Mrs. Jack Powell has had success advertising here with many replies. Mrs. Leidhold of BCFGA and I met through this column. We both answered an inquiry on the Wyllys family -- requested by a person in the mid-west. When she answered our letters, she told us of the other; naturally, we got together!

Next time you are in the Berkshire Athenaeum, take time to browse through the "Genealogical Department" in the monthly D.A.R. Magazine.

GOOD DIGGING From the Berkshire Graphics Inc
Pittsfield, Mass

A

STANLEY E MOORE, CG, 26 Hazelwood Terrace
Pittsfield Mass 01201

d

Researching New England, New York State, occasional trips to Quebec. Large file French-Canadian immigrants and descendants.

S

MARK KENNEDY WINDOVER, 91 Maple St
North Adams, Mass 01247
Professional genealogist; quality genealogical research.

THE FAIRCHILDS OF BERKSHIRE COUNTY
By Robert F Huber

For many centuries, the Housatonic River has coursed through beautiful Berkshire County, Mass., into Connecticut and down to the sea at Stratford. To the Indians it was the Hous-aton-uck -- the Place Beyond the Mountains. To the early settlers it was a pathway to the future.

In 1639 Thomas Fairchild helped to found Stratford, named for Stratford-on-Avon, Shakespeare's home, where many of the town's founders had their roots. A century later his descendants settled in Berkshire County.

Thomas Fairchild's son Samuel was the first white child born in Stratford. The year was 1640. It wasn't long before he was man enough to move on -- lured northward by untamed land and propelled by the religious controversies that split the church at Stratford.

Religion was very real to the colonists and the dispute over the Halfway Covenant caused bitter feelings. Even predestination was a matter of heated argument.

The history of Woodbury, Conn., where Samuel Fairchild settled in April 1673, record the story of two settlers -- perhaps one a Fairchild -- who spent the evening debating the fine points of predestination.

When the guest arose to go home he checked his musket carefully. "Why do you do that?" asked his host. "If it is predestined that an Indian is to shoot you, you cannot prevent it."

"True," said the guest, "but if it is predestined that I am to shoot an Indian I must be ready".

Samuel married Mary Wheeler, daughter of the ferry keeper at Stratford who lived to be 100. Their son Edward also was filled with the spirit of adventure and he moved on to Newtown, Conn., in 1705. He married Elizabeth Blakeman, Great-granddaughter of the Rev. Adam Blakeman, the first minister at Stratford.

Their son Moses was born in Newtown Jan 17, 1721. As a young man he made the next trek up the Housatonic, this time to Sheffield in Berkshire County. He had two brothers (Johathan and Thomas) and two sisters (Mary and Beth) and some of them probably joined him in Sheffield.

These western lands just across the border in Massachusetts had been opened for settlement after the Peace of Utrecht in 1712 ended another of the bitter colonial wars.

In 1725 a committee authorized by the Massachusetts General Court bought from the Sachem Konkapt an area about eight miles wide in the southeastern corner of the state. The beautiful Housatonic flowed through the center of the site.

The price for this vast area was 460 pounds, three barrels of cider and 30 quarts of rum.

In 1726 shares were sold for farms in Sheffield and soon the town raised its first church and ordained its first minister. There was always a lot of pleasure involved in church work for the town voted to allow "three barrels of Goode Beare towards for the raising of the meeting house" as well as "twenty gallons of Rhumb".

Moses Fairchild moved into the Sheffield area some time after he married Sussanah Bosworth in 1745. She was born May 8, 1726, a descendant of four Pilgrims who came to America on the Mayflower in 1620.

She was most proud of John Howland, the lusty young man who fell off the Mayflower in mid-Atlantic and was rescued after Grabbing some trailing ropes. He was one of the signers of the famous Mayflower Compact and served as an assistant governor. His wife Elizabeth also came on the Mayflower with her parents, John Tilley and Joad Hurst.

Susannah Bosworth was the daughter of Zachariah Bosworth and Mary Callender. Mary's father Philip also was an early Sheffield settler.

It seems that every generation of Fairchilds had to move on to greener pastures. It was so with Daniel, born May 9, 1762 in Sheffield. After service in the Revolution he moved to Stockbridge some time after his marriage to Mary Buttolph on April 4, 1784. Their first four children were born in Sheffield, the other six in Stockbridge.

And because of the Bosworth-Howland connection, all were Mayflower descendants.

Daniel became a deacon of the Congregational church at Curtisville near Stockbridge and farmed his few acres at Stockbridge Bowl. Son Grandison who was born in Sheffield on April 20, 1792 taught school and cobbled shoes. He married Nancy Harris of Richmond on Nov 25, 1813. She was a descendant of Ebenezer Plumb, a Revolutionary War soldier from Berkshire County, and had been reared by her grandparents who lived next to the Fairchilds.

And this generation also moved on -- to Ohio where Grandison became one of the founders of Oberlin College. Three of his sons became college presidents. James Harris Fairchild was president of Oberlin for generations; George T Fairchild headed Kansas State Agricultural College after being acting president of Michigan State College; Edward Henry Fairchild directed affairs at Berea College in Kentucky.

Among George T Fairchild's offspring were Dr Paul Halsted Fairchild, a New York City business leader who was president of the prestigious 42nd Street Association, and Dr David Fairchild, the famed plant explorer who married a daughter of Alexander Graham Bell.

THE BERKSHIRE GENERATIONS

** Moses Fairchild **

b. in Newtown Conn, Jan 17, 1721, d. in Sheffield, Mass., 1787, m. in Newtown Dec 2, 1745 Susannah Bosworth. Children:

1. Sarah b. in Sheffield May 8, 1746
2. Zachariah b. In Sheffield Nov 4, 1748.
3. Mary b. in Sheffield April 1, 1751, m. Aug. 26, 1772 Daniel Lewis.
4. Ellis b. in Sheffield Oct 20, 1753, m. Joseph Parker.
5. Moses b. in Sheffield Dec 1, 1756.
6. Aaron b. Sheffield Aug 11, 1759.
7. Daniel b. in Sheffield May 9, 1762, m. May 4, 1784 Mary Buttolph.
8. John b. in Sheffield March 4, 1765.
9. David b. in Sheffield Dec. 20, 1767.

--continued--

*** Daniel Fairchild ***

b. in Sheffield May 9, 1762, d. in Stockbridge, Mass.,
March 8, 1831, m. in Sheffield May 4, 1784 Mary Buttolph.

Children:

1. Fanny b. in Sheffield Apr 5, 1789, d. 1797
2. Mary b. in Sheffield April 10, 1790, d. 1809
3. Grandison b. in Sheffield April 20, 1792, d. Brownhelm,
Ohio July 30, 1890, m. Nov 25, 1813 Nancy Harrie
4. Edward b. in Sheffield April 22, 1796.
5. Harriet b. in Stockbridge Apr 2, 1798.
6. Emily b. in Stockbridge Sept 8, 1800, d. 1863.
7. Julia b. in Stockbridge Oct 4, 1802, d. 1814.
8. Daniel b in Stockbridge Sept 19, 1804, d. July 16, 1881
m. Octavia Briggs, m. Rebecca Whittlesey
9. Mary b. in Stockbridge Dec 6, 1807?
10. Elvira b. Stockbridge Nov 3, 1809, d. 1862

*** Grandison Fairchild ***

b. in Sheffield April 20, 1792, d. in Brownhelm, Ohio
July 30, 1890, m. Nov 25, 1813 in Stockbridge Nancy Harris

1. Charles Grandison b. in Stockbridge July 29, 1814,
m. Emily Culver
2. Edward Henry b in Stockbridge Nov 29, 1815, m. Maria
Babbitt.
3. James Harris b. in Stockbridge Nov 25, 1817, m. Mary
Kellogg.
4. Catherine Baxter b. in Brownhelm Nov 13, 1820, m
Chester Coole.
5. Emily Frances b. Brownhelm Nov. 30, 1822, m Minor W
Fairfield.
6. William died young
7. Mary Plumb b. in Brownhelm May 26, 1825, m. Cyrus H
Baldwin.
8. Harriet Elsa b. in Brownhelm May 31, 1828, m. Robert
C Kedzie
9. Daniel died young
10. George Thompson b. in Brownhelm Oct 6, 1838, m.
Charlotte Halsted.

-----The Mayflower Connection-----

JOHN HOWLAND who came on the Mayflower in 1620.

b. in Fenstanton, England 1592, d. in Plymouth Mass.,
March 5, 1673, m. in Plymouth 1624 Elizabeth Tilley b 1608,
d. in Swansea Mass., Dec 31, 1687.

HANNAH HOWLAND b. _____, d. _____, m. in Swansea July 6, 1661
Jonathan Bosworth, b/ 1636, d _____.

JABEZ BOSWORTH b. in Swansea Feb 14, 1673, d. in Rehoboth, Mass.,
Sept 21, 1747, m 1700 Susannah _____, b. _____, d. March 21, 1758.

ZACHARIAH BOSWORTH b. in Rehoboth July 11, 1701, d. in Rehoboth
Feb 19, 1726, m. in Providence RI Mar 14 1725 Mary Callender, b.
in Newport, RI, 1705, d. in Sheffield 1786

SUSANNAH BOSWORTH b. in Rehoboth May 8, 1726, d. _____, m. in
Sheffield Dec 2, 1745 Moses Fairchild b. in Newtown Jan 17,
1721, d. in Sheffield 1787.

THE OTTAWA ARCHIVES

by Anne O'Connor

On a Sunday in the fall of 1981, four people set out for Ottawa, Canada; Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Wells, Bunny Ballou and I. We had a beautiful trip both ways. When the archives opened on Monday we were there in force.

First, may I tell you that we were impressed by the awesome beauty of the building holding the archives. On the inside it was even more beautiful, if possible. The floors and walls were snow white marble. The floors were sectioned off into rooms by glass panels etched with historic figures of Canada. The building was spotless, Upstairs each of us found someone to help us. Thelma Wells and Bunny Ballou were knee deep in Loyalists, Ken Wells and I used census records.

In the library along with Loyalist records there were books, maps, card files and helpfullibrarians. They didn't think there would be anything there for me since the years I wanted would have been from 1850 on. That time period is difficult because public records didn't start until some time later. Those years have to come from churches or census records. I did find two churches I needed. In the library they have directories of all church denominations. This source also provides you with some information on where the old church records are kept.

Between the Library and the research area there is/smoking area with comfortable divans. In the research area there is a good collection of genealogy books, in one very large section. People have individual places to work at and books that you need are brought to you. Later you leave them at the desk. They will also keep books that you are using in lockers for you while you are busy with something else. In the rear of this tremendous room is another room with card indexes of names, places, cemeteries, atlases, etc. I had never used an atlas, so you can imagine my glee when I found a map with the saw mill of my great-grandfather on it. You choose what you want from the card files. They have huge stacks from which your material is brought to you almost immediately. Everyone is so helpful. When you find these treasures, you fill out a form and they are copied and sent to you within three months. The price was low and the service superb. I had large maps, census books, catalogs and Xerox copies all for \$4.00. They even took me into a back room where the stacks were to show me where one book which would have been helpful to me was missing. You have the feeling you are the only person there and they are out to satisfy you. I liked their chatter in French. Everything is written in French and English.

When you think you have found everything in the library and research area, you go on to another floor. This is the area that is open 24 hours a day. There are viewers in a dark room (just great!). Each viewer is in its own cubicle and you have a pull-out shelf for your writing or typing. If you think the other parts of the archives are serious, here they surely are. There are a great many shelves with boxes of films. They do not use the Dewey Decimal System but rather an old English system. When you have mastered it well enough to find your own films you are on your own. This particular area is well policed. You can get a viewer, stow all your things and get to work. You may leave your viewer and your possessions and they will

THE OTTAWA ARCHIVES

(Cont'd)

be there when you come back. There is so much on film - census, land grants, military records, and things I didn't get a chance to look at. Periodically a policeman or woman will come through to check on you. In this area the police are on duty 24 hours a day. They told us not too many people avail themselves of the all-night deal.

We spent from 9 to 5 there for four days. We probably could have found more if we had been there longer, but everyone was as pleased as a Cheshire cat with what we did find.

They have an excellent cafeteria and immaculate rest rooms. The prices of the meals were low and the quality high. The food tasted like home cooking. A really satisfying meal cost under \$2.00 or you could have sandwiches or soup or brown-bag it. We all enjoyed the friendly banter of the policemen on duty downstairs where you sign in and out every day. I know when I signed out that last day that I planned to go back and I will. Maybe I'll see you there looking up Ontario Canadians.

* * * * *

In Peru, Massachusetts, the Town Clerk has custody of all birth, death, marriage and town meeting records dating from July 4, 1771 to present, and they may be seen by appointment. Researchers are advised that records prior to 1840 are not in chronological order, and searching them may be a time consuming job which the Clerk will perform for a fee. Certificates of births, deaths and marriages after 1840 may be obtained by paying the state-recommended fee of \$3.00. Mary M. Wheeler, Town Clerk, 413-655-8027.

* * * * *

The following is from U.O.C.A. Windsor, 1982, Page 2
"In the 1880's each Town Clerk received 5¢ to make up listings on 5 X 8 cards, one set to remain with the Town Clerk and another to be sent to the Vital Records Section in Montpelier. One wonders how many towns still have these records?"

THE BOOKSTALL

by Denis J Lesieur

Filby, P. William ed. PASSENGER AND IMMIGRATION LISTS BIBLIOGRAPHY 1538 - 1900. Detroit, MI: Gale Research Co., 1981. 194 pp., index \$58.00

Genealogy has changed and improved greatly since the appearance of Harold Lancour's fine bibliography of published passenger lists in 1938. The most recent revision of Lancour's work by Richard Wolfe in 1963 still only listed 262 sources, a small fraction of the material that has appeared in the last decade. This new work by Filby includes nearly 1,200 references, both books, and magazine articles.

The entries are arranged alphabetically by author or title, with full bibliographical information. Most titles receive brief annotation. A subject index is provided. This volume is intended as a companion work to the massive PASSENGER AND IMMIGRATION LISTS INDEX recently published and also edited by Filby. The source numbers given in the PASSENGER AND IMMIGRATION LISTS INDEX are the same as assigned to the entries in this bibliography. It is important to note that of the 1,200 sources listed in this book, only 300 have actually been indexed in the PASSENGER AND IMMIGRATION LISTS INDEX. Consequently, the PASSENGER AND IMMIGRATION LISTS BIBLIOGRAPHY should be consulted even if its companion set fails to reveal a desired name.

Filby, P. William ed. PASSENGER AND IMMIGRATION LISTS INDEX
Detroit MI. Gale Research Co., 1981 3 volumes, 2,339 pp. \$225.00

Anyone attempting to trace an immigrant ancestor through immigration records is all too aware of how elusive, confusing and frustrating the original records can be. It has always, therefore, proven important that all published references be examined thoroughly first. Even here, however, the genealogist was confronted with obscure publications, usually out-of-print, difficult to locate, and worst of all, usually unindexed. Filby has performed an enormous service for all genealogists in producing this extensive alphabetical index of published immigration records.

Over 480,000 names are called from 300 sources, including periodical articles as well as books. Each listing has the name of the passenger, his or her age, the place and year of arrival and a code reference to the source in which the name is found.

Equally important, all accompanying passengers, if any, together with their relationship to the immigrant are listed below that name. Supplements including an additional 400,000 names taken from another 900 sources are planned for the future. These three volumes are an important resource that should be consulted by any researcher pursuing an immigrant ancestor.

The titles reviewed may be examined in
the Local History and Literature
Services area of the Berkshire
Athenaeum.

ELDERHOSTEL - Studying There Is Half The Fun!
ELDERHOSTEL combines the best traditions of education and hosteling. Inspired by youth hostels and folk schools of Europe, but guided by the needs of older citizens for intellectual stimulation and physical adventure, ELDERHOSTEL is for elder citizens on the move - not just in terms of travel but in the sense of reaching out to new experiences. It is based on the belief that retirement does not have to mean withdrawal, that one's later years are an opportunity to enjoy new experiences.

ELDERHOSTEL is a network of over 500 colleges/universities/independent schools/folk schools and other educational institutions in 50 states, Canada, Great Britain, Denmark, Sweden, Finland, Norway which offer special, low-cost, short-term residential academic programs for older adults.

Most programs begin Sunday evening and end Saturday morning and are limited to 30 to 40 elders. The ELDERHOSTEL experience provides an informal and human atmosphere where the individual is important, making new friends is easy, and learning can be a truly liberating experience.

ELDERHOSTEL welcomes those 60 years of age and over or those whose spouse or companion qualifies.

The weekly charge of \$150.00 covers room and board, all classes as well as a variety of extra-curricular activities.

A wide range of liberal arts and science courses that explore various aspects of the human experience is offered. Courses for Summer '82 include Personal and Family history courses, Climbing Your Family Tree, etc. with the use of archives at Halifax, Nova Scotia and Frederickton, New Brunswick, Canada, for example. There are no exams, no grades, no required homework, although professors are pleased to make suggestions for outside reading and study. Lack of formal education is not a barrier. College professors delight in discovering that 60 or 70 years of life experience creates open, understanding, teachable people.

There will be free time for Elderhostelers to explore the area on their own and to become better acquainted with each other. Still, ELDERHOSTEL is not a sightseeing or recreational program.

The choices are nearly infinite and the wise hosteler will select the combination of program, campus and location that is the most satisfying ELDERHOSTEL experience.

For more information and details, call Meta Stark at 413-443-2145.



GOATS &
ANCESTOR
HUNTERS

Cile and I were off again on another ancestor hunt (my husband calls us the "bone rattlers"). This time we were headed for Tinmouth in Rutland Co., Vermont to try once again to find some proof that our 2nd gr. grandfather, John Woods, was the son of James Wood (s) who left Gloucester, RI in 1803.

Cile is Cecile (Bull) Hewes of Manchester Center, VT, my 2nd cousin. I'm Peg Owens (Thelma). Our grandmothers were sisters, the daughters of James Edwin and Louisa (Lanfear) Woods. It was Cile who got me into all this genealogy business.

It was a lovely day. As we rode along, we talked again about our people who had settled here in the beautiful Vermont hills, and about their struggles in those early days.

Our gr. grandmother Louisa Woods was born in 1839. She told about Indians sleeping on the floor in front of the fireplace at their farm in Dorset Hollow. Louisa died in 1933, a wonderful, kind, gentle woman much loved by all her children, grandchildren and gr.grandchildren.

Frances Merrill, the town clerk of Tinmouth has the records in her home, a non-working farm off the beaten track. She does have chickens, and goats wandering around. They paid no attention to us.

After three hours of fruitless search, we decided to leave. The goats had a different idea. Now they were interested in us! Even though Cile was raised on a farm, she is scared silly of farm animals. I was the brave one, I thought. I talked gently to them while she inched toward the car. When one took after her, she made for the nearest door and jumped in behind the wheel. "Billy" missed. Then it was my turn. She reached over and opened the door. I was ready to move, --- but, so was "Billy". I beat him to the door and breathed a sigh of relief as it closed. However, our friend and his playmates weren't thru with us! Up went "Billy" and "Jane" onto the hood, then ever so gracefully jumped onto the roof. Back and forth, slipping and sliding, the patter of little feet was heard overhead. The rest of the gang, not to be outdone, proceeded to circle us Indian fashion, stopping now and then to gaze at the lumps inside the car. All this time, good old Rover was letting out war whoops loud enough to raise the dead. After what seemed an eternity, Mrs Merrill appeared, calmly shook her apron at them and told them to stop. Down off the car they went.

But Cile and I had another problem. She was squeezed behind the wheel of a car she couldn't drive and refused to get out and walk around to the passenger side. After much maneuvering, she managed to climb over into the back seat. I slid behind the wheel and got us out of there as quickly as possible.

The only bones rattled that day were ours. Oh how I wish someone had been around with a movie camera! We moved pretty fast considering Cile has been a gr.grandmother for some time, and I expect to be one in July.

Thelma Owens 1982

ROLLIN H. COOKE

A biographical sketch

An early contributor and promoter of genealogy and family history in Berkshire County, MA was a man named Rollin H Cooke. After completing my research, I want to share my findings.

Rollin Hillyer Cooke was the son of Charles and Jane (Lewis) Cooke. He was born in Winsted, Litchfield County, CT. on August 23, 1843. His education was obtained in the Winsted CT school system. His first job was that of a travelling salesman for his father, whose business produced wagon axles, bolts, and nuts. Later, Mr Cooke was employed as a clerk in a private bank in Winsted.

He married a woman whose name is unknown; however, she died, leaving him with two daughters who later became Mrs James Brasie of Winsted CT and Mrs George Hurdlock of New York. On April 16, 1873, Mr Cooke married a second time, his bride being the 47 year old Miss Rose Terry of West Hartford, Hartford Co., CT. She was the daughter of Henry Wadsworth and Anne Wright (Hurlbut) Terry of Puritan ancestry. Cooke then took up his father's business in Winsted. He later decided to move the business to the Collinsville section of the town of Canton, Hartford Co., CT. This venture was not as profitable as he had hoped it would be.

In 1887, he learned of a position in a banking firm here in Pittsfield. Rose (Terry) Cooke was a writer, and both Cookes were pleased to relocate in the Berkshires and its natural beauty. Cooke had experience in banking, and took the position. However, the banking firm of James M Burns and Rollin H Cooke lasted about one year, at which time, Burns withdrew, leaving Cooke as the sole manager. Rose's health declined and there was anxiety about the banking firm. Fragile in health, Rose found the Berkshire winters harsh. The Cookes moved to Boston for a short period, but then returned to Pittsfield, where they boarded at Mrs Graham A Root's home at 36 East Housatonic Street. After failing to recover from an attack of pneumonia, Rose (Terry) Cooke died on July 18, 1892 at the age of 65. Thus ended the natural life of this poet, novelist and short story writer.

Mr Cooke had become interested in genealogy in about 1888. He soon had established an excellent reputation, as he was a dedicated, tireless and thorough worker and investigator. Several prominent people requested his services.

Rollin Cooke also pursued some work in the literary field. He first wrote a brochure entitled DRIVES and WALKS in the BERKSHIRE HILLS in 1895, followed by STOCKBRIDGE and VICINITY in 1896. He loved nature, and enjoyed walking, covering twenty to twenty-five miles a day. He also took frequent hikes to Mt Greylock. Cooke was interested in historical subjects and was a researcher for and useful member in the local chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution, as he had a passion for accuracy. In his journeys through the county, Mr Cooke made a collection of copies of gravestone inscriptions, many of which were nearly obliterated by the weather; deciphering them with a great deal of patience.

COOKE -- continued

He also made manuscript copies of cemetery records in Berkshire County MA, Amenia NY, Bennington VT, and East Windsor CT. Church records of the same communities were copied, too, along with sundry records from our county, and Connecticut. These included ledgers, deed books, newspaper records and tax schedules. Lastly, Cook made manuscript copies of town and proprietor's records for Berkshire County. These records are part of the Berkshire Athenaeum's Local History Department's extensive Cooke Collection.

Other works by Rollin H Cooke include a piece on JOHN TODD, DD published in 1899; ART WORK of BERKSHIRE COUNTY MA capturing highlights of our area's masterpieces and published in 1900. He edited a book by Mrs H Morse Weeks entitled DESCENDENTS OF RICHARD HAYES of LYME CONNECTICUT, THROUGH HIS SON, TITUS, published in 1904. A posthumously published work in 1906 was HISTORICAL HOMES and INSTITUTIONS and GENEALOGICAL and PERSONAL MEMOIRS of BERKSHIRE COUNTY, MA.

Rollin H Cooke's other activities included membership in the Monday Evening Club, the Berkshire Historical Society, the Republican City Committee, and secretary of the Berkshire county Agricultural Society. In spare moments, reading occupied his time.

Tragedy suddenly struck Rollin Hillyer Cooke on December 9, 1904. He was living in a room at 19 West Street at the time, and an oil lamp in the room overturned, causing his nightclothes to catch on fire. Shock and burns which Cooke sustained from this accident caused his death at the House of Mercy (later Pittsfield General Hospital) after midnight, December 10, 1904 at the age of 61. His funeral was Monday, December 12, 1904, with the Rev T W Nickerson Jr. the rector of St Stephen's Episcopal Church officiating at the Mortuary Chapel. Burial was in the Pittsfield Cemetery. Sadly his work wasnt complete at the time of his death, as he was preparing the BRADFORD GENEALOGY.

May the example of Rollin Hillyer Cooke's life inspire us, as we modern day genealogists and family historians pursue our endeavors in recording our backgrounds for future generations.

**** SOURCES ****

Encyclopedia of Biography

Berkshire Men of North by J W Lewis

Berkshire Eagle -- Sun Eagle

Research work was part of a paper I wrote entitled:
FIVE BRIEF BIOGRAPHIES OF BERKSHIRE AUTHORS. on May 3, 1980

Joseph G. V. Maciora
April 8, 1982

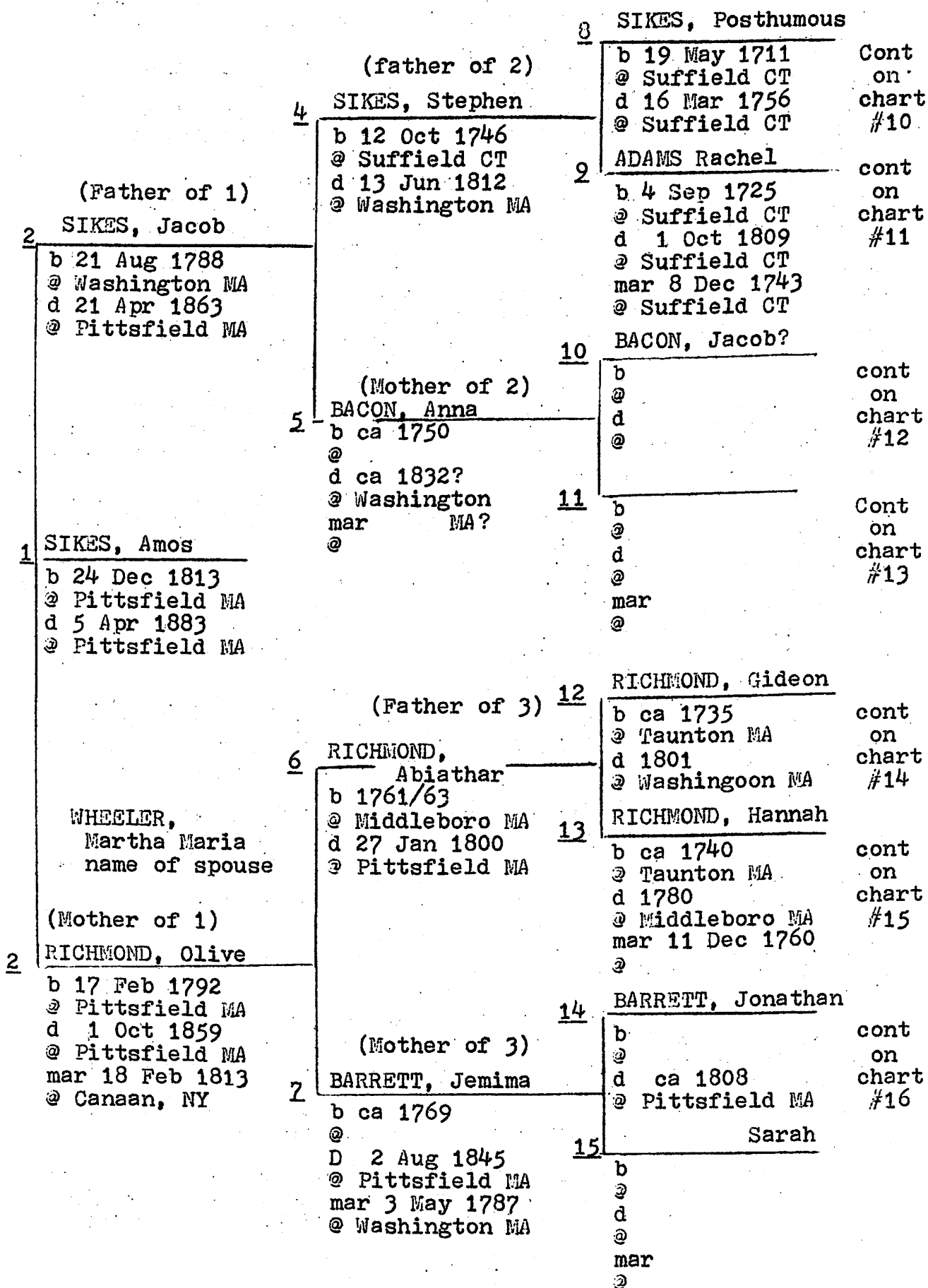
*** ANCESTOR CHART ***

Chart #1

	<p>(Father of 2)</p> <p>4 SYKES, Alfred Parsons</p> <p>b 23 Aug 1845 @ Pittsfield MA d 3 May 1933 @ Albany NY</p>	<p>8 SIKES, Amos Bacon</p> <p>b 24 Dec 1813 @ Pittsfield MA d 5 Apr 1883 @ Pittsfield MA</p> <p>9 WHEELER, Martha Maria</p> <p>b 26 Mar 1819 @ Haddam CT d 15 Oct 1902 @ Pittsfield MA mar 28 Dec 1835 @ Lebanon NY</p>
<p>(Father of 1)</p> <p>1 SYKES, Harold Mattoon</p> <p>b 11 Apr 1889 @ Pittsfield MA d 3 Dec 1970</p>	<p>(Mother of 2)</p> <p>5 MATTOON, Mary Elizabeth</p> <p>b 23 Feb 1854 @ Canaan NY d 19 July 1939 @ Lebanon Ctr. NY m 15 May 1872 @ Canaan CT</p>	<p>10 MATTOON, Benjamin</p> <p>b 18 Oct 1809 @ Canaan NY d 1 Nov 1871 @ Canaan NY</p> <p>11 SHORT, Phebe Catherine</p> <p>b 12 Apr 1817 @ Woodstock, NY d 14 Oct 1874 @ Canaan NY mar 4 Jul 1839 @ NY</p>
<p>2 SYKES, Thelma Madeleine</p> <p>b 24 Sept 1912 @ Pittsfield MA d @ mar 18 Mar 1933 @ Castleton NY</p>	<p>(Father of 3)</p> <p>6 COLVIN, Albert Streeter</p> <p>b 9 Dec 1862 @ Dorset VT d 22 Jan 1894 @ Tinmouth VT</p>	<p>12 COLVIN, Reuben</p> <p>b 18 Nov 1834 @ Danby VT d 20 Feb 1899 @ Tinmouth VT</p> <p>13 STREETER, Persis A</p> <p>b 5 Sep 1840 @ Dorset VT d 8 Mar 1894 @ Tinmouth VT mar ca 1856/7 @</p>
<p>(Mother of 1)</p> <p>3 COLVIN, Alberta Bessie</p> <p>b 15 Aug/Nov 1890 @ Danby VT d 19 Jun 1923 @ Pittsfield MA mar 4 Oct 1911 @ Longmeadow MA</p>	<p>(Mother of 3)</p> <p>7 WOODS, Clara Ella</p> <p>b 17 June 1872 @ Castleton VT d 2 Jan 1944 @ Pittsfield MA mar 16 Dec 1889 @ Danby VT</p>	<p>14 WOODS, James Edwin</p> <p>b 14 Aug 1833 @ Tinmouth VT d 1 Dec 1907 @ Shrewsbury VT</p> <p>15 LANFEAR, Louisa</p> <p>b 2 Sep 1839 @ Dorset VT d 14 Aug 1933 @ Manchester VT mar 22 Feb 1862 @ Tinmouth VT</p>

*** ANCESTOR CHART ***

Chart #2



EGREMONT - KARNER

How scattered families do get through the generations. This is an account of just a small part of the Karner family descendants and their wanderings.

Two brothers, Andrew (Andreas) and Lodowick (Ludwig) Karner and their sister, Mary were early settlers in what is now known as Egremont; in the Housatonic area, then known as Westenhook. I am descended from Andrew, and this is about descendants of his brother Lodowick.

In the "Documentary History of State of New York - 1850, Vol. III", published by Weed, Parsons & Co., Public Printers; I have found what I think are the parents of these two men and their sister, listed as Niclaus Kerner as head of the family, in one of the Palatin camps on the west side of the Hudson River. Niclaus Kerner is also mentioned in the militia list of Livingstone Manor 1710/1711. The list in the Documentary History is dated 1710. These three, Andrew, Lodowick and Mary, came to the Westenhook area early; for in 1726, when Andrew married Elizabeth Stuywer, they gave their location as "From HOOGDUY TSCHLANT and living in Westenhook" as recorded by the Linlithgo Church records of Livingstone, N. Y. I am trying to find the record of the baptism of Mary, the sister, which apparently was performed in Rhinebeck.

Lodowick and his wife, Katherine, had eight children, the oldest being Jacob who was born 1733 who married Lucy Kellogg, born 1741. They had eight or nine children. The following is some of the information which has come to light with regard to two of the sons of Jacob and Lucy. (Jacob and Lucy are buried in the Town House Hill Cemetery in Egremont)

Silas, born 1771, son of Jacob and Lucy, married Lydia Morgan, born 1775 of Cheshire, Conn, in 1794 at Poultry, VT (I think this should be Poultney).

Lodowick 2nd, born - date unknown- went to Sheshequin, Penna. on or before 1798. He was a very ingenious man and a miller for General Spalding. At this time the name was changed to Carner on account of the two brothers being in the same business.

Luther, son of Lodowick 2nd, married a daughter of Col. John Spalding (any relation to General Spalding?) They had eight children. After the death of his wife in 1833, Luther left Pennsylvania and settled in Ohio.

Henry W Carner, son of Luther, was born 1824 and at the age of 23 was commissioned a 1st Lieutenant of the Monroe Rifle Company, a militia of the commonwealth of Pennsylvania. He married in 1849 and began keeping house in Monroetown (Penna) where they lived nearly a year, then moved to Macedonia, and in 1851 removed to Ohio where they stayed for nearly a year. In 1852 Henry and his brother, John S., made an agreement with Samuel Hinchcliff to transport him to California for \$300.00. Mrs Henry Carner returned to Macedonia. John S. Separated from Henry and Samuel at Placerville (Calif.?) taking another direction to go prospecting; where he went and what became of him is unknown.

In 1849, Charles Carner, a brother of John and Henry went to California, liked the country and returned to Ohio for his family and had started back 17 days ahead of Henry, John and Hinchcliff.

KARNER - continued.

When Henry reached the plains of Nebraska much to his surprise he found the grave of his brother, Charles, who had been taken sick with cholera and lived only 12 hours. Charles had started with 18 yoke of cattle and 15 men. After his burial the wife and children, both girls about 8 and 10 year of age, continued on their journey and reached California after 4 months and 16 days, not seeing a residence in all that distance except Fort Laramie in Nebraska. On arrival in California the widow disposed of her ox teams at a good price and went into the laundry business which proved a success.

Henry also was accompanied by 3 men who paid their transportation with 3 cows and 2 ox teams. In addition to their provisions they carried 2 bags of parched corn meal. Becoming short of provisions they lived on corn meal and water for 12 days. Arriving at Carson Valley they bought wheat four at \$1.00 per pound and beef at 50¢ a pound. At this time they sold their oxen and purchased ponies to carry them over the mountains. In California, Henry took up a mining claim and worked it about a year and although he had gone to considerable expense to dig ditch two miles long to supply water to the mine, it gave him a good income.

Returning to Pennsylvania to see his family and then on to Kansas to do mechanical work for about a year, he finally returned to the east to stay and to take up carpentry work. In 1862 he was drafted into Company D, 171st regiment and served nine months as sargeant. When the company was mustered out of service early in 1863 he returned home for a short time and then enlisted as a volunteer in Company B, 2nd Pennsylvania Heavy artillery and served about a year. He brought his kit and chest of tools home with him. These were used by him, and then by his son George until 1901. Finally it fell into the hands of his grandson, Lawrence.

Virginia L. Siter, Historian
Town of Egremont, Mass.

* * * * *

May 14th -- Annual dinner at G.E.A.A. \$7.50 Per person

6:00 PM Happy hour

6:30 PM Dinner

Program & dancing to follow

DOOR PRIZE -- gift of Peg Owens

OTHER PRIZES - brief case from club

- hand knit throw from Harriet Sawyer

- bottle of booze from Ken Wells

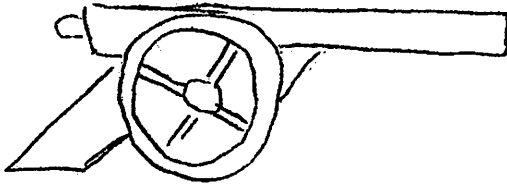
- another prize

ALSO -- Final dues date May 14th

up-date your membership

← A REMINDER

BERKSHIRE TOWN SEEKS REBELS
WITHOUT A CHANCE



The Sunday Republican
Springfield MA

CHESTERFIELD -- Wanted: several companies of gray-coated rebels from Dixie, preferably with own artillery and robust yells. Must be willing to lose.

In what could be one of the largest gatherings of Civil War era units ever staged in New England, this tiny town of 1,000 Yankees in the Berkshire Hills is planning to re-enact the Battle of Saylor's Creek to right a century-old slight to its only Medal of Honor winner, Samuel Eddy.

Eddy, a 40-year-old blacksmith when he marched off with the 37th Massachusetts in 1862, received the nation's highest military honor, in the mail, 32 years after the war.

"Naturally; we feel that was a big disgrace -- its like, well, desecrating the American flag," mused Raymond Newell, a local hardware store owner and chairman of the celebration committee.

Newell said his group, aided by local congressmen, has been pressuring the White House to re-award the medal to Eddy's family in "proper" ceremonies a few steps from Chesterfield's combination post office-funeral home, the day after the battle re-enactment. All 292 living Congressional Medal of Honor redipients are being invited, he said.

That could be because at Saylor's Creek, Va., on April 6, 1865, the Army of the Potomac caught Gen. Robert E. Lee, out of supplies and retreating from Richmond, and destroyed about half the Army of Virginia. Lee surrendered 36 hours later at Appomattox.

The battle organizers, including a retired general, have ferreted out modern-day Confederate regiments in such unlikely spots as Ontario, Canada; Worcester, Mass., and even New Hampshire.

"We're sure they would do fine, but I wonder if they could yell like Rebels," mused Willard J. Kelley of Florence, sergeant major of the 10th Massachusetts Volunteer Militia, which will help carry the day for the blue.

"There will be cannons roaring all over the place, cavalry flying by, wagons, wounded, and field hospitals. Everything will be authentic. Nothing pertaining to the 20th century will be in sight," Newell said. "I think it takes things like this to get back our country's patriotic spirit."

His logistical aides are planning on 20,000 people, including the combatants, who will be billeted in a Boy Scout camp.

The object of all this attention is buried in a tiny, hill-top cemetery off a steep dirt road. The worn headstone bears no notice that he won the nation's highest military honor.

--- CONTINUED ---

"REBELS WITHOUT A CHANCE" -- continued

Wounded in the knee, the middle-aged blacksmith, then 44, was unable to keep up with Grant's men marching in double time in pursuit of Lee and fell back. But as he cut across the fields in an attempt to catch up, Eddy came upon his commanding officer and a Confederate colonel.

The colonel shot once, wounding Eddy's superior and thrust his bayonet through Eddy's chest pinning him to the ground.

As the colonel moved in to grab Eddy's rifle and finish off the two men, Eddy wrested it from him, and shot and killed the Confederate, Newell said.

He survived the bayoneting and returned to Chesterfield after the war to work in a factory. He died at 87, some 12 years after the postman delivered his Medal of Honor.

"There was quite a fight to get him the medal," said Newell. "And I guess so many political toes were stepped on that Washington said the hell with it and just mailed it."

by Trudy Tynan
Associated Press Writer
January 17, 1982

=====

May 22 ---Adams Super market (William St)
BAKE SALE -- Dorothy Ford, chairperson

¹⁹
June 22 --Cambridge Ave at Hazelwood Terrace
TAG & BAKE SALE Host & chairman -- Don Lutes
Ass't chairperson Thelma Wells
(Items may be dropped off anytime)

July 17 - North Adams Fair
Genealogical items to be sold
Bunny Ballou and Marjorie Griggs co-chair-
persons.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

1982

I was looking through a stack of old pre-1930 photographs the other day, a pleasure, which I find similar to those who spend hours in art galleries gazing at various art works; each photograph representing that moment frozen in time. The older pre-1910 pictures are probably the most fascinating, for it was an era when our ancestors sat in photograph studios to have their portraits taken, the studios often being in a railroad car that moved through the county stopping at state fairs and other events of the day. The tent photographers also plied their trade in this way.

Before 1900 going to one of the photographic studios was the only way to obtain a likeness of yourself or family, and for the most part these portraits were very good with reasonable lasting quality. Many families of that time availed themselves of the opportunity, leaving many of us with photographs, now over 100 years old, being in good condition with only a few faded exceptions.

Prior to World War I, Eastman brought out the "Kodak" and made picture taking a national pastime. It is now possible to take a roll of pictures, and within a couple of weeks, have returned to you a set of black and white prints made from large negatives, four inches wide and six inches long. Relatives now exchanged pictures with each other by mail, a definite plus for genealogists.

This magic box became a two edged sword, in that people tended to frequent the professional photographer less, because they themselves could photograph each other with their own cameras. Genealogists were to suffer, finding their ancestors had forsaken the quality of the professional portrait for the quantity of the Kodak.

With World War II, came the general usage of color film which delighted millions of Americans; It was now possible to shoot, at a reasonable cost, pictures in the form of prints or transparencies which could be projected onto a screen with spectacular results.

It is interesting how, living in this technological age, we tend to think in terms of how everything connected with technology automatically improves any product dependent upon it. A genealogical disaster has been occurring each year, starting around 1945. With the advent of color, we have embraced photographs that self-destruct after a comparatively few short years. The color dyes simply do not have the staying power, as did the old black & white photographs. Dig out some color prints you took 20 years ago and compare them to some taken recently; the contrast is evident. Recently, I viewed some Kodachrome 35mm slides taken shortly after W.W.II. Those once bright colors had turned to a heavy reddish cast. For all intents and purposes, these pictures are gone. Prints of that vintage have a similar appearance, while black & white photographs taken during the same time period still look reasonably fresh.

CONTINUED

"FADING IMAGES" -- continued

To further complicate matters, in the early 1950's the Polaroid came into general usage, a device now perfected to spit out pictures fully developed in 10 seconds. If you regularly use one, I strongly suggest you throw it away, or at least relegate it to the closet shelf. There have been several articles written about these "instant pictures", and although no one is certain, it is generally agreed that the lasting ability will be short; some claiming serious quality loss after as little as five years! Perhaps someday, they will develop a film with permanence -- if they do, we will let you know.

In the 1970's the pocket 110 camera came into wide usage, because it was easy to carry and easy to load and unload. In one fell swoop Kodak went from a negative size of nearly three inches to one and a half inch in width, with commensurate loss in picture quality.

It is true, at the same time that Kodak brought the 110 pocket camera, the Japanese, through computerized lens grinding, were bringing the 35 mm into reach of the average American consumer. If you shoot one of these, the only difference is that you now shoot good quality color pictures that self-destruct.

The latest photographic news is the development of "RC" photographic paper. The RC stands for resin coated, which means the paper has been coated with a plastic-resin compound to speed up washing and drying time by several hundred percent, but it gives the archivists nightmares. Accelerated aging tests have shown these photographs tend to develop crazing marks after a relatively short time. Nearly all commercial film developing outfits use RC paper because it speeds up production.

We are not suggesting that you discontinue shooting color, but we do wish to make our members aware of the fragile properties of color.

Submitted by Peg Owens.

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Mary DeGiorgis and Peg Owens were in Washington, DC as delegates of the Daughters of Founders & Patriots Court. Charlotte Davis and Fay Campbell represented their local chapters as delegates to the D.A.R. Continental Congress.

DID YOU KNOW?

Genealogy begins as an interest
becomes a hobby
Continues as an avocation
takes over as an obsession : -and-
in the last stages, is an incurable disease?

From John C LaPiana of DeWitt, NY

?????????-- THE SEARCH --???????????

A trip to the Hartford State Library with Edith Fagley and her daughter, Pat Gaucher, provided an interesting experience on a different tryp of family research.

I went out to the cafeteria for a break in mid-afternoon. A young woman followed me in, so we sat together and asked the usual qustion, "Having any luck today?" I was in luck. She was Nancy Sitterly of Suffield, CT. She explained she was there to help a family trying to find "birth" parents. She added that she herself was adopted, as well as being an adoptive parent, and had been successful in finding her birth parents. Since I am grandmother to three adopted teen-agers, this interested me greatly. After a lengthy converstion, Nancy gave me her card and graciously offered to help if ever we needed her. I sent her card along to our daughter and thought that ended my involvement.

Recently in the Berkshire Eagle, I read that Mrs. Sitterly would be here in Pittsfield to meet with adoptees, adoptive parents and any persons interested. It just happened that our daughter was visiting us for a few days, so Saturday found us at the First Baptist Church for the program. Mrs Sitterly remembered me and my daughter.

I was most impressed by the five adoptees of varying ages who appeared on the panel to tell of their experiences in searching for their birth parents. None wanted to cause trouble to the mother who had felt it necessary to give up her child, or to hurt the adoptive parents who loved and cared for them. All they wanted was to have a medical history and the answers to questions such as: Why am I so outgoing when my adoptive parents are quiet, retiring people? Why am I so tall -- or so short? Why is classical music so important to me? In other words, who am I, why am I like I am? All are questions that most of us can answer.

Pat is an attractive 22 year old who was adopted in Maine. He's been searching for three months and is learning it is wise not to get excited at a new clue. It hurts too much when it doesn't work out.

Doug, who is 28 years old, was adopted in Chicago. He's been searching for two and a half years and seems a bit discouraged I hurt for both these young men and all the others like them who want the answers they can't get from the agencies who placed them.

The three young women were June, Lois and Allison. The first two had met their birth parents and established a good relationship. Little Allison, 19, was to meet her birth father the next day. She had met her birth mother so now the circle was to be completed.

A statement they all seemed to agree about was that the love felt for their adoptive parents was just as deep as previously. Their feelings toward the birth parents is one of friendship and gratitude that they were willing to meet the adoptee and answer questions.

One thing stressed was the importance of the adoptee knowing from the beginning he or she was adopted, "especially chosen"

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Some states now allow adoptees to have "non-identifying" information about the birth parents. That can include medical history, characteristics, general appearance, hobbies, ages, but not birth dates and sometimes the given name.

For the adoptive parent who may fear losing the love of the adoptee, take comfort from Pat's words: "No one can ever take the place of the ones who loved us, fed and clothed us, and held our hands when we were sick, helped us thru adolescence and are 'Always There'".

If you are an adoptee or adoptive parent who would like to find your roots, you may contact :: Adopted Search Connection, Inc. Western Massachusetts and Connecticut, 1203 Hill Street, Suffield, CT 06078. Phone (203) 668-1042.

Submitted by Thelma Sykes Owens
April 1982

DEPOSITION

of -- Ezra Lanfear
of Windson, Mass
during the
Revolutionary War.

On this 29th day of August AD 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Court of Probate for the District of Manchester aforesaid now sitting, Ezra Lanfear a resident of Rupert, County of Bennington and State of Vermont age 76 years being ----- doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress dated June 7, 1832, that he entered the service of the United States under the following officers and served as Herein Stated: I resided in Windsor, Massachusetts in the year 1776 and some time in September of that year I entered the Service of the United States as a Soldier. I was drafted for five months, I Served ten. As my ----- I belonged & Served in Cap't Barnes Company of Lanesborough, Col. Simon's Regiment, Gen Howes' Brigade, Massachusetts troop. we marched to the White Plains, the Battle of West Point was fought 3 or 4 days after my company joined there. I was not in battle. my Regiment was kept as a reserve but was not called into engagement -- after the battle the Reg. marched off the fronts and pitched our tents about one & half miles from the battle ground. I was taken sick, was unfit for duty, lay sick about two weeks when I had a pass to go home. Who signed this I do not recollect. I was sick some time on the road, when I got home, my time was out. In July 177 I entered the Service again a Volunteer for one month under one Cap't Low of New providence now Cheshire, Massachusetts, Peirce of Windsor was my Lieut. We commenced our march for ? , we got as far as Cambridge, New York, then Received the news of the evacuation of Ticonderoga by our troops. This alarmed our officers and we retreated to Moreau. Staid there about one week, then marched to Manchester, Vermont, joined several troops there. Remained there until my time was out. Went home.

CONTINUED

DEPOSITION - Ezra Lanfear (continued)

after this I was out in the Service at Bennington at the time of Bennington Battle about two weeks. Was not in the battle, was one of the guards that guarded the prisoners from Bennington to Pittsfield. I then went home. In Sept of the same year I again enlisted the Service as a Volunteer for twenty days. Marched from Windsor to -----?, from there we went down the Lake as far as ----- then met Col. Warner who had retaken about 100 of our men who had been made prisoners and some British prisoners --- (line omitted)-- . Then went to Manchester, Vermont. Then my time was out and I went home. In the fall of the same year I think Oct., I Volunteered again and Served about two weeks under Lieut. Samuel Eddy. Went to Saratoga as a Scout to watch the march of the Enemy. Returned home and remained at home until some time in June 1780. A draft was Called for from the town in which I lived. My father was drafted for nine months and I entered the Service as a Substitute for my father. Served the Army at West Point, White Plains. Twp men went from Windsor with me, Asa Hall and Charles Hutchins. I was in Cap't Ephr'm Chandler's ? Company, Col. Michael Jackson's Regiment, Gen. Leonard's Brigade. We lay at White Plains a short time. Went to Danbury Hill. Staid there a while, then went to Hartford, Connecticut. Lay there a while, then went to Fishkill. While we lay there Major Andre as taken as a Spy and the Treachery of Arnold was discovered and he made his escape. We were ordered to West Point. We went to West Point, remained there over night, then marched back to Fishkill. Went then to Poughkeepsie. Lay there about one month, then went back to Fishkill. Went from there to the highlands. Staid thereuntill my time was out and I left. I resided in Windsor, Mass. when I served in the Army. I lived in Shaftsbury, VT and in Ruper ----- Revolution and I was reside in Rupert, Vermont. I was born in old Norwich, Connecticut in 1758 the 5th of April I do not know that there is any record of my age. I have no recollection of ever receiving a discharge I have no documentary Evidence to substantiate my claim to a pension. I do not know any person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to my services except James Eddy. I hereby relinquish my claim Relative to a pension as annuity except this present. I declared that his name is not on the Pension Roll of the agency of any State. I am acquainted with the following persons in my neighbourhood who can testify as to my character for veracity & their belief of my Services as a Soldier of the Revolution. Rob't David, Wilson Setton, Josiah Rising. ----- Sworn & Subscribed in Court EZRA Lanfear

Submitted by Thelma S. Owens

Also: a note by Mrs. Ownes--

"The father of Ezra was John Lanfear, born in Stonington, CT ca 1712. He was my 5th gr.grandfather. He bought land in Windsor, mass in 1769. Was from Canterbury, CT according to deed. His son John, father to Ezra was my ancestor and settled in Dorset, Vermont about 1800. He received a land bounty, but we haven't received the records on that."

T.S.O. April 17, 1982

Notes
from
North County

Genealogy workshop

A most informative, worthwhile workshop was completed recently at the North Adams Public Library. The course was conducted by Mary Ellen Bolduc each Monday night from February 22 to March 29. It was sponsored by the Friends of the North Adams Public Library, and was free to the public. More than twenty people participated in the course.

The data covered included Land Records, Probate Records, Census Records, Directories, Genealogical Aids for Foreign Research, Naturalization Records, Vital Records (Church and Public), Charting, Organization, filing and retention of records.

There was much help given by the instructor to individuals who were working on some of their research questions.

Dot Seney

Town Histories

Interesting information can be collected when working on family genealogies, by reading and researching books published at the time of a town's bicentennial or sesquicentennial, etc. At the time that Williamstown was observing its bicentennial, several local residents edited and published a book covering the history of the town from 1753 - 1953.

Recently I was thinking about the severe winter season that we had experienced this year, and how people are using more woollen types of clothing to combat the lower home temperatures. We are having to resort to some of the methods our forefathers used for warmth. I remembered reading a section in the book Williamstown, The First Two Hundred Years 1753-1953, that described the beginning of the woolen industry in the local area. A book of this type is able to give the genealogist a clearer understanding and feeling for the area and time when their ancestors lived.

In the late 1700's and early 1800's, Williamstown residents were mainly farmers, being able to raise whatever was needed by the family to survive. Early in the 1800's, there was a trend to raise sheep around Williamstown and Pittsfield. It was interesting to learn that the years from 1800-1835, a very active woolen industry was being developed. The famous Merino sheep had been brought to this country from Spain. The wool from the Merino was a very soft, white wool resembling cashmere. There was fine grazing land surrounding Pittsfield and Williamstown, so there was much interest in importing Merino sheep. Of the approximate 8500 sheep within a mile of Pittsfield, all but a very small number were of the common breeds. Wool raising was so strong in the immediate area, that Pittsfield was the center for the first developments in the woolen manufacturing in America. There actually were six woolen mills in Pittsfield at this time. For a period of about 25 years it was a common sight to see herds of grazing sheep as part of the local farm scene and this area is where serious manufacturing of wool started in our country.

Dot Seney

Notes from North County (continued)

Williamstown Public Library - The Story Behind the House Walls

A strange thing happened when I began to research the history of the building which today houses the Williamstown Public Library. I became more interested in the people who lived in the house, rather than the house itself. When I undertook the project, my main concern was to determine the year in which the house had been constructed. It was important to have this information as accurate as possible because the building was among a group of Williamstown homes to be included in a Massachusetts survey of historic houses, and maybe eventually, the Federal Register. As it turned out, it was because I put effort into understanding the family which was connected with the house, that I eventually was able to pinpoint the year of construction.

Let me tell you about the Noble family and the story of their lives at the turn of the 19th century. David Noble, a young lawyer, came to town in 1769. He became actively involved in acquiring land, thus prospering and becoming one of the community's leading citizens. David Noble's son, David Addison Noble, was married to Polly Day on March 29, 1792. In a deed dated April 6, 1792, David A. Noble received a wedding gift from his father: "With the love and natural affection which I bear to my beloved son, house lot no. 59, five acres and a half together with the dwelling house and other buildings standing thereon." House lot no. 59 was one of the original lots laid out along Main Street in 1749, and is the lot on which the library building stands today.

Within a short time tragedy came to the Noble family. David Addison died on November 1, 1793 at the age of 22, leaving Polly with a baby daughter named Eliza. Because of his death, Polly and Eliza jointly inherited the home in which they lived. Soon afterward, in 1802, David Noble's younger son, Daniel, announced his intentions of marriage to Esther B. Wolcott. After they were married, they lived in Adams and the record is not clear when they moved back to Williamstown. But by using sources that genealogists are familiar with: the Probate Court, Registry of Deeds, vital records, and town histories, I was able to see clearly the logical progression of events.

As I worked, the families who lived in the house became very real and alive to me. When I unfolded the stiff paper of the original wills and legal papers filed in the Registry of Probate in Pittsfield, it was impossible not to feel a kinship with the family connected with those papers, especially when reading a list of the personal possessions taken in an inventory of the head of household at the time of his death. One becomes deeply involved in those lives which existed over a century and a half ago. The sadness felt when the eldest son of David and Abigail Noble died at 22 years of age, communicated itself to me through the documents involved. And the mystery of not knowing the cause of his death was intense; something we will probable never know.

Where historians had assumed for years that the library building had been built in 1810 because Daniel Noble had served as town clerk, pro tempore, and thus had moved back to Williamstown by that year, the knowledge of family affairs made things look much different. In 1815 Eliza signed over to her Uncle Daniel house lot no. 59, consisting of a house and buildings and five and a half acres of land,

Williamstown Public Library (continued)

for \$900. Her mother filed a quit-claim deed, having been paid the sum of \$100 by Daniel Noble to relinquish all rights to the property. For the price that Daniel paid, we can assume that the beautiful Federal house now sitting on the site had not yet been built. With this information, it is probably safe to assume that Daniel began to make active plans to build a new house on house lot no. 59 in 1815. His family was growing (he had four children), he had been appointed treasurer of Williams College in 1814, and his status in the community required a more imposing residence.

And that's how the puzzle of genealogy often works itself out. When we get to know the family background, status and relationships, there is a logical answer to many of our questions. I admit I got carried away a little when I became involved in working on the Noble family tree, but anyone who has worked on one knows how easy it is to add on branches and names! Before I had finished my research, I had corresponded with descendants of the Noble family as far away as Oregon. Interestingly enough, one descendant of David Noble was a student at Williams at the time I was doing my research, making it possible to discuss with her the Noble family's connection to Williamstown.

Altogether it was a most interesting and useful project. When I conduct tours of the library now, I am sure of having the answers to any questions concerning the origins of the building and its "first" family.

Annette Jenks

* * *

A PEEK INTO THE PAST

Persis Sweetser Batcheller, my great, great grandmother, was born in Marlboro, New Hampshire, on September 16, 1799, married on December 31, 1821 to Dr. James Batcheller, and died on August 14, 1851. Both her obituary and a letter written by her to friends show her to have been a woman with strong family ties and a love for her fellow man. In addition, she possessed farsighted beliefs concerning slavery, war, religion and women's rights. She was, perhaps, unusual for her time in that she expressed these beliefs openly. The following obituary is from the "Keene, (New Hampshire) Sentinel", August 21, 1851. (Other obituaries in the same edition, unlike this one, averaged two to three lines.)

"Died: In Marlboro, on the 14th inst, in the 52nd year of her age, Mrs. Persis S., wife of the Hon. James Batcheller.

"By this sudden and painful act of Providence the husband has lost a true and faithful wife, their children a kind and devoted mother, and society an honored and useful member. Mrs. Batcheller was an earnest advocate for and a strenuous supporter of all good and philosophic reforms. Her opposition to slavery, war, intemperance and vindictive punishments was strong and uncompromising--She had no respect for those modes of faith which made loud professions of piety and love to God a substitute for practical justice and universal good will among men. By precept and example she taught the doctrine of a true non-resistance.

Batcheller (continued 1)

"On her death bed, as in her previous life, she expressed her firm belief in Jesus Christ as a Savior, and in his precepts as the law and guide of life. Right doing, with her, took precedence of the dogmas of sectarian churches. She believed in the Fatherhood of God, and in the brotherhood of men. In compliance with her expressed wish, no outward tokens of mourning were worn at her funeral. A large circle of friends mourn her removal from their midst."

The following letter, written by Persis Batcheller and addressed "Dear friends", has survived without an envelope, so the name of those "friends" are not known, though internal evidence and the fact that the letter was handed down in the family indicate that they were her brother-in-law and his family who lived in Royalston, Massachusetts.

Marlboro March 3, 1839

Dear Friends,

I accidentally met with Sister Mary Wiswall two minutes last week, who kindly gave me an opportunity of dropping a letter in her box which I gladly accept. Mary informed me that she had the day before received a letter from you, bringing the distressing account of the preparations for war, not only in your State merely, but in your very town and neighborhood, and we have had a more full account since in our papers. Now I have been a decided peace-man for two years, or rather since I became an Abolitionist - Although the system of war and Slavery are pretended to be sustained by Law, yet I consider them both utterly contrary to the teachings and Spirit of the Gospel, which one "Peace on earth, good will to men." - I have been very much interested in reading "Diamond's inquiry into the Accordancy of War with the principles of the Gospel", - "An Appeal to Christians of all Denominations" etc. and many other able works published by the American A.S. - But after all my reading and lecturing I cannot quench that Martial spirit in my Sons which seems to have been born with them, particularly Philip and Stephen. They are possessed after guns, pistols, powder and shot, swords, etc., etc. and nothing is so animating as Military equipage and display. - On the subject of Abolition, our family are of one heart and one mind, thorough-going, from oldest to youngest. Two weeks ago our State agent, D.R. Robinson, a Methodist clergyman, was here, and lectured two evening at the Brick meeting House very much to the satisfaction of all friends of the oppressed. Even the opposite party pronounced him a workman, and gave him much credit for his candour and calmness. - Mr. Robinson will be at Fitzwilliam the coming Tuesday at our County Convention, we intend to go if possible, it will doubtless be an interesting time. - Brother Buckley who is no an agent for the American A.S. gave us a very able lecture in Dec. He was on his way to Lowell, and providentially stopped over the Sabbath in this town. - Having made lecturing his business for nearly three years, he was in possession of all the facts in the case, and zeal and energy he never lacked. - He has improved in his manner of speaking very much since I last heard him. - Uncle Doctor is getting somewhat famous as an anti-slavery lecturer, he has been to several towns and has several invitations on hand. I will give you the outline of his style. - If you can imagine for a moment, a man, speaking at the top of his voice, brim full of ardour, and

Batcheller (continued, 2)

feeling a great anxiety for the success of his cause; I need not proceed further, for you have it. However, I like zeal in a good cause, and if the people will not hear the "still small voice", let us cry aloud and spare not", that is my mind. - Last week he went to Nelson under very peculiar circumstances - The week previous they had a meeting for the purpose of forming a society and for discussion among themselves. - The opposers of Abolition and the Ministers among the rest, flocked in from all parts of the town, - There was such a determined opposition to forming a Society that it was thought best to take the Vote of the meeting. - And in fact the pro-slavery party outvoted the other and carried their point. - After agreeing to have another meeting the next week, to talk the subject over and to get more light as they said, the meeting closed. Upon that, General Griffin came over on purpose to invite Husband to give them a lecture, thinking that a better way to give light, as they had not heard any lectures from anyone. - When he arrived he found a full house, - William Harris Esq. in the chair. - Soon, one man arose and said he spoke the feelings and views of very many present, when he said that he entertained the highest respect and esteem for Dr. Batcheller, that he possessed his entire confidence as a Physician, but at the same time he should oppose and prevent, if possible, his lecturing in that House that night, etc, etc, - Furthermore, he said Gen Griffin had stolen a march upon them, in procuring a lecturer without their knowledge or consent. - Many others spoke to the same effect. After consuming two hours of time which made it 8 o'clock P.M., the vote was tried, and a majority of ten were for the lecture. - To be brief, the medicine had a surprising good effect, the symptoms were much more favorable at the close of the meeting, than before. Even some of the warmest ones took him by the hand and begged he would cherish no unkind feelings, for their opposition was not to him but to Gen. G. The opposed were determined to stop the lecture and the forming of a society also, and the friends of the cause thought it not expedient (I mortally hate that word) to organize at present. I have heard of your State Agent Mr. Coddington, conclude he is very able. We like your "Advocate of Freedom" much, hope by the blessing of Heaven, it will accomplish its desired object, the freedom of our enslaved countrymen; perfect freedom of mind as well as body. This is my idea of the word freedom. - I anxiously anticipate the day, when all who are now sighing and pining in bondage, will become the recipients and partakers of the precious boon Liberty. - But there is a kind of Slavery endured and submitted to in our very midst, which if not as formidable as Southern Slavery is no less oppressive and degrading to my mind, and is as contrary to common sense and decency -- Now I would ask, what kind of liberty is that which deprives Women of petitioning Congress for the Abolition of Slavery in the Districts, etc, and other kindred objects? I know a woman in this very neighborhood who dare not give her name because her husband would make a fuss, this very winter, too. - I do not know but I have committed myself in telling you I was a Peace man, but I say now, if I could not have peace on terms other than this debasing submission to the will of the Creature, I would have war, and I guess it would not be very civil, neither. I like the Quaker notions of Miss Grimke on the Rights and individuality of women. I agree with her exactly. The united efforts

Batcheller (continued, 3)

of women alone are accomplishing much. - If women have a disposition, and feel themselves called upon even to exert what influence they may possess, in assisting to carry forward the benevolent enterprises of the day, it appears to me that their hands ought to be strengthened and their hearts cheered and encouraged. If it is necessary and important to have the world reformed and renovated (in a general sense of the word) then let all those thus minded act in accordance with that belief without regard to or prejudice against, colour, name or sex. I do not know as you are fond of long Sermons and my only apology must be, when I sit down to write forty ideas jump at once into my head, and I get to the end of my sheet and I am aware of the fact.-

We have not seen or heard from our friends in Mass. since Dec. At that time they were all in usual health except Cousin Olive. We feel very anxious to hear from her, I cannot but think she is living, or we should have known it if not so. Had there been sleighing, we should certainly have gone to see her once more; it is possible we may go now in a few weeks. So our friends are yearly dropping through old age or dire disease. -- My mother's last brother, Uncle Joslin of Surry died about a year since, he was just the age of my father, 79. Sister Butterfield and myself went to see him a few months before his death. We have recently heard of the death of Cousin Thomas Sweetser and wife. Have not had any direct information, merely this, that cousin T. had a very short sickness and his wife survived him two weeks. - They have left a destitute helpless family that have never been taught to provide or depend on themselves for a livelihood. There has been no death in this town for six months. In regard to the health of our family we are neither very well or sick abed. Uncle is not as well as he was in the fall, he had been troubled with a bowel complaint for more than a year, he frequently has very distressing turns of pain which last three or four hours. - Charles is a little stronger than he was in the winter, he is just able to go to singing school two days a week. Makes great proficiency. Phillip goes likewise and fiddles. Uncle Oliver is going to leave us and move to New Ipswich next week and we are sorry. He has hired a farm there. A Mr. Priest is coming on to the Boudier farm. Sarah Butterfield was married here at our house in Dec. to Mr. Whittemore of Fitzwilliam and resides in that town. Maria B. is here and sends much love to you and Mary Carter likewise. Brother Luke has taken Mr. Amos Robbins into his house to be his farmer. Sister B. talks about leaving town soon. We are very glad that you prosper so well. - Hope we shall see you before many years. Till then write as often as convenient.

Persis S. Batcheller
(submitted by Persis Caverly)

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