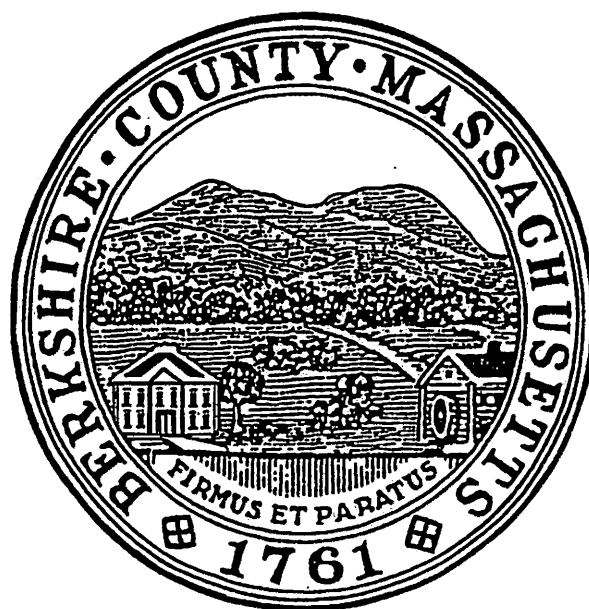


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Berkshire Genealogist



Volume 24 Number 2

Spring 2003

BERKSHIRE FAMILY HISTORY ASSOCIATION, INC.

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The organization is a non-profit educational association dedicated to advancing the knowledge, understanding and appreciation of family history and genealogy.

MEMBERSHIP is open to anyone interested in family history and genealogy. Annual dues are \$12.00 for individuals, \$14.00 for families, and \$5.00 for students.

MEETINGS are held monthly September through May, featuring both amateur and professional genealogists discussing a wide variety of topics.

SPECIAL EVENTS include research trips to New England institutions and intensive one-day workshops on topics of genealogical importance and interest.

BERKSHIRE GENEALOGIST is published quarterly and received by all members. Publication is scheduled for the first day of February, May, August and November. Contributions of material are welcome. Send to the address at bottom of page. Deadline for general material is 90 days before publication; for queries, 30 days.

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EARLY NINETEENTH-CENTURY PROBATE RECORDS: OR, THE YEAR WITHOUT A SUMMER, OUTMIGRATION, PRODIGAL SONS, REWARDS FOR VIRTUE, AND BUSINESSWOMEN, CONSIDERED¹

By Glendyne R. Wergland

Probate records are a wonderful source of family history information. Files include illuminating tidbits on family relationships, outmigration, women's property, occupations and business dealings. But probate files can be used in other ways to elicit information not only on the individual family, but also on the wider community. Collectively, probate files show trends of social change not readily visible in single families.

When I began reading Berkshire County probate records in 1995, I found some startling patterns of change: specifically, that sons could not count on being the preferred heirs after about 1830. Men making wills tended to reward beneficiaries who had demonstrated certain virtues; they especially favored the individuals who had served them most faithfully in their declining years. By the 1830s, that was rarely a son. Wives and to a lesser extent, daughters, had become men's preferred beneficiaries. Many sons were not upholding the filial virtues.

But getting to that conclusion took five years of reading more than a thousand wills in three counties – five years of neglected housework – and, my husband will tell you, five years of him doing all the vacuuming. I was fortunate, though, not only in having a husband who vacuums, but also in being able to do my research in western Massachusetts. The courthouse basements are comparatively clean. One memorable basement in another state had rat traps – not little mouse traps – on TOP of the file cabinets. And those file cabinets were covered with “evidence” of the local rat population. That courthouse basement had no place to sit down, so I worked standing up. I fully expected to come eye to eye with The Rat at any moment.

Occasionally someone asks what got me into reading probate records. The first research I did in graduate school showed that more women appeared as heads-of-households in each census year from 1800 to 1860. That raised questions, because all my reading up to then suggested that women were rarely economically independent. The Anglo-American common law of coverture meant that husbands were supposed to control most women's property. And we know from Greven and Lockridge's studies of colonial Andover and Dedham that men owned most of it in the 1700s. So I didn't expect to find many women heads-of-households in the early 1800s. But there they were. And their numbers were growing.

So I went to tax assessors' valuation lists, some of them conveniently available at the Berkshire Athenaeum, to see if those women heads-of-households were also property owners. Assessors' valuation lists are wonderful for showing what property owners had – land, buildings, livestock, carriages, stock in trade, cash money, money lent out at interest. Tax lists were updated every year, which makes them more helpful and more accurate than the census. And taxes were collected from the time a town was founded. So, if you can locate the list, you might learn how someone supported herself, even before the census recorded that information. Valuation lists confirmed my suspicion that increasing numbers of women heads-of-households were also property owners. By the 1840s, this change was common enough to be called a trend.²

From taxes, I went to probate records, to see whether women inherited their property or earned it. And those probate records led to my doctoral dissertation: *Women, Men, Property, and Inheritance: Gendered Testamentary Customs in Western Massachusetts, 1800-1860, Or,*

diligent wives, dutiful daughters, prodigal sons, westward migration, reciprocity, and rewards for virtue, considered.

To figure out where women got their property, I began by reading every woman's will in Berkshire County from 1790 to 1860 – 300-and-some wills. A few women's wills told where they got their land, whether purchased or inherited. And I also discovered that most women left their estates to other women. So I chose 50 of those women, and searched for their parents' and/or husbands' wills. I found that most propertied widows had received it from their husbands. A few spinsters inherited from their parents or sisters. But that wasn't the whole answer, because I already knew that those women owned property. What about the rest of the will-writing population? So I chose 120 men's wills to read, from 1800 to 1860. And I found that about 1830, Berkshire County fathers began favoring their wives and daughters as heirs.

But Berkshire County may have been somehow exceptional, so I delved into Franklin and Hampshire counties too. After reading several hundred more wills in the Pioneer Valley, I could say with authority that around 1800, about 87 percent of men making wills gave their largest bequests to males, usually their sons. But that percentage began dropping in the 1810s, and continued dropping through the 1820s. In the 1830s, 47 percent of men favored women as heirs. Only 40 percent favored male heirs. After that, the numbers fluctuated between favoring male and favoring female beneficiaries up to 1860, when my study ended. But sons never again received the high level of testamentary favoritism they had enjoyed at the beginning of the nineteenth century.³ Again, this finding defied conventional wisdom about fathers favoring sons as primary beneficiaries.

I'll take a moment here to briefly review eighteenth-century Anglo-American testamentary customs. Women's early testamentary patterns were fairly simple. Most of them owned only their clothing and perhaps some jewelry or a cow. All of that property was gendered female, so they handed it on to other women. A few women owned land. Only a tiny number of married women, however, owned property reserved to their own use, free of their husbands' control, as stipulated by a prenuptial contract or by a bequest that prevented a husband from invading his wife's inheritance.

Men's testamentary customs differed from women's because they often had real estate to bequeath, and in Anglo-American agrarian tradition, land was gendered male. Through the 1700s, and into the 1820s, traditional men's wills had followed three patterns. First, sons inherited the major property, usually land, often a farm or part of a farm. Second, single daughters usually received house room and support within the family home until marriage, and perhaps a setting-out gift in cash, a cow or household goods for a dowry.

Third, in the eighteenth-century tradition, wives received either of two types of bequests. The first was the dower share, also known as "widow's thirds," which was one-third of the productive value of the real estate, which she could not sell or damage. In that case, she also received personal property for housekeeping. As an alternative, she might receive lifetime support by a son or sons, usually in the family homestead, sometimes with house room specified. Peleg Babcock detailed a complicated arrangement. To his widow, Phebe, he assigned lifetime use of the southeast room in the house, plus

privilege in the kitchen, chamber, cellar, buttery, and all the out buildings, except the barns and corn barn, and a privilege of using the well, and the use of one-third of the garden, and to have firewood as much as is necessary, and to have two barrels of cider, and a privilege in the orchard for her use yearly and six bushels of rye and corn yearly, and one hundred pounds of good pork and fifty pounds of good beef yearly; and all the property she brought to our marriage . . .⁴

What Babcock seems to have allocated his wife was the means for her to support herself in the family home owned and presumably occupied by one or more of their adult children. They were not expected to support her entirely; she was expected to use the kitchen, cellar, buttery, well, garden, and orchard – all facilities within the domain of a farmwife – to feed herself, assisted by contributions of cider, grain and meat, usually the purview of males on the farm.⁵ Many widows' access to chamber, kitchen, and buttery was carefully spelled out, along with use of the well, barn or garden. Other support services could be specified as well; a cash annuity, flax, and perhaps a cow or horse might be provided by a son or sons. Occasionally the testator added a detail conducive to happiness, comfort or convenience, as when Phinehas Norton left his widow "one good steady horse worth \$40."⁶ He wanted her to have a serviceable horse, not a broken-down nag that she could neither mount nor ride.

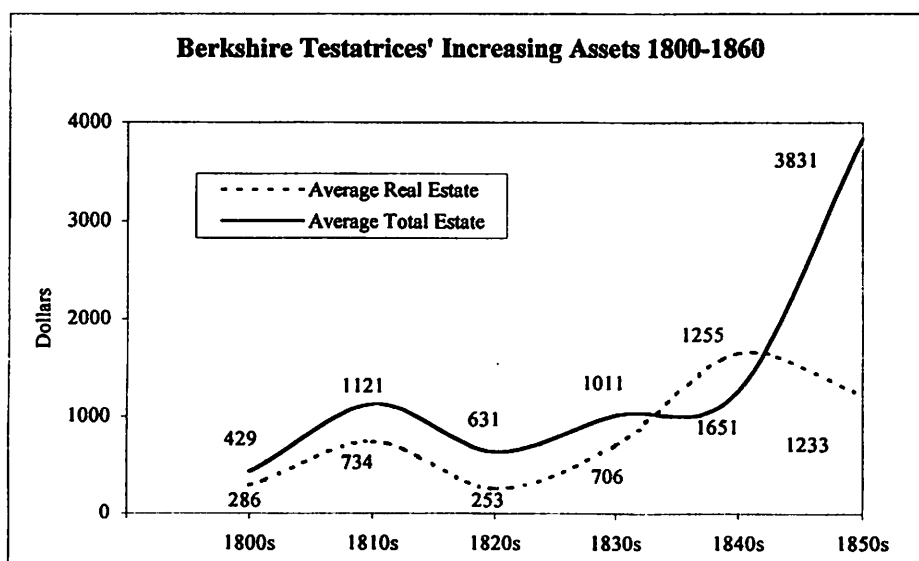
Though eighteenth-century men could leave full control of the entire estate to their wives, most did not. These traditional testamentary views were reflected in the majority of western Massachusetts men's wills until about 1830, but a few men persisted in these customs into the mid-nineteenth century. Sons were the primary beneficiaries, but they often had to take care of widowed mothers and unmarried sisters.

But some men foresaw that their sons might not do the right thing. They worried about what might happen to their widows and spinster daughters. The wording of men's bequests showed their fears. Yeoman Samuel Babbitt directed his sons to give his spinster daughters "a peaceable home." Levi Bates enjoined his son Philander to give his widow Lavina tenderness, care and comfort. David Aldrich hoped that while his widow lived with two of their daughters, his other adult children would not grieve their mother. Jonathan Babbitt asked that his widow, Betsey, be allowed to live with his primary heirs Susan and Polly "free and unmolested" by other adult children.⁷ A peaceable home – tenderness, care and comfort – without grief – free and unmolested treatment. If sons had been perfect, none of those admonitions would have been necessary. The problem was that when the family home was left to a son, dependent women lacked authority within their own households.

Thus a major change in testamentary customs appeared around 1830. More men began leaving property outright to women. They left most or all of the estate under women's full control, with no life estates, no lifetime support. And what they left was not trivial. From 1830 to 1860, the women who received real estate inherited an average of 139 acres of land. Even the women who received only personal estate inherited useful assets. From 1800 to 1860, the

average value of all the estate women received was \$1851.⁸

Women's inheritance meant that they in turn had more to distribute in their own wills. That property showed up in women's inventories, and again, women's property was not trivial. Furthermore, though they owned less than men did,



women's holdings were on the rise. As more men left more property to more women, Berkshire County testatrices' assets rose. And though their holdings ebbed and flowed, the general trend was upward from 1800 to 1860. Note, also, that in the 1840s, testatrices had declining real estate holdings even though their total estate shot up. That change reflects women's increasing investments in bank and railroad stocks. Many women who died in the 1840s and 1850s had shifted their investment mix to rely less on land and more on securities.⁹

But inheritance was not the only way women acquired property. As more women became self-supporting in textile mills, they created a ripple effect as entrepreneurial women started businesses to relieve those mill girls of their earnings. Wherever a concentrated population of young women had money to spend, you could count on finding night schools with women teachers, as well as millinery and fancy goods shops run by women. And peer pressure meant that a newly-hired mill girl had to buy a new bonnet with her first paycheck so she could fit in.¹⁰

All this money in women's hands, both inherited and earned, was a major change from eighteenth-century customs. Those shifts in economics and testamentary tradition were significant because they put more money and more property under women's control. Anglo-American men had tried to avoid just that for 200 years, because property confers authority and autonomy that women were not supposed to have.¹¹ It is also significant because property ownership was the historic prerequisite for the right to vote. This phenomenon of women's rising property ownership was so well-recognized that it was the subject of official inquiry. In the 1870s, the Commonwealth collected information on women taxpayers to test the theory that if propertied women were enfranchised, female voters could swing elections. The study found that indeed, women could be the swing vote in many Massachusetts towns.¹²

But the question remains: WHY did fathers begin to favor female heirs? In addition to their admonitions about a peaceable home or unmolested treatment, several types of evidence show that sons were not living up to their parents' ideals, which brings me to Dun and Company credit reports, and another research tip. Baker Library at Harvard Business School in Boston holds the Dun and Company credit reports on businesses beginning in 1841. Those ledgers are a fascinating and largely untapped source of historical information. They are not useable for genealogy. But they are open to researchers who want information on businesses in a particular town or county. And credit reports are full of juicy gossip.

In Dun and Company credit reports on western Massachusetts businesswomen from 1841 to 1860, three-quarters of the reports that mentioned husbands were negative. Businesswomen's husbands were not virtuous. Credit reporters repeatedly noted that those husbands were lazy, alcoholic, dissipated, or did not pay their own bills. One credit reporter wrote of a newly-widowed businesswoman, "Her husband is dead, which is a source of principal gain."¹³ Those assessments suggest that many married businesswomen were shopkeepers because their husbands could not or would not earn a living. And credit reporters were clearly biased against men whose wives had to support the family. But evidence from other sources shows more misdeeds related to what were then considered masculine prerogatives. Many men ran into debt; 92 percent of Berkshire County's insolvency cases were men. Of 47 spendthrift cases in Berkshire County, only one was a woman.¹⁴ Even considering the fact that many married men handled family finances and therefore took the blame for mismanagement, men were overrepresented in those cases. Drunkenness was another misbehavior that was also gendered male. And some parents' wills actually mentioned sons' profligacy. One mother, for instance, left \$7000 in trust for her son, explaining that she was withholding control of the money to protect him from his own dissipation.¹⁵

Crime was also an issue. One father, Levi Taylor, left his substantial Hadley estate to a daughter-in-law, rather than to his son Milo. The father did not explain his reasoning, but the

facts emerged from other sources. Milo had been a very bad boy. He was a counterfeiter, convicted of passing bogus money. After his release from prison, Milo took up a new line of business as a shopkeeper. A Dun and Company credit reporter pointed out that Milo was doing his best to regain his lost character, but said, "such men will be watched, and will bear watching."¹⁶ But that was not Milo's only problem. Many new businesses failed in the nineteenth century, and family assets could be seized to pay off business debts. A wife's separate property, however, was protected from her husband's creditors by the mid-nineteenth century. So Milo's father had two good reasons for leaving his major bequest not to his son, but to his daughter-in-law, instead. His son's history, as well as his potential business failure, might have endangered the estate. So it was safest in the daughter-in-law's hands.

That said, I should hasten to add that daughters, also, could disappoint their parents. Though sons appear more often delinquent than daughters did, a few daughters touched the same bases. And parents denied testamentary benefits to a daughter who did not measure up. When Charles Segar made his will, he wrote at length about why he favored some of his children and provided only a modest annuity to another.

It appears that to do justice to my children, I have to base the division of my property among them on their capacity to do the necessary business society requires first to possess sufficient virtue to control their acts. As my son Edwin & my daughters Eliza and Augusta remained longer at home and under my care than the rest of my children, I had a better chance to make them more familiar with those necessary qualifications and in general to give them a superior elevation. This induces me to bestow more of my property on them by this will, convinced of their greater capacity to manage their affairs, and of their virtuous bias to assist the others who may want for advice and support.

In Dr. Segar's view, virtue was not just its own reward; virtue was worth money. The children who lived with him in Northampton received nearly \$2000 apiece in real and personal estate, while a son in Louisiana received half as much. Those bequests show the benefits of proximity as well as punishment for absence. A distant daughter was allotted nothing but an annuity of \$78 per year, because, according to Dr. Segar, "she lost the considerable legacy she received from her grandfather's estate in Charleston, South Carolina, owing to her not investing it in a safe manner." As Segar saw it, she lacked either "the capacity to do the necessary business society requires," or "sufficient virtue to control [her] acts." He made little distinction between lack of ability and poor character; the result was the same regardless of her deficiency. Because she had already thrown away a legacy, Segar was unwilling to entrust her with more, but he wanted her to have house rights if she ever returned home. He told his other children that they must "not refuse an asylum" to her; he counted on their "virtuous bias to assist" their spendthrift sister.¹⁷ If she had learned nothing from her inept investment strategies, her father could ensure her survival, if little else. And though the biblical prodigal was a son, a daughter was the prodigal in this family.

Heirs' shortcomings, including drunkenness, debt, crime and profligacy, however, paled in comparison to another type of prodigality that afflicted virtually every family in western Massachusetts. Many towns, especially hilltowns, were being emptied by outmigration. In Berkshire County, agrarian villages declined from twenty to 25 percent from 1810 to 1840. Cheshire dropped 25 percent; Hancock, 22 percent; Lanesborough, 21 percent. Higher-elevation towns suffered more. Peru's population fell 37 percent from 1810 to 1840. The agricultural towns were hardest hit. "Destination towns," or those with increasing commerce and industry, attracted upwardly mobile young men as well as English and Irish immigrants. Thus

towns such as Great Barrington, Pittsfield, and Northampton grew from 1800 to 1860 at the same time outmigration drained smaller towns. Though in-migration replaced the population except in the smallest villages, new neighbors, many foreign-born, offered little solace to aging natives whose children left them behind. In 1860, 244,503 Massachusetts natives were censused in other states and territories. More than 50,000 were in New York and 16,000 in Ohio. The Commonwealth was hemorrhaging. This bleeding-out was most visible in small towns.¹⁸ Everyone had kinfolk on the move.

Western Gazetteer,

AND EMIGRANT'S DIRECTORY,

CONTAINING a geographical description of the States of Kentucky, Indiana, Louisiana, Ohio, Tennessee, and Mississippi, and the Territories of Illinois, Alabama, Michigan, and North-Western. Also, sketches of some of the western counties of New York, Pennsylvania, and Virginia, and a description of the great northern Lakes, and all necessary information respecting the quality and price of Lands, expenses of travelling, &c. The above work has been lately published, and a few copies only are received and for sale. Also, Remains of Henry Kirk White.

A few Tickets in the 4th class of Springfield Bridge Lottery, if applied for before the 27th inst. at which time the drawing will commence.—Highest prize 5000 Dollars.

Just received, a supply of Lynn Morocco Slips. SOLOMON WARRINER.
August 19, 1817.

Pittsfield Sun, 1817. American Antiquarian Society microfilm of original at Berkshire Athenaeum..

like winter." Temperatures dipped below freezing almost every day in May. The ground froze solid on June 9. Crops froze and had to be re-planted. On July 7, it was so cold that everything stopped growing. The Berkshires had frost again on August 23.²² A Hawley, Massachusetts, historian detailed, "Severe frosts occurred every month; June 7th and 8th snow fell, and it was so cold that crops were cut down, even freezing the roots . . ."²³

Many people nearly starved. Some "felt that New England was destined, henceforth, to become a part of the frigid zone." The result was a panic to leave. "A sort of stampede took place from cold, desolate, worn-out New England," Samuel Goodrich wrote, to the western "land of promise." In 1817, a "tide of emigration" flowed west. Many had to beg their way out of New England.²⁴

No wonder young men wanted to leave! It was a terrible time to start a career as a farmer here in the Berkshires, where farming was hard even when weather was good. Some outmigrants were pushed off their farms. A farmer in debt stood little chance of making enough money on his 1816 crop to pay down a mortgage. Only the

Outmigrants had good reasons for leaving. The push factor for New England's farm boys was the difficulty of farming in stony soil and a cold climate.¹⁹ If those were not bad enough in normal years, 1816, The Year Without a Summer, was an agricultural disaster. That year, the eruption of the Tambora volcano (in what is now Indonesia) produced such heavy clouds of ash that sunshine was dimmed around the world. In 1816, Sarah Snell Bryant of Cummington wrote in her diary, "Black spots seen on the sun at times through the summer and fall." Then she added, "Weather backward."²⁰ The summer of 1816 in Connecticut was the coldest of the century. In June, the hills were as barren as in November. The corn crop was destroyed. Hay, potatoes and oats produced perhaps half the usual amount.²¹ In the Berkshires, Nicholas Bennet, a Shaker at New Lebanon, wrote on May 5, "all was froze" a few days earlier, and the hills were "barren

FOR SALE, 8000 acres of New-Connecticut Ohio Lands.

I HAVE for sale 46 lots of Land, containing from 15 to 10,000 acres each, in Township No. 4, in the 13th Range in New-Connecticut (Ohio). Or I will exchange the whole or any part thereof for good improved farms in this County. The town in which these lands are, is about 15 miles from the Lake, or from Cleveland, which is at the mouth of the Cuyahoga river, and is only about 7 miles from the navigable waters of the Cuyahoga, and about the same distance from the navigable waters of the Muskingum. The town is surrounded by settlements, and there are eight or ten families in it, mostly from Lee, in this County. And it is unquestionably one of the best, if not the very best Town, in the whole Connecticut Western Reserve. A State road runs through it, and it is extremely well watered, and has a superior soil. The lands in the vicinity are selling very fast, and have been particularly in the last year, and will rise in value immediately after the completing of the great Western Canal, which will probably be effected in the course of the present year.

JONATHAN ALLEN.

Pittsfield, Feb. 25, 1823

7111

Pittsfield Sun, 1823. AAS/BA.

most astute farmers could make ends meet. Those who had not upgraded their farming practices to “modern” nineteenth-century standards ended up, as the saying went, “either in the poorhouse or the state of Ohio.”²⁵ Both the *Pittsfield Sun* and *Hampshire Gazette* advertised increasing numbers of sheriff’s sales and auctions that fall.²⁶

Town tax lists confirm that the population was on the move. From 1816 to 1817, tax assessors wrote the word “Gone” by the names of sixteen percent of west Pittsfield’s taxpayers. That was a sixteen percent loss in one year. Most were propertyless men, probably youngsters just getting started.²⁷ At the same time, the West beckoned. The *Pittsfield Sun* described “the Inducements for young and enterprising men to migrate [to] the immense unoccupied and fertile tracts of land to be found in the western country.”²⁸

Those absent heirs appeared in probate records immediately. Outmigration was problematic for Probate Court well before Berkshire fathers began to write wills reflecting its results. Berkshire County Probate Court changed its paperwork requirements immediately after The Year Without a Summer. This may sound trivial, but it takes pressure to change a bureaucracy. Governmental paperwork changes only when the need is compelling enough to overcome the inertia of the system. Originally, an executor had to collect signatures on a Certificate of Heirs to show that they all had been contacted. But obtaining those signatures was possible only if all lived so close that the executor could visit them. This practice became unworkable as more and more of the younger generation relocated.

So in 1818, Probate Court added a new document, the Statement of Facts, which simply listed the names *and locations* of all heirs, who were no longer expected to sign anything. By 1818, then, Probate Court assumed that many heirs lived too far away for an executor to get their signatures.²⁹ The shift away from the collection of signatures shows that the rise in outmigration after The Year Without a Summer mandated a change in the bureaucratic process. Contacting heirs in person was difficult, and sometimes impossible, when the heirs were gone.

As we might have expected, probate files increasingly showed absent heirs. Sometimes people writing wills didn’t know where their children were – or indeed, even if their children were still alive. In 1825 David Clark of Sheffield left probate records showing that New Englanders were, indeed, scattered. Two of his children lived in Pennsylvania, another in Vermont. Grandchildren were “of parts unknown.” A daughter was “some place unknown [in] Indiana.” Only one son remained nearby to do his filial duty.³⁰

Some Berkshireites with children “of parts unknown” left bequests to absent heirs only on the condition that those heirs returned, made contact, or “called for” the property within a year. They did not know where their kin were, or how to reach them. Those “missing heirs” are evidence that many outmigrant offspring did not even write home to keep their parents informed of their whereabouts.

Thus many Berkshire families were so dispersed that those adult children could not have provided any support to aging parents. At a time when adult children were the safety net, what value were children who left home? They weren’t worth much. And parents took that into account when the time came to make their wills. The prodigal son was not rewarded unless – or until – he returned home. And most of Berkshire County’s prodigal sons did not return. When sons departed, leaving their mothers and spinster sisters to take care of Dad, the most logical beneficiaries of Dad’s generosity were the ones who stayed behind. Elisha Chamberlin of Dalton, for instance, left his estate to three spinster daughters who kept house for him. He left only a token to his son who had gone west. He thought his son was in Iowa, and the executor thought the son was in another midwestern state, but the son actually turned up in a third location. Elisha Chamberlin died without knowing where his son really was.³¹

Berkshirites' dismay over outmigration was long-lasting and could be startlingly public. That dismay showed at the Berkshire Jubilee in 1844, when scores of native sons returned to Berkshire County for a sort of "Old Home Week" celebration in Pittsfield. The published program for the Jubilee reveals two sharply different opinions of outmigrants.

Those views were so divergent that the event's program makes uncomfortable reading. It isn't even necessary to read between the lines because the conflict was right out front. Outmigrants described themselves as pilgrims, gone away to seek their grail, a noble act. Stay-at-

homes saw things differently. Some commemorated their opinions in verses written for the occasion. Oliver Wendell Holmes composed a poem that began, "Come back to your Mother, ye children, for shame, who have wandered like truants, for riches or fame!" The bitterness was evident. Those who stayed behind did not necessarily approve of the absence, or even the success, of outbound native sons.³²

Evidence about absent heirs suggested that it might be worth looking at the locations of the beneficiaries who were preferred. And the 1850 census showed that for most trackable testators who died in the 1850s, their preferred heirs were in same household, or next door. Some were in the same town; a very few lived in a neighboring town. Almost none of the favored heirs were further away than that. *Proximity counted*. And so when it came time to distribute whatever remained of a lifetime of work, fathers gave it to those who were closest, literally as well as figuratively. And usually the closest kin was a wife or daughter.

The women at home were the logical recipients of family assets, so they in turn had more property to distribute in their own wills. And they chose to hand it on to other women. Sometimes they even told why. (Though men making wills rarely explained their actions, women often did.) For instance, Lois Lathrop's two unmarried daughters, Lucy and Fanny, might have expected to be treated equally in their mother's will. But Lathrop willed more to Lucy "in consideration of her having been more constantly at home while Fanny has been [away] earning something . . ." ³³ Lucy received preference *because* she had stayed with her mother while Fanny was making money to improve her own prospects. Offspring who stayed home were often rewarded for doing their duty. Filial virtue was important.

Property made a profound difference to women. It gave them autonomy, authority, and leverage that they lacked without it. And a woman could wield her property with power, as the next case shows.

Berkshire Jubilee.

ORDER OF ARRANGEMENTS.

On Thursday, August 22d,

The procession will be formed in front of the Congregational Church, at 2 o'clock, P. M. precisely at the ringing of the Bell.

ORDER OF PROCESSION.

1. President of the Day and Sheriff of the County.
2. Vice-Presidents.
3. Speakers.
4. The Clergy.
5. New-York Committee.
6. Berkshire County Committee.
7. Faculty of Williams College.
8. Faculty of Berkshire Medical Institution.
9. Emigrant sons and former residents of Berkshire.
10. Citizens of the County.

None except Ladies will be admitted to the seats for the exercises, on "JUBILEE HILL," on either day, before the procession arrives.

On Friday, August 23d,

The procession will be formed in the same place, and in the same manner, at 10 o'clock, A. M. precisely, at the ringing of the Bell, and will proceed to "JUBILEE HILL."

At the close of the exercises, the procession will be formed again in the same manner, and proceed to the Dinner grounds, which will be reserved for those exclusively who have Tickets.

Tickets may be had at Messrs. Allen's Book-Store and the Book-Store of E. P. Little.

WM. C. PLUNKETT, *Chief Marshal*.

ASSISTANT MARSHALS,

GREVILLE D. WESTON, of Dalton;	
WILLIAM WILLIAMS, Stockbridge;	
CHARLES M. OWEN, Lenox;	
STUDDARD HUBBELL,	} Lanesborough;
RUSSELL A. GIBBS,	
JUSTUS TOWER,	
LEVI GOODRICH,	} Pittsfield;
AMOS BARNES,	
JARED INGERSOLL,	
JABEZ PECK,	
ALBERT G. BELDEN,	} Lenox;
HENRY H. COOK,	
JABEZ HALL, Adams;	
CHARLES W. HOPKINS, Great-Barrington;	
WILLIAM B. SEXTON, Sheffield;	
PHILIP EAMES, Washington;	
WILLIAM WATERMAN, Williamstown;	
MOSES DAY, Otis;	
HENRY PUTNAM, Hinsdale.	

Because of coverture, very few wives made wills. But some did own property separate from their husbands, and they did write wills, sometimes specifically to manipulate a situation to achieve their desired result. When Clarissa Coffing Bostwick wrote her will, she stipulated that her husband William Bostwick could have her thirty shares of Berkshire Railroad stock and her \$1500 in real estate *only* if he relinquished custody of their three children to her brother, John Coffing. In effect, she tried to buy her husband off; it was worth more than \$2000 to place her children with her brother. She did not explain why, but other court records provide clues. William Bostwick owed \$4000 – a staggering debt, equal to about \$79,000 today. And he did not take responsibility for his debts. Bostwick sued not only his business partner, but also his brother-in-law, John Coffing. Bostwick's insolvency was a blot on the family reputation. Coffing, on the other hand, was a wealthy and stable creditor. While Bostwick was in court for years, Coffing avoided litigation. The last straw for Clarissa may have been her husband's lawsuit against her brother. She feared for her children if they remained with her husband, and felt confident that Coffing would take good care of them. She was right. When Coffing wrote his will, he handed out more than \$10,000 to Bostwick nieces and nephews.³⁴ Other wives did not resort to such extreme measures as Clarissa Coffing Bostwick did. Yet her will shows the power that married women *could* wield with property of their own – exactly what our Puritan forefathers hoped to avoid.

Probate inventories hold other types of information on women in addition to domestic power struggles. Sometimes you can deduce a woman's occupation from her property. A man's occupation was often recorded in his will, but women's were rarely recorded – unless you count “widow,” or “spinster” as occupations.³⁵ But women did a wide variety of paid work. The 1860 census and the Dun and Company credit reports list dozens of occupations women held in the mid-nineteenth century. And in 1863, Virginia Penny published a book listing more than 500 paid jobs done by women. (Thanks to the internet, that book is now available and word-searchable through University of Michigan's Making of America collection, online.)³⁶

Figuring out a woman's occupation can be hard if she lived before city directories and the census facilitated matters. But some women had occupations you can identify from their inventories, even when no other evidence of their employment exists.³⁷ For instance, Mrs. Mary Wade, a Westfield woman who died in 1761, evidently ran a business even though her probate records do not explicitly say so. We know this because her inventory lists *too many* of some items: eleven psalters, 24 harmonicas, nine fans, 13 papers of pins, 14 horn combs, twelve quires of paper, 18 thimbles, and more than twenty pounds of spices.³⁸ None of those, alone, would necessarily suggest an occupation. But all of those items taken together do indicate that she kept a stock of goods for sale or trade. She was, if not a shopkeeper, at least a trader who turned a profit on her wares.

Another example of a woman with an occupation hidden in her inventory was Elizabeth Allen, a Northampton widow whose estate was probated in 1800. Her property was typical for a woman of her time and place – except for her library of books on midwifery. From her probate records, we know that Widow Allen was a midwife in the Pioneer Valley, and local women's diaries and letters confirm that indeed, Mrs. Allen was just that. From reading her inventory, we know that she practiced an occupation that went beyond her designation as widow. The books, as well as her signature, indicate that she was literate. She had medical expertise. Her sidesaddle suggests that she had to travel to attend some deliveries, and that she wanted to get there faster than she could walk. And her patients were undoubtedly grateful for her haste! Knowing her occupation allows us to infer more details about her life. She must have served an apprenticeship with an older midwife. Other women evidently felt confident enough in her abilities to trust her

with their lives. And if we wanted to know more about her work, we could consult Laurel Thatcher Ulrich's excellent biography of Martha Ballard, another New England midwife.³⁹

Midwives and traders were not the only women in business. Other women carried on occupations revealed in their inventories. Eve Shoemaker, for instance, was an African American woman who died in Pittsfield in the 1840s. Her inventory listed numerous fabric remnants, bonnets and accessories. She may have been a dressmaker and milliner, an expert needlewoman who supported herself by selling her handiwork. And Shoemaker was successful enough to own real estate. But because she did not advertise and vital records did not list her occupation, her inventory is our only clue to her trade.⁴⁰

Lura Davis was another Pittsfield businesswoman. Her inventory included 4 bonnets, 72 straw hats in different colors, eleven hats in drawn cotton, and 26 in velvet, plush and satin. Her

Misses Davis & Beckwith,

GRATEFUL for past favors, would inform their friends that Miss Davis has just returned from New-York with the

Latest Fashions

FOR

Ladies' Dresses, Bonnets, &c.

They have this day received a rich assortment of Goods in their line, consisting of

Colored Silk Velvets, Figured

Grode Naps, Florences, Bobbinett, Swiss, Grecian and Thread Laces ;

an elegant assortment of RIBBONS, and a supply of

Leghorn and Straw Hats.

Pittsfield, Oct. 30, 1833.—6w23

Pittsfield Sun, 1833. AAS/BA.

inventory also listed silk and cotton fabrics, lace, braid, ribbons, bonnet wire, silk flowers, thread, floss, and accessories such as gloves, collars, veils, and handkerchiefs. From these items, we know that Davis was a milliner who also sold fancy goods. Ads in the *Pittsfield Sun* confirm that Davis had a millinery shop on North Street, where women passed her display windows on their way to church, where they had to wear a Sunday bonnet, or suffer social censure. Ads also indicate her prosperity relative to other milliners who did not advertise. Finally, Dun and Company credit reports show that she was an astute businesswoman, publicly visible and respected.⁴¹

We can extrapolate a lot from Eve Shoemaker's and Lura Davis's trade. Because they were milliners, we can infer that they were probably attractive. Milliners were walking billboards for their wares, and they had to look good to attract customers. They dressed fashionably, the better to sell their wares. We know from Davis's inventory that she wore silk or merino wool for church or shop, with gingham, calico, or white dimity in summer. In cold weather, she added a merino shawl or a Jenny Lind cloak, perhaps with a muff. She also owned a gold watch. The watch is significant, because to a businesswoman, time is money, and she had to watch the time – and her apprentices' time – just as she had to mind her cash flow. And milliners had to be good saleswomen who could convince customers to buy more than they thought they wanted. Miss Davis was successful; she speculated in real estate and owned a \$4000 brick building on North Street. By any measure, her property's value was in the top bracket. She was in the top five percent of women taxpayers, and her property also ranked with the top fifteen percent of men on the Pittsfield tax lists.⁴²

Wade, Allen, Davis and Shoemaker show that it is important to comb through an inventory for evidence of an occupation, to consider what items mean, individually and collectively. From these women's inventories and what is known about their occupations, we can assemble a wealth of information about women who were historically hidden. But the important thing to remember is that they were not invisible. These businesswomen were there all along. Many Pittsfield women visited their shops, as did women from the surrounding countryside. Certainly the tax assessors knew them. And we can bring those women back into historical view.

These case studies show the value of dipping into a wide variety of primary sources, not only for genealogy, but also to tell the rest of the story. Each source provides more details – probate files, court cases, vital records, assessors' valuation lists, censuses, newspapers, and credit reports, as well as the local history sources that the Berkshire Family History Association

has kindly indexed at the Berkshire Athenaeum. In addition, we can elicit more information by examining collective data about the community. Knowing Miss Davis had a \$4,000 building would be less impressive if everyone in the town had one; but setting her wealth into the economic context of her town makes her accomplishment even more impressive.

To sum up: western Massachusetts women were gaining economic power and autonomy early in the nineteenth century. We already knew that mill girls had increased economic independence, but they were not the only ones. Mill girls' pay flowed into the pocketbooks of local milliners and shopkeepers, some of whom grew prosperous on the proceeds. Other women had money because they inherited it after their sons or brothers went west or engaged in other misbehaviors such as debt, drunkenness, or crime. Many women, therefore, inherited by default because those fellows proved themselves unworthy while women carried out family duties.

In the final analysis, women's increasing assets were a benefit not just economically, but also politically. The more money women had, the more they could justify having the right to vote. Thus men's outmigration, as well as their misbehavior, had benefits for the women who stayed here in western Massachusetts. And that seems a good note to end on.

But I could not close without saying thank you. My research would have been delayed or even stymied without the wonderful collection of records in the Berkshire Athenaeum's local history department, as well as the superb librarians who have helped me over the past ten years. And the BFHA's indexing of local histories and archival information has been a real luxury. Doing research at the Berkshire Athenaeum is always a pleasure.

Notes

¹ The original version of this article was given at a talk for the Berkshire Family History Association, November 21, 2002. Data for this article and for my dissertation, *Women, Men, Property, and Inheritance: Gendered Testamentary Customs in Western Massachusetts, 1800-1860, Or, diligent wives, dutiful daughters, prodigal sons, westward migration, reciprocity, and rewards for virtue, considered* (University of Massachusetts, Amherst, 2001) was collected from nearly a thousand wills in Berkshire, Franklin and Hampshire counties in Massachusetts.

² The change was uneven. Farming communities showed less change. Mill towns showed more.

³ The other 13 percent divided their estates equally among their children. See dissertation, Chart 6, p. 225.

⁴ Franklin County Probate file (hereafter FCP) 195 (Babcock 1835).

⁵ On the gendering of farm space: the term "kitchen garden" speaks for itself. On men's outdoor space, see Harriet Beecher Stowe, "The Lady Who Does Her Own Work," in *The Oven Birds: American Women on Womanhood, 1820-1920*, Gail Parker, ed. (1972), 188. On the buttery or dairy as women's space, see: Stowe, op. cit.; "Women Milking," *New Genesee Farmer* 1.5 (May 1840), 77; "For Farmers' Wives and Daughters," *New Genesee Farmer* 1.10 (October 1840), 151; and Sally McMurry, *Transforming Rural Life: Dairying Families and Agricultural Change, 1820-1885* (1995), 95, and *Families and Farmhouses in Nineteenth-Century America* (1988), 91.

⁶ These findings mirror early studies of testamentary customs in eastern Massachusetts. Kenneth A. Lockridge, *A New England Town: The First Hundred Years: Dedham, Massachusetts, 1636-1736* (1970/1985); Philip Greven, *Four Generations: Population, Land and Family in Colonial Andover, Massachusetts* (1970); Robert A. Gross, *Minutemen and Their World* (1976); Richard Chused, "Married Women's Property and Inheritance by Widows in Massachusetts: A Study of Wills Probated Between 1800 and 1850," *Berkeley Women's Law Journal* 2 (fall 1986): 42-88. Horse: Berkshire County Probate file (hereafter BCP) 6666 (Norton 1844).

⁷ Hampshire County Probate file (hereafter HCP) HCP 7.5 (Babbitt 1824); HCP 12.18 (Bates 1854); BCP 5645 (Aldrich 1835); HCP 7.4 (Babbitt 1843). I consulted probate files both in the original files at Berkshire County Probate Court, and those on microfilm at the Berkshire Athenaeum (hereafter BA). The

microfilmed docket books contain additional information that in some cases has been lost from the original files. Where I used microfilm, I refer to it as a BA holding.

⁸ N = 58 men bequeathing to 99 women. The source is biased in favor of more prosperous testators whose inventories included both the value and the number of acres.

⁹ From inventories for 196 Berkshire County testatrices, 1800-1860.

¹⁰ Bonnets: Harriet H. Robinson, *Loom and Spindle*, 65-66, in Thomas Dublin, *Women at Work* (1979), 81.

¹¹ Alexander Keyssar, "Widowhood in Eighteenth-Century Massachusetts: A Problem in the History of the Family," *Perspectives in American History* (1974) provides an overview of coverture and dower law.

¹² William I. Bowditch, *Taxation of Women in Massachusetts* (Cambridge: 1875), 65-71; *Massachusetts Public Document No. 15: Twenty-fifth Annual Report of the Bureau of Statistics of Labor, March 1895* (Boston: 1895), 238-241, 246-247, 250-251. For an interesting woman's tax protest in Connecticut, see Julia Smith, *Abby Smith and Her Cows* (New York: Arno Press, 1972 reprint of 1877 ed.).

¹³ R.G. Dun and Company Credit Reports, Massachusetts volume 3 (1841-1880s), Baker Library Special Collections, Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration, Boston (hereafter Dun).

¹⁴ Spendthrift files, 1800-1860, listed in Berkshire County Probate records index, 1765-1900.

¹⁵ BCP 6342 (Sarah Kilburn, 1842). Mrs. Kilburn tried to control her sons from beyond the grave.

¹⁶ HCP 145.50 (Levi Taylor 1849); U.S. Census, 1850; Dun.

¹⁷ HCP 244.60 (Segar 1848).

¹⁸ Jesse Chickering, *A Statistical View of the Population of Massachusetts, from 1765 to 1840* (Boston: Little and Brown, 1846), 23-28. According to the 1865 Massachusetts census, 166 towns dropped in population from the 1850s to the 1860s. Oliver Warner, *Abstract of the Census of Massachusetts, 1865* (Boston, 1867), 272 and 291.

¹⁹ What was true of most of New England was doubly so for the uplands of Berkshire County, Massachusetts, where the climate was the coldest in all of western Massachusetts. A good weather map shows that Vermont's Zone 3 climate invades the western end of the state just where the Berkshires rise above the fault lines of the Hudson River to the west and the Connecticut River to the east. Thus most of Berkshire County has a climate that more closely resembles Vermont's. Likewise, Franklin County's uplands are colder than Hampshire County to the south.

²⁰ Sarah Snell Bryant diary for 1816, "Remarks;" original at Harvard. The microfilm for this diary was available through interlibrary loan from the Old Sturbridge Village research library.

²¹ Samuel Griswold Goodrich, *Recollections of a Lifetime*, v. 2 (1857), 78-80.

²² Nicholas Bennet, *Domestic Journal*, May-September, 1816, Western Reserve Historical Society Shaker Collection microfilm reel 32: manuscript V:B-68 (microfilm at Hancock Shaker Village).

²³ Harrison Parker, *Hawley, Massachusetts: The First Fifty Years, 1770-1820* (1992), 62. See also *Hampshire Gazette and Public Advertiser*, "The Season," July 31, 1816. In the summer and fall of 1816, *Hampshire Gazette* and *Pittsfield Sun* simultaneously reported crop damage and suggested that things weren't as bad as they seemed.

²⁴ Samuel Griswold Goodrich, *Recollections of a Lifetime*, v. 2 (1857), 78-80.

²⁵ Margaret Richards Pabst, "Agricultural Trends in the Connecticut Valley Region of Massachusetts, 1800-1900," *Smith College Studies in History* 26 (1940-1941), 25.

²⁶ Speculators profited from the Year Without a Summer, both by selling scarce goods at a premium and by buying up farms at auction to rent out to others – though profiteering brought social opprobrium. By January 1817, those speculating in necessities were called "vile sharpers" for preying on the needs of the less fortunate. Thomas Ewell, "Remedy for Scarcity," *Pittsfield Sun*, January 8, 1817.

²⁷ "Gone" were 43 of 265 taxpayers. Pittsfield Assessors' Valuation List (West Side), 1817 (BA). From 1800 to 1806, the assessors wrote the number of polls removed from and added to their tax list, and the total number removed (for the west side plus the east side) were roughly equal to the number of new polls added, 19-23. From 1810 to 1816, departures were noted silently, simply by showing no total tax due.

²⁸ "Emigration to the West," *Pittsfield Sun*, August 27, 1817.

²⁹ In 1825, the process evolved yet again to include pre-printed forms, which the executor or administrator filled out, and which were included in most probated estate files. Neither Franklin or Hampshire County

Probate Courts adopted these changes, so court officials in those areas may have been less concerned about absent heirs, perhaps because outmigration was less extensive there.

³⁰ BCP 4313 (Clark 1825). In *A Scattered People* (1985), Gerry McFarland traces his own family's migration west.

³¹ BCP 5699 (Chamberlin 1836).

³² *The Berkshire Jubilee, Celebrated at Pittsfield, Mass., August 22 and 23, 1844* (Albany: Weare C. Little, E.P. Little, Pittsfield, 1845), 8, 170, 168-169.

³³ BCP 5393 (Lathrop 1833).

³⁴ BCP 7292 (Bostwick 1849). William Bostwick was in *seventeen* lawsuits in five years. Berkshire County Court of Common Pleas microfilm, 1847-1851 (BA). BCP 14198 (Coffing 1882). I found no guardianship records for the Bostwick children, so I do not know if Clarissa succeeded.

³⁵ The 1860 census shows these women's occupations in Pittsfield: washerwoman, tailoress, nurse, operative, dyer, weaver, spinner, cloth dresser, seamstress, cook, dressmaker, boardinghouse keeper, milliner, teacher, housekeeper, liquor seller and domestic. From other sources, we know that Theodosia Herrick was a paperhanger and occasionally drove the stage. R.G. Dun and Co. credit ratings of Berkshire businesswomen 1840-1870 showed 72 milliners, at least one seamstress, dressmaker, clothier, mantuamaker, and shirtmaker; 4 proprietors of fancy goods shops, 5 women who ran a restaurant, hotel boardinghouse or tavern, four who ran dry goods, dress goods, grocery or general stores, and a baker, drug seller, drum maker, farmer, moulder, tobacco dealer, and a braid and switch-maker. Herrick: *The Berkshire Hills* (January 1905), 39; Dun.

³⁶ Virginia Penny, *The employments of women: a cyclopaedia of woman's work* (Boston, Walker, Wise and Co., 1863); published in 1870 as *How women can make money*, reprint: New York, Arno, 1971. Online in University of Michigan's Making of America collection: <http://moa.umd.umich.edu/>. Cornell also has nineteenth-century books and journals in its Making of America collection, online and word-searchable, at <http://moa.cit.cornell.edu/>.

³⁷ So can deeds. Elizabeth Harris, a Boston woman who executed a marriage contract with a second husband in the 1600s, was termed a widow. But her antenuptial agreement inventoried 160 bushels of salt, eight hogsheads of rum, 24 barrels of shot, six dozen hats, and more than a thousand yards of cloth, as well as her household possessions. Harris was not just a widow; her enterprise required international trade. Even though she may have been continuing her previous husband's business, her occupation went well beyond "widow." *Suffolk Deeds* XIII, 110-111.

³⁸ Mary Wade probate file, Hampshire County Probate Records, volume 9, page 256-258.

³⁹ Elizabeth Allen probate, HCP 2.36 (1800). Marla Miller of the history department at University of Massachusetts Amherst, is the authority on Allen in local women's writings. Laurel Thatcher Ulrich, *A Midwife's Tale* (New York: 1991) is a great model for using a variety of sources to flesh out an extremely laconic diary. *Good Wives: Image and Reality in the Lives of Women In Northern New England, 1650-1750* (New York: 1983) is an excellent source for learning how to interpret the minutiae of probate records to reconstruct details of women's lives.

⁴⁰ Eve Shoemaker, BCP v47, p388-9 (BA reel 26); Pittsfield Assessors' Valuation List, 1844 "Negroes" List; Massachusetts Vital Records: Pittsfield, 1843-1844.

⁴¹ BCP 7630 (Davis 1851); *Pittsfield Sun*, spring and fall ads; Dun: 31 and 215.

⁴² BCP 7630 (Davis 1851); Pittsfield Assessors' Valuation List, 1851 (BA).

* * *

This is not Ms. Wergland's first contribution to *Berkshire Genealogist*. Readers may also consult *Berkshire Women's Maiden Names from Probate Records to 1860* which appeared in Volume 15, Number 3, pages 75-85 and Number 4, pages 111-119, 123.

* * * * *

PITTSFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS [North West Central] - 1876

Allen, A. N., Dr.	G-6	Connolly, P.	G-3	Henrihan, P.	C-8	Mathews, J.	C-3	Scale, E.	E-2
Allen, A.	E-6	Connors, J.	D-4	Harder, William	E-7	May, W. H.	D-7	Scale, Mrs.	E-3
Adams, T.	C-6	Conway, F.	C-7	Harper, T.	E-3	McCleary, J.	F-4	Scanlon, P.	E-4
Ashley, S.	E-5	Coon	C-4	Harrington, H.	F-4	McCue, W.	E-3	Sears, Jas.	F-5
Bacon	C-7	Cote, O.	F-5	Harrington, W. F.	C-7	McDehan, J.	F-3	Sears, Mrs.	E-8
Bailey, C., Dr.	G-2	Cowen	C-8	Hausler, A.	B-8	McDonald, J.	C-3	Shaw, H. H.	D-6
Baker, G. G.	E-4	Crittenden, M.	D-7	Hayden, J.	G-3	McDonough, J.	E-3	Shaw, N. J.	D-6
Ball, B.	D-4	Cummings, Mrs.	E-4	Hayes, G.	E-4	McGovern, P.	G-3	Smith, C.	C-3
Ball, T.	C-5	Curtis, D.	D-5	Haylon, F.	C-7	Meehan, Mrs.	E-3	Smith, G.	C-4
Barber	D-6	Daniels, S. V.	D-8	Hays, H.	E-5	Mehette, T.	E-4	Smith, J.	G-3
Bardwell, H. B.	D-7	Day, D.	E-6	Hemenway, C.	B-9	Merrill, C. E.	F-6	Smith, L.	C-4
Barrows, E.	E-6	Dean	A-4	Henry, W.	B-5	Middleton, P.	B-9	Smith, S.	D-5
Bartlett	F-5	Delahy, Mrs.	C-3	Hoag, L. A.	D-5	Millard, A. E.	E-6	Smith, T.	C-5
Bartlett, T.	D-7	Devanny, J.	E-4	Holder, Mrs.	G-5		G-6	Smith, W.	F-6
Beach, O. H.	D-5	Dewey, R. H.	F-5	Holland, J. G.	C-8	Miller, L.	B-6	Solett, J.	D-4
Bedell, D. C.	D-6	Dilly, Mrs.	E04	Hopper, A.	D-5	Millman, S. D.	B-7	Sperry, L. F.	D-9
Billings	B-9	Dodge, H.	D-6	Hounxcher, J.	C-6	Moody, J.	G-3	Sprague	E-7
Bishop, M.	E-6		E-7	Houston, A.	F-6	Moran, J.	E-6		E-9
Bliss, G.	C-4	Donahoe, P.	C-9	Howland, G.	F-6	Morey, D. C.	F-5	Stanton, M.	G-2
Blodgett, B. C.	C-8	Donahue, Mrs.	F-2	Hubbard	D-5		F-6	Stevens, Mrs.	D-9
Booth, G.	C-5	Doyle, P.	B-9	Hubby, L.	C-5	Morley, S. B.	E-6	Stewart, W.	C-8
Booth, W.	C-7	Drake, J.	E-2	Hull, I.	A-5	Morton	F-8	Tatlock, J.	E-6
Breakley, J.	D-7	Duckworth, Geo.	C-4	Humes, D. H.	B-8	Morton, S. W.	G-4	Taylor, H.	E-6
Brett, P.	E-3	Dunham, G. C.	F-5	Humphrey, A. S.	E-4	Murdock, A.	F-5	Taylor, L.	E-6
Bristol, J.	E-5	Eagan, W.	A-6	Hunsler, A.	B-8	Murray, J. J.	F-6	Taylor, Mrs.	C-8
Brown, G. W.	C-8	Ellison, Mrs.	B-7	Hurd, J.	B-8	Murray, P.	C-2	Thompson, J.	D-7
Brown, M.	E-4	England, M.	F-6	Ingersoll	F-5	Murray, William H.	F-6	Tiemy, D.	E-3
Bryant, J. M.	D-5	Enright	D-9	Jackson, J. C.	E-5	Nash, H. R.	E-7	VanBergen, G.	E-4
Burbank	D-9	Enright, J.	C-9	Jacobs	C-7	Nash, S. I.	F-6	VanDeusen, J.	E-5
Burbank, A.	E-7	Enright, M.	C-8	Johnson	C-6	Newcastle	E-7	Voll, J.	D-4
	F-7	Enright, T.	C-9		C-7	Newman, J. H.	E-5	Wall, J.	C-5
	F-8	Evans, M.	C-5	Johnson, B.	D-5	Newton, H. D.	C-5	Walsh, M.	F-3
	G-9	Fairbanks	C-4	Johnson, C.	E-5	Nichols, A.	F-6	Wardwell, Mrs.	D-5
Burbank, J. A.	D-7	Feeley, Jas.	C-7	Johnson, J.	G-2	Noble, H.	F-9	Warren, A. S.	D-6
Burbank, W. P.	D-9	Feeley, J.	E-6	Johnson, J. M.	C-6	Nord, J.	G-3	Watkins, W.	C-4
Burke, J.	C-8	Ferne, E.	E-3	Jones	G-5	Norris, W.	D-9	Weaver, Mrs.	B-6
	D-4	Filley, W. T.	F-4	Joyce, T.	D-4	O'Brien, H.	D-3	Webber, Mrs.	G-5
Burlingham	C-3	Finnerman, S.	C-8	Kaner, P.	D-2	Oman, T. J.	G-4	Welch, Mrs.	D-3
Burns, Mrs.	C-6	Fish, A.	F-6	Keegan, J.	D-6	Parker, C. E.	F-4	Welch, M.	E-3
Cain, P.	E-3	Flynn, M.	F-3	Kelley, J.	F-3	Parker, F. S.	D-6	Weldon, F.	F-4
Carey	C-7	Foot, G. W.	F-5	Kellogg, M. M.	E-6	Parkins, E.	D-8	West, J. C.	A-1
Carey, W.	C-7	Fouse, G. C.	C-4	Kelly, Mrs.	E-5	Peters, W.	C-3		A-4
Carpenter, M. F.	B-6	Francis, A. B.	G-5	Kenna, William	D-7	Phillips, C.	C-3		D-5
Carpenter, W.	G-4	Francis, C. C.	D-7	Kennedy, I. C.	B-9	Pierce, H.	C-4	West, O.	D-6
Castle, E. T.	D-5	Francis, E. S.	D-7	Kent, H. K.	E-2	Pierce, W.	F-6	Whipple, S. T.	E-6
Chapel	E-7	Francis, Jas.	C-8		G-2	Pierre, R.	E-4	Whitaker, G. H.	C-8
Chapel, A. H.	D-7		D-8	Kett, J.	F-3	Plau, G.	C-5	Wilcox, J. S.	E-7
Chapel, Mrs.	C-4	Francis, J.	B-5	Killam, M.	D-4	Plunkett, W. R.	D-2	Wilcox, M.	F-4
Chapman, T.	E-4		C-6	Kinery, J.	C-3	Potter, Mrs.	C-3	Willie, G. S.	E-5
	F-5	Francis, J. H.	D-7	Kirby, J.	E-9	Powell, A. J.	E-5	Wilson	C-3
Childs, C. C.	D-5	Fuller, N.	G-3	Kulgel, J.	A-6	Purcell, J.	D-4	Wilson, B.	C-3
	E-7	Gamwell, J.	F-6	Lamberson, Misses	E-5	Ray, C.	E-6	Wilson, J. H.	G-3
Clapp	F-5	Gardner, R.	C-2	Lanahan, J.	B-9	Renfrew, R.	C-8	Wolf	D-7
Clarey, H.	E-9	Gardner, Mrs.	C-7	Lanahan, K.	B-8	Renna, C.	E-8	Wollison, G. W.	E-7
Claris, D.	A-5	Gillan, J.	C-7	Lawton	F-8	Renna, M.	E-7	Wollison, H. D.	F-6
Clark, E.	C-4	Gimlich, M.	B-7	Lawton, Capt.	C-4	Renna, W.	E-7	Wollison, S. D.	F-3
Clark, H.	E-4	Goodman, W. W.	F-6	Lawton, J. H.	F-7		E-8		F-4
Clark, J.	B-4	Goodrich, D. C.	E-6	Lawton, Mrs.	F-6	Rice	E-9	Woodruff, H.	D-9
Clark, W. H.	C-8	Goodrich, H. M.	F-5	Leslie, W. G.	C-7	Rice, L.	F-5	Woodruff, R.	F-3
Cloud, J.	C-5	Goodrich, N. W.	E-7	Lloyd, L.	G-5	Rice, W. B.	F-4	Young	F-3
Clough, I.	C-4	Gower, D.	C-8	Lynch, J.	E-3		F-6	Young, L.	B-5
Cogswell, S.	A-8	Gunn, S. M.	C-7	Magner, A.	D-4	Richards, D.	D-3		
Cohn	D-7	Hadsell, J. H.	D-5	Mahon, J.	F-2	Richardson, Mrs.	F-5		
Colby, E.	D-6	Hadsell, S. B.	D-5	Malany, J.	E-3	Robbins	E-9		
Cole, B. E.	E-6	Hahneman, J.	A-6	Mallory, V. A.	E-6	Rockwell, J. P.	F-9		
Cole, J. E.	E-6	Haley, M.	F-3	Manning, M. S.	D-5	Ross, E. B.	F-9		
Coleman	G-2	Hall, T.	F-3	Marsh, F. P.	E-7	Rowley, F.	E-4		
Coleman, J.	E-8	Hand, F. A.	F-4	Martell, S. W.	F-8	Ryan, J.	D-3		
Condon, P.	B-7		F-6	Martin	A-4	Ryan, Mrs.	D-3		
Connell, P.	B-6	Hanlon, J.	D-3	Martin, J.	B-7	Sandys, E.	G-4		



LIGITIMIZING DAD

By Brenda L. Struthers

I want to tell you about a challenge. This is a genealogy challenge that I faced early on in my research. My father's parents were divorced when he was young, about age two so he never knew his father. He had left my grandmother and my father in Manhattan where they were living and returned to Michigan where he was from. After a time he obtained a divorce in the Michigan courts. When my Dad & I decided to research the family to learn about his paternal line we did as most researchers do, we wrote to the city where his mother had told him the marriage took place. It was in Marlboro, New York. But the records department said there was no record of a marriage for those two people in August 1920. Well, then he wrote the county seat, Kingston, New York. Again he received the same negative reply. At this point he was getting anxious. But I encouraged him to keep looking and to write Albany Vital Statistics in the Empire State Building. So he forged on and wrote that letter sending the self-addressed stamped envelope.

When Dad received the reply saying there was no record of the marriage between his parents he froze! He could only think of one thing. His parents were never married and his mother had lied to him. He refused to write any more letters. He told me he would rather not know than to find out that he was really illegitimate! I tried to convince him that there had to be a marriage since he already had a copy of the divorce from Michigan. He had to get this when he went into the Army. The judge in Michigan who granted the divorce had to have a docket number from the marriage record to apply this divorce to.

After two years of talking and trying to prove this to my Dad he finally let me look for this marriage record with the promise I made him. I told him I would never tell anyone what I found until I had told him what I found. I looked for four months by writing the same places he had written. Each one gave me the same answer they had given him. I was getting just as discouraged as Dad and I went back up to the library to get some guidance. The librarian in the Local History Department handed me a little booklet on where to look in what state for what record. I looked in New York and again it said to look first in the city records, the county seat records, and finally the State Vital Statistics in Albany. As I began to close the book I was thinking that this was it. I could not prove to my Dad that he was not illegitimate. I gradually closed the booklet and lowered my head in discouragement.

There at the bottom of the page was really fine print with the words, "except for the boroughs of New York City, which kept all their own records." It just jumped out at me. I could not believe it. This must be the place where the marriage record was kept. I was getting quite anxious but the slow process finally provoked me to pick up the phone and call the operator. I asked for all the Presbyterian Churches in Marlboro, New York. She said, I'm sorry Ma'am, but there is only one! I was elated as I spoke to the minister. I told him the story of my Dad's fears and how I wanted to give him this gift. He told me he would look through his records and soon he returned my call with the news I wanted to hear. He had the record and would copy it and mail it to me. Two days later when I received this record from the minister of the Presbyterian Church I also received the license that my grandparents had obtained in Manhattan before they drove up to Ulster for the wedding. The next thing I did was grab the phone and call my Dad! He was so happy and so was I! So don't ever give up. Things can be in different places than you think.

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From the *History of Yates County, New York*, the History of Starkey.

"Eden Booth married Sally Bigger. They were little folks, but their marriage was a great event."

ADAMS, MASSACHUSETTS DEATH RECORDS

July 21, 1922 to January 29, 1925

Foreword by Emilie S. Piper

The Local History Department of the Berkshire Athenaeum has fiche *indexes* to Adams deaths from 1878 through 1988, but fiche for death *records* goes only up to 1907. The following records may be helpful, therefore, especially since birth dates can be calculated from the death age in years, months, and days. Addresses are also given.

1922

- July 31 Wladyslawa Walach, 24 dys. 38 East Hoosac
- Aug. 3 Henriette Cyr, 73 yrs. 6 dys. 2 mos. 18 High
- 4 Charles Champion Brown, 5 mos. 7 dys. 116 Howland Ave.
- 4 William Walling, 43 yrs. 9 mos. 10 dys. E. Hoosac
- 6 Elizabeth A. Passino, 63 yrs. 1 mos. 15 dys. Bowen's Cor.
- 9 Thomas Carne, 69 yrs. 3 mos. 11 dys. 41 Melrose
- 10 Zuzanna Pszeniczny, 4 mos. 28 dys. 11 Kearns Lane
- 15 Michael Hughes, 88 yrs 7 mos. 13 dys. 7 Hughes
- 26 Infant LeBeau, 3 dys. 22½ Grove
- 27 Lucile Trottier, 17 dys. 48 Maple
- 30 Lucy G. Langley, 44 yrs. 4 mos. 40 Randall
- 30 Edward Demby, 17 dys. 32 Richmond
- Sept. 5 Fred B. Jones, 53 yrs. 26 dys. 6½ Maple
- 6 Elizabeth Carroll, 60 yrs. 6 Miller
- 9 Raymond Filiere, 15 yrs. 6 mos. 7 dys. 146 Bellevue Ave.
- 12 Rebeka Kwasniowski, 3 mos. 10 dys. 15 Staple
- 14 Mary Ellen Burke, 49 yrs. 7 mos. 22 dys. 3 Allen
- 22 Alicya Regina Radecki, 10 dys. 8 George
- 25 Maria Follett, 77 yrs. 4 mos. 18 dys. Columbia
- 26 Zofia Juzefiak, 1 yr 8 mos. 10 dys. 9 Gavin Ave.
- 30 Mary McKnight Young, 61 yrs. 8 mos. 29 dys. 87 North Summer
- 30 Anna Hayer, 36 yrs. 6 mos. 16 dys. 32 Richmond Lane
- Oct. 2 Margaret Bruffee, 77 yrs. 14 Richmond St.
- 2 Hattie Davis, 77 yrs. Adams
- 10 Margaret Glover Orr, 83 yrs. 2 mos. 3 Melrose
- 16 Margaret J. Kirk, 81 yrs. 3 mos. 10 dys. 32 Park
- 29 Anna Hayer, 59 yrs. 10 mos. 4 dys. 41 North Summer
- 29 Florentyna Zabek, 19 dys. 26 North Summer
- Nov. 3 Infant Wolnik, 15 minutes. 11 Francis Ave.
- 3 Mary Marshall, 55 yrs. Greylock Rest
- 3 Andrzej Pasterniak, 36 yrs. 9 mos. 1 dy. 28 Richmond
- 9 Elaine E. Langner, 6 yrs. 5 mos. 3 dys. 9 Beech
- 11 Mary Duggan, 55 yrs. 11 mos. 22 dys. 19 Myrtle
- 11 Nerina Ravizza, 13 yrs. 4 mos. 29 dys. 94 Howland Ave.
- 12 Bronislawa Marchewka, 29 yrs. 1 Hilbert
- 12 Julia Czubryt, 4 yrs. 8 mos. 16 dys. 4 Meadow Lane
- 15 Cecylia Bloniarz, 1 mo. 20 dys. 13 Hoosac
- 18 James O'Toole, 89 yrs. 10 mos. 3 dys. 9 Quality
- 23 Charles Exford, 12 wks. 202 North Summer
- 24 Pauline Hoffman, 63 yrs. 8 mos. 3 dys. 7 Cherry
- 28 Griffith Merrill Palmer, 17 dys. 10 Crandall
- 29 Ruth White, 3 yrs. 1 mo. 22 dys. 15 Elm

- Dec. 3 Kazimierz Jan Palczynski, 1 yr. 4 mos. 14 dys. 41 Richmond
 3 Florence Lillian St. John, 2 yrs. 5 mos. 25 dys. 47 Walnut
 10 Mary J. Scannell, 65 yrs. 37 Edmunds
 10 Perry Ryan, 71 yrs. 8 mos. 15 Grove
 11 Infant Bongiolatti, 1 hr. 30 mins. 40 Howland Ave.
 13 Mary Dubia, 53 yrs. 19 dys. 17 Temple
 17 Ezra N. Jones, 75 yrs. 4 mos. 29 dys. 19 Leonard
 18 Mary L. Newton, 91 yrs. 1 mo. 29 dys. 22 Orchard
 21 Stanislaw Baldyga, 9 mos. 13 dys. 13 Weber
 25 Dorothy Nellie White, 1 yr. 11 dys. 15 Elm
 31 Margaret Renfrew Daniels, 79 yrs. 1 mo. 4 dys. 43 East

1923

- Jan. 1 Eugene Dargie, Jr., 3 yrs. 5 mos. 11 dys. 31 Quaker
 1 Marie Louise Painchard, 83 yrs. 7 mos. 21 dys. 20 Melrose
 5 John Earl Robert Gebauer, 70 yrs. 1 mo. 2 Beech
 7 Pauline Ruth Bourdon, 1 yr. 8 mos. 9 dys. 54 Maple
 8 Jozef Ruzsala, 53 yrs. 97 Summer
 14 Sarah Newlands, 69 yrs. 9 mos. 29 dys. 82 Grove
 18 Lillian Beaudin, 20 yrs. 3 mos. 28 dys. Plunkett Gr.
 21 Harvey Cornelius Button, 76 yrs. 3 mos. 4 dys. 82 Orchard
 27 Clara Brouso, 63 yrs. 7 mos. 12 dys. 162 Columbia
 28 Stanislaw Sikorski, 4 dys. 7 Siara
 31 George Alexander Grant, 15 yrs. 7 mos. 2 dys. 9 Melrose
 Feb. 9 Ida Pecor, 51 yrs. 7 mos. 26 dys. 218 Columbia
 10 William E. Conrad, 81 yrs. 2 mos. 24 dys. 9 Newark
 15 John Ryan, 73 yrs. 7 Glenn
 19 Infant Gannon, 5 min. 72 Lime
 21 Joseph A. Wells, 79 yrs. 8 mos. 36 Jordan
 21 William Joseph Dunn, 54 yrs. 2 mos. 19 dys. Adams
 21 Michael Lahey, 73 yrs. 6 mos. 9 dys. 9 Friend
 22 Florence Fortune Frenya, 65 yrs. 7 mos. 21 dys. 6 Bellevue Ave.
 22 George Haggerty, 6 dys. 88 Summer
 22 Charles Boichot, 47 yrs. 6 mos. 57 Commercial
 24 Katharina Iback, 62 yrs. 2 mos. 22 dys. 4 Richmond Lane
 26 Janina Hish, 6 mos. 18 dys. 27 Columbia
 Mar. 2 Anna Kling, 80 yrs. 35 Burt
 6 Elsa Emilie Huber, 2 mos. 109 North Summer
 12 Addie Thomas, 57 yrs. 2 mos. 11 dys. 195 Columbia
 15 Stillborn Guinard 141 Columbia
 15 Clement LeClair, 58 yrs. 9 mos. 15 dys. 8 Pleasant
 15 Brookie Stevens, 27 yrs. 1 mo. 23 dys. 17 Dean
 18 Alice C. Jennings, 83 yrs. 5 mos. 52 Dean
 19 Rose Dufault, 65 yrs. 1 mo. 18 dys. 13 Spring
 22 Zofia Kiwior, 63 yrs. 38 East Hoosac
 26 Antonina Radlowski, 15 yrs. 7 mos. 14 dys. Adams
 27 Seneca E. Lamb, 86 yrs. 6 mos. West Road
 Apr. 6 Infant Brassard, 1 dy. 7 Ruel
 10 Zofia Kurpiel, 37 yrs. 10 mos. 26 dys. 68 Lime
 12 Antoni Kaplanski, 30 yrs. 33 Myrtle
 14 Louis Ferdinand Degenkolb, 73 yrs. 5 mos. 12 dys. 3 Cook
 15 Annais Vuillemot, 65 yrs. 12 dys. 47 Bellevue Ave.
 16 Infant Wludyka, 6 hrs. 4 Holden Ave.
 22 Edward Henry Beaudin, 66 yrs. 2 mos. 21 dys. Adams, Mass.

- Apr. 29 Albert Varley, 72 yrs. 7 mos. 27 dys. Adams, Mass.
 30 Sarah Mocher Hebert, 40 yrs. 10 mos. 12 dys. Adams, Mass.
 30 Horace Reeves, 74 yrs. 8 mos. 14 dys. 2 Bellevue Ave.
 May 5 Infant Sudaska, 11 hrs. Adams, Mass.
 7 Andrzej Kiczek, 47 yrs. 27 Richmond Lane
 12 Thomas J. Ray, 91 yrs. 2 mos. 10 dys. 11 Gilead
 13 Infant Kittler, 5 minutes. West Road
 15 Nelson H. Bixby, 82 yrs. 7 mos. 17 dys. 8 Crandall
 18 Stillborn Pheulpin, 16 Temple
 20 Joseph Durpea, 68 yrs. 5 mos. 16 dys. Adams, Mass.
 21 Richmond Franklin Oakes, 63 yrs. 6 mos. 15 dys. 51 Grove
 June 1 Mina Dunn, 58 yrs. 4 mos. 29 dys. 86 Howland Ave.
 4 Royal A. Hildreth, 67 yrs. 7 mos. 2 Dean
 7 August Wandrei, 54 yrs. 11 mos. 13 dys. 5 Cherry
 18 Emil LaChauce, 42 yrs. 2 mos. 22 dys. 86 Columbia
 19 Helen Marie Adams, 86 yrs. 2 mos. 16 dys. 30 Grove
 24 Lillian Taylor, 19 yrs. 1 mo. 24 dys. 11 School
 26 Mary O'Brien, 68 yrs. 40 Maple
 28 Rosina Gerard, 39 yrs. 3 mos. 15 dys. 11 Temple
 28 Pawel Wincek, 2 dys. 17 Pine
 July 2 Lester Donald Stein, 5 yrs. 1 mo. 15 dys. 32 Dean
 3 Herman Cark Falkenheim, 53 yrs. 10 mos. 12 dys. 5 Sayles
 7 Treffle Rolland, 75 yrs. 3 mos. 24 dys. 14 Beach
 15 George Kerr, 70 yrs. 9 mos. 19 dys. 7 Summer
 16 Toussaint Giroux, 55 yrs. 10 mos. 10 dys. 10 Hayer
 18 Sophie Stefanik, 17 yrs. 7 mos. 27 dys. 44 Dean
 24 Edney D. Barnard, 65 yrs. 5 mos. 10 dys. Adams
 27 Sarah Emily Goldthwaite, 72 yrs. 9 mos. 20 dys. 98 Howland Ave.
 27 Stillborn Mikuszewski, Meadow Lane
 28 Ludwika Oslizlo, 17 dys. 9 Cottreau
 Aug. 3 Joseph Daoust. 69 yrs. 16 West
 5 Adela Piotrowski, 13 yrs. 1 mo. 13 dys. 1 Kearns Lane
 7 Joseph Degan, 68 yrs. 5 mos. 14 dys. 7 Elm
 11 Sadie Goyette, 20 yrs. 8 mos. 1 dy. 1 Dean
 11 Emile Salem George, 3 yrs. 7 mos. 12 dys. 50 Summer
 21 Jozef Danoski, 70 yrs. 5 mos. 3 dys. 6 Staples
 21 Charles Lorning Temple, 73 yrs. 3 mos. 6 dys. 25 Temple
 23 Adella Michalak, 21 yrs. 27 dys. 2 Alger
 24 Stillborn Hamberg, 32 First
 24 James Valentine Ashman, 77 yrs. 14 dys. 11 Elm
 Sept. 6 Harriet L. Wood, 67 yrs. 7 mos. 13 dys. 113 Commercial
 14 Henry Caron, 28 yrs. 5 mos. 11 dys. 33 Myrtle
 16 Joseph Scarbo, 33 yrs. 10 dys. 7 Bellevue Ave.
 22 Susan Alice Radley, 67 yrs. 11 mos. 2 dys. Adams
 26 Stillborn Piskorski, 39 Richmond
 Oct. 2 Stillborn Lafleche, Quaker
 3 Ellen Smith, 65 yrs. 11 mos. 16 dys. 121 Columbia
 4 Stillborn Sheldon, Forest Park Ave.
 7 Stillborn Evans, 20 Glen
 11 Helen N. Baker, 31 yrs. 5 mos. 11 dys. 7 West
 11 Bernard A. Gilfoy, 19 yrs. 17 Gavin Ave.
 17 Anna Velkel, 87 yrs. 6 mos. 20 dys. 138 North Summer
 17 Margaret Mary Moran, 53 yrs. 3 mos. 21 dys. 1 River
 19 John Scotland, 63 yrs. 2 mos. 19 dys. 156 Columbia

- Oct. 20 Stacia Pniak, 1 mo. 21 dys. 30 Greylock Ave.
 20 Joseph Gravel, 42 yrs. 3 mos. 12 dys. 14 Pleasant
 22 Eileen Farnham, 4 yrs. 11 mos. 26 dys. 25 Commercial
 29 Wladyslaw Kudla, Stillborn 15 Winter
 30 Rhea Schiff, 10 dys. 4 Richmond
- Nov. 2 Katherine Gertrude Kearney, 52 yrs. Adams, Mass.
 2 Stillborn Johnson, 8 Pearl
 3 Cecylia Stawarz, 3 mos. 23 dys. 15 Mill
 4 Girard DuGuay, 9 yrs. 60 mos. 27 dys. 21 Beecher
 6 Frank Zablotni, 8 yrs. 2 mos. Adams
 9 Priscilla Lord Erwin, 76 yrs. 2 mos. 15 dys. Temple
 13 Marie Antoininette Taylor, 93 yrs. 9 mos. s dys. Park
 15 Zofia Kogut, 32 yrs. Bucklin Road
 16 William Frederick Smith, 73 yrs. 9 mos. 13 dys. 40 Burt
 18 Anna Zraunig, 72 yrs. 4 mos. 25 dys. 6 Hastings
 18 Thomas Grant, 64 yrs. 2 mos. 24 dys. 14 Center
 18 Infant Gwodz, 1 hour. 104 Summer
 20 Maria Keefe Brock, 48 yrs. 60 Maple
 26 Helen Grace Safford, 68 yrs. 21 dys. 6 Melrose
 26 Bertha May Goodreau, 3 dys. 24 West
 26 Jane Porter, 59 yrs. 6 mos. 23 dys. 108 Columbia
- Dec. 2 Paul Poplowski, 5 yrs. 8 mos. 24 dys. Adams, Mass.
 9 Annie Lydia Hathaway, 90 yrs. 7 mos. Notch Road
 9 Francis R. Harrington, 78 yrs. 1 dy. 123 Commerical
 10 Alma Brodeur, 52 yrs. 9 mos. 5 dys. 109 Commercial
 12 Steve Alboreda, 29 yrs. 9 mos. 7 dys. West Road
 12 Maciej Bernat, 51 yrs. 11 mos. 12 dys. 7 Cook
 15 Ellen Matilda Richmond, 80 yrs. 1 mo. 13 Summer
 16 Florence Vick, 4 mos. 20 dys. 168 Columbia
 17 John William Dunn, 76 yrs. 6 mos. 12 Melrose
 19 Stillborn Till, 72 Friend
 20 Martha Bertha Schmidt, 40 yrs. 16 dys. 18 Burt
 25 Tadeusz Zultek, 3 dys. Manners Ave.
 28 Noah Dudley Haskell, 72 yrs. 8 mos. 29 dys. 123 Commercial
 29 Frank E. Mole, 77 yrs. 2 mos. 3 dys. 11 Summer

1924

- Jan. 2 Julian Zankiewicz, 36 yrs. 2 mos. 50 Howland Ave.
 3 Amelia C. Potter, 66 yrs. 4 mos. 23 dys. 29 Summer
 9 Charlotte G. Lozo, 44 yrs. 11 mos. 12 dys. 6 Upton
 15 Wiktoria Ruszala, 59 yrs. 21 dys. 42 Alger
 18 Domicela Skorpaska, 2 mos. 27 dys. 43 Valley
 20 Alice A. Williams, 63 yrs. 7 mos. 9 dys. 82 Howland Ave.
 25 Doris Dargie, 2 yrs. 4 mos. 10 dys. 190 North Summer
 26 James Stokes, 62 yrs. 23 Waldron
 26 Margaret McCormick, 56 yrs. Adams
 30 Carolina Letzner, 86 yrs. 7 mos. 17 dys. 61 North Summer
- Feb. 1 Samuel Mekdeci, 32 yrs. 44 North Summer
 4 Agnes Hodur Winkowski, 44 yrs. 214 Columbia
 6 Emma F. Follett, 73 yrs. 3 mos. 26 dys. 238 Columbia
 6 Anna Leeming, 3 dys. 111 Grove
 10 Delia Girard, 41 yrs. 5 mos. 5 Temple
 10 Teresa Bednarz, 32 yrs. 3 Clifford Lane
 11 Augustine Desroche, 63 yrs. 10 dys. 10 Depot

Adams Deaths

59

- Feb. 13 Bertha C. Koenig, 53 yrs. 22 dys. Adams
 13 Catherine O'Neil, 59 yrs. 178 North Summer
 14 Elinor Long Chamberlain, 24 yrs. 8 mos. 1 dy. 88 North Summer
 14 Louis Forgue, 70 yrs. 74 Park
 15 John Charles O'Malley, 66 yrs. 6 mos. 2 dys. 21 Hoosac
 19 Stillborn Bowers, Adams
 22 Bertha Marie Kinder Hilse, 54 yrs. 8 mos. 22 dys. 145 Bellevue Ave.
 27 Augusta Porter, 62 yrs. 7 mos. 15 dys. Town Farm, Adams
 Mar. 3 Mary Jane Thomas, 38 yrs. 6 mos. 7dys. 3 School
 7 Martin McShane, 50 yrs. 182 Columbia
 9 Stillborn Oparowski, East Road
 9 Jacques Benoit, 80 yrs. 2 mos. 2 North Summer
 11 Arthur Gagnon, 45 yrs. 7 mos. 20 dys. 81 Commercial
 15 Gottlieb Symanzik, 60 yrs. 4 mos. 21 dys. 30 Jordan
 15 Anna St. Germain, 28 yrs. 8 mos. 12 dys. 3 Howland Ave.
 16 Josephine Bard, 63 yrs. 53 Spring
 17 Merton A. Wilson, 56 yrs. 9 mos. 18 Dean
 17 Elisz M. Boillat, 66 yrs. 8 mos. 7 dys. 18 Temple
 18 Alexander Carduff, 73 yrs. 10 mos. 42 Burt
 21 Charlotte Welch, 94 yrs. 11 mos. 13 dys. 182 Columbia
 23 Michael O'Connor, 60 yrs. 7 mos. 9 dys. 14 Center
 25 Bernice Sweeney, 10 dys. 52 Howland Ave.
 Apr. 1 Charles Bourquin, 71 yrs. 10 mos. 5 dys. 14 Glenn
 2 Patrick O'Hearn, 74 yrs. 6 mos. 14 Reeves
 11 Bridget Agnes McDonnell, 63 yrs. 4 mos. 1 dy. 16 Murray
 21 Agnes Sullivan, 42 yrs. 13 Myrtle
 25 Julius Wandrei, 63 yrs. 11 mos. 27 dys. 31 North Summer
 27 Lucien Filiere, 36 yrs. 24 dys. 44 Bellevue Ave.
 28 Mary Day, 58 yrs. 2 Forest Park
 May 1 Thomas F. Heeney, 60 yrs. 38 Temple
 4 Joseph Daniels, 89 yrs. 9 mos. 17 dys. 23 Alger
 4 Fannie Schiff, 64 yrs. 4 Richmond
 6 Constance LaRoche, 7 mos. 20 Miller
 6 Frank Willis Weston, 49 yrs. 3 mos. 6 Dean
 6 Milouna Gladu, 59 yrs. 4 mos. 16 dys. 28 Fisk
 9 Emilia Trela, 2 dys. 33 George
 12 Stillborn Zatorski, 24 Albert
 12 Louis Belanger, 22 yrs. 4 mos. 19 dys. 138 Bellevue Ave.
 16 Evelina Kunegunda Rysz, 6 mos. 20 dys. 6 Weber
 16 James Wright, 35 yrs. 9 mos. 25 Orchard
 17 Infant Lanier, 1 dy. 32 Maple
 17 Henry Kling, 83 yrs. 11 mos. 6 dys. 35 Burt
 19 Zoe Goyette, 66 yrs. 4 mos. 16 Plunkett Gr.
 21 Ida Chesbro, 63 yrs. Adams
 21 Ethel Champion Brown, 29 yrs. 10 mos. 6 dys. 116 Howland
 27 Emma Ida Adams, 44 yrs. 6 mos. 20 dys. 32 Jordan
 31 Franciszek Jozef Nowak, 2 yrs. 2 mos. 12 dys. 5 Gavin Ave.
 June 6 Ruth Doris Cyr, 19 yrs. 4 mos. 14 High
 6 Joseph Desrochers, 82 yrs. Notch Road
 10 Melanise Guerin, 67 yrs. 4 mos. 8 dys. 9 Smith
 15 Mads Madsen, 17 yrs. 4 mos. 8 dys. Adams
 16 Mary Ellen Steuer, 56 yrs. 10 mos. 3 dys. 3 First
 16 Elizabeth E. Farrar, 70 yrs. 8 mos. 2 dys. 8 Newark
 20 William Francis Martin, 79 yrs. 10 mos. 20 dys. 16 Prospekt

- June 21 Adam Vandette, 19 yrs. 4 mos. 19 dys. 22 Fisk
 23 Gilbert Ryan, 40 yrs. 8 mos. 67 Friend
 29 Leo Remillard, 20 yrs. 13 dys. 60 Maple
 29 Louis Passi, 19 yrs. Adams
 30 Helen Louise McKennie, 22 yrs. 2 mos. 4 dys. 44 Commercial
- July 3 Karl August Falkenheim, 81 yrs. 7 mos. 25 dys. 28 Meadow
 11 Francis James Best, 11 mos. 5 dys. 169 Friend
 20 Robert Luther Howcroft, 14 dys. 68 Columbia
 21 Abbie Palmer Kent, 81 yrs. 18 dys. 24 Grove
 26 Stillborn Lefleche, 24 Quaker
 28 Josephine Canessa, 66 yrs. 2 mos. 10 dys. 100 Holden
 30 Lillian Jennette Griswold, 32 yrs. 2 mos. 101 Commercial
- Aug. 1 Ina Stoeber Wagenknecht, 20 yrs. 3 mos. 24 dys. 7 Elm
 3 Emma Lemoine, 40 yrs. 9 mos. 6 dys. 23 Spring
 11 Victoria Belanger, 66 yrs. 5 mos. 113 Columbia
 17 Victor Bosniak, 37 yrs. Adams
 17 William H. Rose, 79 yrs. 17 High
 18 Magdalena Rzepka, 38 yrs. 2 mos. 22 dys. 49 Pleasant
 22 Mary Beaudin, 51 yrs. 6 mos. 12 dys. 17 Pearl
 24 Elizabeth Goettel Waters, 68 yrs. 7 mos. 110 Commercial
 25 Bertha Griffel, 19 yrs. 4 mos. 5 dys. 35 John
 26 Elizabeth E. Beaubien, 50 yrs. 4 mos. 20 dys. 8 Howland Ave.
- Sept. 5 Paul Duchaine, 90 yrs. 9 Gavin Ave.
 9 Erena Leokadia Konat, 8 mos. 26 dys. 7 Mill
 16 Bridget McGrath, 76 yrs. 18 North Summer
 17 Stillborn Kathleen Maynard, 53 Howland Ave.
 18 Girard Lanier, 7 yrs. 6 mos. 28 dys. 32 Maple
 21 John Kleiner, 61 yrs. 3 mos. 27 dys. 108 North Summer
 22 Stillborn Lipinski, East Hoosac
 25 William Bryce, 58 yrs. 4 mos. 17 dys. 5 Kipper
 27 Elernora J. Tinney, 73 yrs. 3 mos. 2 dys. 63 Center
- Oct. 1 Stillborn Wincek, 41 Crotteau
 10 Apolonya Labedz, 10 dys. 19 Albert
 12 Laura Lamoureux, 29 yrs. 76 Commercial
 14 Andrew Romer, 72 yrs. 6 mos. 40 East Jordan
 15 Margaret L. Pierce, 44 yrs. 124 Howland Ave.
 19 Stillborn Loc, 239 North Summer
 23 August Mirke, 51 yrs. 2 mos. 27 dys. 9 Anthony
 26 Mieczyslaw Dziegiel, 1 dy. 31 Gas House Lane
 29 Stillborn Buletti, 182 Howland Ave.
- Nov. 1 Marcyanna Moderski, 7 yrs. 4 mos. 10 Meadow
 2 Mederise DuQuane, 71 yrs. 1 mo. 26 dys. 55 Commercial
 3 Ellen Logan Morton, 81 yrs. 11 mos. 12 dys. 9 Melrose
 4 Edgar Avery Miner, 70 yrs. 11 mos. 7 dys. Phillips Hill
 6 Agnes LaVigne, 40 yrs. 33 Pleasant
 7 Jessie Gladys Montgomery, 24 yrs. 8 mos. 17 dys. 12 South Willow
 17 Zepherine Gagnon, 63 yrs. 11 mos. 9 Columbia Ter.
 17 Stillborn Marchard, 22 Albert
 19 Nellie Noonan Ford, 61 yrs. Adams, Mass.
 19 John George Haslam, 61 yrs. 9 mos. 12 dys. Richmond
 19 Stillborn Urus, 5 Clifford Lane
 24 Margaret Collins, 82 yrs. 23 North Summer

[Continued on page 66]

STATE CENSUS OF MASSACHUSETTS, 1855

GREAT BARRINGTON

[Continued from Volume 24, Number 1, Page 35]

Abstract by Meta L. Stark

Question marks in the age column are those of the enumerator.

183	235	Elisha Harris	79 M	Farmer	Conn.
		Lydia Harris	74 F		Mass.
184	236	Thos. Bolton	37 M	Carpenter	Mass.
		Julia Bolton	22 F		Mass.
		Abel Sherman?	73 M		Conn.
		Albert Bolton	35m M		Mass.
185	237	Avery E. Harris	30 M	Farmer	Mass.
		Marrilla H. Harris	28 F		Mass.
		Mary E. Harris	5 F		Mass.
		George I. Harris	38m M		Mass.
		Ida A. Harris	9m F		Mass.
		Mary Harris	80 F		Conn.
186	238	William Harris	57 M	Farmer	Mass.
		Melinda Harris	48 F		N.Y.
		Lucy Ann Harris	28 F		Mass.
		Hellen N.? Harris	15 F		Mass.
		Mary A. Harris	13 F		Mass.
		Leonora M. Harris	11 F		Mass.
		Emirette C. Harris	9 F		Mass.
		Andrew Miller	14 M		Germany
187	239	John Rachford	35 M	Labourer	Ireland
		Nanny? Rachford	28 F		Ireland
		John Rachford	8 M		Mass.
		Mary Ann Rachford	5 F		Mass.
		Eliza Rachford	8m F		Mass.
		David Casey	12 M		Mass.
188	240	Aaron Dowd	62 M		Mass.
		Polly Dowd	61 F		Mass.
189	241	Marshall Brace	39 M	Farmer	Mass.
		Sabrina E. Brace	24 F		Mass.
		Chas. Brace	15 M		Mass.
		William Brace	14 M		Mass.
		Allice Brace	12 F		Mass.
		Henry Brace	10 M		Mass.
		Franklin Brace	7 M		Mass.
		Mary Brace	6 F		Mass.
		Emeline A. Brace	40m F		Mass.
		Elisha E. Brace	7m M		Mass.
		August Raison	27 M	Labourer	France
		Henry Bills	25 M	Labourer	Mass.
190	242	Eli Bills	29 M		Mass.
		Caroline Bills	30 F		Mass.
191	243	Joseph K. Pelton	53 M	Farmer	Ct. or Vt.
		Harriet Pelton	51 F		Mass.
		Mary L. Pelton	28 F		Mass.
		Emily E. Pelton	24 F		Mass.

		Charles E. Thomas	18 M		Mass.
		Chas. E. Bostwick	10 M		Mass.
		Eliza Ray	46 F		N.Y.
192	244	Richard Vosburgh	43 M	Farmer	Mass.
		Vickie Vosburgh	43 F		Mass.
		Emily C. Vosburgh	7 F		Mass.
		Mary Vosburgh	5 F		Mass.
		Christina VanDeusen	59 F		Mass.
193	245	Michael VanDeusen	53 M	Farmer	Mass.
		Gertrude VanDeusen	53 F		N.Y.
		Eliza L. Spurr	11 F		Mass.
194	246	Amaziah Gaines	43 M	Farmer	Conn.
		Mary Ann Gaines	42 F		Conn.
		William H. Gaines	17 M		Mass.
		Harriet E. Gaines	15 F		Mass.
195	247	George N.? Vibbard	31 M	Labourer	Conn.
		Mary Vibbard	24 F		Mass.
196	248	Jeremiah Tracy	25? M	Farmer	Ireland
		Catharine Tracy	25? F		Ireland
	249	James Tracy	23? M	Farmer	Ireland
		Mary Tracy	23? F		Ireland
		Margaret Tracy	13m F		Mass.
197	250	Franklin J. VanDeusen	23 M	Farmer	Mass.
		Frances M. VanDeusen	25 F		Mass.
198	251	Patrick Kenarny	27 M	Labourer	Ireland
		Rosy Kenarny	22? F		Ireland
		Andrew Kenarny	36m M		Mass.
		Richard Kenarny	12m M		Mass.
		Catharine Kenarny	8m F		Mass.
		Bridget Kenarny	61? F		Ireland
199	252	Mason VanDeusen	54 M	Farmer	Mass.
		Lena VanDeusen	65 F		Mass.
		Mary J. VanDeusen	27 F		Mass.
		Jacob Clenn	22 M		Germany
200	253	Henry A. Vosburgh	48 M	Labourer	Conn.
		Fruton? Vosburgh	42 F		N.Y.
		Marthy? Vosburgh	15 F		Mass.
		Adelia? C.? Vosburgh	11 F		N.Y.
		Calista Vosburgh	10 F		N.Y.
		Eugenia Vosburgh	9 F		N.Y.
		Loomis W. Vosburgh	54m M		Mass.
201	254	Munson Lathrop	31? M	Labourer	Mass.
		Eliza Lathrop	28 F		Mass.
		Horace Lathrop	35m M		Mass.
202	255	William VanDeusen	55 M	Farmer	Mass.
		Mary VanDeusen	48 F		Mass.
		Jane E. VanDeusen	15 F		Mass.
		Frances VanDeusen	14 F		Mass.
		Jacob VanDeusen	11 M		Mass.
		Mary VanDeusen	9 F		Mass.
		Harriet VanDeusen	7 F		Mass.
203	256	Erastus Beckwith	62 M	Farmer?	Conn.
		Martha W.? Beckwith	56 F		Conn.
		Daniel W.? Beckwith	32 M		Mass.

Great Barrington, 1855 Census

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		Harriet M. Beckwith	28 F		Conn.
		Heather M. Beckwith	13 F		Mass.
		Andrew Pixley	21 M		Mass.
204	257	Barzillai Beckwith	52 M	Farmer	Conn.
		Missy P. Beckwith	52 F		Conn.
		Emily Beckwith	26 F		Mass.
		Fabius Beckwith	20 M		Mass.
		Mary Beckwith	18 F		Mass.
		George Beckwith	12 M		Mass.
		Albert Beckwith	10 M		Mass.
		Frank Durgy	20 M		Conn.
		Daniel Wilcox	80 M	Retired	Conn.
		Mehitable Wilcox	79 F		Mass.
205	258	Abraham VanDeusen	83 M	Farmer	Mass.
		Jahpines? VanDeusen	66 F		Conn.
		Mary Kate VanDeusen	46 F		Mass.
206	259	Asa C. Pelton	51 M	Jeweller?	Mass.
		Ophelia Pelton	49 F		Mass.
		Harriet Pelton	16 F		Mass.
		Edward Pelton	13 M		Mass.
		Timothy Pelton	11 M		Mass.
		Chas. Pelton	8 M		Mass.
		William Pelton	18 M	At School	Mass.
207	260	John Killdruff	60? M		Ireland
		Catharine Killdruff	52? F		Ireland
		Michael Killdruff	25 M		Ireland
		Thomas Killdruff	19 M	Labourer	Ireland
		Catharine Miller	28 F		Ireland
		Joseph Miller	6 M		Ireland
		Herman? Miller	48m M		Mass.?
		James Miller	11m M		Mass.
208	261	Henry J. Vosburgh	25 M	Farmer	N.Y.
		Cordelia M. Vosburgh	17 F		Mass.
209	262	George Winchell	50 M	Farmer	Mass.
		Sarah Winchell	45 F		N.Y.
		Milton Winchell	28 M	Labourer	Conn.
		John Winchell	26 M	Labourer	Conn.
		Samantha Winchell	23 F		Conn.
		Henrietta ?	19 F		N.Y.
		Rachael Winchell	16 F		Mass.
		Lucinda Winchell	14 F		Mass.
		Georgia Ann Winchell	5 F		Mass.
		Lawrence Vosburgh	72 M		N.Y.
210	263	Urias Fouriner?	35? M		Conn.
		Alonzo Fouriner?	13 M		Mass.
		Alfred Fouriner?	9 M		Mass.
		Marcus Fouriner?	5 M		Mass.
		Wm. Fouriner?	17m M		Mass.
211	264	Benjamin Peabody	56 M	Manufacturer	Conn.
		Delia Peabody	46 F		Conn.
		Sarah Peabody	21 F		Mass.
		Frances Peabody	25 F		Mass.
		Cornelius Lang	M	Manufacturer	Scotland
		Benjamin Knowles	40 M		R.I.

212	265	Rev. Lewis Green	36 M	Epis. Clergyman	Vt.
		Clara G. B. Green	31 F		Mass.
		Bridget Whelan	28? F		Ireland
		Benjamin Green	70 M		R.I.
		Sara Ellen Green	30 F		Vt.
213	266	Lewis Houghtaling	65 M	Labourer	N.Y.
		Catharine Houghtaling	60 F		N.Y.
		Amanda R. Houghtaling	23 F		N.Y.
		Melvina A. Houghtaling	21 F		N.Y.
		Hellen A. Houghtaling	19 F		N.Y.
		Adeline Day	29 F		Conn.
		Jane Maxfield	33 F		Ireland
		Betsey Ann Maxfield	26 F		N.Y.
214	267	Andrew Abel	29 M	Labourer	Germany
		Anna Abel	27 F		Germany
		Ann Abel	9 F		Germany
		Mary Abel	54m F		Germany
		Catherine Abel	39m F		Germany
		Maggie Abel	5m F		Mass.
		Catherine Prince?	47 F		Germany
215	268	Wm. A.? Holmes	36 M	Shoemaker	N.J.
		Catherine E. Holmes	40 F		N.Y.
		Cornelia M. Holmes	11 F		N.Y.
		Catherine E. Holmes	9 F		N.Y.
		William C. Holmes	26m M		Mass.
		Mary Quimby	46 F		N.Y.
		Hannah Bunce?	20 F		Mass.
		Eliza Williams	20 F		N.Y.
		Adeline Day	32 F		Conn.
		Betsey Lyons	20 F		Mass.
216	269	Charles Bills	50 M	Labourer	Conn.
		Nancy Bills	47 F		Conn.
		Louisa Bills	20 F		Mass.
		William H. Bills	15 M		Mass.
		Samuel C. Bills	13 M		Mass.
		George Bills	10 M		Mass.
		Charles William Bills	8 M		Mass.
		Ida Amelia Bills	5 F		Mass.
	270	Benjamin Hazard	38 M	Labourer Tinner	R.I.
		Margaret C. Hazard	36 F		N.Y.
		Sarah M. Hazard	13 F		Mass.
		Catharine E. Hazard	12 F		Mass.
217	271	Marvin Church	52 M	Farmer	Conn.
		Caroline Church	49 F		Conn.
		M. Phebe Church	17 F		Mass.
		Charles Church	19 M		Mass.
		Joseph Church	13 M		Conn.
		Jackson Church	7 M		Mass.
		James Geddes	25 M		Mass.
218	272	Samuel Maxfield	46 M	Labourer	N.Y.
		Jennette Maxfield	40 F		Conn.
		Catherine C. Maxfield	13 F		Conn.
		John Maxfield	10 M		Conn.
		George Maxfield	8 M		Mass.

Great Barrington, 1855 Census

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		Risley? Maxfield	6 M		Mass.
219	273	Caroline Bevins	16 F		Conn.
		Maria Bevins	14 F		Conn.
		Sarah J. Bevins	10 F		Conn.
		Anna Bevins	9 F		Conn.
		Emily Bevins	6 F		Conn.
		Harriet Bevins	42m F		Conn.
		Martha Bevins	30m F		Conn.
220	274	Sanford Arnold	56 M	Labourer	Ct. or Vt.
		Mary M. Arnold	49 F		Vt.
		Alvira Arnold	18 F		Mass.
		Angeline Arnold	16 F		Mass.
		Caroline Arnold	13 F		Mass.
		Cyrus Arnold	26 M		Mass.
		George Arnold	20 M		Mass.
221	275	John N. Main	41 M		Conn.
		Jane Main	38 F		Conn.
		Maryetta Main	16 F		Conn.
		Isabella Main	12 F		Conn.
		John D. main	11 M		Conn.
		Julia Ann Main	9 F		Conn.
		William H. Main	7 M		Conn.
		Emily I.? Main	6 F		Conn.
		Zachariah Main	46m M		Mass.
		Susan Ella Main	25m F		Mass.
222	276	Joseph Sanders	47 M	Chairmaker	England
		Clarissa Sanders	33 F		England
		Martha Ann Sanders	9 F		Mass.
223	277	Julius Dreper	51 M	Merchant	Mass.
		Ann Dreper	40 F		Mass.
		John A. Dreper	18 M		Mass.
		Josephine Dreper	13 F		Mass.
		J. Henry Dreper	11 M		Mass.
		Charlotte Dreper	9 F		Mass.
224	278	Joel P. Duane	30 M	Labourer	N.Y.
		Abby Duane	21 F		Mass.
		Charles Duane	13m M		Mass.
225	279	Daniel? M. Oakley	65 M		N.J.
		Mary Oakley	48 F	Ireland	
		Martha Deming	20 F		N.Y.
		Deborah Berry?	18 F		N.Y.
		Loretta Oakley	16 F		N.Y.
		Delia Oakley	13 F		N.Y.
		Chestina L. Oakley	8 F		N.Y.
Date of Enumeration: September 4, 1855					
226	280	John Norton	50 M	Labourer	Ireland
		Mary Norton	46? F		Ireland
		Michael Norton	19 M		Ireland
		Patrick Norton	17 M		Ireland
		Mary Norton	9 F		Mass.
		Catherine Norton	6 F		Mass.
227	281	John H. Coffing	44 M	Iron Manuf.	Conn.
		Rebecca F. Coffing	39 F		N.Y.

		Maria Louise Bostwick	16 F		Mass.
		George Church	28 M		Conn.
		Mary Kendall	18 F		Ireland
		Henry Jackson	8 M	B	Mass.
		Elizabeth McCloud	24 F		Ill.?
228	282	Horace Ticknor	57 M	Farmer	Mass.
		Eliza Ticknor	53 F		Mass.
		William A. Ticknor	31 M		Mass.
		Morton H. Ticknor	15 M		Mass.
		Anna Ticknor	83 F		Conn.
		James S.? Ticknor	45 M		Mass.
229	283	Garret Burghardt	59 M		N.Y.
		Electa Burghardt	58 F		N.Y.
		Sarah Burghardt	19 F		N.Y.
		Lucinda VanDeusen	55 F		Mass.
230	284	Joseph Shaw	38 M	Labourer	England
		Amy Shaw	34 F		N.Y.
		Martha Ann Shaw	9 F		N.Y.
		James W. Shaw	8 M		N.Y.
		Isaac N. Shaw	33m M		N.Y.

[To be continued]

Adams Deaths - from page 60

Nov.24 Roy Randall Briggs Jr., 12 dys. 30 First
 29 Maryjanna Dabrowska, 64 yrs. 8 mos. 8 dys. East Road
 30 Stillborn Patricard, 32 Mill
 Dec. 5 Matilda Teuber, 66 yrs. 3 mos. 25 dys. East Road
 6 Wladyslaw Naprawa, 10 dys. 8 George
 9 Marguerite Gamache, 70 yrs. 4 Miller
 8 John Debacher, 73 yrs. 5 mos. 39 North Summer
 17 Katherine Lauth, 49 yrs. 8 mos. 20 dys. 56 North Summer
 22 Thomas O. Goodbeau, 60 yrs. 70 Commerical
 25 Walter St. John, 39 yrs. 4 mos. 14 Center
 27 Zofia Finik, 10 dys. 41 Friend
 30 Gertrude S. McPeck, 52 yrs. 9 mos. 19 dys. 25 East
 31 William J. Lacy, 61 yrs. 7 mos. 21 Temple

1925

Jan. 12 Maryanna Gruszecka, 17 yrs. 6 mos. 9 dys. 2 Weber
 17 Constance Mary Barron, 2 mos. 28 dys. 22 Summer
 19 Jennie Gauthier, 41 yrs. East Road
 21 Lucy May McGrath, 40 yrs. 4 mos. 88 Summer
 22 Katarzyna Potla, 44 yrs. 9 Weber
 22 No Name Potla, 5 yrs. 8 mos. 4 dys. 9 Weber
 23 Delia Sharon, 80 yrs. 109 Columbia
 26 Joseph Bourdon, 56 yrs. 11 mos. 15 Beach
 27 Alphonse Saillant, 43 yrs. 8 Lincoln
 28 Catherine Kiley, 57 yrs. 10 mos. 21 dys. 7 Albert
 29 No Name Walega, 16 North Summer

* * * * *

ANCESTOR TABLES

[An asterisk preceding an entry indicates that the correspondent is seeking more information on that ancestor.]

CCCLXVIII. ROSEMARY KEEFER, submitted by her daughter, Susan Carlson, 1582 Joseph Lane, Hudsonville, MI 49426

I.

1. Rosemary KEEFER, 1920-1996; Andrews, Indiana; Battle Creek, Michigan; Holland, Michigan.

II.

2. Charles Henry KEEFER, 1865-1953; Armington, Illinois; Andrews, Indiana.
3. Laura Belle WISNER, 1876-1958; Warren, Indiana; Andrews.

III.

4. Francis Richard KEEFER, 1833-1922; Hammond, Indiana; Sunbury, Pennsylvania; Tazewell County, Illinois.
5. Louise Elizabeth PHILLIPS, 1837-1917; Newark, Ohio; Hammond; Tazewell County.
6. Calvin Reynolds WISNER, 1823-1882; Cuba, New York; Andrews.
7. Adaline Jane JONES, 1841-1923; Andrews.

IV.

8. Jacob KEEFER, 1799-1870; Dillon Township, Illinois.
9. Barbara PUFFENBERGER, 1798-1848; Dillon Township.
10. William PHILLIPS, ca1810-post1875; Pennsylvania; Tazewell County.
11. Louise SLOAT, - ;
12. Ananias Whitman WISNER, 1793-1868; Dresden, New York; Grove, New York; Cuba.
13. Annis S. REYNOLDS, 1804-1883; Windham, New York; Cuba.
14. Eli JONES, 1814-1891; Wayne County, Indiana; Dallas Township, Indiana.
15. Amanda J. SMITH (or ARMITAGE), ca1819-ca1852; Ohio.

V.

16. Daniel KIEFFER, 1775-1815; Bowers, Pennsylvania; Maxatowney Township, Pennsylvania.
17. Mary Elizabeth RICHTSTINE, 1779-1850; Berks County, Pennsylvania; Selinsgrove, Pennsylvania; Mainville, Pennsylvania.
24. Jesse WISNER, post1816- ; Jerusalem, New York.
25. Sarah DRAKE, -ante1840; .
- 26.*Philetus REYNOLDS, 1776-1862; Stockbridge, Massachusetts; Cuba.
- 27.*Diadama SEXTON, 1875-1860; Rensselaerville, New York; Cuba.
28. Micajah JONES, 1783-1862; Huntington County, Indiana.
29. Sarah JOHNSON, 1785-1862; Huntington County.

VI.

32. Peter KIEFFER, 1736-1815; Einod, Germany; Longswamp Township, Pennsylvania.
33. Maria Eva LANG, 1742-1816; Berks County.
34. Jacob RICHTSTINE, 1756-1816; Longswamp Township.
35. Maria Catharina KEISER, - ;
- 52.*Daniel REYNOLDS, ca1839-post1790; Richmond, Massachusetts.
- 54.*Alanson SEXTON, 1751/2-ca1808; Sheffield, Massachusetts; Windham, New York.
55. Susannah DOTY, 1753-1832; Sharon, Connecticut; Jewett, New York.

56. Isaac JONES, 1734-post1760; Chester County, Pennsylvania; Orange, North Carolina.
57. Elizabeth COX, 1745- ; Chester County.
58. James JOHNSON, ca1755-1838; Guilford, North Carolina; Webster, Indiana.
59. Ruth MILLS, 1763-1801; Rowan County, North Carolina; Guilford County.
- VII.
64. Frederick KIEFFER, 1704-1759; Zweibrucken, Germany; Longswamp Township.
65. Maria Catherina , - ; .
66. Jacob LANG, -1784; District Township, Pennsylvania.
67. Francona (Veronica) , - ; .
- 108.*James SAXTON, 1729-1793; Westfield, Massachusetts; Hillsdale, New York. Sheffield.
- 109.*Sarah NOBLE, 1730-1769; Sheffield.
110. Silas DOTY, 1721/2- ; Rochester, Massachusetts; Amenia, New York.
111. Susanna (de la Bompasse) BUMP; 1727- ; Rochester; Amenia.
112. Richard JONES, ca1700-post1674; Orange County, North Carolina.
113. Miriam COPPOCK, 1706-post1743; Aston, Pennsylvania.
114. Joseph COX, ca1719- ; .
115. Hannah HUFF, - ; Pennsylvania.
116. Charles JOHNSON, ca1714-ca1768; North Kent, Virginia.
117. Sarah CREW, 1713- ; .
118. Henry MILLS, 1720-1810; Chester County, Pennsylvania; Guilford County, North Carolina.
119. Hannah THORNBURG, 1725-1791; Lancaster County, Pennsylvania; Deep River, North Carolina.
- VIII.
- 216.*James SAXTON, 1702-1783; Westfield, Massachusetts; Sheffield.
- 217.*Abilena GILBERT, 1710-1774; Lebanon, Connecticut; Sheffield.
- 218.*Elisha NOBLE, 1702-1771; Westfield; Sheffield.
- 219.*Abigail WARNER, 1704- ; Northampton, Massachusetts.
- IX.
- 432.*James SEXTON, 1660-1741; Westfield.
- 433.*Anna BANCROFT, 1663-1733; Westfield; Springfield, Massachusetts.
- 436.*Matthew NOBLE, ca1667-ca1743; Sheffield; Westfield.
- 437.*Hannah DEWEY, 1672-1745; Sheffield.

* * *

CCCLXIX. MARLA MADGE COOK, submitted by her daughter, Kris Robertson, 2523 N. 930 E., Provo, UT 84604

I.

1. Marla Madge COOK, 1919- ; Rexburg, Idaho; St. George, Utah.

II.

2. Charles Freeman COOK, 1881-1934; Dingle Dell, Idaho; Rexburg.
3. May Florence THORNTON, 1882-1963; Ogden, Utah; Rexburg.

III.

4. David Franklin COOK, 1858-1887; Cedar Fort, Utah; Rexburg.
5. Maria Louisa SMITH, 1862-1950; Camp Floyd, Utah; Rexburg.

[Continued on page 70]

CATALOG OF OFFICERS AND STUDENTS OF DRURY ACADEMY FOR THE YEAR 1843-1844

From the William Bradford Browne Collection at the Berkshire Athenaeum. Originally published by the *Transcript* Office, North Adams - J. R. Briggs, Jr., Printer.

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Thomas Tower

Harvey Arnold

Amasa Bixby, Treasurer

Benjamin Hathaway

Elihu S. Hawks

Thomas Robinson

E. B. Penniman

W. E. Brayton

Alpheus Smith

J. Q. Robinson

S. B. Brown

S. Blackinton

Luther W. McFarland, Secretary

Lyman Thompson, Principal

Harriet N. Thompson, Principal

Malvina S. Butterfield, Teacher of Music

MALE DEPARTMENT

Hometowns not indicated by state are in Massachusetts; States in parentheses were added by the editor. Hometowns not designated are presumed to be Adams.

Rice Arnold

John S. Barry, Rowe

Charles Brayton

George Bly

Duane Bliss

Walter M. Brown, Pownal (Vermont)

Judge Bullard

Henry J. Brimmer, Petersburg, N. Y.

Thomas B. Brayton

William S. Brooks, Stamford, (Vermont)

Daniel B. Briggs, South Adams

Sylvanus C. Browning

John E. Benedict

George S. Bradford

Oscar F. Butterfield, Hardwick

Martin L. Cole

Albert E. Cole

Henry Darby

Chauncey E. Dewey, Lenox

Daniel F. M. Drew

O'Connor B. Duncan, Hoosick, N. Y.

Seth M. Dunning, Middlebury, Ind.

Andrew C. Eldred, Pownal (Vermont)

Theodore A. Gardner, Mexico, N. Y.

Henry Goodrich

Benjamin F. Hathaway

Elisha Harris

William A. Harris

Abram Harris

Henry E. Hawks

Joseph Hawks

William Harmon

Charles A. Holden

Horatio N. Hicks, Readsboro (Vermont)

Edward N. Hyde

Samuel Hall, Jr.

Dwight Ingalls, Cheshire

Paul R. Kendall, Phillipstown

Joseph F. Knapp, New York City

Joshua Ladd, Pownal (Vermont)

Sherman Ladd, Pownal (Vermont)

Henry Manchester

John Manchester

Elias B. McClellan, Coleraine

William M. Merriam, Troy (New York)

Benjamin G. Olds

Joseph S. Olds

Horace Putney

George Paulding, New York City

William H. Phillips

Augustus H. Potter, Pownal (Vermont)

James B. Richardson

Andrew A. Richardson, South Adams

Robert H. Robinson

Alexander H. Robinson

George Rosenbury, Petersburg (New York)

George Sheldon

Homer A. Smith

Henry L. Smith

Nathan N. Stone, Readsboro (Vermont)

Edward Stewart

Berdick Stewart

John B. Tyler

David Temple, Jr.

J. J. Temple

Edward D. G. Thompson

Andrew B. Thompson, Pownal (Vermont)

Stephen B. Whipple, Pownal (Vermont)

Edward J. Witherell

Albert Witherall

Samuel Whipple, Cheshire

Marcus Whipple, Pownal (Vermont)

FEMALE DEPARTMENT

Henrietta A. Allen

Ann Arnold
 Sarah S. Arnold
 Jane A. Arnold
 Almeida Brown
 Cynthia E. Burlingame
 Frances A. Burlingame
 Caroline A. Brayton
 Louisa M. Benedict
 Eliza M. Browning
 Harriet Brimmer, Petersburg (New York)
 P. Arminia Brimmer, Petersburg "
 Amelia P. Bixby, Townsend, Vermont
 Mary M. Bixby, North Adams
 Martha A. Colvin, Bennington (Vermont)
 Julia A. Campbell, Rochester (Vermont?)
 Lucinda E. Colegrove
 Louis(e?) Deming, South Williamstown
 Jane E. Darling
 Mary A. Edmunds
 Maria A. Eldred, Pownal (Vermont)
 Janette Elliot, Brattleboro (Vermont)
 F. J. Fuller, South Adams
 Delia S. Fisher, Petersburg (New York)
 Laura L. Grey
 Amy Jane Hathaway
 Adaline H. Hawks
 Mary B. Ingraham

Almina Lee
 Maria Mason
 Amelia McClellan, Coleraine
 Betsey Millard
 Sarah E. Nash
 Judith J. Potter
 Helen M. Randall
 Elsey M. Rice
 Maria M. Richmond
 Eliza A. Robinson
 Mary E. Robinson
 Susan F. Robinson
 Margarette M. Robinson
 Caroline J. Smith
 Martha L. Sprague
 Betsey Sprague
 Eunice R. Stone, Whitingham (Vermont)
 Eugenia Taylor
 Harriet A. Tinker
 Caroline E. Thompson
 Jane E. Turner
 Sarah Wilcox, Marcy, New York
 Diantha Temple
 Coralie J. Thompson
 Sarah B. Turner
 Caroline Ward
 Ann E. Witherell

* * * * *

Ancestor Tables - from page 68

6. William Ezra THORNTON, 1850-1915; Iowa; Rexburg.
 7. Augusta MATTSON, 1859-1889; Timmervik Alvsborg, Sweden; Independence, Idaho.
- IV.
8. Henry Freeman COOK, 1815- ; Homer, New York; Cedar Fort.
 9. Julia Ann ROCKER (BERCIER), 1828-1891; Quebec; Cedar Fort.
 10. Charles Thomas SMITH, 1826-1913; Vernon, Ohio; Weiser, Idaho.
 11. Rowena Elizabeth McFATE, 1831-1902; Mahoning, Pennsylvania; Weiser.
 12. Samuel Stratton THORNTON, 1817-1892; Olean, New York; Burton, Idaho.
 13. Harriet Jane HICKENLOOPER, 1830-1894; Leechburg, Pennsylvania; Menan, Idaho.
 14. Gustaf MATTSON, 1828-1921; Grinnerod, Uddevalla Bonus, Sweden; Salt Lake City, Utah.
 15. Britta Marie JOHANNESON, 1834-1913; Timmervik; Burton.
- V.
16. William COOK, 1780-1840; Pittsfield, Massachusetts; Comstock, Michigan.
 17. Lucy CHAPMAN, 1787- ; Hancock, Massachusetts; Cedar Fort.

* * * * *

BERKSHIRE REGIMENT MUSTER ROLL - 1814

From *The Pittsfield Sun*, June 24, 1858, Page 2
Contributed by Emilie S. Piper

An Interesting Reminiscence. - A friend at Monterey, Mr. Edwin Brewer - who, in 1814, was an apprentice in the office of *The Pittsfield Sun* - sends us the following letter, giving the muster roll and other items, which will be read with interest:

Muster roll of 4th Company, 1st Battalion of the Berkshire Regiment, detached for the defence of Boston, September, A.D. 1814.

Solomon K. Chamberlain, Colonel; Stevens and Rowley, Majors; Captain, Adonijah Jones of Otis; Lieutenant, Jabez Peck; Ensign, Pliny Carnes; Sergeants: Abial Abbot, Harlow Fenn, Ephraim Baldwin; Hezekiah Geer, 1st Sergeant. Corporals: Daniel Wells, Miles Bartholomew, Ezra Heath, discharged - [two vacancies, Edwin Brewer, 3rd and Michael Paul, 4th, promoted. Music: Timothy Jones, Orrin _____.

PRIVATES			
Asa Tiffany	William B. Fenn	Isaac Race	Burton Baker
Samuel H. Baird	Christopher Miner	Judson Millard	David Esty
John Bowen	Nathaniel Husted	Jesse Olds	Lyman Brooks
Steven B. Carrington	Elisha Tobey	Samuel Preston	Elisha Scholfield
Reuben Hart	Sylvester Williams	Royal Ormsby	Pitkin Eels
Job Mills	John Williams	George Younglove	Norman Clark
Richard Spalding	Ezekiel Noble	Leander Hooper	William Still
Moses Spalding, 2nd	Enos Hubbard	Edmund Pixley	Elisha Phillips
Phineas Spalding	Leonard Curtis	John Sherman	Henry E. May
Alson Mills	Doctor Millard	Miles Carter	Gamaliel Bolton
Roswell Hubbard	Erastus Winchell	Benjamin Tobey	Edwin Brewer
Simeon Pollard	Orrin Andrews	John Tuttle	Abraham Van Ness
Moses Curtis	Russell Skiff	Dudley Watson	George Palmer
John Dykeman	Cornwell Daily	Josiah Burghardt	Martin Bagg
Daniel Tyler	Seymour Joyner	Henry W. Burghardt	William McKnight
Erastus Pardee	William Lowry	Milton Ball	Harvey Smith
Charles Jones	Norman Tuller	Benjamin Pritchard	Leonard Dexter
Daniel Miner	Hiram Owen	Jacob Tooley	Aaron Potter
	Harley Hubbard	Alanson Slater	Roswell Bates
	Abel Bullock	Isaac Harris	Henry Dewey
			James Mullen

Add the 9 officers and 2 musicians, making 11 more and 90 in all. I do not make out the last name of one of the music. This was an original detachment. There were some substitutes before, and some afterward, and I think some exchanges from one company to another. Amos Harman took the place of Richard Spalding, David Morse of Moses Spalding, 2d, Simeon Mills of Alson Mills; Henry E. May became Sergeant Major, and Michael Paul and William Hale of Pittsfield, joined the Company. Orderly Sergeant Geer and the last 21 privates hailed from Pittsfield, and William Hale, son of Ashbel, was another - probably the 13 next preceding them from Great Barrington. One of them, Alanson Slater, belonged in Tyringham, and now lives in Ashtabula County, Ohio. Sergeant Baldwin with quite a detachment were from Egremont; and West Stockbridge I should think must have furnished a quota. Others would recollect more. I obtained the list from the family of the late Captain Jones, by means of a search for the name of Job Coe, which could not be found. His widow lives in Peterborough, New York, Gerrit Smith's neighborhood. Hoping that this list may be of some service to somebody, I subscribe myself. Affectionately, Edwin Brewer ■

QUERY SECTION

Roger N. Anderson, Editor

03006

KETCHAM-KETCHUM

Epenetus⁵ KETCHUM, b Huntington, LI, Suffolk Co. NY, 3 Oct 1736, d Clarksburg, Berkshire Co., MA, 26 Feb 1829, son of Jonathan⁴ and Hannah (KETCHUM) KETCHAM, assumed the spelling of his mother's family. Lived Dutchess Co., NY, 1862, removed to Berkshire Co., MA ca 1769. Children: Joshua, Epenetus, David, Eleazer, Justus, Samuel and Elizabeth. Who was the wife of KETCHAM-KETCHUM?

03007

KETCHUM-KNICKERBOCKER

David⁶ KETCHUM, son of Epenetus⁵, b Dutchess Co., NY, came with parents to Berkshire Co., ca 1769, d Clarksburg, Berkshire Co., MA 23 Jan 1855 age 90, m Sally KNICKERBOCKER; she d Clarksburg, Berkshire Co., MA 5 Jan 1846 age 74. Children: Solomon, Elihu, Reuben, Erastus, Nancy, Cynthia, Eleazer and Mary. Who were the parents of Sally KNICKERBOCKER?

03008

KETCHUM-HEMINGWAY

Solomon⁷ KETCHUM, b Clarksburg, Berkshire Co., MA, son of David⁶ and Sally (KNICKERBOCKER) KETCHUM, m Stamford, VT, 7 Jan 1813, Polley HEMMINGWAY, removed to Ohio by 1818, appears 1830 Federal Census in Brownhelm Twp, Lorraine Co., OH. Who were their children? Where and when did Solomon⁷ die?

Mary Lou Reedy, 619 Earl Avenue, New Kensington, PA 15068-4801

* * *

03009

STEVENS-FULLER-BROWN

In search of the family of Lois FULLER, b Aug. 6, 1784, she m Elisha STEVENS. He was b in Killingworth, Conn. moved to Pittsfield, MA and later to Richmond where all their children were born. The FULLERS may have lived in Pittsfield, MA. Lois and Elisha had a son Elisha, Jr. b Richmond, m Margaret BROWN, March 14, 1803, they had eight children. In 1808 they emigrated to Ohio and settled in Portage County, near Kent. Looking for dates, b, m, d; who were the parents of both Lois FULLER and Margaret BROWN and siblings.

Lloyd W. Stevens, 1919 S. E. Franklin Ave., Minneapolis, MN 55414

* * *

03010

SULLIVAN-SHEA-KELLY

Looking for any information on Thomas SULLIVAN m Mary A. SHEA of Lee, Ma. Thomas was born in Pittsfield, MA. No records have been found. Thomas d 11 Feb 1920 in Keansburg, N.J. buried in St. Mary's cemetery in Lee, MA. They had 5 children Elizabeth, Thomas, Arthur, Eugene Orin, Mary Gertrude SULLIVAN. Mary SHEA was the daughter of Patrick SHEA and Mary KELLY? She died 2 Feb. 1931.

03011

WILLIAMS-FOSTER-CLARK

Looking for father of Albert WILLIAMS, who married Phebe FOSTER, 16 Oct 1822 in Pownal, Vt. The Williams lived in Williamstown, MA. Albert should be a cousin of Ephraim WILLIAMS who was killed in New York, and Williams College is named after. They had a daughter Charlotte WILLIAMS who married David S. CLARK.

Any information would be helpful.

Peter A. Rhodes P. O. Box 3151 Enfield, CT <peterarhodes@cox.net>

* * *

Send queries directly to our queries editor, Roger N. Anderson, 29 Deborah Ave., Pittsfield, MA 01201, or, E-Mail to <bfha@berkshire.net>

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GUIDE TO INTERPRETATION OF THE 1855 MASSACHUSETTS CENSUS

The taking of a census in 1855 was mandated by an act of the General Court of Massachusetts, 21 May 1855. The act provided that a census of each city and town be taken between 1 June and 1 October 1855. The census was to be "as of" the first day of June of the census year.

Reports on the taking of the census stated that the instructions were generally "well observed". Some enumerators, however, were so negligent or heedless that their reports were "scarcely fit to be received". Cautions, still appropriate, were given against relying too absolutely on the census because of "the great liability to error", and the "usual difficulty of arriving at the truth" arising from ignorance and prejudice.

To secure uniform reporting, blank forms were provided and the following data were to be recorded:

1. Dwelling houses numbered in the order of their visitation.
2. Families numbered in the order of visitation, ("family" being all those living in one house, public house or institution.)
3. Name of every person whose usual place of residence was in this family 1 June 1855. Note: Excluded were those born after 1 June. Included were those who had died after 1 June and those temporarily absent. Relationship of household members to the head of the household was not recorded. An aid in establishing relationships exists, nevertheless, in the requirement that the enumerator arrange names in a given order:
 - (1) Master
 - (2) Mistress
 - (3) Children in order of age
 - (4) Male domestics, etc.
 - (5) Female domestics, etc.
 - (6) Boarders, etc.
4. Age. To be given as of last birthday unless next birthday would be within four months, then age at next birthday.
5. Sex.
6. Color. B for Blacks, M for Mulatto, no entry for Whites.
7. Profession, occupation or trade for each male over fifteen. For clergymen, initial letters of denomination.
8. Place of birth. State or territory if native born; country if foreign born.
9. Whether deaf and dumb, blind, insane, idiotic, pauper or convict.

BERKSHIRE FAMILY HISTORY ASSOCIATION, INC.

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