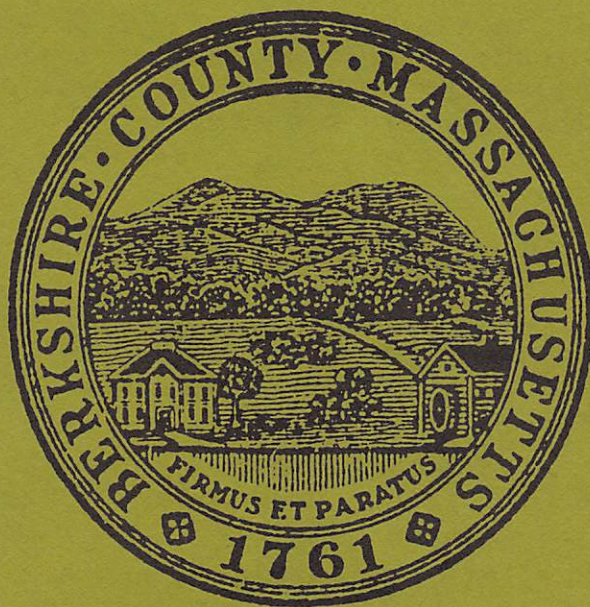


The Berkshire Genealogist



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Our annual May meeting is over! We enjoyed a fine gathering of many of our members and guests.

I was quite pleased to take over the reins of the association, along with the other officers, for this year, and we are hopeful for another year of genuine progress.

We will now begin a new series of activities and programs for the coming year. There are many items on our agenda. We do have an abundance of talent and experience within this association which will continue to provide progress in all our activities and projects. Most of our members are quite happy over the success of the various projects and new activities we have embarked upon and plan to continue. This is justifiably so because this direction gives the Berkshire Family History Association greater scope and significance to all of us.

I wish to thank all of you for your fine participation and hope that it will continue during this year. Our membership has steadily increased and we hope to see it grow even larger, as a result of our continued effort.

Concerned we must be with improving the quality of our library research facilities and the availability of good genealogical publications for all of our members.

As a member of this association, your ideas and suggestions are important, so please attend the regular meetings and try to support its many activities. I'm sure you will derive much satisfaction from the complete program.

Joseph G. Guertin

COGGESHALL FAMILY REUNION

The 350th anniversary of the arrival in N.E. of John Coggeshall and his family will be marked by a reunion at Newport, R.I. on September 7, 8, & 9.

John Coggeshall, first president of the colony of R.I. is the progenitor of all Coggeshalls in this country.

For further information please contact:
The Coggeshall Historical Association
78 Wilson St.
Struthers, Ohio 44471

THE BERKSHIRE GENEALOGIST

VOLUME I

August 1982

Number 2

ASSOCIATE EDITORS:

Mary Ellen Bolduc
Marjorie Griggs
Iris Semon
Marjorie Wood
Joseph Maciera
Charlotte Davis

Denis Lesieur
Thelma Owens
Edith Fagley
Virginia Siter
Stanley Moore
Don Lutes

CREDITS:

Art Work-- Robert J. O'Connor
Cover Printing-- Taconic High School
Typists-- Don Baldwin, Carol Nycorchuk, Carol Wheeler
Marjorie Griggs, Edith Fagley
Mailing Crew-- Esther Liedhold, Thelma Owens, Edith &
Berta Fagley, Anne O'Connor, Don Lutes

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DUES SCHEDULE FOR 1982

Individual membership	\$6.00	Make checks payable to:
Family "	\$8.00	BERKSHIRE FAMILY HISTORY ASSOCIATION
Student "	\$4.00	c/o Kenneth Wells, Treasurer
		Frost Road
		Washington, MA 01223

ALSO: Donations cheerfully accepted for
Vital records transcription fund
Cemetery guide fund
General purpose

Our VITAL STATISTICS Bake sale ably chaired by Dorothy Ford brought in \$132.40 towards Cabinet Number Two. - - Everyone who contributed, or helped, is sincerely thanked.

REPORT OF THE TAG SALE COMMITTEE

Our June 19-20 tag sale got underway beneath sunny skies and, despite an incredible blunder by our beloved Berkshire Eagle that left us without any classified advertising, with good attendance.

I want to take this opportunity to thank all of our members, their relatives and friends, who so generously contributed their time, money and property to make this event such a great success. Many times, in the days preceding the sale, I would return home

- continued on page 3-

AT THE ATHENAEUM

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.

BOAZ. JOSHUA BOAZ (1810-1890) AND HIS DESCENDANTS. Compiled by Thurmond DeWitte Boaz, Jr., 1981. 406 pp., index. \$12.50. Write: The Compiler, 6901 Strata St., McLean, VA 22101

BOAZ. SAMUEL BOAZ (1809-1894) AND HIS DESCENDANTS. Compiled by Thurmond DeWitte Boaz, Jr., 1981. 174 pp., index. \$10.00. Write: The Compiler, 6901 Strata St., McLean, VA 22101

BULL. THOMAS AND SUSANNAH BULL OF HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT AND SOME OF THEIR DESCENDANTS IN THE FIRST FIVE GENERATIONS. By Mary Louise B. Todd, 1981. 69 pp., notes, index. \$8.00. Write: The Author, 1017 S. Lakemont Circle, Winter Park, FL 32792

EMBLER. THE EMBLER FAMILY. Compiled by Bettina H. Kesteloot, 1982. xiv pp., illus., index. \$7.00. Write: The Compiler, 1177 Berkshire Road, Grosse Pointe Park, MI 48230

ENGLAND. GUIDE TO THE COUNTY RECORD OFFICE FOR FAMILY HISTORIANS, WEST YORKSHIRE, ENGLAND. 54 pp., charts. Gift of Marjorie Griggs.

FOX. SOME ANCESTORS AND DESCENDANTS OF ERASTUS FOX AND HIS WIFE, BETTY BULLEN. By Ruth G. Calkins & Keith G. Calkins, 1975. 46 pp., index. \$7.00. Write: The Authors, 2625 West Marion Rd., Tustin, MI 48688

GREENE. A GREENE FAMILY HISTORY...NATHAN AND JOB GREENE... OF ST. ALBANS, VERMONT. By Walter & Ella Greene, 1981. vii & 197 pp., charts, maps. \$35.00. Write: The Authors, 1833 Hott St., Schenectady, N.Y. 12309

HILL. VALENTINE HILL, SPARK-PLUG OF EARLY NEW ENGLAND. By Jean A. Sargent, 1981. vi & 71 pp., maps, appendices, index. \$15.00. Write: The Author, 12217 Shade Tree Lane, Montpelier, Laurel, MD 20911

HUNT. ROOTS AND BRANCHES OF THE HUNT-FIFIELD-BAILEY FAMILY AND THE TIMES IN WHICH THEY LIVED, 1630-1980. By Emma A. Hunt et al, 1980. 100 pp., charts, illus. \$8.00. Write: The Author, Star Rte. 2, Charlestown, NH 03603

LOEPP. THE FAMILY OF PETER AND MARIA HARDER LOEPP. By Kathlyn V. Loepp, 1980. V pp., illus., chart. \$5.00. Write: The Author, Rte. 1, Box 116, Furgan, OK 73938

MARDEN. MARDEN FAMILY GENEALOGY. By Sylvia Pitts Getchell. 631 pp., illus., photos, index. \$32.00. Write: The Author, 51 North Main St., Newmarket, NH 03857

MASSACHUSETTS. BLACKINGTON CEMETERY INTERMENT RECORD. Compiled by Northern Berkshire Sub-Group of the Massachusetts Society of Genealogists, 1977. no price. Gift of Bernice Ballou & Marjorie Griggs.

G I F T S

MASSACHUSETTS. THE STORY OF
WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS. By
Harry Andrew Wright. NY: Lewis
Historical Publishing Co., 1949.
4 vols., 488 pp., 427 pp.,
photos, index. Gift of Marjorie
Griggs.

NEW YORK. "Rensselaer County
Federal Census Transcript 1800."
TREE TALKS. December, 1981.
Edited by Marcia Eisenberg. 76
pp., index. Gift of Marcia
Eisenberg.

NORCROSS. THE S.P. NORCROSS
FAMILY ALBUM AND HISTORICAL
RECORD. By Gertrude Norcross,
1981. 124 pp., illus., map,
charts, index. \$10.00. Write:
The Author, 5150 Fairfield Dr.
Fort Myers, FL 33907

RENNER. GARRETT HENRY
RENNER (1830-1877) AND HIS
DESCENDANTS. By Thurmond
DeWitte Boaz, Jr., 1981. 248
pp., index, \$40.00. Write:
The Author, 6901 Strata St.,
McLean, VA 22101

M I C R O F I L M

WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS

Episcopal Church Records.

21 reels. Comprises the
following towns:

ASHFIELD
AYER
BLACKINGTON
DALTON
GREAT BARRINGTON
LANESBORO
NORTH ADAMS
PITTSFIELD
SHELBURNE FALLS
WILLIAMSTOWN

Gift of Mary DeGiorgis

* * * * *

TAG SALE - continued from page 1

to find neat piles of housecleanings sprouting from my garage floor like daisies in a meadow. Often there was no message to indicate the donor, so I guess I would have to assume that, like Topsy, they "jes grewed". Books grown outdated; a lady's wardrobe grown too small; nursery equipment for a baby grown to teenage; house things grown tired of, no longer complimenting the decor. These are things that make great tag sales.

It would be easy to make a long list of contributors, but it would also be easy to leave someone out, so I'll just extend a big group thank you to you all. I would like to nominate, however, for the most forthright, unwavering, four-square support of our cause the nameless young lady who bought several of our books, read them, and then donated them back to us!

Because of the lack of advertising, we decided to run the sale an extra day the following weekend and wound up grossing \$832.35. Watch for our next sale - August 28-29 - 103 Cambridge Avenue, Pittsfield. Contributions are always gratefully accepted.

Don Lutes - Committee Chairman

THE BOOKS TALL

by Denis J. Lesieur

Sperry, Kip. CONNECTICUT SOURCES FOR FAMILY HISTORIANS AND GENEALOGISTS. Logan, Utah: Everton Publishers, Inc., 1980. vii & 112 pp., photos, maps, bibliography, index. \$8.95.

Connecticut is rich in genealogical resources, ranging from local records to published family and local histories. At times, this wealth of information may prove overwhelming to genealogists unfamiliar with the state. Sperry's work is an attempt to guide genealogists through the varied resources available for Connecticut. He succeeds rather well. CONNECTICUT SOURCES... begins to pull together much of the information and advice here-to-fore scattered in various guides, "how-to" books and journal articles.

The book is divided into 3 major sections, with the first section presenting a brief historical background of the state and its arrangement. There follows 72 pages of material highlighting information sources for Connecticut genealogy, arranged alphabetically by subject. The various appendices comprising the third section include a basic bibliography of Connecticut sources, a listing of major genealogical research institutions for Connecticut both within and outside the state.

Sperry's work explores very little new ground. Much of what the reader will find here has been said before elsewhere. The basic value of the book is that it places this information in one easily locatable place. One wishes that the arrangement of the contents had been done with somewhat more sophistication, since the alphabetical subject division of sources can be rather confusing and arbitrary, particularly without any cross-indexing or references. Also, the bibliographies scattered throughout the book would prove more useful had they been at least partially annotated.

CONNECTICUT SOURCES...certainly is not a comprehensive guide to Connecticut genealogy, but it is a good beginning. The book will prove most valuable for beginning genealogists.

Stephenson, Richard W. comp. LAND OWNERSHIP MAPS: A CHECKLIST OF NINETEENTH CENTURY UNITED STATES COUNTY MAPS IN THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS. Washington, D. C.: Library of Congress, 1967. 86pp., illus., index. Available from the Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C. 20402.

One of the most intriguing, informative and yet ignored sources of information for local and family history are 19th century local maps and atlases. In addition to the expected information regarding political boundaries, roads and the like, the researcher also may find the names and locations of property holders for that map's locality. This publication lists the holdings of the Library of Congress in 19th century maps from throughout the country. Entries are arranged alphabetically/chronologically under each state, indicating the name of the county covered and the date of publication, the author or surveyor, the publisher and place, and scale and size of the map. Black and white photo reproductions of most of the maps cited are available from the Photoduplication Service at the Library of Congress. The checklist is accompanied by a thorough essay tracing the historical development of county land ownership maps. There is a very useful index to people and place names. Genealogists attempting to research specific geographic areas should consult this publication as a standard source.

N O T E: The titles reviewed in " THE BOOKSTALL" may be examined in the Local History and Literature Services area of the Berkshire Athenaeum.

A NINETEENTH CENTURY TRAVELER'S DIARY

(continued from Vol. 1, No. 1, p. 1)

Edited by Denis J. Lesieur

June 14th 1817 Saturday

Weighed Ancor and made Sail - at 4 Oclck in the Morning - Light Bréese - Sailed or Drifted down to Say Brook ... Say Brook is a small Sea port Town containing I should say about 50 or 60 Dwelling houses - 1 or 2 Taverns - 2 or 3 country Stores - and an old Mud Fort on the point - which is in Rapid Decay... Weighed Ancor 9 Oclocck... to prowle the briny Deep Past Ducking Island... Wind continued to freshen the Black Clouds to Gather over our heads predestinating the approaching Storm - Wind verry fresh - We therefore thought it best to make New Haven Harbor before the Storm - Bore down for New Haven... ½ past Six came to an Ancor within New Haven Light House - Just this Side the Fort - and about 4 Miles from the Town - Soon after we d come to an Ancor the God of the Firery Element was pleased to spare us the trouble and expense using Candles - and give us luminations with forked Lightning - and old Jove the Agreeable Sound of his Notes in claps and peals of Thunder - Rained the Best part of the Night --

June 15th 1817 Sunday

Misty in the Morning with a few drops of Rain - Weighed Ancor at 3 Oclocck in the Morning... 3 Oclocck the Windows of Heaven were open again - and gave us a good Shower of Rain - we were obliged to haul down our main Sail to Reaf - the Wind increasing - with the Rain falling in Oceans on our backs - past Huntington Light while reafing - made Sands point ½ after 10 Oclocck... ½ past 12 Oclocck went through the Gate with great rapidity... Weather beging to clear up - 1 Oclocck - past the Hook - and came in View of New York our destined port - Came to an Ancor off the Battery - and for the first time in 2 weeks - heard the Bells chime again for Church - Sounds something like Nativity - Went ashore ½ after 2 Oclocck - and arrived at Brooklyn about 3 Oclocck - in the Afternoon.

QUREIES

LYKE Need all info on Lydia M. Lyke wife of Philo G.
JOYNER Joyner. Death record at Lenox, Mass. states she
SCOTT died Feb. 1907, Born Hudson, N.Y. daughter of
Abraham Lyke & Julia Scott.

FAIRBANKS Need dates, ancestors of Johnathan Lyon who
LYON married 28 Sept. 1733 Benoni Fairbanks of
Deedham, Mass.

Write: Stan Moore

% Berkshire Genealogists

CANADA, ANYONE ?

We had a very poor response to our suggested trip to Ottawa, Canada this spring. Perhaps our members and friends preferred going to Quebec to look at the extensive French records there.

The latest flyer from the Dufour Travel Center lists trips to both cities, with a choice of dates. The price for round trip transportation, first class hotel accommodations and at least one meal is less expensive than for us to hire our own bus and make our own hotel reservations. Here is a brief listing of what Dufour's have to offer:

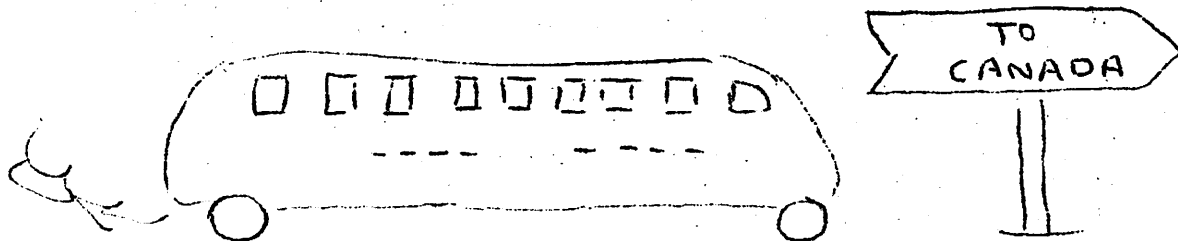
QUEBEC CITY - MONTREAL TOUR, 4 days 3 nights, 2 meals; \$250 per person twin occupancy, \$361 single occupancy, \$229 per person triple occupancy.

OTTAWA AND THOUSAND ISLAND TOUR, 4 days, 3 nights, 1 meal; \$190 per person twin occupancy, \$264 per single occupancy, \$169 per person triple occupancy. Additional information is available upon request. Reservations should be made well in advance. Seats can be ordered in a block for a group travelling together.

How about getting together with a few friends and going there to do research and see something of the country? The October 8 - 11 trip should be beautiful with the fall foliage. One can work at the Archives which are open 24 hours a day or take the guided tour offered by Dufour's. There is something for most of us.

See Ann's article in May issue of Berkshire Genealogist, p 12, for more information about what Ottawa has to offer genealogists. If you are interested, contact: Ann O'Connor 443-2798, Edith Fagley 442-2550, Peg Owens 442-2198, or the Dufour Travel Center, South St., Pittsfield 445-4511.

Submitted by Peg Owens.



L.D.S. RECORDS --

Since the very beginning of mans first attempts at record keeping, he has been plagued by the elements and by the consequences of his own warlike nature.

On May 8, 1902 Mount Pelee in the West Indies erupted, destroying a city of 30,000 people. Mt. Vesuvius and the destruction of Pompeii in Italy; the terrible earthquakes in Asia Minor and other areas over the centuries have all done their bit in destroying mans record of his existence.

In December of 1776, an English sympathizer who had access to the records of the city of Newport R.I. arranged to turn them over to the British navy. They were put aboard a ship which was sunk in New York harbor, and lay there for some time. The records were eventually recovered but most of them badly damaged by their long stay in the salt water. They can now be seen at the Newport Historical Society, but few of them are readable.

One gasoline bomb thrown at an archive during a spontaneous riot or in a spirit of mad revenge may ravage priceless records that can never be replaced. A hurricane may blow devastatingly across a continent's coastal regions, or a typhoon may attack an island. A sudden night-fire caused by a defective lighting system may make ashes of records that have been handled with tender care for hundreds of years. Vandals may pillage a parish church and dump priceless record books in a field to be destroyed by the elements. A riot or revolt caused by political agitators may lead to the burning of a library's precious collection in the city square. And threatening still, as in all ages of mankind, are destructive wars.

The need for safeguarding the world's vital records, original manuscripts, histories, biographies, and other genealogical records, original records has long plagued mankind. Where and how can records find security from destruction by the elements, the ravages of time, and the destructions of man??

There is a way, and millions of pages of records are presently being stored safely and securely. The Genealogical Society of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is engaged in the most active and comprehensive program ever known. Microfilm photographers are filming records daily in locations the world over. Such documents as land grants, deeds, probate records, marriage records, cemetery records, parish registers, and other records known to be of genealogical value are being filmed. Over three-quarters of a million rolls of microfilm have been accumulated thus far, and several thousand new rolls are processed each month. The present collection of microfilmed records represents the equivalent of over four millions printed volumes of 300 pages each.

High in the rugged Rocky Mountains of western North America, a storage facility has been constructed. This lies in Cottonwood Canyon, a short distance outside Salt Lake City, Utah. Protected beneath hundreds of feet of solid granite and high above the Valley floor, safe from spring floods, a genealogical storage complex has been built by the Church. Safe storage is thus provided for copies of priceless vital records.

L.D.S. RECORDS - continued _

The protection the Granite Mountain Records Vault affords cannot be equalled in an outdoor structure. There is nearly 300 feet of solid granite above the vaults, laboratory, and office area, and 700 feet above the six huge storage rooms. The storage area has three access tunnels faced with heavy bank vault doors in very strong encasements. The large door in the center tunnel weighs over fourteen tons, and the narrower doors in the east and west tunnels each weigh nine tons. It has been said that a nuclear explosion outside the doors of these vaults could result in no damage to the records stored within.

Specially constructed microfilm cabinets are used to house the films, and a power lift built to vault to vault specifications provides access to the stacks of cabinets. The total vault capacity - the equivalent of over 26 million 300 page volumes can be expanded if necessary through further excavation.

The vault's modern microfilm laboratory, consisting of specially constructed equipment, processes microfilm using the newest techniques. After being developed, incoming film from field photographers undergoes a page-by-page inspection to insure quality. Retakes are requested when film does not meet quality standards. After passing inspection, each film is cataloged according to standard library procedures. The Genealogical Society Library in downtown Salt Lake City, Utah, houses the vast collection and has several hundred microfilm reading machines available for use in genealogical research.

Supplementing the microfilm collection, the Library's shelves are lined with thousands of the world's printed family genealogies, past and current genealogical periodicals, and published histories of towns, counties, states, and countries. To help researchers, over 128,000 genealogical volumes are displayed self-service style on open stacks. Each month, over 400 new volumes are added to this valuable collection.

Right about now, you are probably saying to yourself, ok, so what else is new? How is all this going to help me way out here in the Berkshires?

Fellow genealogists -- this microfilm collection is readily available to you, and is as close as your nearest L.D.S. branch genealogical library.

--continued --

QUERY

ROBINSON Did Nathan & Hanna (Robinson) Stevens (Stephens) of
STEVENS Andover, Mass. have unlisted daughter, Hanna, Born
TYLER ca 1717, who married in Andover 11 Feb. 1741-2 Abner
Tyler of Boxford, Mass.? It has been proven that Hanna
not daughter of Benjamin Stevens as stated in Tyler
Genealogy.

GRAHAM Jesse Graham, son of John & Jane. Born Spencer, Mass.
PARKER 31 mar. 1760. Married 12 may 1785 Anna Parker. She
died Hardwick 6 Nov. 1846 age 83. Need all info on
Anna. Stan Moore % Berkshire Genealogist

L.D.S. RECORDS -continued--

The genealogical Society has branch libraries in the United States (including Alaska and Hawaii), Canada, Mexico, and New Zealand, and more are established each year. These branches are staffed and financially supported by local members of the Church and are usually housed in local LDS Church buildings. Each branch builds its own collection of available reference books and periodicals and also printed genealogies and histories that are not available on film..

The nearest branch library in this area is only 35 miles away, at the Albany N.Y. LDS stake center in Loudonville. A short distance from exit 6 of the New York thruway extension near the intersection of Routes 9 North and 378 is the place where you may order any of these microfilmed records.

At the branch library is a complete set of locator films plus various other films on temporary and indefinite loan. By examining the locator films, you may obtain the exact film numbers for the records you wish to search. These will be ordered for you by the librarian on duty and under normal conditions will come into the branch library within four to six weeks. For the sum of \$2.25 for each film you may examine these for a period of two weeks. Renewal is possible, the same as you would renew a library book.

For films which might be in great demand in the area, arrangements can be made for a six-month loan or even in some cases an indefinite loan.

Another interesting collection which is permanently housed at the branch library are the many vital records on microfiche cards from all over the world. These are records submitted by Church members, plus those obtained from the Church microfilming program which even covers some countries behind the Iron Curtain. There are 16,200 names on each microfiche card. Names are listed alphabetically by country or state. Machines for reading these cards are available at the branch library.

The Albany N.Y. Stake Branch of the Genealogical Library is closed on Monday and also on Thursday at the present time. Open hours may vary (depending on availability of volunteer help); therefore it would be well to telephone before making the trip. The telephone during open hours is 518-462-3687.

-continued-

QUERY

MOSES MORRISON: Born about 1850 in New Hampshire.
Write Brenda Morrison
% Berkshire Genealogist

L.D.S. RECORDS -continued-

So there you are, my friends, the rest is up to you.
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints urges you to
make use of the genealogical treasure house they have set up
in this area.

(from a talk given by Stanley E. Moore, C.G. to the society)

GRAVES ASSOCIATION, & RELATED FAMILIES.

An ASSOCIATION to collect, prepare, publish and distribute
genealogical material regarding members of the GRAVES and RELATED
FAMILIES. Analysis and Research of the families will be
undertaken when feasible. In addition to the genealogical
material it will study the HISTORY of colonial families in
the early development of America and attempt to learn more from
their immigrant sources. The ASSOCIATION will also acquaint
the living GRAVES with each other.

The Annual "GRAVES GATHERING" and related families will
be held Saturday August 21, 1982 at the Century Airport Inn,
I-285 at Riverdale Road (exit #44) Atlanta, Georgia 30349
Telephone: (404) 996-4321.

Genealogical analysis with lines that extend back to
Jamestown, Virginia will be covered. History of the JAMESTOWNE
SOCIETY and background of DAR and SAR societies will be presented.

Send any communications to Emily Butler Witcher,
2655 Lantern Lane, College Park, Georgia 30349 tel (404)
996-5680.

Submitted by Graves Association Box 216, Fayetteville GA 30214.

NEW ENGLAND GRAVES GATHERING

To receive information on the 1982 "GRAVES GATHERING"
send a stamped self-addressed envelope to:

Kenneth Vance Graves, 261 South St., Wrentham, Mass 02093

Your request for information on the 1983 ULSTER REUNION
should be accompanied by a stamped self-addressed envelope
mailed to:

H.H.(Dan) Daniel, Rt. 2. Box 337, Bay Springs, Miss 39422

QUERY

CARR
PHILLIPS

Need dates, ancestors of Isaac & Mary (or Patty)
(Carr) Phillips, married West Moreland, N.H. 1810.
He died 1829. Sons Calvin & Daniel later lived
Roxbury, Northfield, Randolph, Vermont.
Write: Stan Moore
% Berkshire Genealogist

IN SEARCH OF SAM

As I sit here on this snowy January morning, my mind wonders into the past and the generations that lived so long ago.

I Wonder what my ancestors would be doing on a day like today. As most of them were from the Berkshires, I am sure they saw far worse winters then we could ever imagine.

I think mostly of my Mother's family when my mind turns to the Berkshires. Her father and mother were both born in Becket, as were her grandparents on both sides. That quaint little town is much the same today as it was then.

My grandfather was Sidney Barnes Daniels, who was the son of Reuben and Ellen (Orcutt) Daniels. Reuben was the son of Joel who was born in the town of Washington, MA., some five or six miles west of Becket. He was the son of Jahial and Hattie (Lyman) Daniels. I have found that they had four other children, but have not been able to find out who they were.

Jahial was the son of SAM, the one I am searching for with little success. I know he had a wife Polly ?, a son Jahial, and four other children, and that he was on the 1790 census. He appeared on the 1810 census, and then just seemed to disappear.

I have travelled miles, visited town clerks, cemeteries, and libraries only to find I now have data on seventeen Sam's. My only problem is I don't know which one belongs to me.

If any of you reading this can be of any help I would be most grateful.

Other names I have found connected to the Daniels are: Bennett, Fis Orcutt, Atwood, Lyman, Bartlett, Kimball and God only knows how many others. I would enjoy hearing from anyone with the above last names.

I am also will do to research in the Huntington, Northampton area on my trips to research Sam.

Submitted by Grace Wheeler, Worthington Rd., Huntington, MA 01050

Does anybody know about SAM ?

QUERY

Muriel Ickes would like to hear from Ickes descendants.
Write; Muriel Ickes % Berkshire Genealogist

"Local History, the Grass Roots of World History: North Adams"

People Magazine and soap operas are two very popular items today, and yet devotees of these forms of human drama would probably claim that they are not at all interested in history. What a contradiction, because what is history but the human drama of bygone people.

The use of local history and local, historical figures is one painless and popular way to capture the attention of the so-called history-hating crowd. It is a truism that people relate to historical figures whose record can be seen locally--their houses, schools, businesses, letters, pictures, and such. It is then just one step further to take the leap from local history to national and world history.

The towns of the Berkshires abound in opportunities for personalizing history and perhaps none better than North Adams. Its history exemplifies the industrialization of the United States and all the frenetic creativity and confusion that industrialization brought. What follows is but a selection of the many North Adams historical figures whose careers fascinate, captivate, and transform history-haters into history buffs.

Starting with the oldest civilization in the world--ancient Sumeria in modern Iraq, at the mouth of the Tigris and Euphrates rivers and just at the head of the Persian Gulf--North Adams was there. North Adams was there in the person of John Henry Haynes (1849-1910). Haynes was raised and educated in North Adams, attended Williams College, and was principal of the Williamstown High School for several years. After a stint as United States consul in Baghdad, Haynes conducted archeological research in Iraq from 1888 to 1900 for the University of Pennsylvania. In 1900 he discovered what was at that time the oldest collection of Sumerian clay tablets ever found, and since Sumerian is the world's oldest written language, Haynes had made quite a discovery. Copies of the clay tablets that he found are on display at the North Adams Public Library, and a large commemorative bronze plaque of Haynes graces the vestibule. Haynes died in North Adams in 1910 and is buried in the Hillside Cemetery where a Sumerian obelisk marks his grave; his story makes 6000-year old Sumerian history seem just a little bit closer.

When dealing with the American Revolution, the familiar, national heroes--Washington, Jefferson, and Franklin--simply pale beside the more immediate, local heroes--Jeremiah Colgrove and Josiah Holbrook. The lives of both North Adams men tell a history of the times; Colgrove was a revolutionary captain who became a wealthy landowner, early industrialist, and city politician--with a park named after him. Holbrook was less fortunate. He returned from the war to find high prices, debts, and government indifference to the plight of veterans. So when in 1786 another disillusioned veteran, Daniel Shays, resorted to armed rebellion, Holbrook joined up. All was later forgiven, and Holbrook has had a street named after him, but the lives of these two local citizens--Colgrove and Holbrook--show that the Revolution and ensuing democracy and industrialization were not as beneficial to all people as we sometimes think or would like to thing.

Spinning Jennys and power looms revolutionized the textile industry in late eighteenth-century England and in early nineteenth-century New England; cotton cloth production in New England skyrocketed

from four million yards per year in 1817 to three-hundred and twenty-four million yards per year in 1840. Of course, Lowell, Pawtucket, and New Haven contributed much to that increase, but so did North Adams through two of its pioneer machinists and industrialists--Giles Tinker (1781-1833) and Benjamin Sibley. Both men were from old Yankee, farmer stock from Connecticut come up to North Adams to take advantage of the land and water power. Tinker began manufacturing Spinning Jennys in North Adams in 1800 and imported power looms from Rhode Island by 1811 to outfit the first, automated textile factory in North Adams and probably in Northern Berkshire. Tinker became quite wealthy, and his heirs went on to become business tycoons and politicians.

Benjamin Sibley was a successful textile manufacturer in his right as well as being a business partner with Giles Tinker. Benjamin's son, Hiram expanded the family fortunes by founding Western Union Telegraph Company in 1856 and becoming a successful New York banker. He also married Elizabeth Tinker, Giles' daughter, and gave money to establish the School of Mechanical Engineering at Cornell University. On the Tinker side of the ledger there is presently a Tinker Foundation based in Chicago with assets of \$50 million--not as grand as the Ford or Rockefeller Foundations but a North Adams success nonetheless.

An important part of any industrial revolution is technological innovation and the multiplier effect--new inventions in one industrial field leading to new inventions in a related field. During the mid-nineteenth century North Adams had more than its share of technology, inventors, and inventions. A case in point was George Mowbray. He got his start in oil-drilling technology and explosives during the 1850's. After successfully testing the use of tri-nitroglycerine in mining for oil in Pennsylvania, Mowbray was hired to supply explosives for the excavation of the Hoosac Tunnel between North Adams and Charlemont. Caught up in the feverish technological spirit of the times, Mowbray also developed an early form of plastic called Zylonite and used nitrate compounds to make the first photographic film of his day.

About the same time that Mowbray was working on tri-nitroglycerine, another North Adams inventor, Alan B. Wilson, patented one of the most successful early sewing machines in the United States--in 1850, one year before Singer. Harry R. Hamer, also from North Adams, used the technological skills that he had acquired while working in the sewing machine business to invent a washing machine; in 1894 he patented the "Hamer Perfect Washing Machine". Inventors were America's and North Adams' technological advantage in the race for industrial leadership.

Industrialization was not without its problems--problems that labor unions and socialist reformers wanted to set right and that industrialists were often content to ignore; North Adams was a center of controversy. In 1870 the Knights of St. Crispin, the largest labor union in the United States at that time, struck a North Adams shoe factory owned by Calvin T. Sampson. The strikers were demanding shorter working hours, higher wages, and a closed-union shop. Sampson was not intimidated and hired Chinese contract-laborers especially brought to North Adams from San Francisco; this was in fact the first time that Chinese contract-labor had been used on the East Coast.

Sampson's successful use of the Chinese as strikebreakers, plus the

economic depression of 1873, dealt a blow to the nascent American labor movement and led to the demise of the Knights of St. Crispin throughout the United States. The Sampson-Chinese Experiment also provoked American labor to champion the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882—a sad chapter in United States-Chinese relations and in labor history.

The record of the Chinese and North Adams was not all bad however. Fanny Burlingame, North Adams cousin of Anson Burlingame, the first United States Ambassador to China, befriended one of the Chinese contract-laborers who had come to North Adams in 1872. Eventually he became a United States citizen, agricultural expert, and breeder of the Lue-Gim-Gong orange, awarded the coveted Wilder Medal of the American Pomological Society in 1911.

Yet another positive consequence of the Sampson-Chinese Experiment was the fact that Washington Gladden (1836-1918), then minister of the North Adams Congregational Church, was given a first hand example of the social and economic problems of labor in an unregulated, industrial economy. Soon afterward, Gladden became the leading exponent of the "Social Gospel"—a form of Christian socialism designed to improve the conditions of workers in the United States; among his books on this subject were Workingmen and Their Employers (1876) and Tools and the Man—Property and Industry Under the Christian Law (1893).

With such a wealth of people and human drama, who could not help liking history—especially North Adams history.

Daniel P. Connerton, PhD.
Professor of History
North Adams State College

Doctor Connerton delivered this speech to the Berkshire Family History Association membership at their Annual Dinner Meeting Friday evening, May 14, 1982.

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Please let us hear from you.

A GENEALOGIST'S DREAM (OR NIGHTMARE?)

How many times while researching at some library, probate court, etc., have you said to yourself or fellow researcher at closing time, "I just found what I was looking for." or "I'm sure I could find what I want if I only had a little more time." or "Oh, if I could only hide out and spend the night here."?

Well, it may seem like a dream come true to be locked up for the night with all that info at your disposal, yours to search through at your leisure, no clocks, no clerks, no librarians, no food, no bed...

There are a few places that wouldn't be to uncomfortable to spend the night in such as the State Library in Albany, but the room where they keep the Probate Records in Worcester is not one of them. It's windowless, dusty, hot, with old squeaky chairs and tables, and IT'S IN A VAULT. (Funny thing though, there is a door leading out into a hall in the basement of the building. So why the vault door upstairs when you could gain entrance to all the records downstairs if you had a key or could pick a lock?)

To get back to that "Dream Come True", getting locked in. It happened to a fellow searcher, who wants to remain anonymous, and me in April 1981 at the Worcester Probate Records.

Because we had so many items we wanted to check they let us go downstairs to the room where the old records were stored to do our own looking. It was warm and dusty down there. There were two other people doing research also. Someone had a radio on and soft music played in the background. The afternoon sped on. The two people left. Clerks from upstairs were in and out periodically. Then, all at once it was quiet - no music. We hastily packed up our papers and headed for the stairs. They were dark and so was the upstairs. No lights - big steel cabinets all around- a maze and no idea where the door out was. After what seemed ages of feeling our way in the dark we found the vault door. It was locked! We both called out and rattled the bars on the inside of the steel door. Nothing! We could hear people somewhere in a hallway and hollered to them. No response. Next we searched for a light switch hoping there would be one on our side of the door. Our search was rewarded. At least we weren't in the dark anymore. But now we could see the inside of the vault door. We also spotted a small grate on the wall above the steel cabinets. That's where the voices we had heard came through.

After what seemed hours but was only fifteen minutes more or less we heard voices on the other side of the vault door. It was the janitors we hoped. I figured our adventure was over but P.... wasn't as optimistic as I was. She said janitors knew how to clean but that was as far as her confidence in them went. And she was right. After such questions as "How come you're in there?" and "Did you try the door from the inside?" my confidence hit rock bottom also. They asked if we had tried the door downstairs. One of them had a key for the door but the lock had been changed. (That explained all the dirt and dust, No one could get in to clean.) Sure that we had tried everything to get out one of them said he would call up for someone to come and open the vault door.

Meanwhile, we were doing some searching on our own. We found a looseleaf binder hanging on the wall. In it were several keys. P... took one key at a time downstairs to try in the door. After several trips, we didn't want to mix up the keys, she found THE KEY.

(Con't. bottom of page 16)

SOLOMAN BARRETT et al, ISAAC BARRETT

Know all men by these presents that we Soloman Barrett, Jonathan Barrett, David Barrett, Jemima Richmond, Elizabeth Barrett, Sara Barrett, Senior, all of Pittsfield in the County of Berkshire & Commonwealth of Massachusetts & Rufus Holmes & Sarah his wife of Washington in said County & Simon Barrett & Tamar his wife of Fishkill in the State of New York for & in consideration of three hundred & thirty three dollars & thirty-three cents to us in hand paid to our satisfaction severally by Isaac Barrett of Pittsfield aforesaid do hereby grant, sell & quitclaim unto the said Isaac, to his heirs & assigns all of our respective & several rights, titles, claims & demands in & unto the Real Estate whereof Jonathan Barrett lately of Pittsfield died seized & possessed situated in Pittsfield aforesaid & is bounded & described as follows:----- said land contains by estimate twenty-five acres And it is understood that the grantors are the heirs at Law of the said Jonathan Barrett Deceased & the Estate & property is such as apportioned to them as heirs & claimants at Law to the said deceased. To have & to hold- In Testimony here of we do hereby set our hands & seals this 28th Day of September in the Year of our Lord 1808.

Signed, sealed & delivered	Rufus Holmes	& Seal
in in presence of	Sary Holmes	& Seal
----- Holmes		
Stephen Sikes, Jr.	Jemima Richmond	& Seal
Nathan Gilbert	Elizabeth Barrett	& Seal

Witnesses:

Simeon Barrett & Tamer Barrett, his wife & Seal
James Barrett
Anna Lee
Soloman Barrett & Seal

Received & Recorded Oct 29th 1818

Elizabeth Barrett m Stephen Sikes, Jr. Removed to Volney, N.Y. ca 1820. Olive, d/o Abiathar & Jemima (Barrett) Richmond m Jacob Sikes, s/o Stephen Sikes, Sr. & his wife, Anna (Bacon). Lived in Washington & Pittsfield. The Richmond Genealogy and family tradition say the Barretts are part Indian. Can anyone help me with this? Would like to contact descendants of any of the above.

Thelma Sykes Owens, PO Box 281, Baglee Ave, Lanesboro, MA 01237

Our Sympathy

to the family of Thelma Horahan our dear friend and longtime member.

To Carol and David Weissbrod on the loss of their dear baby Laura Rose

Also, to Mildred Tierney on the loss of her daughter

DREAM?NIGHTMARE Con't. from p.15

We called to the janitors and were told that help was on the way. Someone was coming to unlock the vault. We told them we had found a key for the downstairs door. We gathered our stuff together and headed downstairs. One of the janitors met us at the door and showed us the way out of the building. Freedom at last.

And when they come around announcing closing time - I don't wish anymore. I just silently pick up my papers and leave.

Edith M. Fagley

ISRAEL BISSELL -- AN ENDURING PATRIOT

Here in the beautiful Berkshires we are in the midst of Summer and celebrating Independence Day. It is appropriate to recall the efforts of a man who settled in our County who promoted and assisted the American cause. His name was Israel Bissell.

Bissell was a descendant of John Bissell who settled in America in 1628. Israel was born in 1752 in East Windsor, Hartford Co., CT and was a post rider on the Boston to New York route. At the time he was to carry out his most significant deed he was 23 years old and was delegated by the Massachusetts Committee of Safety in Watertown, to carry a notice informing the colonists of the British exploits, of April 19, 1775, at Lexington. The skirmish which took place there in turn started the American Revolutionary War. This feat was a "Call to Arms" and Bissell was to spread the news of the events and seek assistance. Israel Bissell travelled to Worcester, then southerly to Pomfret, Norwich, New London, Old Saybrook, New Haven, and Fairfield, CT with brief stops in other CT communities. He proceeded to New Ysrk and through Passaic, Elizabeth, and Trenton, NJ with stops in other NJ communities and then onto his final destination: Philadelphia, PA. His ride lasted four days and he exhausted two horses. Thirty-eight communities were alerted and sixteen endorsed the Call to Arms. Bissell's mission was complete.

When the War was over Bissell relocated to the town of Middlefield, present day Hampshire Co., MA and in this community he married Lucy Hancock on the 30th of August 1784. They had three children in Middlefield: Lucy born 1786, Orpha, two years later and Israel in 1789. As the family grew Bissell brought them to Partridgefield (now Hinsdale) and farmed his land. His property is now called Bissell Hill and as time passed his age increased and he lived in the town of Hinsdale until he died on October 24, 1823 at age 71. His humble tombstone clearly states that fact in the Maple Street Cemetery in Hinsdale where he is buried.

Though he accomplished more than Paul Revere, Bissell's name is not well known. This man is connected to our county and more people should become aware of his actions which in turn helped from our free and independent American nation.

--CONTINUED --

QUERY

JOSEPH NELSON HAYES: Born English Canada Dec. 1864
Left Syracuse, N.Y. early 1900's.
Anne O'Connor
% Berkshire Genealogist

ISRAEL BISSELL -- Continued --

Recently more has been done to promote his efforts and memory by many organizations in Berkshire County which is highly commendable. Thanks to Israel Bissell's endeavors along with numerous others from throughout the world we can pleasantly and perhaps more gracefully celebrate the 4th of July, the 206th anniversary of American independence.

SOURCES: Various articles in the Israel Bissell-Berkshire Co. File in the Local History department of the Berkshire Athenaeum, Pittsfield, MA

Submitted by Joseph G. V. Maciora, July 4, 1982, Pittsfield MA

THE POMEROY ANVIL --

While researching the Pomeroy's history (my great, great great grandmother, Elizabeth Pomeroy Rose, I read from - "Pomeroy, Albert - History & Genealogy of the Pomeroy Family" C1912 Toledo, Ohio at the N.Y. State Library - that Eltwood Pomeroy had been a "Machinist" in England. He had brought some of his tools in (about) 1630 to Dorchester. Eventually, an old anvil, in 1912 was in the possession of Mrs Edward Pomeroy who lived at 108 Housatonic Street in Pittsfield.

My interest was caught, so I called the museums to enquire about it. Nothing -- then I called on several Pomeroy families in Pittsfield - nothing - then I called on the courthouse records, and ascertained that the Edward Pomeroy's had had one son who had moved to Californic. Consulting the wills of both parents, there was no mention of the anvil. It doesn't seem likely that the son would have taken it to Californic, but the next step is to contact the surrogate court there. Of course the author, Albert Pomeroy, might have been in error in writing that Edward Pomeroy had the anvil. Eltwood died in Amherst.

Submitted by: Iris Semon, 696 N Hoosac Rd Williamstown MA 01267

OGS OKTOBERFEST

Orangeburg (SC) German-Swiss descendants held the first OGS OKTOBERFEST October 3, 1981.

For information on the second OGS OKTOBERFEST, Send your request along with a stamped self-addressed envelope to:

Mrs Frances H Andrews, PO Box 241, Mt. Olive NC 28365

QUERY

JOHANNA OSWALD SCHMIDT: Born 1839 Gimbshein, Germany.
Left Syracuse, N.Y. to live in
Kansas City early 1900's.
Write Anne O'Connor
% Berkshire Genealogist

AN OLD CEMETERY

A query in "R. I. Roots" led to new friends and many interesting day trips to R.I. Harold Carr of West Warwick was looking for information about a Lamphear woman he believed to be an ancestor. I sent him the data I had on her. I also mentioned that my mother was a Colvin and that our branch of the family had left R.I. for Danby, VT the winter of 1790. Back came a letter from his wife Edith. Her mother was a Colvin, too. We met eventually at the R.I. Historical Society Library on Hope St in Providence- (A great place to do R.I. genealogy). Following that, I was invited on many of their visits to local town halls, libraries, etc.

On one such occasion, we headed for an old cemetery Edith had been told about. There were supposed to be Fiskes buried there, another of my lines.

We drove to Coventry, then took Colvintown Road right through to the end. A sharp right turn, a short distance on Hope Furnace Road, then a sharp left turn onto Howard Ave. So far, so good. The cemetery should be on the left, near a gravel bed. Sure enough, there was the gravel bed, so we pulled into the entrance.

Fortunately, two boys about 12 years had decided to ride their bikes around in there. We asked them about a cemetery and they said, "Sure, it's right up there." "There" was up on the hill which one reached by climbing a STEEP bank from the gravel bed. Edith decided to wait for me, so I clawed and crawled my way to the top.

There was the cemetery, or what was left of it, only a few stones, I couldn't help wondering how much had been swallowed up by the payloaders carrying away the gravel.

I walked slowly, peering at each stone, and then I found it. An old badly weathered stone, the crude printing still legible:

B Fisk

Died

December 9

1785

He was my 5th gr. grandfather. I was thrilled. I looked around but couldn't locate a stone for Benjamin's wife, Susannah (Briggs) Fisk. She was still living in 1789 when she signed a deed "Widow Susannah Fisk". There was a small field stone a bit to the left of Benjamin's. Nearby was a white marble slab lying on the ground in five separate pieces, but all in order so the words could be read: "Cap't Moses Colvin, Died Dec 28, 1863." A sad ending for poor Moses

-continued-

"AN OLD CEMETERY" - continued

After taking pictures (color unfortunately) I headed toward the path leading down the bank. I looked in dismay. The bottom seemed so far away and from my position the path led almost straight down. There was no way I could walk down that loose gravel bank! Finally, I squatted down on my heels, and slid. Little Joe Otter had nothing on me. What a cloud of dust I made. I was filthy and would have welcomed a dip in Little Joe's Smilin' Pool. Some of our seniors may remember the series of children's stories by Thornton Burgess.

Edith was helping brush off some of the dust when two more bikers came in to investigate the Van parked there. They were the son and daughter of Ed Whitcomb who lived nearby and had done considerable genealogy. Their mother was a Colvin, too. The woods are full of them in that area. They told us that the field-stone marked the resting place of Susannah. Because she was a Quaker, there was only the simple unmarked field stone for her. Sometime soon I hope to go back to see if another cemetery has disappeared. At least I have my pictures.

Submitted by Thelma Owens.

.....
THE JOHN BAILEY PROBATE RECORDS

A trip to the Connecticut State Library in Hartford is always something I look forward to. I go in full anticipation, hoping that this will be the day I find something really important. Most of the time it doesn't work this way.

This time I was determined to do my very best to find a father for my Ruth Bailey, b ca 1732, who m. Aaron Thomas and lived in Haddam. I made a bee-line for the probate files to get names of all Bailey men for the time period I thought would be correct. Have you ever checked Smiths or Browns? It was like that with Baileys in Haddam. What a list I had. The patient attendant brought out folder after folder. As the day wore on, I wore out. Tired and discouraged I opened a John Bailey will and quickly checked the list of heirs. No Ruth -- but stop! "To Eldest daughter Esther Wheeler"; I could hardly believe my eyes. Esther Wheeler was the name of a 3rd gr.grandmother for whom I had no surname. It sure looked like I had struck pay dirt.

Next I found a distribution of property. From that division, I was able to check deeds involving my Esther and establish that mine was indeed the daughter of John Bailey. Was I happy? What do you think?

Submitted by Thelma Owens.

QUERY

MARY ELLEN HAYES: Born 1885, Daughter of Joseph Nelson
Hayes & Bridget Elizabeth Murphy. Need
place of birth.
Anne O'Connor % Berkshire Genealogist

WILLIAM DURGY (DURKEE) OF IPSWICH, MASS.

By Bernice B Gunderson

William Durgy arrived in Ipswich, Massachusetts on 9 Nov 1663 as the indentured servant of Thomas Bishop, having been in the Barbadoes probably as a slave of Cromwell. He was born about 1632 in Ireland (probably Meath County)

Martha Cross was born 14 Feb 1643 in Ipswich, Essex County, Massachusetts, the daughter of Robert Cross and Hannah Jordan. Robert and his family were in constant legal difficulties, many court cases being recorded in the annals of Essex County. Martha probably was employed as a servant in the household of Thomas Bishop, and it was there that she met William. A romance blossomed but her father Robert refused to give his consent to the marriage. Martha took refuge with her sister Elizabeth Nelson, and Goodman Story (a neighbor) tried to intercede with Robert Cross on her behalf, suggesting marriage as the best solution to the problem. Robert responded by suing William Durgy for "abusing his daughter". William countersued Robert for withdrawing his consent to the marriage after giving it. The case was heard in July of 1664, but the verdict was apparently later as the suit was settled in William's favor and the marriage did not take place until 20 Dec 1664 (Ipswich VR). Just two weeks later their first son, John, was born (3 Jan 1664-5, Ipswich VR).

Life was probably very difficult for William and Martha. Even after William worked off his indenture to Thomas Bishop, he could not own land. This is because he refused to renounce his Catholicism, and no one who did not belong to the official Protestant church in good standing could be a land holder. It is possible that the attitude softened later as there is a record of William's purchase of $\frac{1}{4}$ acre of land from the Town of Ipswich in 1693. William apparently remained in Thomas Bishop's employ and lived in one of his houses. He was later reported to be working on the highways.

William and Martha's second son, Thomas, was born in 1666. His birth is not recorded but the date is probably correct as he was reported to be 91 years old when he died in 1757. The third child was Martha, born August 1668 (Ipswich VR). William Jr. was born in 1672, come say in Dover, N.H. although there is no proof of this. These four children are the only ones generally credited to William and Martha but it is certain that there were more children, (Elizabeth, Mercy, Ann, Mary, Jane, and Henry). There were no other Durgy or Durkee families in New England at that time and there are a number of Durkee marriages that can only be those of the children of William and Martha.

William and Martha's social situation was not good; as previously mentioned, William could not own land, was looked down on because of his religion and probably had difficulty earning a living. It is likely that he could not provide a dowry for his daughters. They were thus not very "marriageable", and several married quite late in life to older men with families.

- continued -

QUERY

THOMAS MURRAY: Born middle 1800's. Where? Buried
Cheshire, Mass.
Write Margaret Knight
% Berkshire Genealogist

In the early 1700's the Durkee family apparently became friends with the family of George Martin, Sr. George, Sr. was the son of George of Salisbury, Mass. and his wife Susanna North, who was hanged for witchcraft in 1692. The name of his first wife (who was the mother of his children) is not known, but she apparently died before or about the time the family became acquainted with the Durkees. In 1709, George, Jr., the eldest son of George, Sr. married Mercy Durkee. He had previously been married to Anna Choat, who died in 1708. The following year, George, Sr.'s second son, John, married Jane Durkee. Then in February 1712-13 George, Sr. himself married Elizabeth Durkee. It appears likely that Mercy, Jane and Elizabeth were all daughters of William and Martha, and that Elizabeth, who was probably the eldest (estimated birth date, 1670) became the step-mother of her sisters' husbands! Another probably sister not previously known, Ann, who, after the family moved to Windham, Conn., married Samuel Palmer (6 Dec 1727, Windham VR). Ann's age is known as she is recorded as being about age 80 at her death in Windham on 17 Feb 1761. One other possible child was Henry, but the only source for this is a mention by Carpenter in his work on the Durkee family of Eastern New York. His fate, if indeed he existed, is unknown. He may have died young.

Nothing more is known of Mary (Durkee) Peck. There is no mention of her in the Ipswich records after her marriage and no record that they moved to Windham with the rest of the family. Only Jane and her husband John Martin are known to have remained in Ipswich. They later removed to Lunenburg, Mass.

Almost all of the Durkees in the United States and Canada are descended from the three sons of William and Martha. Those Durkees not descended from this family appear to be a small group in Wisconsin who are descended from Herman and William Durkey who arrived in Wisconsin from Germany in 1870.

Another family who spell their name DURGy descend from a John Durgy who is first recorded in Fairfield, Sherman County, Conn. in 1784 when he married there Hannah Conger. His descendants believe that he emigrated there from northern Ireland. Perhaps he and William were distantly related. It is an intriguing thought and one that we hope to explore further.

William's fate is unknown. According to Ipswich, Mass. Town Clerk, William Durget, Sr. had a seat appointed on one of the short seats in the meeting house in 1700. Another source (*) states that his name appeared on a deed as late as 1713. After this there is only silence. One wonders if William died in Massachusetts, where would he have been buried? As a Catholic, it is unlikely that any of the Protestant cemeteries would have accepted his body. Perhaps the family buried him on their property.

(*) The Descendants of William Neff Who Married Mary Corlis, by Dorothy Neff Curry, Haverhill, Mass.

- continued -

QUERY

IRA CHAPMAN: Parents wanted. Born Oct. 22, 1827. Buried Sharon, Conn.. Died Feb. 25, 1913. Married Urania Bartram.
Write: Jeanette Card % Berkshire Genealogist

Another conjecture is that he returned to Ireland to try to regain his land and titles and never returned. Another is that he died on the trek to Connecticut and was perhaps buried along the road in an unmarked grave. It may be that we will never know for sure. Martha died in Windham in 1726-27 at the home of her son Thomas, thus bringing an end to the first generation of the Durkee family.

(Editor's note: Bernice B Gunderson is the Editor and Family Researcher for the Society of Genealogy of Durkee, 11150 Pine Street, Lynwood, CA 90262. The Society eventually hopes to publish the Durkee genealogy, and encourages readers to submit any information or queries that they may have.)

Submitted by Don Lutes.

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QUERY

JOHN CHRISTOPHER WAGONER: Need Rev. War Records and church records of childrens births. John born 3 Mar. 1763 in N.J.. Lived in town of Claverake, Columbia Co. N.Y. per 1790 census. Later lived in town of Lebanon in Madison Co. N.Y.
David C. Brecht 20 Partridge Rd.
Pittsfield, MA 01201

FADING IMAGES - conclusion

Some suggestions for taking pictures you want to last:

- 1- Don't rely on the home camera for family group pictures. Spend the money and go to a studio to have your picture taken by a professional. It will no doubt be in color, but for a small additional fee he will provide you with a black & white print to include in your genealogical file. Be sure to tell him you want the B&W print on conventional paper -- not RC paper, and you want it processed to archival standards.
- 2- Do take your favorite color negatives to a photo dealer and request that black & white prints be made. This is made possible by an Eastman Kodak paper known as PANALURE. This is also possible with a color slide.
- 3- Don't expose your photographs needlessly to light. Your old print of grandma may look nice over the dresser, but light will eventually cause her image to fade. Instead, take the old photograph to your photo shop and request them to make a copy for you. The copy can be sepia toned to give it the "old" look. Hang the copy and tuck the original safely away.
- 4- Don't mount your prize photos in standard photo albums. Most of these contain acid paper, which in time destroys your photographs. Either find an album that has acid-free pages or keep your photos in a light-proof box.
- 5- Do send away for Kodak's booklet titled "Processing for Permanence" (#J-19) if you do your own darkroom work. It's free and can be obtained by writing to Kodak, 12100 Rivera Rd., Whittier, CA 90606.
- 6- Do label your photographs. There is nothing more frustrating than to run across a beautiful old photograph and not know who it is. A useful item is the new SANFORD SHARPIE fine line marking pen. It works great for writing on slick photographic paper. They can be obtained at your local stationer for about 60¢. Mark your photos on the back, giving name, approximate date, and circumstances under which the photograph was taken. Your children and your children's children will thank you.
- 7- Do have copy negatives made of your old photographs. I prefer the 4" x 5" size which are easy to file and the borders are wide enough to be marked for identification with a SHARPIE.
- 8- Do have copies made of your old photographs, mark them and distribute them to your children and other relatives

QUERY

JOHNATHAN COLVER: Where in Columbia Co. N.Y. is he buried? Died in Caanan, N.Y. in 1808. Need record of service in Rev. War.
David C. Brecht
20 Partridge Rd.
Pittsfield, MA 01201

"FADING IMAGES" - final page

9- Do buy the best camera you can afford. I never cease to marvel at people who take a five thousand dollar trip to Europe and entrust all of their picture taking to a 110 camera for which they paid \$29.95. Most people equate learning photography to roughly the same skill as it takes to fly a 747. It is not difficult and with the new automated 35 mm cameras professional results can be obtained with a little practice.

10- Do forsake your color film occasionally and shoot a roll of black & white of your children and relatives. These will be around long after your color prints have faded.

The above suggestions apply to the photographic state of the art as it now exists. Products are improved daily and the photographic industry is aware of their shortcomings, but it remains to be seen whether Kodak, et. al. can come up with a photograph of some permanence

SUBMITTED BY Thelma S. Owens from Vol 12 of the Fisk(e) Family publication, with permission of the author, Irwin W. Fisk.

DEAR ADOPTER: Is there any help to trace your blood line?
Answer -- YES --

The Adoption Searchbook 1981
by Mary Jo Rillera
from Triadoption Library Inc
Triadoption Publications
7571 Westminster Ave
Westminster CA 92683

The book is \$10.00, this does not include postage. Some of the text covers: Available Assistance, What Others Found, Information sources.

The Sun City Genealogist is a quarterly. Their Vol 2 Number IV has an article entitled "Adult Adopters in Search of Their Heritage" price 65 cents

The Sun City Genealogical Society
PO Box 1448
Sun City AZ 85372

The organization,

Adoption Identity Utah
PO Box 8124
Salt Lake City UT 84108

is a search and support group for Adults- adopters
Enclose SASE

NEED HELP??

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

HAVE YOU TRIED * * * * *

THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES, in Washington, D.C.?

Here you find millions of records relating to persons who have had dealings with the Federal Government and most of these records may be freely consulted. The records include Birth, Marriage, Death, Census, D.C. residents, Indians, Land, Naturalization, customs passenger lists, immigration passenger lists, passport applications, personnel records for civilian employees of the Federal Government, pension and bounty land application claims, service records for Army, Navy, Marine and Coast Guard

The huge building is in the center of the city between Washington Monument and the Capitol. It occupies a whole block between 7th and 9th Streets, Constitution Ave. and Pennsylvania Ave. The impressive tourist entrance is on Constitution Ave. - the research entrance is on Pennsylvania Ave. The facilities for researchers is open daily from 9 A.M. to 9 P.M. and Saturday 9 A.M. to 5 P.M.

Upon entering the building (research entrance) you must "sign in" and show some identification (drivers license). Then you make out an application and are issued a Researcher Identification card that is good for one year -- cost \$1. The employees are very courteous directing you to the part of the building your material will be found. Security precautions vary in different parts of the building but all require you to "sign in" and "sign out". However, in some areas, one must check all bags in a small metal locker in the hall (you keep the key). Here you will find a policeman on duty to guide and help you. Elevators in the halls service every floor and basement and there are chairs there for your convenience. In the basement there is a Snack Bar where you can purchase sandwiches and snacks. It is used by employees and researchers from 7 A.M. to 4 P.M. All facilities are easily accessible to the handicapped

Submitted by Charlotte F Davis

* * * * *
FAMILY ASSOCIATIONS

THE ROYCE FAMILY ASSOCIATION Descendants of Robert & Mary Royce of Stratford and New London CT. Variant spellings include RICE, ROYS, ROYSE, etc. Write to the organization c/o E Allen Royce, 4033 Somerdale Lane, Charlotte, NC 28205

THE STEEVES FAMILY ASSOCIATION - Descendants of Heinrich Stief of Hillsborough, NB, Canada. Write to the organization at Box 95, Hillsborough, Albert Co. N.B. Canada (Berkshire Athenawum Local History Dept has a genealogy of the first three generations of this family)

SOCIETY OF GENEALOGY OF DURKEE - See Article on William Durgy elsewhere in this issue.

THE MICHAEL LUTZ (1766) DESCENDANTS - Original Settler of Moncton NB, Canada Name variation Lutes. Write to the organization at PO Box 2414, Station A, Moncton, NB Canada E1C 8J3

(Editor's Note: Further information on any of the four above listed organizations may be obtained locally by contacting Don Lutes, 413-445-5521)

* * * * *
EDITOR'S NOTE:

Any articles you have contributed will surely be in.
Watch for them. If you haven't sent in an article.....
PLEASE DO!

THE LOYALISTS

Loyalists, as defined by the United Empire Loyalist membership requirements, are those persons and their descendants who come under the following stipulations:

1. "A resident, as of April 19, 1775, of one of the colonies that declared themselves independent of Great Britain, who joined the Royal Standard before the Treaty of Separation in the year 1783 or otherwise demonstrated loyalty to the Crown during the American Revolution and who, through adherence to the great principle of the Unity of the Empire, departed from the newly established republic and settled in territory remaining under the rule of the Crown, or

2. "A soldier who served during the American Revolutionary War in a Loyalist Regiment (ie; a Provincial Corps) and who was disbanded following the cessation of hostilities in what is now Canada, or

3. "Being a member of the Six Nation Indians of either the Grand River or the Tyendinaga (Bay of Quinte) Reserves, is descended from one whose migration to what is now Canada was under the same circumstances and simultaneous with that of the United Empire Loyalists"

There are several sources for research at present and due to the current interest in the Loyalist Bicentennial, "Loyalist 200 Festival", many more works are forthcoming. Further information on the Bicentennial celebrations may be obtained through tourist bureaus or through

Loyalist 200 Festival
Tours and Daytrips
Box 789, Shelburne Co.,
Nova Scotia BOT 1WO

.....
For those of you unfamiliar with the Loyalist Gazette, published by the United Empire Loyalists Association of Canada, it is the periodical of Loyalists. Subscription may be submitted through Dominion Headquarters, 23 Prince Arthur Avenue, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5R 1B2. I have found that it is a major source of new books and articles about Loyalist research and history about the areas from which they came and the areas they settled in.

Another of the works that should be used for Loyalists information are those books by Esther Clark Wright. THE LOYALISTS OF NEW BRUNSWICK is an in-depth study of Loyalists, and PLANTERS AND PIONEERS-NOVA SCOTIA 1749 to 1775 is a study of Nova Scotian settlers and their families. It also contains names of those early settlers that married into Loyalist families

--continued --

"LOYALISTS" -continued-

The Public Archives of Canada, 395 Wellington Street, Ottawa, Ontario has numerous microfilms that may be obtained for use in the library. I suggest that you request a list of the materials on hand. They have compiled a list of the Census, Church Records, County records (tax lists, wills, marriage records, etc.) There is also a list of the Land Grants to Loyalists. Many of the Loyalists received their grants of land through group grants IE: The Queen's Rangers, the 1st N. J. Vol.) These names do not show up on the grantee Loyalist Petition List.

For the benefit of those in Loyalist work, I have 1976-present copies of the Loyalist Gazette and the two Esther Clark Wright books mentioned. I may have other material, as well. BUT Owning a campground that is open year-round puts a limit on my time. Long distance phone calls cost a lot; so send me a letter along with a S.A.S.E., and we can work this out.

Maryellen Bolduc
Star Routh Box 25
Grant Street
Plainfield, Mass 01070

[illegible]

STANLEY E MOORE, CG 26 Hazelwood Terrace
Pittsfield MA 01201

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

BEST

WISHES.

Berkshire Graphics

308 Tyler St

Pittsfield MA

MARK KENNEDY WINDOVER 91 Maple St.
North Adams MA 01247

Professional genealogist; quality genealogical research.

QUERY

MOSES TEMPLE. Born 1826 in Berkshire County, Mass.

Write: Kathy Bradford
% Berkshire Genealogist

LE MUSÉE DU NOUVEAU-BRUNSWICK
Saint-Jean, Nouveau-Brunswick
Canada E2K 1E5

17 Feb 1982

Dear Sir:

I solicit your assistance in locating a family whose ancestors may live in your area. I am attempting to locate the family of a Mrs. Ebritt who lived in Waltham, Mass. in 1904 and a Mrs. John Lloyd who lived in Californic in 1904. Both ladies were sisters to a Dr. James Patrick Collins who died on Just 2, 1847 while attending the sick emigrants at the Quarantine station on Partridge Island, Saint John, N.B.. A third sister, Mrs. James McClune was living in Saint John in 1904.

Plans are being made to restore Partridge Island as a Canadian National Historic Site. Dr. Collins has the unfortunate distinction of being the only quarantine doctor to die in service during the 120 years of the station. 1847 was the year of massive emigration of Irish into this city. It is important that we have the full story of this young hero.

I ask if you would print this request in your monthly bulletins, post on a bulletin board, and generally circulate it as wide as possible. I thank you for you assistance. Please direct replies to:

Harold E Wright
Co-ordinator
Partridge Island Research Project
PO Box 6326 Stn. A
Saint John, N.B.
Canada E2L 4R7

Yours sincerely,

Harold E Wright
Research assistant
Dept of Canadian History

* * * * *

QUERY

AUSTIN Philo Austin born Vermont circa 1824. Appears in
SHAW several census records of Moriah, Essex Co. N.Y. with
mother Susanah Austin born in R.I. circa 1790. Both
buried Sherman Burial Ground, West Mariah, N.Y. next
to "Densy Shaw", wife of Richard . She appears on
several records as Prudence Austin, born circa 1820.
Was she daughter of Susanah? Who was Susanah's husband?
Need all info on both.
Write: Stan Moore
% Berkshire Genealogist

OBADIAH EDDY
(A Lesson In History)

Years of frustration of trying to find my Eddy ancestors, of whom I knew nothing preceding my grandfather, Benjamin) came to an end one day five years ago at C.W. Tuttle's in Rutland, Vt., when my husband purchased the Eddy genalogy (1930 edition compiled by Ruth Story Devereux Eddy) for me and I have been able to put it all together. History would have been so much more interesting to me if only I had known all this as a child! * * * * * One reason why genealogy is so important.

My fourth grandfather, Obadiah Eddy, was born March 10, 1751, at Norton, Mass., the son of Obadiah and Lois (Hicks or Hix) Eddy. He was the descendant of pilgrims who came here in 1630 from England.

Obadiah was 5 years of age when his father was killed by Indians on the shores of Lake George, September 19, 1756, in the French & Indian War, leaving his wife with 5 children all under the age of fourteen. Obadiah was apprenticed to learn a trade at seven years of age. He became a worker in iron.

When the Revolutionary War broke out, Obadiah enlisted May 3, 1775, taking part in answering many alarms, marching to Boston when the first call came and also to Warren, R.I via Rehoboth and from Taunton to Tiverton, R.I., and numerous others.

Immediately following the war, he and his family, along with others from the Norton/Taunton area, went to Woodford, Vermont, seeking employment in the Iron Works. (I enquired of the Woodford Town Clerk who told me the Iron Works were located on the Long Trail Road). Later Obadiah became a lumberman. (Beer's Gazeteer shows his residence on the map of Woodford). He was one of the first inhabitants of Woodford to take the freeman's oath and was also the first representative chosen, but utterly refused to serve, (why????) in consequence of which no suffrages were given for Governor, etc.

Obadiah married Phebe Prouty of Taunton, probably around 1770. They both died in Woodford. Phebe died November 27, 1821 and Obadiah died May 24, 1826. They are buried in Watershill Cemetery along with their eldest son Otis who died in 1794 at 22 years of age. (To reach this cemetery - there is no way to drive to it - one must climb a very steep, woodsy hill. We approached it from behind the Woodford Hollow School and it is not too far in after you have reached the top. The stones are still in fair condition, considering. I would like to be able to climb it every year to place the Stars & Stripes on his grave, but once is enough! I shall now leave him in peace).

Obadiah and Phebe had 8 children - Otis, Reuel, Frederick, Eleazar, James, William, Phebe and Bildad. Bildad is my ancestor. When Obadiah's estate was settled October 5, 1825, his daughter Phebe was made administrator. A listing follows of his estate which I procured from the Bennington Probate Court:

20 acres of land @ \$4. pr. acre	80:00	apparel of wear	10:15
2 cows @ \$14. each	28:00	Wooden furniture	9:64
1 cow	12:00	Crockery	:59
12 sheep	19:00	28 lbs Wool	5:60
5 "	5:50	Grindstone	:75
4 tons of hay	24:00		\$205.59
Iron ware	5:04		
1 Bed and Bedding	5:32	Ebenezer Temple } Appraisers	
		John Knapp }	

Bernice (Hamm) Ballou and Marjorie (Eddy) Griggs catalogued the Clarksburg, Mass. town cemetery on Saturday, May 8, 1982. A beautiful day and hours later a beautiful sun-burn and all graves recorded. A Diet Pepsi would have tasted so-o-o good! We hope to have it listed in a future Berkshire Genealogist publication, but, first it has to be checked with the Clarksburg Cemetery Commission as some headstones were unreadable and to obtain the names of those buried without headstones.

* * * * *

May 18th, 1982, Marge Griggs was visited by Professor Don Murray of the University of Northern Illinois, a Henry Thoreau scholar. Mr. Murray is searching for the one woman whom Henry Thoreau found entertaining and charming - Thoreau did not particularly like women, found them ugly, so Professor Murray feels that this one must have been truly outstanding!

Henry Thoreau visited North Adams and it was in the Notch on the side of Greylock where he came upon this lovely creature. This is what Thoreau has to say in his book "A Week on the Concord and Merrimack Rivers": 'But to return to the mountain. It seemed as if he must be the most singular and heavenly minded man whose dwelling stood highest up the valley. The thunder had rumbled at my heels all the way, but the shower passed off in another direction though if it had not, I half believed that I should get above it. I at length reached the last house but one, where the path to the summit diverged to the right, while the summit itself rose directly in front. But I determined to follow up the valley to its head, and then find my own route up the steep as the shorter and more adventurous way. I had thoughts of returning to this house which was well kept and so nobly placed, the next day, and perhaps remaining a week there, if I could have entertainment. Its mistress was a frank and hospitable young woman who stood before me in a dishabille, busily and unconcernedly combing her long black hair while she talked, giving her head the necessary toss with each sweep of the comb, with lively, sparkling eyes, and full of interest in that lower world from which I had come, talking all the while as familiarly as if she had known me for years, and reminding me of a cousin of mine.'

Mr. Murray, through research and enquiries learned that the owner of the house mentioned was Preserved Eddy. His wife's name was Rebecca. Professor Murray began 'phoning the Eddys in the area and soon was in contact with Marge. She invited him to her home where they delved into the Eddy genealogy and found Preserved Eddy. He was born in North Adams October 16, 1799. He married Rebecca Darling March 27, 1823. Rebecca was the daughter of David and Abigail (Hodge) Darling of Clarksburg, Mass. Mr. Murray is quite sure (but much research still has to be done) that Rebecca Darling Eddy is the "darling" of Henry Thoreau's story.

Please, if there are any Darlings or Eddys out there who are descendants of this couple, please help him out. He would like especially a picture or portrait of Rebecca. Please let Marge know if you have one and she will contact Mr. Murray.

(The North Adams Transcript ran a front page article on Professor Murray, along with his photo in the Saturday, May 22, 1982 issue.)

CEMETERY BY SIDE OF ROAD, NORTH STAMFORD, VERMONT
(Foot of Heartwellville Mountain)

Minerva A. Lee
died
age 3 yrs., 1 mo., 12 days
(stone on ground, not too readable)

* * * * *

Eliza E.
(cannot read, stone on ground)

* * * * *

Barnes
Lysander B.
1817-1896

Hannah, his wife
1828-1896

* * * * *

Daniel Lee
died
Mar. 8, 1868
age 74

Elizabeth, his wife
died
May 18, 1867
age 66 yrs., 10 mos.
"We'll meet again"

* * * * *

A. J. Lee
died
Oct. 12, 1896
age 77 yrs.

Martha, his wife
died
May 23, 1879
age 55 yrs.
"And now our happiness is gone"

* * * * *

Lucebe
Wife of Luther Lee
died
Jan. 25, 1862
age 24 years

Luther E. Lee
died
Oct. 20, 1896
age 66 yrs.

Eddy F.
son of
G. H. and O. L. Sampson
died
Feb. 17, 1874

aged
14 yrs, 7 mos, 29 days
"Our blind boy has gone home"

* * * * *

G. Henry Sampson
died
July 2, 1886, age 65 yrs.

Olive L., his wife
died
Aug. 23, 1894
aged 71 yrs.
"At Rest"

* * * * *

Hattie A.
dau of G. H. and O. L. Sampson
died
Sept. 13, 1874
aged 28 yrs., 9 mos, 23 days
"Gone but not forgotten"

* * * * *

Samuel Jewell
died
January 3, 1871

* * * * *

Albert L.
died
Dec. 1859

Aaron J. (stone borken)
son of ?
age 3 weeks

* * * * *

There are two other large, grey
field stones apparently marking
graves, but nothing to indicate
who they are.

Marjorie E. Griggs
June 1982

NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY IN ALBANY, NEW YORK

In the early stages of my genealogy quest I had used the old State Library. It was crowded, but I did get my feet wet and found out a little bit about "How to". Because the area was small, certain fundamentals were right at hand.

Now in the new library, when you get over the size, and start looking for things, you will find it easier after you are oriented.

So, lets startat the beginning. What we do is pool a car. We devide the gas and parking charges among the number of people in the car. We start out with a full tank and fill up when we come back so travelling expenses are minimal. Then we either "brown bag" it and eat in the cafeteria at tables provided, or get something from a sandwich to a full meal. Incidentally, there are loads of clean rest rooms.

When you get into Albany coming from Massachusetts, you stay on the ramp going into Rockefeller Plaza. You will go under a building and come out into space and immediately make a left turn. A "U"-turn back into the building, and you will see a sign VISITORS PARKING. Get there before 9 A.M. for a parking space at \$4.00 a day.

Then you take an elevator to "C" - (the Concourse). On this floor, you will find booths with State employees to help you. If you are there for genealogy, there will be three places you wont want to miss VITAL STATISTICS in the health department, and the seventh and eleventh floors in the library.

To go to Vital Statistics, ask at the information desk. Easy to find in the confusion of the place. It is like a small town and has more employees than some towns have population, about 14,000. When you get upstairs you will find births, marriages and deaths from 1800 to the cut-off date because of the Privacy Act.

Boy - did I find gold in them thar hills! I found New York State birth certificates of relatives who thought they were born in Canada. Marriages and deaths which I needed, I found. To me, it waw incredible luck.

To go there, it is best to make an appointment for a micro-feische. Your free appointment is for two hours. If they aren't busy, you can stay longer. The Vital Statistics people anre friendly and helpful. For an appointment, call:

Dorothy George
1 - 518 - 474 - 2005
Bureau of Vital Stat's.
Health Department
Empire State Plaza
Albany NY 12230

- continued -

After Vital Statistics, you will come back down to the busy concourse where there are restaurants galore, stores of every description, post office, banks, and loads of art work. Again, the information desk will point you to the library. (Incidentally; there is a beautiful museum, and a free guided tour to all the attractions -- you'll love it!!)

But you want the seventh floor, so let's go. Here was another gold-mine for me. On my first trip over, I had passed a filing cabinet that had a sign "NEWSPAPERS". I asked a girl at the desk (she turned out to be from Pittsfield) what they had. Out of a clear blue sky, I asked for a Watertown, NY paper of 1901. I had absolutely no reason to do this, I just did. In looking at the obituaries, the very first one I came across was my maternal grandmother. I had not known her birth date, nor her death date until I found that obit.

Having found that, I next asked for city directories and traced the family backwards. Occupations and addresses were listed, and even deaths. Loads of material of consequence to me.

On subsequent trips to the State Library, I used U.S. Census films, both plain and Soundex, and N.Y. State Census on viewers. From these sources I traced 259 descendants of John Meyrer, who settled in Liverpool, N.Y. in 1872 -- (my paternal greatgrandfather)

There are a great many D.A.R. books covering many subjects and cemeteries and church records. People have found oodles of things in these books. There are directories on film for many states. There is an index telling what is available in the New York City library. If Melinda Yates is on duty, she is a walking encyclopedia. But every one else is, too.

On Floor seven, you can look in the card file and order things brought up from the nether regions. If I remember correctly, those deliveries are every half hour. From this service I received valuable information from old directories. But any number of things are available to you. There are many more things to use, in addition to those I've mentioned.

The eleventh floor holds very valuable manuscripts, so caution is used. There are lockers where you put your purse and all belongings except a pencil and sheets of paper, and your glasses. You deposit 25¢ to lock it and receive your money back when you remove your possessions.

Then into the inner sanctum where all the precious old records are kept. When they are on film, viewers are available. There are plenty of people in this area to help you. But my best advice is to ask. Don't go away empty handed when what you want is only a question away!

It's like adiscase; when you go once, you have to go again. -- and YOU NEVER COME OUT EMPTY HANDED. Its my home state, and I ♥ New York. Have fun!!

Submitted by Anne O'Connor

ANNUAL DINNER MEETING

There was a goodly number of people willing to eat their way through an eye-appealing, taste-bud activating smorgasbord at the General Electric Athletic Association on May 14th.

Every year the attendance flutters around 75 people. We had eleven guests.

The speaker from North Adams State College was Prof. Connerton. His topic was the "Industrialization of North Adams". It was fascinating, because of the "people history" and the uncovering of data long covered by the sands of time. With any luck, we may be able to publish the speech at a later date. For the Present, the Berkshire Historical Society has permission to print it. We will stand in line.

Our annual elections were held and the ceremonial passing of the old president (Denis Lesieur to Joseph Guertin) took place, - without a gavel.

Denis unfortunately is getting old and sometimes, we have to help him pass out papers and other penurious jobs that tax his strength. After all, he is hitting 32, and as he says, things are harder to accomplish at this great age. Poor guy! Most of us have been there and really Denis, with age, your battery seems to restore itself. So don't let go of the rudder of life yet.

Our door prize: "The Researcher's Guide to American Genealogy" by Val D Greenwood, given by Thelma Owens, won by Edith Fagley.

Raffle Prizes on which we made \$50. were:

Attache case from donations of yellow stamps from members won by Edith Fagley

\$50. Bond donated by BFHA, won by Persis Caverly

Bottle of moonshine donated by Ken Wells (maybe he made it up in them thar hills) won by Marjorie Griggs (who hasn't been seen since)

Afghan made & donated by Harriet Sawyer won by Natalie Guertin.

Clock donated by Patricia Wells Burke won by Agnes Cooper.

The dinner was followed by a live band. Most of the bone rattlers went home, since it didn't seem to be their cup of tea.

So that next year, we can have our usual 75 at the dinner, will the delinquents please pay their dues? We need the money to keep our projects going -- that's the basic fact of life. Then too, the club has been growing, and we don't want to back-slide. Besides all that, we have a good group going on Planning meetings. They have chosen interesting subjects with good people to present them. We have every reason to believe that this year's programs will keep up their standards of good choice of speakers.

Submitted by Anne O'Connor

AN unknown philosopher once said, "The height of folly is to live poor so you can die rich."

QUERIES - - - ? ? ?

WARREN, Margaret b ca 1877 Redfield, N.Y. m Peter Adams. Lived Hinsdale & Dalton, MA. Margaret d/o Jarius & Isabel ---- in 1860 census N.Y. Need data on Isabel.

ADAMS, Peter s/o Alvah (Alvin) & Augusta b ca 1872 Osceola, N.Y. m Margaret Warren. Alvah b ca 1843, Augusta ca 1846, N.Y. census 1860. Need par both.

BACON, Jacob deeded lan in Washington, MA to s Amos 5 Mar 1783. No further records on Jacob. Amos of Sunderland, VT deeded same to Ebenezer Chapel 23 Jan 1789. Was Anna Bacon who m Stepehn Sikes, liv Washington & Pittsfield, MA d/o Jacob? She had s Jacob B b Aug 1788. Need all data on Jacob and Anna Bacon.

FROM: Thelma Sykes Owens, P.O. Box 281, Baglee Ave., Lanesboro MA 01237

WHEELER, Charles Lewis born Sept 10, 1848 West Stockbridge MA. Believed to have lived in the Pittsfield area around 1870. Need name of first wife, and children.

FROM: Grace Wheeler, Worthington Rd, Huntington MA 01050

NICHOLS, John and wife Naomi Sherwood came to Becket from Ridgefield, CT aound 1779. Son Nathan married Betsey Kimball 1 Jan 1807 at Becket Son James married Dorcas Royce. His son Elijah married Sarah Hill - (or Hall)

Information on NICHOLS, SHERWOOD, KIMBALL, LOOMIS, STRICKLEN, ROYCE and HILL (or Hall)

From; Mrs Shirley Newborn Rt 1 Box 397 E Jordan MI 49727

CLARK, Henry (Harry), a shoemaker, b 1803 in Mass. m Sarah _____ b 1800, in Conn or Mass -- Where in Mass?

From Mrs Iris Semon, 696 N Hoosac Rd, Williamstown, MA 01267

QUERIES

Queries must be submitted in proper qyery format or they will not be considered for publication. Proper Query Format simply means: in 30 words more or less tell us what information you have and and what information you need. Please try to make your queries clear and understandable, include at least one name, date and place if possible. Spell out all words for clarity. We will abbreviate where necessary. Deadline dates for queries are: Jan. 1 for Feb. issue; Apr. 1 for May issue; July 1 for Aug. issue; Oct. 1 for Nov. issue. All queries should be mailed to: Berkshire Genealogist, Queries Editor, 69 Wood Ave. , Pittsfield, MA 01201

Looking at a map of Massachusetts, during the recent days, I saw the towns of Mount Washington and Washington located in our Berkshire County. I recalled using George Washington commemorative postage stamps on my mail in early 1982. These stamps were issued to mark our nation's first president's 250th anniversary of birth. My curiosity was aroused, and this is the information I discovered in summary.

On February 22, 1732 George Washington was born to Augustine and Mary (Ball) Washington at Pope's Creek Farm in Westmoreland Co., northeastern Virginia. His father was a wealthy man and the Washingtons' background is intriguing.

As stated in George Low's Feb 20, 1982 article in the Berkshire Eagle, the first Washington to immigrate to America was John, the gr.grandfather of our future hero. John arrived in 1657 leaving behind the ancestral home of the family called Sulgrave Manor in Northampton County, central England to begin a new life for himself and future generations.

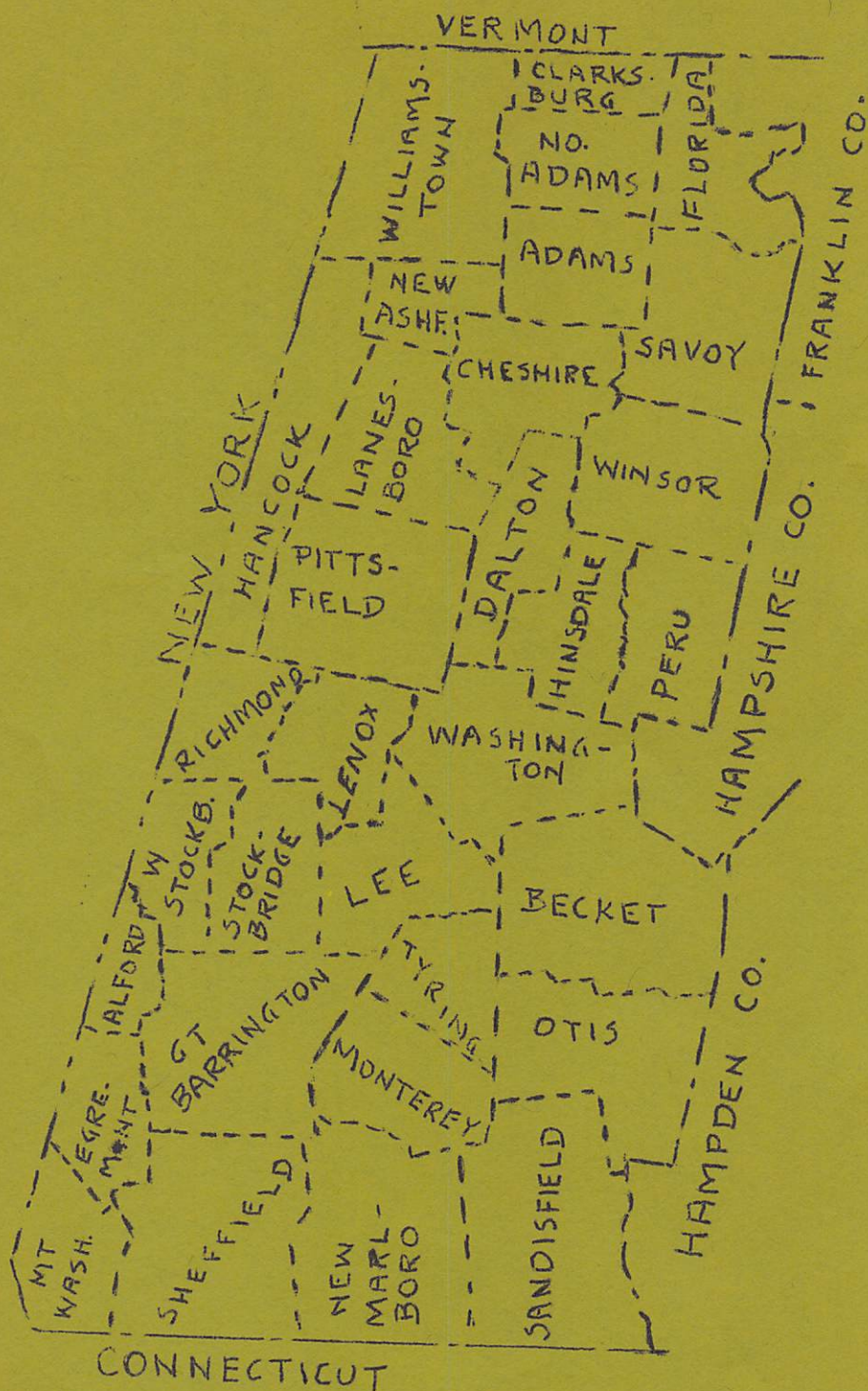
The family name was spelled Wessington in the 1300s and Low states the name's origin dates back to the time of the Saxon invaders circa 100 A.D. Some of the organizers of these tribes were named Berra, Benna, and Wessa. Thousands of men who were subservient to the organizers were called "ings" and when it was decided to settle down and establish some type of community their townships were entitled "tons". The people combined the organizers or father's name together with the town suffix and thus emerged Barrington, Bennington and Wessington/Washington among others. Little did they know these names would spread so widely through New England and the future United States of America.

So, the Washington family name has become famous because of their daring descendant, George, who fought to establish a fair system of government. In his late twenties Washington married Martha (Dandridge) Custis in 1759 and they settled at Mount Vernon, an estate in northern Virginia where he raised cattle and horses. In 1765 the Stamp Act ended this, as we know Washington became commander-in-chief of the Armed Forces under the Continental Congress' supervision and first president of our new nation (April 30, 1789). He felt the nation needed a change in leadership so he finished his second term of office on March 4, 1797 and returned to Mt Vernon. After a horseride he caught cold and it developed into pneumonia and Washington died on December 14, 1799 at age 67, and was interred in a vault on his estate.

How fortunate we are to have two communities named for Washington in our Berkshire County. Let us remember him in his birth anniversary year. George Washington, our hero!

Submitted by Joseph G. V. Maciora
May 29, 1982

MAP OF BERKSHIRE COUNTY



BERKSHIRE FAMILY HISTORY ASSOCIATION
P.O. BOX 1437
PITTSFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS 01202

BULK RATE
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