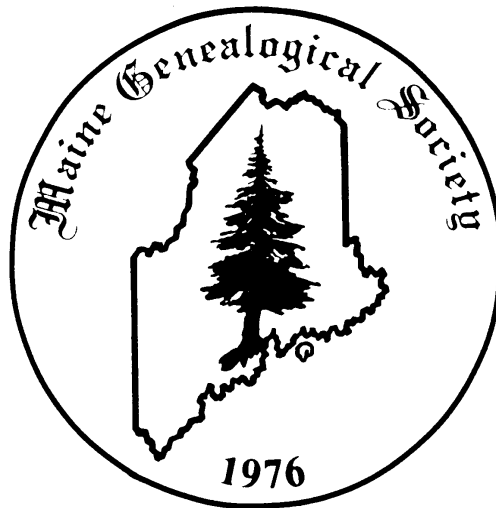


The Maine Genealogist



November 2017
Volume 39, Number 4

The Maine Genealogical Society

P.O. Box 2602, Waterville ME 04903

<http://maineroots.org/>

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The Maine Genealogist (ISSN: 1064-6086) is published in February, May, August, and November. It is printed by Penmor Lithographers, Lewiston, Maine. See back page for membership rates and submission guidelines. For back issues, contact MGS's Sales Manager at <seeker@maine.rr.com>.

The Maine Genealogist

Journal of the Maine Genealogical Society

November 2017

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EDITOR'S PAGE

Original records, for genealogists, are the building blocks used to reconstruct our family history. Uncovering a document created in the time and place where an ancestor lived lets us perceive the circumstances and possibly even the emotions in play at that moment in history. A testator's shaky scrawl, for example, made only days before his death, allows the researcher to feel the urgency and intimacy of a dying man's last wishes to put his affairs in order.

Effective interpretation of original records requires an understanding of the laws and practices in place at the time. On a more basic level, it also involves being able to read the document. Those of us with ancestry in other countries are familiar with the challenge of translating records written in other languages. Even English documents, however, can pose a problem. Years ago, on a business trip to Asia, I brought along a photocopy of a two-page sixteenth-century English will of an ancestor, with the intention of transcribing it on the airplane. To the uninitiated (as I was at the time), the old English scribal hand was nearly impossible to decipher. Beginning with the few words I could read easily, I copied the scribe's handwriting into two alphabets—one of lower case letters and one of capital letters—and then used those alphabets to attempt to interpret the more difficult words. As I made progress, it became easier to read, but it took me the entire twelve-hour plane ride to finish it.

All of the articles in this issue of *The Maine Genealogist* are centered around the use and insightful interpretation of original records. In her study of the Sleepers of Lincoln and Kennebec counties, Pat Hatcher conducted an exhaustive study of deeds and probate records in both Maine and New Hampshire. This was complicated by the fact that the area in Maine where the Sleepers settled underwent several name changes (including the county name) and that the New Hampshire research involved both the province and county series of deeds and probate records.

In her article on the loud and unruly Pierce family of Kittery, Priscilla Eaton describes that family's constant run-ins with the local authorities. The source that she cites more than any other in the article are court records, which add vivid detail and color to the events they describe. If the Pierces were around today, they would most likely have their own reality show.

On this 100th anniversary of the United States' involvement in World War I, Sally Nelson writes about the service and patriotism of the men who enlisted in Company E from Skowhegan. Her article is built around a series of contemporaneous letters from the soldiers, published in the local newspaper. The letters provide a personal account of the soldiers' experiences and of the support they received from home.

Glenn Sampson, in his article on the George Bowes family, shows how meticulous research into every person named in a deed led to the discovery of a previously unknown daughter in the family. Notably, it was not one of the principal parties to the deed that led to the discovery, but rather one of the witnesses.

We hope these fine case studies inspire you to delve deeper into the context of original records.

—Joseph C. Anderson II, Editor

SLEEPERS IN LINCOLN AND KENNEBEC COUNTIES, MAINE

By Patricia Law Hatcher, FASG, FGSP

The origins of the Sleepers of eighteenth-century Lincoln County, Massachusetts [all locations now in Kennebec County, Maine¹], has not been known. Surely they were descendants of Thomas¹ Sleeper, who was in Boston by 1645, eventually settling in Hampton, New Hampshire. I had at one time collected anything and everything Sleeper in New England and New York, accumulating a box of photocopies in an unsuccessful attempt to find a place in the family for John Sleeper of Ohio, who censuses said was born in Maine with children born in Vermont, New Hampshire, and New York. Thomas's son Aaron is the only second-generation male known to have left descendants, but Aaron had eight sons, so during the eighteenth century, Sleepers seem omnipresent in New England. John, Solomon, and Moses are the only Lincoln County Sleepers I found through 1800.²

Three Sleepers 16 or above as of 1 January 1777 appear on the roll of male inhabitants of Gardinerston, which lists 84 [eligible for service], 2 "at see," 3 Quakers, and 12 in the army, for a total of 104. The list includes John Sleeper and "Solimon Sleper." There is a separate vertical list on the left side of the page, purpose unknown, with eighteen names, all but three of which are also in the main list. It includes John Sleeper and Moses Sleeper.³ Gardinerston covered a large area at that time.

Solomon Sleeper left only one other Lincoln County record, when on 25 November 1779 he sold lot #217 in Winthrop, which he had purchased from Doctor Flitner,⁴ acknowledging the sale 17 September 1781; he signed by mark.⁵

¹ Eastern River is east of the Kennebec River. It flows south, beginning in present-day Whitefield, through Pittston, entering the Kennebec River at Dresden. Gardiner, Hallowell, Vassalboro, and Winthrop are all in present-day Kennebec Co., Maine, which was created from Cumberland and Lincoln cos. in 1799. Hallowell was settled in 1754, Vassalboro was settled in 1760, and Winthrop was settled in 1760, all three incorporated in 1771 as Maine's 21st, 22nd, and 24th towns, respectively (Winslow was the 23rd). Readfield was created in 1791 in part from Winthrop.

² I found only one other Sleeper record in Maine in this time period, a marriage for "Benjamin Sleeper(?)" and Hannah Hersey in Harpswell in 1772 ("Harpswell, Maine, Vital Records, Recorded by Rev. Elisha Eaton, 1754-1764 and by his son Samuel Eaton, V.D.M., 1765-1843," typescript [n.d.], Maine Historical Society, Portland, call #Mv H236.1, p. 25). Some of the deeds cited below contain references found during my more recent research, which are included for completeness.

³ "A List of the Male Inhabitants of the Plantation of Gardinerston in the County of Lincoln January 4: A.D. 1777," *The Maine Genealogist* 13(1991):65-66, compiled 4 Jan. 1777.

⁴ The deed of purchase was not recorded. This lot is not in the original 156 lots of Winthrop and was likely rural. At the March 1777 Winthrop town meeting, a road was approved "to the head of the mill from the house of Dr. Zachariah Flitner" (Everett S. Stackpole, *History of Winthrop, Maine* [Auburn, Maine, 1925], 68). "Dr. Zachariah Flitner, a German doctor, settled on a five acre lot in what is now Gardiner Village, but soon gave it up and removed to Brown's farm. After remaining there awhile he went to the neighborhood of Nahumkeag pond." (John Wesley Hanson, *History of Gardiner, Pittston, and West Gardiner* . . . [Gardiner, 1852], 82). Nehumkeag Pond is in Pittston, southeast of Gardiner; Winthrop is west of Gardiner.

⁵ Lincoln Co., Maine, Deeds, 15:59 [Family History Library (FHL), Salt Lake City, film #11365].

John Sleeper was the first to appear in the records, when on 1 September 1773 he witnessed a deed from Samuel Dudley of Pownalborough and his wife “Maray” to Edmund Bridge of Pownalborough.⁶ On 3 January 1774, Edmund Bridge of Pownalborough, gentleman, and John Sleeper, residing at the Eastern River, yeoman, purchased from Thomas Agry a 200-acre lot on the east side of the Kennebec River.⁷ The same day Edmund Bridge and John Sleeper sold 93 acres of this land to Samuel Dudley.⁸ On 6 April 1777, John Sleeper of Gardinerston, gentleman, sold to David Young 200 acres in Gardinerston on the Eastern River within an 800-acre lot belonging to Thomas Agry,

. . . the same conveyed to me and Mr. Edmund Bridge by deed dated 3 January 1774, 93 acres of which having been conveyed by me and the said Edmund to Mr. Samuel Dudley and one half of the residue being now my right together with my dwelling house standing thereon and the mills and stream running thro the said land called the Eastern River.⁹

John Sleeper of Hallowell was one of the sureties, 2 October 1779, for Elizabeth Carr, widow, administratrix for Mecrus Carr of Dyers River.¹⁰ In 1781 John Sleeper was a moderator at a Winthrop town meeting and, 17 August 1781, it was voted he be employed to procure 2856 lbs. of beef, agreeably to a resolve of the General Court, which was passed as an abatement on the town taxes.¹¹ On 25 September 1781 at the Lincoln County Court, Stephen Dudley, for £100, and David Gilman and John Sleeper, for £50 each, were sureties that Eliphalet Dudley, a minor, would appear to answer the charge of Sarah Emerson that he begot her with child,¹² but there is nothing more on the case, probably because of their shotgun wedding 24 November 1781 in Winthrop.¹³ John Sleeper was a witness 5 June 1782 when Moses Sleeper of Winthrop sold land.¹⁴ John Sleeper of Winthrop, gentleman, sold on 12 September 1785 to Stephen Dudley land part in Washington, part in Winthrop.¹⁵ On 15 May 1786 Jonathan Ballard, husband of diarist Martha Ballard of Hallowell, “swap’t away our hors with mr Sleeper.”¹⁶ On 18 April 1788 John Sleeper of Winthrop, gentleman, sold 200 acres in Winthrop.¹⁷ On the 1790 census, John “Steper”

⁶ Lincoln Co. Deeds, 10:27–28 [FHL film #11363].

⁷ Lincoln Co. Deeds, 10:130–31 [FHL film #11363].

⁸ Lincoln Co. Deeds, 11:125–26 [FHL film #11363].

⁹ Lincoln Co. Deeds, 18:196–97 [FHL film #11367].

¹⁰ William D. Patterson, *Probate Records of Lincoln County, Maine, 1760–1800* (Portland, 1895), 92.

¹¹ David Thurston, *A Brief History of Winthrop, from 1764 to October 1855* (Portland, 1855), 38, 75–76. The town records of Winthrop have not been microfilmed, so I could not search further.

¹² Lincoln Co. Court Records, 1:185 [FHL film #1765425].

¹³ IGI controlled extraction batch M503202 from FHL film #12299.

¹⁴ Lincoln Co. Deeds, 17:3[verso]–4 [FHL film #11366].

¹⁵ Lincoln Co. Deeds, 29:216 [FHL film #11372].

¹⁶ Robert R. McCausland and Cynthia MacAlman McCausland, *The Diary of Martha Ballard, 1785–1812* (Camden, Maine, 1992), 34.

¹⁷ Lincoln Co. Deeds, 22:45 [FHL film #11369].

was in “Wintrop,” between the households of Job and Richard “Shurbern” and Stephen and Eliphalet Dudley; his household also included one female.¹⁸ On 18 July 1791, John Sleeper of Readfield, yeoman, sold one-eighth part of a sawmill built by Sleeper and others in Washington with a quarter of an acre adjoining the mill as a privilege of a mill yard; acknowledged 6 April 1797.¹⁹ On 10 January 1793, John Sleeper of Readfield, yeoman, and Elizabeth his wife sold to Stephen Dudley the lot Dudley lives on; witnesses included Moses Sleeper.²⁰ By the 1800 census of Readfield, the household of John Sleeper included apparently his wife and two small sons.²¹

Moses Sleeper was a witness, 25 November 1779, when Solomon Sleeper sold his land in Winthrop.²² On 5 June 1782 Moses Sleeper of Winthrop, yeoman, sold 200 acres in Winthrop, lot #124 called the Sip lot, for 600 bushels of corn to Ithiel Gordon; witnesses included John Sleeper.²³

Moses then moved northeast about twenty miles to Vassalboro. On 22 March 1784, Moses Sleeper of Vassalboro bought from Ithiel Gordon, for 372 bushels of merchantable Indian corn, 100 acres in the south end of lot #124, known as the Sip lot; whereas Gordon had given two notes dated 7 June 1782, one for 200 bushels of merchantable Indian corn to be delivered before 15 January 1784, which is paid of 28 bushels of corn, and one of the same date for 200 bushels to be delivered at Winthrop on 15 January next, and if delivered this sale to be void.²⁴ On 31 12th month [December] 1787, Moses Sleeper of Vassalboro bought 100 acres in Jones Plantation [China, Maine, today].²⁵ Moses Sleeper was a witness of the 12 5th month [May] 1789 will of Moses Kimball of Vassalboro.²⁶ On the 1790 census, Moses’s household also included one male under 16 and two females.²⁷ Moses witnessed the 10 January 1793 land sale by John Sleeper.²⁸ On 4 January 1796 Moses Sleeper of Vassalboro, yeoman, bought one hundred acres in Vassalboro on the east side of the Kennebec River.²⁹ On 5 5th month [May] 1798, Moses Sleeper and George Ramsdell for and in consideration of the Monthly Meeting of the People called Quakers by the name of Vassalborough Monthly Meeting bought from George Rhodes of Bristol, shipwright, part of the land in Bristol on which Rhodes lives.³⁰

¹⁸ John Steper household, 1790 U.S. Census, Winthrop, Lincoln Co., Maine, p. 47.

¹⁹ Lincoln Co. Deeds, 41:98 [FHL film #11379].

²⁰ Lincoln Co. Deeds, 29:215 [FHL film #11372].

²¹ John Sleeper household, 1800 U.S. Census, Readfield, Kennebec Co., Maine, p. 1262.

²² Lincoln Co. Deeds, 15:59 [FHL film #11365].

²³ Lincoln Co. Deeds, 17:3[verso]–4; acknowledged 22 March 1784 [FHL film #11366].

²⁴ Lincoln Co. Deeds, 17:4–5 [FHL film #11366].

²⁵ Lincoln Co. Deeds, 23:93 [FHL film #11369].

²⁶ Patterson, *Probate Records of Lincoln Co.* [note 10], 184–85.

²⁷ Moses Sleeper household, 1790 U.S. Census, Vassalboro, Lincoln Co., Maine, p. 135.

²⁸ Lincoln Co. Deeds, 29:215 [FHL film #11372].

²⁹ Lincoln Co. Deeds, 37:8–9 [FHL film #11376].

³⁰ Lincoln Co. Deeds, 41:98–99 [FHL film #11378].

The Moses Sleeper household on the 1800 Vassalboro census lists the head of household as 26–44, with 3 males 16–25, 2 males under 10, 1 female 45 or over, and 1 female 16–25.³¹

These records provided few clues to placing John, Solomon, and Moses in the Sleeper family.

REOPENING THE RESEARCH

When I recently began looking at this again, including using Internet searches, two very interesting items surfaced, neither of which would have been encountered in my earlier traditional research paths. The first is a lengthy article in an English Quaker newspaper in 1869 [*emphasis added*].

The British Friend, 11th Month [November], 1st, 1869

AN INCIDENT IN THE LIFE OF MOSES SLEEPER,
LATE OF VASSALBORO, MAINE, NORTH AMERICA.

Moses Sleeper, it appears, was born at Brentford [*sic*, Brentwood], New Hampshire, the 4th of the 4th month [June] 1750, of religious parents of the Calvinistic persuasion; he was deprived of his father when between three and four years of age, and his mother, after a second marriage, removed with her husband and children to a place called Eastern River, in the County of Lincoln, state of Maine, where Moses was employed in a mill owned by his father-in-law, who was then engaged in the lumber business.

...

an elder brother

...

The following is from a memorandum in the handwriting and found among the papers of the deceased:—“Having served two campaigns in the American revolutionary war, in the years 1776 and 1777, then in the seventeenth and eighteenth year of my age, after which my mind being turned by the Light of Christ from the Calvinistic faith and the doctrines of war to the doctrines and precepts of the gospel as professed by Friends, and being again in the summer of 1780 drawn out for a third campaign for a short time in the militia, I then being at Winthrop . . . [the remainder of the lengthy article is about his refusal, sentencing, and eventually escaping punishment].”

—*Philadelphia Friend*³²

The second find was in a posting on an archived RootsWeb Huntoon surname list proving a daughter of a Reuben Smith, which I found by searching for “Solomon Sleeper” [*emphasis added*].³³

³¹ Moses Sleeper household, 1800 U.S. Census, Vassalboro, Kennebec Co., Maine, p. 1290.

³² *The British Friend: A Monthly Journal, Chiefly Devoted to the Interests of the Society of Friends* 27, no. 11(11th month 1869):276–78 [images at books.google.com].

³³ Christopher Hunton, 28 Aug. 2001, RootsWeb Huntoon Surname List (archiver.rootsweb.ancestry.com/th/read/huntoon/2001-08/0999020184). Oddly, only three days later I was unable to call up the posting to finish the citation, even though I had the text above. I finally got to it through RootsWeb and my memory of the posting.

22 April 1760, Rockingham County, New Hampshire. John Clough, Jonathan Sanborn, John Morrill, Obadiah Elkins and Zaccheus Clough were the “Owners of a mill in Brintwood³⁴ . . . Known by ye name of Clough’s Saw mill.” Their “mill or Dam flows a Large Quantity of Choice good Land which Intirely Ruins s(ai)d Land & prevents . . . ye owners of s(ai)d Land of all profitts thereof.” The mill owners committed to pay 1,000 pounds to the land’s owners if they had not removed the dam and mill by April 11, 1762. The landowners were “*John Sleeper yeoman* Daniel Ladd Junr yeoman Reuben Smith Joshua Smith Robert Smith all yeomen & all of Brintwood afores(ai)d & Charles Huntoon of Kingston Trader.” (Source: Rockingham County, New Hampshire Deeds,³⁵ Vol. 62, p.118.)

16 August 1769, New Hampshire. A writ on behalf of *John and Solomon Sleeper, minor sons of the late John Sleeper*, was sworn out summoning “Jane Smith widow Reuben Smith husbandman Joshua Smith husbandman Robert Smith husbandman all of Brintwood in our province of New hampshire. And Charles Huntoon of Kingston in the same province gent. & Mariah his wife”, i.e. all Reuben Smith’s heirs and his son-in-law. The defendants had to answer the charges that they had seized and fenced in a 20-acre part of the “Callamus meadow” in Poplin³⁶ *which they had previously sold to the Sleeper’s father*, and that they were illegally retaining the income from those acres. The court’s referees decided that the Smiths should return 12 of the 20 acres. (Source: New Hampshire Court Records in the N.H. State Archives, Concord, File #25531, Year 1769.)

According to the *British Friend* newspaper article, Moses would have been 50 in 1800, but the census lists him as under 45, so at first it seemed that this census entry was for a member of the next generation, until my searches produced a third item, a biography of Moses, which stated that he died in 1830, suggesting that the 1800 census for Moses understated his age, if it belonged to the early Maine resident.

Moses Sleeper, Vassalborough, was a pioneer farmer in his town. . . . From records in the probate office it appears that he died in 1830.³⁷

These three items, of course, immediately prompted a flurry of traditional research, for which I had massive stacks of photocopies, abstracts in computer files, and partial compilations from my earlier research, plus online access to many records.

Moses Sleeper died 20 1st month [January] 1830 and Hannah Sleeper his wife died 11 8th month [August] 1832, their deaths recorded in the Vassalboro Friends records.³⁸ They both left wills that do not name any Sleepers; all bequests seem to be to friends and neighbors, probably members of the Vassalboro Friends Meeting.³⁹

The Brentwood, Rockingham County, New Hampshire, town records include vital records, but these seem to have been recorded retroactively in the late-eighteenth and

³⁴ Brintwood, now Brentwood, is in Rockingham Co., N.H.

³⁵ The citation is incorrect. This is from the N.H. Province Deeds, not Rockingham Co. Deeds.

³⁶ Poplin, Rockingham Co., was renamed Fremont.

³⁷ *Debates and Journal of the Constitutional Convention of the State of Maine* (Augusta, 1894), 97.

³⁸ Henry Sewall Webster, “Records of the Society of Friends at Vassalborough, Me.,” *The New England Historical and Genealogical Register* 68(1914):381.

³⁹ Kennebec Co., Maine, Probate Records, #S6 [FHL #5429776].

early-nineteenth centuries and there are none for any Sleepers. I read the town records for references to John Sleeper, and found him as selectman or constable between 31 March 1756 and 25 April 1758,⁴⁰ showing that the time of his death as given in the *British Friend* newspaper article was apparently incorrect.

CONNECTING TO THE FAMILY OF THOMAS¹ SLEEPER

By the next day I had located among my papers the documents that proved, in combination with the discoveries above, the placement of the Maine Sleepers in the family of Thomas¹ Sleeper. The will abstract, below, focuses on familial relationships [*emphasis added*], but the testator owned numerous pieces of property and had substantial assets; his published will runs to four-and-a-half pages:

The 24 Jan. 1761 will of *John Sleeper* of Brintwood in the Province of newhampshier in new England Trader being not well . . . my body to be decently buried in the friends buring yard in Brintwood, near my mantion house, by the side of my dear daughter *Apphia*.

He names his *wife Apphia* (all the incoims and profits of all my estate for the bringing up of my dear children untill they come of age), *daughter Margaret* (£500 if she obeys her mother in matching to be paid to her at her marriage), *son Peter Sanborn Sleeper*, *son John Sleeper*, *son Solomon Sleeper*, *son Moses Sleeper*, *daughter Apphia* (£500 at marriage), *brother Samuel* and his *wife Hannah*, *brother Jonathan*, *Apphia Sleeper brother Moses[’s] daughter* (if she lives with my wife till she is eighteen years old and behaves in a dutifull manner), Daniel Beede executor; codicil adds wife Apphia as executor. Witnesses Chase Smith, Stephen Dudley Juner, William Dowlin. Will proved 27 May 1761.⁴¹

The inventory, presented in June 1761, totalled £36,583.7.9, of which £5,464 was in goods and chattles, £2,509.7.9 was in debts due, and £28,610 in seven pieces of land.⁴²

The first accounting of executors Daniel Beede, Samuel Dudley Jr., and Apphia Dudley his wife, formerly Apphia Sleeper, allowed 29 June 1768, mentions £2,623 for land sold from license at vendue and £275.19.5 of personal estate not distributed. Expenses totalled £1,554.2.6, including £500 paid for nursing, attendance and necessaries for the deceased having the small pox for cleaning the house after his decease, £300 for the funeral.⁴³

An additional accounting, allowed 30 Aug. 1768, included maintenance of the said Apphia’s family two years viz’t 1761 and 1762 at £50 per year and “her daughter Margaret’s portion £31.”⁴⁴ [One wonders if Margaret did not follow her mother’s instructions as to her husband and therefore did not receive the £500 of her father’s will].

⁴⁰ Brentwood, N.H., Town Records [FHL film #15081].

⁴¹ N.H. Province Probate Records, 22:110 [FHL film #15466]. The full text of the will is in Otis G. Hammond, *Probate Records of the Province of New Hampshire*, vol. 7: 1760–63, vol. 37: N.H. State Papers Ser. (Concord, 1939), 76–80.

⁴² N.H. Province Probate Records, 22:174–77 [FHL film #15466].

⁴³ N.H. Province Probate Records, 25:207–9 [FHL #15,467].

⁴⁴ N.H. Province Probate Records, 25:245 [FHL film #15467].

A division of the land setting off the dower thirds to Aphia Dudley late wife of John Sleeper late of Brentwood was made 3 Oct. 1768.⁴⁵

Fortunately, the will of John's father was equally informative [*emphasis added*].

The 12 Jan. 1754 will of Moses Sleeper of Kingstown gentleman names wife Margaret and children *John*, Richard, Jonathan, *Moses*, David, *Samuel*, Henry, Benjamin, Sherburn, Elisabeth wife of Reuben Sanborn, Mary wife of William Sanborn, Anne, Love, and Hephzibah.

Will proved 27 Feb. 1754.

Richard Sleeper of Kingston, aged about 16 years, son of Moses Sleeper, chooses *his brother, John Sleeper of Brentwood, trader*, as his guardian on 28 March 1754.

Guardianship of Richard Sleeper, minor, aged more than fourteen years, granted to John Sleeper, 31 June 1755.⁴⁶

A narrative written in 1834 by Odlin Sleeper states:

The only record of the Sleepers and Tiltons in this country which I have is verbal. They were, however, among the first inhabitants.

Thomas Sleeper, born in England, about 1616, was of Hampton, New Hampshire, 1640. He died in Hampton July 30, 1696; had eight children.

Aaron Sleeper, Thomas's son, born Feb. 20, 1661, died in Kingston May 9, 1732; had 19 children.

Moses Sleeper, son of Aaron, born in Kingston, Jan. 22, 1685,⁴⁷ died in Kingston Jan. 13, 1754; had 15 children.

David Sleeper, son of Moses, born Nov. 16, 1721, had 19 children.

My great-grandfather Moses Sleeper settled in Kingston where grandfather David Sleeper was born. David had brothers and sisters Moses and John, Samuel, Benjamin, Richard, Henry, Jonathan, Sherburn, Elizabeth, Mary, Ann, Love and Hephzibah.⁴⁸

This places the Lincoln County Sleepers as children of John⁴ Sleeper (*Moses*³, *Aaron*², *Thomas*¹) and Apphia Sanborn, who married 10 January 1738/9 at the First Church in Kingston.⁴⁹

⁴⁵ N.H. Province Probate Records, 26:376 [FHL film #15468]. Full text is in Hammond [note 41], 80–82.

⁴⁶ Otis G. Hammond, *Probate Records of the Province of New Hampshire*, vol. 5: 1754–56, vol. 35: N.H. State Papers Ser. (Concord, 1936), 6–10.

⁴⁷ “Moses Son of Aron Slep[er] by Elizabeth his wife bor: 22 : January 1684” (from a manuscript by Theodore Atkinson at the N.H. Historical Society, 26 Nov. 1700, in *Collections of the Dover, N.H., Historical Society, Vol. 1* [Dover, 1894], 1:123); George Freeman Sanborn Jr. and Melinde Lutz Sanborn, *Vital Records of Hampton, New Hampshire to the End of the Year 1900*, 2 vols. (Boston, 1992), 1:16: “Moses the Son [torn] Elizabeth his [torn] the 22th of Je[torn] [22 (Jan 1684/5) Moses (Sleeper) [son of] (Aaron) and Elizabeth].”

⁴⁸ Odlin Sleeper, “Record of Some of the Descendants of Thomas and Joanna Sleeper of Hampton, New Hampshire” (typescript, N.H. Historical Society, Concord), 3. The typescript was made by Alice Isabel Crawford from a copy of Odlin's narrative that had been made by her father George Templeton Crawford.

⁴⁹ “Marriages by Rev. Joseph Secomb, Kingston First Church Records,” *New Hampshire Genealogical Record* [NHGR] 3(1905–6):40.

GENEALOGICAL SUMMARY

JOHN⁴ SLEEPER (*Moses³, Aaron², Thomas¹*) was born 25 July 1715 in Kingston, New Hampshire,⁵⁰ son of Moses Sleeper and Margaret Sanborn (*Jonathan², John¹*).⁵¹ He died of smallpox in Brentwood, New Hampshire, between 24 January 1761 (will) and 27 May 1761 (probate).⁵² John Sleeper married 10 January 1738/9, at the First Church in Kingston, **APPHIA SANBORN**.⁵³ She was born 12 July 1722, daughter of Peter Sanborn (*John², John¹*) and Apphia Shaw (*Caleb³, Joseph², Roger¹*).⁵⁴ Apphia married second between 23 January 1765 (Mrs. Apphia Sleeper acknowledged a deed)⁵⁵ and 18 April 1765 (Apphia Dudley sold land),⁵⁶ probably in Brentwood, Samuel Dudley Jr. (John Sleeper probate). Apphia died after 1 February 1770 (New Hampshire deed)⁵⁷ and probably in Lincoln County, Maine (*British Friend* article about Moses).

John Sleeper's will refers to eighteen parcels of land: five given to son Peter Sanborn, five given jointly to sons John and Solomon, three given to son Moses, one given to brother Samuel, and four to sell to pay debts. On 21 January 1765, Apphia sold her half of the land willed to her deceased son Peter Sanborn Sleeper for £5,000.⁵⁸ Although John's inventory was valued at £36,586.7.9, it included £28,610 in seven pieces of land. By 4 March 1767, Daniel Beede and Apphia Dudley were petitioning the probate court to sell land to pay debts. On 1 March 1767, the Rockingham County court stated that

it appears the personal estate in the hands of Daniel Beede Esq'r and Apphia Dudley who was the wife of the deceased, executors of his testament is not sufficient to pay his debts and the demands due from his estate, wherefore licence is hereby granted to the said executors to sell so much of his estate as will have money sufficient to pay and discharge the said debts and demands with incidental charges.⁵⁹

They proceeded to sell off most of the land given by John in his will to his sons. I found only three deeds from the sons: one by Moses, two by John, and none by Solomon.

Apphia and Samuel Dudley were still of Brentwood on 1 February 1770.⁶⁰ Samuel, Apphia, and her children Moses, John, Solomon, and Apphia then "removed

⁵⁰ N.H. Register of Vital Statistics, "Index to Births, Early to 1900" [FHL film #1001039].

⁵¹ V. C. Sanborn, *Genealogy of the Family of Samborne or Sanborn in England and America . . .* (Concord, N.H., 1899), 74–95.

⁵² Hammond, *N.H. Probate Records*, vol. 7 [note 41], 76–82.

⁵³ "Marriages by Rev. Joseph Secomb" [note 49], NHGR 3(1905–6):40.

⁵⁴ Sanborn, *Sanborn* [note 51], 95, which gives neither location nor source for the date. Harriette F. Farwell, *Shaw Records: A Memorial of Robert Shaw, 1594–1661* (Bethel, Maine, 1904), 18–34.

⁵⁵ N.H. Province Deeds, 73:490–91 [FHL film #15445].

⁵⁶ N.H. Province Deeds, 89:375–76 [FHL film #15452].

⁵⁷ N.H. Province Deeds, 97:396 [FHL film #15456].

⁵⁸ N.H. Province Deeds, 73:490–91 [FHL film #15445].

⁵⁹ N.H. Province Probate Records, 25:254 [FHL film #15467].

⁶⁰ N.H. Province Deeds, 97:396 [FHL film #15456].

with her husband and children to a place called Eastern River, in the County of Lincoln, state of Maine” (*British Friend* article about Moses), probably by 1 February 1771, when Daniel Beede of Sandwich, New Hampshire, executor of the will of John Sleeper of Brentwood, sold land without Apphia.⁶¹ Apphia does not appear in any Lincoln County records and probably died soon after the move. Her sons John and Moses were actively involved with mills in present-day Kennebec County, as shown by several deeds.

In 1778 and 1779, sons John and Moses Sleeper “of Winthrop in the County of Lincoln state of Massachusetts Bay” returned to Brentwood and sold some of their inherited land.⁶² There are no sales from Solomon, although he was alive as late as 1781.

Children of John⁴ and Apphia (Sanborn) Sleeper, named in father’s will:⁶³

- i PETER SANBORN⁵ SLEEPER [name of maternal grandfather], b. between say 1740 and 1744 (estimating from parents’ marriage and siblings) in Kingston or Exeter, d. between 24 Jan. 1761 (father’s will) and 21 Jan. 1765 (mother sold her half of his land).⁶⁴
- ii MARGARET SLEEPER [name of paternal grandmother], b. say 1746 (estimating from siblings) in Exeter; apparently married by 30 Aug. 1768 (received her portion), probably in Brentwood, a husband whose name is not known.
- iii APPHIA SLEEPER [name of maternal grandmother and mother], bp. 15 May 1748 “at Exeter,” daughter of John, recorded at Newbury, Mass.,⁶⁵ d. young, bur. in Friends Burying Ground, Brentwood.
- iv MOSES SLEEPER [name of paternal grandfather], born 4 4m [June] 1750 in Brentwood (*British Friend* newspaper article) or in Exeter (father’s residence); d. 20 1m

⁶¹ Rockingham Co. Deeds, 101:257–58 [FHL film #16241].

⁶² Rockingham Co. Deeds, 111:180 [FHL film #16245], 115:7 [FHL film #16247], 118:92 [FHL film #16248].

⁶³ Their children were born between say 1739 and 24 Jan. 1761, when John⁴ Sleeper dated his will. John resided in Kingston in 1738 and 1744 and in Exeter from 1745 to 1751. He was resident in Brentwood by 29 April 1752 (N.H. Province Deeds, 49:366 [FHL film #15433]). The birth years of John and Moses conflict. Moses said he had “an elder brother.” John and Solomon were still minors 16 Aug. 1769 (writ, referenced above), hence born after 16 Aug. 1748. The wording of John’s will suggests Solomon was younger than John. The pattern of naming children for grandparents was not prevalent except in New Netherland Dutch families (Patricia Law Hatcher, “What Did They Name the Baby? Genealogical Clues in Given Names,” lecture). Although neither set of parents had done so, it appears that John and Apphia did follow the pattern, which, in combination with the facts just mentioned, helps suggest the order and dates presented here. One would expect one or two more children born in the 1740s, so there may have been miscarriages, stillbirths, or infant deaths, or John may have been absent a lot, and it is possible that Peter and/or Margaret were born earlier.

⁶⁴ N.H. Province Deeds, 73:490–91 [FHL film #15445].

⁶⁵ *Vital Records of Newbury, Massachusetts, to the End of the Year 1849*, 2 vols. (Salem, Mass., 1911), 1:476.

[Jan.] 1830 in Vassalboro; m. probably by the 1790 census, certainly by 9 7m [July] 1806, HANNAH —,⁶⁶ who d. 11 8m [Aug.] 1832 in Vassalboro.

- v JOHN SLEEPER [name of father], b. 1750 (gravestone) in Exeter or, more likely, say 1752 (estimating from siblings) in Brentwood, d. 1827 (gravestone), bur. Dudley Plains Cemetery, Readfield;⁶⁷ m. by the 1790 census, certainly by 10 Jan. 1793 (deed), ELIZABETH —.⁶⁸
- vi SOLOMON SLEEPER, b. say 1754 (estimating from siblings) in Brentwood, d. between 17 Sept. 1781 (acknowledged deed in Winthrop)⁶⁹ and the 1790 census; m. by say 1776 (child b. 1777⁷⁰), probably in Gardinerston, Maine, a wife whose name is not known.
- vii APPHIA SLEEPER [name of maternal grandmother, mother, and deceased sister], b. [calc.] 4 Oct. 1760 in Brentwood, d. 15 Sept. 1820, age 59y 11m 11d;⁷¹ “MOSES DUDLEY and Apphia Sleeper of a place called the Eastern River without the bounds of aney town” m. 2 Dec. 1775 in Pownalborough [now Wiscasset];⁷² b. [calc.] 27 Dec. 1755, d. 13 June 1842, age 86y 5m 17d.⁷³ Both are bur. in Maineville Cemetery, Warren Co., Ohio.

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⁶⁶ Kennebec Co. Deeds, 10:106 [FHL film #11073].

⁶⁷ Information submitted to findagrave.com, referring to a small slate stone near a stone wall.

⁶⁸ Lincoln Co. Deeds, 29:215 [FHL film #11372].

⁶⁹ Lincoln Co. Deeds, 15:59 [FHL film #11365].

⁷⁰ He was most likely the father of John Sleeper of Athens and Meigs cos., Ohio, b. about 1777 in Maine.

⁷¹ Gravestone photo, findagrave.com #105550652.

⁷² Town and Vital Records of Wiscasset, Maine [FHL film #12309].

⁷³ Gravestone photo, findagrave.com #105647809.

THE PIERCE FAMILY OF KITTERY, MAINE, AND THEIR “SCANDELOUS DEFAMATIONS”

By Priscilla Eaton

When Francis Champernowne sold one hundred acres in Kittery to “John Peirce of Nodles Iland in New England planter,”¹ he could not have anticipated the disruption the Pierce Family would bring to the community. The escapades of the Pierce family fill the pages of the *Maine Province and Court Records*. The Pierces’ crimes and misdemeanors cover everything from music on the Sabbath day to bigamy to accusations of witchcraft.

JOHN AND ELEANOR PIERCE OF BOSTON AND KITTERY

The Pierce family first appeared in Boston in a case involving John’s wife Eleanor. In 1639, “Ellen Peirce was fined 40sh[illing]^s for Cursing & wicked imprecations, & to pay the 2 witnesses 2^s a peece.” As punishment, “Elnor Peirce her husband was bound in 10 [pounds] for her good behavio^r, & to bring her to stand in the market place the next market day wth a paper for light behavio^r.”² In 1641 the Pierces were again before the court, this time admonished to “see better order be kept.”³ As Noyes, Libby, and Davis note in their *Genealogical Dictionary of Maine and New Hampshire*, they may have had a “liking for gayety.”⁴ Perhaps in search of a less restrictive living environment than Puritan Boston, the Pierce family removed to the Maine frontier. They were among the first settlers of Kittery, having located there sometime before 14 December 1648, the date of the above-mentioned deed. The one-hundred-acre tract sold to John Pierce was on the mainland, at the western end of Champernowne’s estate, known afterward as “Pearce’s Neck.”⁵

In Kittery they became involved in a dispute with Roger Townsend, as on 5 July 1664, John Pierce Jr. and Peter Edge were presented for assaulting Roger Townsend as he was coming from meeting.⁶ Oddly, however, Townsend swore the peace against “John Pearce senior, Elline Pearce his wife & Sarah Pearce his daughter.”

¹ York County, Maine, Register of Deeds, *York Deeds*, 18 vols. in 19 (Portland, 1887–1910), 1:58. Noddle’s Island was one of the Boston harbor islands, initially used for grazing livestock, now part of East Boston.

² John Noble, *Records of the Court of Assistants of the Colony of Massachusetts Bay, 1630–1692, Vol. II* (Boston, 1904), 83, 89. This was a punishment involving public shaming. The “paper” was often worn around the neck and described the nature of the crime.

³ Noble, *Records of the Court of Assistants 1630–1692* [note 2], 107.

⁴ Sybil Noyes, Charles Libby, and Walter Goodwin Davis, *Genealogical Dictionary of Maine and New Hampshire* (Portland, Maine, 1928–39), 553.

⁵ Everett S. Stackpole, *Old Kittery and Her Families* (Lewiston, Maine, 1903), 41.

⁶ *Province and Court Records of Maine*, ed. Charles Thornton Libby [vols. 1–2], Robert Earle Moody [vol. 3], and Neal Woodside Allen Jr. [vols. 4–6], 6 vols. (Portland, 1928–1975), 2:152.

John Pierce Sr. was required to pay a bond of twenty pounds to keep the peace until the next session of the County Court.⁷

Yet John Pearce, like many early residents of frontier New England towns, had a role to play on both sides of the law. In 1666 he was a member of the grand jury,⁸ and provided surety for Alexander Mathaneere.⁹ In 1677 he did the same for Thomas Crawley.¹⁰ The same year, John Pierce served as constable for the town of Kittery.¹¹

Still, the Pierce family penchant for being “disorderly” had followed them from Boston to Kittery. On 19 October 1667, John was convicted for drunkenness and fined five shillings.¹² The following month, on 12 November 1667, he was found delinquent in his duties as constable, and fined five pounds “for great neglect, if not Contempt of authority, in not sommonesing severall delinquents” to appear in court.¹³ On 6 July 1669, at a meeting of the county court held at York, John was presented for “disorder in his howse on the Sabath day, by common fame & the testimony of Francis Whitte [White], & music there on the sabath day.”¹⁴ In fact, the court, concerned about the “common fame” of the Pierce household, asked the constable to call John’s daughter

Sarah Pearce before them & place her out into some good service for a convenient tyme where shee may have oportunity to receive the benefitt of civill & if it may bee, religious education, the want whereof hitherto as It is much to bee feared occasionally hath layd her & her relations under such scandelous defamations.¹⁵

John Pierce died intestate before 5 December 1673, when “Ellner Pearce Widow,” requested an inventory of her husband’s estate. The inventory reflects a sizeable estate with numerous luxury items including four feather beds, “silk Twilt Cushions & Chayres,” and silver spoons.¹⁶ Eleanor prepared her own will on 27 August 1675, apparently in anticipation of problems, her intent being that there “should bee no striffe” following her decease. She left her house and land to her son Joseph, with the stipulation that he was “to lett his two sisters, Sarah & Mary, each of them an house lott, If they come into the Countrey & demand It: or otherwise allow the ualew [*sic*: sale?] of It, If they should bee in want.” This suggests that her two daughters were not living locally. Eleanor goes on to note: “I give unto my daughter Sarah, one Gould ring, one new feather bed provided shee return y^t to her brother, which shee carried away with her.” Eleanor named her son Joseph to be her execu-

⁷ *Maine Province and Court Records* [note 6], 2:155.

⁸ *Maine Province and Court Records* [note 6], 1:272.

⁹ *Maine Province and Court Records* [note 6], 1:278.

¹⁰ *Maine Province and Court Records* [note 6], 1:288.

¹¹ *Maine Province and Court Records* [note 6], 1:291.

¹² *Maine Province and Court Records* [note 6], 1:300.

¹³ *Maine Province and Court Records* [note 6], 1:304.

¹⁴ *Maine Province and Court Records* [note 6], 2:184.

¹⁵ *Maine Province and Court Records* [note 6], 2:194.

¹⁶ *Maine Province and Court Records* [note 6], 2:484. One of the appraisers was Hubertus Mattown, whom Eleanor’s daughter Sarah had married the previous June.

tor, but seems to doubt his ability to meet this responsibility, as she also named her “loving friend Mr. Fran[ci]s Hooke, to be an overseer of the document, taking care that her “sonn do not wast or Imbessell the sd Estate.” Eleanor Pierce died before 4 April 1676 when her will was probated.¹⁷

SON JOHN PIERCE JR.

John Pierce Jr. probably died before 27 August 1675, when he was not mentioned in his mother’s will. On 5 July 1664, John Pierce Jr. and Peter Edge were presented for “assaulting Roger Townsend on the sabbath day as hee was Comeing from meeteing & beateing of him, as appeareth by the bruises of his body.”¹⁸ On 19 July 1669, John Pierce Jr. was among those who took the oath of fidelity to Massachusetts.¹⁹ No further mention of John Pierce Jr. was discovered

SON JOSEPH PIERCE

Joseph Pierce, a mariner, is known largely through court and probate records. On 23 February 1674/5, he was a member of the jury at an inquest regarding the death of Robert Williams, who was found dead in his cellar in Spruce Creek.²⁰ On 8 March 1675/6, he returned the inventory on the estate of his “father John Pearce & of his Mother Ellner Pearce lately deceased.”²¹ Joseph died after 12 December 1676, when he was acting as surety for his sister Sarah, and before 1 October 1678.²²

His mother, Eleanor, had cause to be concerned that Joseph would not properly administer her estate, as he apparently tried to disinherit his sisters. It appears that Joseph had been engaged to marry sixteen-year-old Margery Bray, the daughter of Kittery shipwright John Bray. Richard Rowe, John Andrews, and Samson Whitt [White] all deposed, 1 October 1678, that in the latter part of the year 1676, when Joseph Pearce went last to sea,

that Jos: Pearce living then in kittery came to . . . us togeather, & desired of us very earnestly, beging of us both to take notice of his words, that after his decease, wⁿ all his debts was payd, that y^e remaind^r of his Estate hee freely gave unto Margery Bray daughter to John Bray, shippwright, & further begging very Earnestly of this Deponet that hee would not forget it, that shee might not bee Cheated of It/ & further sayd this shall bee my last will & testamen^t.²³

¹⁷ William M. Sargent, comp., *Maine Wills, 1640–1760* (Portland, 1887), 61–64, citing York Co. Deeds, 5:9.

¹⁸ *Maine Province and Court Records* [note 6], 2:152.

¹⁹ *Maine Province and Court Records* [note 6], 2:179.

²⁰ *Gen. Dict. Maine & N.H.* [note 4], 33, 757. It is reported that he was killed by his servants, supposedly for his money.

²¹ *York Deeds* [note 1], 5:24.

²² *Maine Province and Court Records* [note 6], 2:512; *York Deeds* [note 1], 3:99–100.

²³ *York Deeds* [note 1], 3:99–100.

The following day, 2 October 1678, no relatives appearing to administer Joseph's estate, the court granted administration to Margery's father, John Bray, him "Claimeing a Considerable debt due from sayd Pearce." Francis Hooke, the "loving friend" who Joseph's mother, Eleanor, had named to oversee her will, was named a joint administrator.²⁴

Apparently, the court was not persuaded by the validity of Joseph's orally transmitted last will and testament, as on 30 June 1680,

. . . in answere to the Petition of Saraih Pearce alias Joans or Mattown,²⁵ It is ordered that the administrators to the Estate of her brother Joseph Pearce lately deceased, shall deliver unto her as one 3d of her brothers remaineing Estate the some of 21:16:11, and also provided shee give in good security of 40 li [pounds] bond to the Court or the ReCor: [recorder] to respond her sister Mary 3d being 21:16:11, & the safe delivery there off, unto her upon demand.

The remainder of the estate was to stay in the hands of the administrators to "secure any further Claimes as there may appeare."²⁶

The court was correct to expect further claims, as on 6 April 1681, William Pepperell was the plaintiff in a case against Francis Hooke, John Bray, and Sarah Pierce. He was apparently suing the estate [as well as his father-in-law, John Bray] on behalf of his wife, Margery Bray, whom he had recently married.²⁷ The court ruled for the defendants. Then in the same session of the court, Sarah Pearce alias Joanes was the plaintiff in a case against John Bray and Francis Hooke, the court finding for the defendants. Francis Hooke and John Bray were then "discharged from their bonds with their suretys, of Administration related to the estate."²⁸ As late as 26 May 1685, Col. Pepperell was still pursuing the case, suing Henry Seavey, Sarah Pierce's third husband, for "withhoulding of an Estate given unto Margery the wife of sd Plaintiff." The jury again found for the defendant.²⁹

DAUGHTER SARAH PIERCE

Sarah Pierce was a whirlwind of scandal and disorder in her own right. As noted above, she was involved in the dispute with Roger Townsend, as on 5 July 1664, he swore the peace against "John Pearce senior, Elline Pearce his wife & Sarah Pearce

²⁴ *Maine Province and Court Records* [note 6], 2:528, 530.

²⁵ There are probably few instances where the same individual is known by three different surnames on the same day.

²⁶ *Maine Province and Court Records* [note 6], 3:60–61. Much of the land was sold to cover Joseph's debts.

²⁷ Stackpole speculates that "had it not been for the untimely death of Joseph Pearce, Margery Bray might have become his wife, and so there would have been no William Pepperell and perhaps no conqueror of Louisburg" (Stackpole, *Old Kittery and Her Families* [note 5], 41).

²⁸ *Maine Province and Court Records* [note 6], 3:66, 69, 72.

²⁹ *Maine Province and Court Records* [note 6], 3:122.

his daughter.”³⁰ On 9 July 1667, Sarah Pearce was the plaintiff in an action against Robert Mendum. The records do not indicate the particulars of the case, which was at any rate, withdrawn.³¹ Of all the members of the Pierce family, the court seemed especially concerned about Sarah. Due to the “common fame” of the Pierce household, in 1669 the court ordered that Sarah be placed into service where she might receive civil and religious education away from her family.³²

Apparently, no improvement in Sarah’s demeanor was noted, as on 22 September 1670, John Pierce brought a case of slander against Richard Lockwood for “saiing that the sd Pearcees wife & Daughters were whoores.” The defendant failed to appear, and costs were given to the plaintiff.³³ Apparently Sarah was also involved in running liquor, as on 1 July 1673, Ambrose Boaden owned in court that he received “3 pints of Lyquor which hee bought at John Pearcees house & the Lyquor was there delivered unto him by Saraih Pearce & her brother, John Pearcees sunn.”³⁴

The court records do not relate when this delivery occurred, but it must have been some time in the past, as at the same session of the court, 1 July 1673 at York, “Saraih Pearce alias Joanes” was presented “for attempting to marry haveing an husband.”³⁵ Sarah did not appear. Sarah’s first husband “Joanes” was likely George Jones Jr., who had already demonstrated a liking for older women. In 1670, at the age of seventeen, he and the widow Rachel Webster were in court for “being naught³⁶ and unseemly being together.” And even though “there not being full prooffe of there being naught tho: much suspected,” the sentence was a harsh one for young George. In addition to the widow receiving an admonition, George was assessed costs and fees, and because of “several other misdemeanors proved in y^s Court the testimonys putt upon file, [Jones] is sentenced to be whiped forth with to y^e number of 20 stripes.”³⁷

It is not known if George Jones and Sarah Pierce ever lived within the context of a traditional marriage. George was likely a mariner, and following Sarah’s bigamous marriage to Hubert Mattoon, George and Sarah are said to have sailed away to Barbados, and then resided for some time in Rhode Island. There are no known children. George is reported to have owned a fishing shallop in January 1678/9, and then disappeared.³⁸

³⁰ *Maine Province and Court Records* [note 6], 2:155.

³¹ *Maine Province and Court Records* [note 6], 1:283. In 1667, Robert Mendum was 63 years old, and had served Kittery as constable and selectman (*Gen. Dict. Maine & N.H.* [note 4], 475–76).

³² *Maine Province and Court Records* [note 6], 2:194.

³³ *Maine Province and Court Records* [note 6], 2:188.

³⁴ *Maine Province and Court Records* [note 6], 2:252.

³⁵ *Maine Province and Court Records* [note 6], 2:264.

³⁶ In this context, naught meant morally bad or wicked.

³⁷ Otis G. Hammond, *New Hampshire Court Records, 1640–1692, Court Papers, 1652–1668*, vol. 40: N.H. State Papers Ser. (n.p., 1943), 253, 271.

³⁸ *Gen. Dict. Maine & N.H.* [note 4], 386.

On 11 November 1673, “Harbert Mattown” [Hubertus Mattoon], a Portsmouth tailor and “fine gentleman of unknown antecedents,”³⁹

upon Examination of his relation to Sarah Jones, owned that hee was married to her by Mr. Jordan the last of June [1673] & shee was brought to bed about 3 weeks since & ownes that the Child is his. It not appearing that Saraih Joanes her former husband is de[ad], & Mattown guilty of Adultery, is bound over to the County Court.⁴⁰

Hubred Mattown stands bound to this Court in a bond of 100li [pounds] to answer the Charges of suspition of Adultery with Saraih Joanes to the next County Court houlden for this County.⁴¹

Hubertus Mattoon, however, failed to appear at County Court on 7 July 1674, the judge noting:

Due proofes of Rupert [*sic*] Mattowns bussines about his mariing with Saraih pearce alias Joanes not appearing in Court, for his remittment or discharge the Court Judgeth meete to Continew his bonds unto the next County Court.”⁴²

The case does not appear in court records again until a year later, on 6 July 1675, when

having considered the Case of Rupert Mattown for Mariing of Saraih Pearce alias Jones being then the reputed wife of another person, contrary to the Laws of this Jurisdiction, for whose offence therein do Adjudg that the sd Mattown shall pay 10li [pounds] into the County Treasury out of that 100 pounds of Mattowns estate secured in the hand of Mr. Ric: Cutt, & upon due payment thereof according to this order the estate of 100li is freed & Rupert Mattown fully discharged.⁴³

And still the case continued. Four years later, on 1 July of 1679, “Saraih Mat-town alias Joans or Pearce” again appeared in court records in regard to this issue:

Saraih Mattowne presented for not liveing with her husband. Shee was gone before the summons cometh. . . . The Court Considering her offense in liveing from her husband to order that with in one Moenth shee do depart this County [York] & dwell with her husband [Mattoon resided in Portsmouth] on the pænalty of Tenn pounds to bee extended & leavied on her.⁴⁴

Sarah’s response on 30 June 1680 was to bring in a subscription letter to the Court of Pleas “under the hand of authority for New Hamshyre” declaring her willingness to live with “Mattown her husband, & his averseness to receive us, utterly

³⁹ *Gen. Dict. Maine & N.H.* [note 4], 469.

⁴⁰ *Maine Province and Court Records* [note 6], 2:264.

⁴¹ *Maine Province and Court Records* [note 6], 2:481–82.

⁴² *Maine Province and Court Records* [note 6], 2:282. The judge also had a few choice words for the minister who married them: “How fare Mr. Jordan his Mariing of persons, who is not by order of authority Constituted thereunto, how fare such a Marage is Consistent with our Laws?”

⁴³ *Maine Province and Court Records* [note 6], 2:305.

⁴⁴ *Maine Province and Court Records* [note 6], 2:353, 355.

renouncing any relation to her.” The court therefore freed her from their previous order.⁴⁵

In 1681 Sarah declared that Mattoon had threatened her life and deserted her “above these seven years.”⁴⁶ The case was finally resolved 30 May 1682. On this occasion, Sarah was present, and “did acknowledg that since shee had withdrawn her society & fellowshipe from her husband, sd Mattown in a Conjugal way, shee had lyen [lain] with another man.”⁴⁷ Even with this acknowledgement, Sarah’s reputation had preceded her. “Members of this Court . . . not ignorant of her Capacity were not fully satisfyd with her Confession.” The court ordered that four women “according to their best skill shall make a diligent search of the body of Saraih Pearce whither shee bee with Child or not.” The women conducted their examination, and did find

sd Saraih to bee with Child, having fresh Milke in her breasts, & as they judge as neare as they can, shee hath been gone with Child about foure Moenths, which being Considered with such vehement grounds of incontineny ariseing from her scandalous behaviours formerly with other men as per Court Records appeareth, upon which Considerations this Court doth declare a Perpetuall Act of Seperation & divorce between them sd Rupert Mattown & Saraih Pearce, formerly ~~husband & wife~~ married, whereby they are sett at liberty & dischargd for ever from that relation, of their matrimoniall obligation.⁴⁸

Hubert and Sarah were both free to move on with their lives and, despite this experience, both chose to remarry. As Noyes, Libby, and Davis note, Mattoon was “devoted to women,” just as Sarah was “one equally devoted to men.”⁴⁹

Shortly after the divorce, Sarah married Henry Seavey of Portsmouth, probably the father of her child. This union produced Joseph Seavey, the only known surviving grandchild of John and Eleanor Pierce.

DAUGHTER MARY PIERCE

Daughter Mary Pierce also achieved some “common fame.” On 18 February 1669, witnesses reported that Mary Pierce had accused Mary Greenland, wife of Dr. Henry Greenland, of being a witch. Deborah Lockwood and Deborah Phenix deposed that

Mary Pearse did say when Alexander Jones did sail out of Piscattaqua River with El-linor and Sarah Pearse and John Pearse about November or December last a violent storm did arise and Mary Greenland ye wife of Henry Greenland did then appear or ye devil in her likeness, that she was known by hir voice, namely, Mary Greenland &

⁴⁵ *Maine Province and Court Records* [note 6], 3:61. The use of the word “us” suggests that she had at least one child in her company, perhaps the child born in 1673.

⁴⁶ Stackpole, *Old Kittery and Her Families* [note 5], 41.

⁴⁷ This other man was likely her third husband Henry Seavey.

⁴⁸ *Maine Province and Court Records* [note 6], 3:87–88.

⁴⁹ *Gen. Dict. Maine & N.H.* [note 4], 469.

further saith ye sd Mary Pearse did say that her father did se[e] ye sd Mary Greenland start out of a bush wch made hir fathers haire stand on end for feare.⁵⁰

This testimony was supported on 3 March 1669/70 by Deborah Lockwood's daughter-in-law, Ann Lynn.⁵¹

Deposition of Ann Lin being summoned saith that this deponent being at her mother Lockwoods house Mary Pears was there and this said Mary Pears was talking about some witches that should be about Alixander Jones boat when they were going to the southward and Mary Pears did say after this discourse that her father going out to seeke his coves that Mrs. Greenland did start out of a bush and did fright her father, or the devill in her likeness, and further saith not.⁵²

Rather than a witchcraft trial with Mary Greenland as a defendant, this appears to be a case of slander against Mary Pierce for defaming Mary Greenland.

Nothing further seems to have come from this case, and sometime the same year, Mary married one Joseph Fleete. In the court session of 5 July 1670, Captain Francis Raynes was fined for marrying them, they not being published according to law.⁵³ Gowen Wilson was also a victim of the Pierce penchant for the disorderly, when he was fined for "going to strawberry banke [Portsmouth] & for publishing Joseph Fleete & Mary Pearce on the Lords day & neither of them liveing in the Township of Portsmouth."⁵⁴ These arrangements suggest an elopement. Following the marriage, Mary and the mysterious Joseph Fleete were never known to be in Kittery again, nor found elsewhere.⁵⁵

Mary was out of the "Countrey" 27 August 1675, when her mother Eleanor Pierce prepared her will. Eleanor stipulated that her son Joseph was "to lett his two sisters, Saraih and Mary, each of them an house lott, If they come into the Countrey and demand It: or otherwise allow the ualew [sale?] of It, if they should be in want."⁵⁶

Mary was apparently still living on 30 June 1680, when the court ordered that she receive one third of her brother's estate. "Away," she gave Thomas Harvey, a Portsmouth mariner, an order to receive her portion.⁵⁷ The whereabouts of Mary and her husband Joseph Fleete, if that was his real name, could not be discovered.

⁵⁰ Stackpole, *Old Kittery and Her Families* [note 5], 43, from New Hampshire Court Records.

⁵¹ *Gen. Dict. Maine & N.H.* [note 4], 442.

⁵² Stackpole, *Old Kittery and Her Families* [note 5], 43, from New Hampshire Court Records.

⁵³ *Maine Province and Court Records* [note 6], 2:197.

⁵⁴ *Maine Province and Court Records*, 2:202.

⁵⁵ The only other person surnamed Fleet known to be in the region was Capt. Henry Fleet, the factor of the ship *Warwick*, which had traded along the Piscataqua and at the Isles of Shoals 30 years earlier in 1632. No relationship between Henry Fleet and Joseph Fleet could be established (Albert Stillman Batchellor, *State of New Hampshire: Town Charters Granted Within the Present Limits of New Hampshire*, vol. 25: N.H. State Papers Ser. [Concord, 1895], 735).

⁵⁶ Sargent, *Maine Wills* [note 17], 61–64.

⁵⁷ *Gen. Dict. Maine & N.H.* [note 4], 553.

GENEALOGICAL SUMMARY

JOHN PIERCE was born about 1615,⁵⁸ presumably in England, and died in Kittery, Maine, before 5 December 1673, when his widow requested an inventory of his estate.⁵⁹ He married **ELEANOR** — before 1639, when they first appear in Boston court records.⁶⁰ She died before 4 April 1676, when her will was probated.⁶¹

Children of John and Eleanor (—) Pierce, birth order uncertain:⁶²

- i JOHN PIERCE Jr., d. poss. at sea, prob. before 27 Aug. 1675, when he was not mentioned in his mother's will.
- ii JOSEPH PIERCE, d. prob. at sea, after 12 Dec. 1676 and before 1 Oct. 1678.⁶³ He had been engaged to Margery Bray before embarking on his last sea voyage. About 1780, after Joseph's death, Margery m. Col. William Pepperrell of Kittery.⁶⁴
- iii SARAH PIERCE, b. prob. Kittery, likely before 1648,⁶⁵ and d. before 1697;⁶⁶ m. (1) ca. 1672, (prob.) GEORGE JONES Jr., b. ca. 1654, son of George and Mary (—) Jones of Exeter, N.H.;⁶⁷ m. (2) June 1673, HUBERTUS MATTOON, whom she di-

⁵⁸ He was 55 years old in 1670 (*Gen. Dict. Maine & N.H.* [note 4], 553).

⁵⁹ *Maine Province and Court Records* [note 6], 2:484.

⁶⁰ Noble, *Records of the Court of Assistants 1630–1692* [note 2], 83, 89. It was initially theorized that John and Eleanor were the John “Peerse” and Ellen Barber who m. at St. Lawrence in Thanet, Kent, England, 17 July 1637. The groom appeared to be he, bp. in the neighboring parish of St. Nicholas at Wade, Kent, 14 Feb. 1614/[5?], and therefore an ideal candidate for John Pierce of Maine, who was b. ca. 1615. Ellen Barber, his wife, was likely the “Elynor Barber” bp. St. Lawrence in Thanet, 12 Feb. 1609/10, daughter of Richard Barber. The will of Richard Barber proves, unfortunately, that this was not the Maine couple. Richard Barber, of Ramsgate, in St. Lawrence in Thanet, fisherman, made his will 7 March 1652/3. In it he named, among others, Richard, Mercie, and Sarah Peirce, children of his daughter Ellen Denn, now wife of Henry Denn. The will was proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, 4 July 1653 (PCC Wills, Prob 11/30, f. 18 [image, ancestry. com]). Thanks to Paul C. Reed, FASG, of Salt Lake City, for finding this information.

⁶¹ Sargent, *Maine Wills* [note 17], 61–64.

⁶² William M. Sargent assigned them another child, Jane/Joan Pierce, the wife of Kittery shipwright John Bray. Sargent based this conclusion on a 1699 probate record in which John “Braey” and Micom McIntire called themselves “sons-in-law” of John Pearce (“Gleanings from County Files,” *The Maine Historical and Genealogical Recorder* 2[1885]:260). However, as Noyes, Libby, and Davis point out, John Bracy and Micom [Malcolm] McIntire had married Anne and Dorothy Pierce, the daughters of John Pierce, fisherman of York, frequently confused with John Pierce, planter, of Kittery (*Gen. Dict. Maine & N.H.* [note 4], 553).

⁶³ *Maine Province and Court Records* [note 6], 2:512; *York Deeds* [note 1], 3:99–100.

⁶⁴ *Gen. Dict. Maine & N.H.* [note 4], 108.

⁶⁵ Presumably Sarah was at least in her mid-teens when Roger Townsend swore the peace against her in 1664.

⁶⁶ *Gen. Dict. Maine & N.H.* [note 4], 618. She may have died before 26 May 1685, when her husband Henry Seavey was sued by William Pepperrell regarding the estate of Joseph Pierce and no mention was made of Sarah.

⁶⁷ George was aged 17 in 1671 when “he and wid[ow] Rachel Webster were prosee[uted] for being unseemly together” (*Gen. Dict. Maine & N.H.* [note 4], 386). Noyes, Libby, and Davis note that about 1681, George Jones, age 59 (likely George Sr.), deposed that four or five years earlier he had received a letter in Exeter directed to George Jones “for my wife Sarah Pearce,” likely

vorced, 30 May 1682;⁶⁸ m. (3) before 28 Feb. 1682/3, HENRY SEAVEY, son of Thomas and Tamsen (—) Seavey of Portsmouth,⁶⁹ d. after 26 May 1685, when he appeared in court.⁷⁰ Sarah had no known children with George Jones Jr., but apparently had one child each with Hubertus Mattoon and Henry Seavey.

Child of Hubertus and Sarah (Pierce) (Jones) Mattoon:

i child, born Oct. 1673, still living 11 Nov. 1673.⁷¹ No further information found.

Child of Henry and Sarah (Pierce) (Jones) (Mattoon) Seavey:

ii *Joseph Seavey*. Joseph was probably the child with whom Sarah was pregnant, confirmed during the above mentioned 1682 divorce case. He was taxed at Newcastle in 1708.⁷² On 8 April 1712, Joseph Seavey of Portsmouth, husbandman, and wife Hannah sold to Dominicus Jordan seven acres of land in Kittery “formerly in y^e possession of John Pierce dec^d and after . . . in y^e Possession of Joseph Pierce his Son.”⁷³ Dominicus Jordan was the grandson of Rev. Robert Jordan who had married Hubert Mattoon and Sarah Pierce. It is also interesting to note that one of the witnesses was William Pepperell Jr., with William Pepperell Sr. serving as Justice of the Peace.

iv MARY PIERCE, m. 1670, JOSEPH FLEETE, whose identity and later history have not been found.⁷⁴ Mary was living out of the “Country,” 27 Aug. 1675, when her mother, Eleanor Pierce, made her will. Mary was apparently still living on 30 June 1680, when the court ordered that she receive one third of her brother’s estate.⁷⁵

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intended for his son of the same name (*ibid.*). George Jr. was not mentioned in his father’s will of 14 March 1694 (Albert Stillman Batchellor, *Probate Records of the Province of New Hampshire*, vol. 1: 1635–1717, vol. 31: N.H. State Papers Ser. [Concord, 1907], 406).

⁶⁸ *Maine Province and Court Records* [note 6], 3:87–88.

⁶⁹ *Gen. Dict. Maine & N.H.* [note 4], 618.

⁷⁰ *Maine Province and Court Records* [note 6], 3:122.

⁷¹ Although Hubert Mattoon’s daughter Grace was considerably younger than her brothers (who were all born before 1661), Grace was probably not the daughter of Sarah Pierce. Grace Mattoon m. Boston, 22 Dec. 1704, Richard Pitcher and had four children born there from 1707 to 1719 (*Gen. Dict. Maine & N.H.* [note 4], 469). If Grace were the child born in 1673, she would have been 31 at the time of her marriage and 46 at the birth of her last child. This seems unlikely. Hubert Mattoon and Sarah Pierce were not known to have resided together as husband and wife after 1673. Most likely Grace was the daughter of Hubert’s unnamed 3rd wife, whom he presumably married following his divorce in 1682. A child born between 1682 and 1686 seems a better fit for what is known of Grace (Mattoon) Pitcher.

⁷² *Gen. Dict. Maine & N.H.* [note 4], 42, list 316.

⁷³ *York Deeds* [note 1], 8:363–64. Joseph and Hannah Seavey resided in Portsmouth where the births of two children were recorded: *Joanna Seavey*, b. 21 Aug. 1712, and *Hannah Seavey*, b. 4 June 1715 (New Hampshire Births & Christenings, 1714–1904, database, familysearch.org). Parsons assigned Joseph and Hannah Seavey three more children: *Joseph Seavey*, *Henry Seavey*, and *Sarah Seavey* (Langdon Brown Parsons, *History of Rye, New Hampshire, from Its Discovery and Settlement* [Concord, N.H., 1905], 535).

⁷⁴ *Maine Province and Court Records* [note 6], 2:197, 202.

⁷⁵ *Maine Province and Court Records* [note 6], 3:60–61.

COMPANY E FROM SKOWHEGAN IN WORLD WAR ONE

By Sally Furber Nelson

One hundred years ago, Company E from Skowhegan, made up entirely of men from that town and the surrounding farms, marched off to fight the “Great War,” World War I. *The Independent-Reporter*, a local paper, printed many letters from the boys “over there,” letters which not only describe the conditions of war but also speak of the support from the folks at home.¹

In May 1913, Adjutant General Dill of the Maine National Guard asked Roy L. Marston of Skowhegan to organize a company in that town.² It was customary then for towns to organize their own company, similar to the earlier militia companies. Skowhegan agreed to support such a company, so the Adjutant General issued special orders on June 19, 1913, authorizing Roy L. Marston to call for recruits into Company E, 2nd Infantry, Maine National Guard.

Company E began training on July 7 and elected the following officers: Roy L. Marston, captain; George K. Robinson, 1st lieutenant; Edward P. Whiting, 2nd lieutenant. Later, Lieutenant Whiting resigned and Sergeant John W. Healy was elected in his place. The company drilled faithfully throughout the winter and won high recommendation from an officer in the War Department when he inspected them.

In the spring of 1916, a situation in Mexico became so acute that President Wilson called out the National Guard to help suppress the Pancho Villa Expedition.³ Captain Roy L. Marston received orders to mobilize Company E. According to *The Independent-Reporter* of April 30, 1916:

All Skowhegan turned out on Monday morning to give Company E a rousing farewell on its departure for Augusta. Never has a finer looking body of soldiers left Skowhegan in the memory of the present generation. The company was escorted to the station by the First Maine Regiment band of the Maccabees and on reaching railroad square passed between the lines of the Boy Scouts.⁴

Captain Marston took Company E to Laredo, Texas, on the Rio Grande. The regular officers found that the Maine regiment was the only outfit of the National Guard troops fit for active service. Soon Company E was sent to the most dangerous sector in the district and was cited for excellence. Company E was mustered out of the federal service October 25, 1916, and returned home to Skowhegan where

¹ Much of the material for this article is taken from my grandmother’s scrapbook (hereafter Nana’s Scrapbook). Effie (Crowell) Furber lived in Skowhegan from 1907 until her death in 1949. She kept a scrapbook of clippings about Skowhegan and the surrounding towns, mostly deaths and marriages. But the first 65 pages of the scrapbook deal with Skowhegan’s involvement in World War I. The original scrapbook is now in the Skowhegan Public Library.

² Florence Waugh Danforth, “The World War,” in Louise Helen Coburn, *Skowhegan on the Kennebec*, 2 vols. (Skowhegan, Maine, 1941), 2:614–17.

³ Maine Army National Guard website, www.me.ngb.army.mil/about/history/ww1.aspx.

⁴ *The Independent-Reporter*, April 30, 1916, clipping from Nana’s Scrapbook [note 1], p. 2.

they were royally welcomed. They continued drilling all that winter to be ready if necessary for the looming possibility of entering the Great War in Europe.⁵

Danforth, in her chapter “The World War,” notes that she received her information directly from Captains Marston and Healy. She writes that Captain Marston received a call from the Adjutant General early in the morning of April 13, 1917, and

at 8 o'clock that morning all the whistles in town sounded the agreed-upon signal calling the men to the armory. In 15 minutes every soldier living in the village was at the armory and by noon the men from the farms had arrived. The Grange generously donated its hall and kitchen for a mess-house and every business man in town tried to outdo his neighbor in lending assistance.⁶

Many Skowhegan volunteers joined Company E, the most famous being the “high school squad.” Among the first to volunteer were eight young men from Skowhegan High School, including five seniors. They left their class to join the fight, but were able to attend graduation, wearing their new army uniforms. The local paper reported,

These boys were given a leave of absence to be with their classmates on the night of graduation and it was indeed a touching sight to see the youthful patriots in khaki, stand together at the time of the awarding of diplomas.⁷

Company E was formally mustered into the United States service on August 5, 1917.⁸ They joined other New England units to become the famous 26th or Yankee Division; specifically, the 2nd Maine became part of the 103rd Regiment of this division.

Company E's first casualty occurred soon after they arrived at Camp Bartlett in Westfield, Massachusetts. Corporal William A. Cockburn died in a Springfield hospital from complications after an operation for appendicitis.⁹ The son of Lawrence Cockburn, he was working in Keene, New Hampshire, when the call for volunteers came. He returned to Skowhegan to enlist with his friends there.

Captain Roy L. Marston was promoted to major and assigned to other duties. Lieutenant John W. Healy, now the commanding officer of Company E, wrote an open letter to *The Independent-Reporter* from “somewhere in England,” October 17, 1917.¹⁰

To the Independent Reporter:

It might seem to you that we are a little late in thanking the people of Somerset for their kindness and thoughtfulness toward us, but owing to the great pressure we were under of being changed from the Second Maine Infantry to the 103rd U. S. Infantry and at the same time moving from one place to the other, it has been hard to find time to even write home.

⁵ Danforth, “The World War” [note 2], 615.

⁶ Danforth, “The World War” [note 2], 615.

⁷ *The Independent-Reporter*, undated clipping from Nana's Scrapbook [note 1], p. 40.

⁸ Danforth, “The World War” [note 2], 616.

⁹ *The Independent-Reporter*, undated clipping from Nana's Scrapbook [note 1], p. 3.

¹⁰ *The Independent-Reporter*, undated clipping from Nana's Scrapbook [note 1], p. 4.

After leaving Augusta we moved to Westfield and there the Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont National Guards were amalgamated into the 103rd U. S. Inf. The Second Maine organization was kept intact with Col Hume commanding. We remained in Westfield until our regiment was complete and the men fully equipped. From then on all of our moves were very mysterious, traveling mostly by night with all the curtains in the cars drawn and in absolute silence which was a very difficult task to impose on 250 American boys. Finally we arrived at a well known port and after several hours of anxious waiting we finally boarded a well known ocean liner whose name we cannot give but the men christened the good ship "Starvonia." The voyage was uneventful but that must not be so construed that you will imagine there were not thrills, and a plenty. Everyone felt that somewhere on the way there was a little "tin fish" in fact several of them loaded with 500 lbs of high explosive anxious for a chance to cut loose on our ship and send us to the bottom. With this feeling everyone worked himself up to such a point that danger was a stern reality and when a high wave at 4:30 a.m. upset the dishes in the kitchen and dining saloon it took just three minutes for all hands to be on deck ready to abandon ship.

Private Clarence Dunlap wrote to his father, Fred C. Dunlap, from England on October 12, 1917:¹¹

Just a line tonight. We are here in a camp under canvas with some English soldiers who are in Barracks. This must be a garrison.

England is a very beautiful country. Everything is very rustic. Farms and buildings are very oddly arranged. Every building is brick. There are no barns just sheds for the cattle and sheep. There are many of these. All farms and fields are separated by hedges, some low, others are tall. It would be almost impossible for a man or sheep to get thru them. The hedges are trimmed in all shapes.

Small ponds are seen everywhere and narrow but deep rivers with still water. It is very seldom that you see a dirt road. Most are as hard as cement. Do not know what they are made.

We arrived in a large seaport (which I cannot name) one night at 9:30 and then rode 12 hours on a train to our present camp. Do not know what part of England we are in. We are not allowed to write anything pertaining to military affairs.

On October 18th, Warren C. Merrill wrote to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Carleton R. Merrill:¹²

I wish I were back home to get my feet warm.

England has lost its beauty and now there is nothing but mud where before there were beautiful green fields. That is, it was that way yesterday and the day before as it rained all the time but today the sun came up and warmed things in general.

Last night when we went to bed with our clothes wet, feet and legs muddy, on wet blankets, there was a general condemnation of England, the war, and English weather in particular. This morning I woke up and I tried to put on my shoes and had to try three pairs before I found one that I could get on. Everything I owned was wet. Right after breakfast we took a six mile hike and by the time we got back we were warm enough.

¹¹ *The Independent-Reporter*, undated clipping from Nana's Scrapbook [note 1], p. 6.

¹² *The Independent-Reporter*, undated clipping from Nana's Scrapbook [note 1], p. 7.

Company E and the 103rd Infantry arrived at LeHavre, France, October 16–21, and began training under the French. On October 26th, Lieutenant Reginald Foss wrote to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Uriah L. Foss of West Front Street:¹³

Have been in France several days but this is the first opportunity I have had to write any letters. We are in an attractive old French town up in the hills and quite comfortably settled. It is a really wonderful country though the people and fields seem a bit antiquated. Much larger fields than we ever see in Maine and every inch of it cultivated. The houses are all stone with tile or flat stone roofs; part of the home being given over as a stable for the cattle. The people mostly old women and children are extremely picturesque with their wooden shoes which can be heard for a long distance as they come clattering down the street.

All the way thru France we saw women plowing and digging in the fields, usually dressed in black and with their pale faces a sad looking lot. They are very hospitable people, doing everything for us that they can and on the other hand our men get on wonderfully well with them especially those who can talk French.

We officers are quartered in new barracks, two of us to a room, clean and quite comfortable—as soon as we can get some stoves set up. Not all the comforts of home but one can put up with a great deal when they have to and actually enjoy it.

Private Linwood Jewett wrote from France on October 29th to his friend and former employer Arthur Jewett:¹⁴

I thought you might want to hear from your old clerk. I tell you this isn't cutting meat now. I sure would like to be back there this Thanksgiving and see and have some of the good things you will have. I haven't seen any market in any place I have been that can beat A. R. Jewett's. Since I left Augusta things have not seemed like Maine unless I got a box from home. I tell you your canned goods would look mighty nice to see on the table for mess. We sure have seen some ancient country and it has been interesting so far but no one knows what comes next. The only thing that has bothered us is the rain and tents have been mighty cold without any stoves. We got our first snow storm yesterday, but it will not stay long for we get so much rain.

Private Morrill Hoxie, son of Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Hoxie of Free Street, wrote to his parents from France on October 27th:¹⁵

I am now in France in a training camp. We were in a camp in England ten days, then we were three days coming here and we have been here four days. We are now in barracks, not tents, which makes it much better. We have hard tack, cheese, jam, and canned corned beef or "corner willey" to eat mostly. We get one warm meal a day. We do not go hungry but none of us gets quite enough. We get three meals a day now instead of two. We have not been paid yet for September. There are reports every day that we are to be paid tomorrow. Of course we will get it sometime but it has been two months since we got any. I got the two letters that you sent to Westfield, the one with the money in it and the other. I got it three days ago, just a month from the time that you sent it. Five

¹³ *The Independent-Reporter*, undated clipping from Nana's Scrapbook [note 1], p. 4.

¹⁴ *The Independent-Reporter*, undated clipping from Nana's Scrapbook [note 1], p. 6.

¹⁵ *The Independent-Reporter*, undated clipping from Nana's Scrapbook [note 1], p. 9.

dollars never looked so good in my life as that five did. I have been broke for three weeks and I guess I had more money when I got that than anyone else in the company.

Hoxie adds, "Earle Withee from home was killed by a train in England. He is that tall fellow's brother that delivered ice at home last summer." Corporal Earl Withee was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Sumner Withee of Skowhegan.¹⁶

On December 9, Warren Merrill wrote to his father, Carleton P. Merrill, from France:¹⁷

Please excuse the pencil but pencils aren't half as rare over here as good ink is. Nothing of much importance has happened since I wrote Mother. This part of France is pretty dead. There are only two trains per day, so we can't even get much amusement watching trains come in. Today there have been four or five aeroplanes flying over us. One very accommodating aviator performed some spirals and looped the loop several times for our benefit.

Some time ago an aeroplane flew over here and landed in the field out front. Then it rose again and flew off. Later we heard that it landed at [blank] for gasoline and the pilot was discovered to be a German spy in a French machine. If that is the truth, it is might lucky that he was captured.

Sergeant Daniel Stewart of Company E wrote to his friends in the Milburn Club from France on January 8, 1918:¹⁸

We are in a small town in which are billets and barracks; we the famous Co E were fortunate in getting into barracks which are much better than the billets. With the exception of the first ten days here, we have had very good food and plenty of it; but of course some of it gets monotonous [*sic*] but we don't mind this much. We were unfortunate here in losing another of our number, Priv. Scott Merrill, he dying in a hospital near here of pneumonia I believe; about all of the fellows have been fairly well.

The fellows are kept pretty busy here and are perfectly willing to turn in at night, after a days' hard drilling.

We have had several inches of snow here and the ground is frozen considerably and I believe that the saying "Sunny France" is a thing of the past as we have seen very little sun since we've been here. We haven't seen the trenches yet; but of course can't tell how soon we will, but rest assured Co E will "come across with the goods."

The citizens of Skowhegan were very generous with their gifts to the men of Company E at Christmas time, and their letters indicate their appreciation. Cassimir Bisson wrote to Mrs. Patten, his former employer, from "somewhere in France" on December 23, 1917:¹⁹

Your most welcome Xmas box received a few days ago and I wish to thank you very much for being so kind as to think of the "boys of 1917" over here in France. You surely must have had an idea what effect this new experience would have upon us, especially being so near Xmas and in a strange land, where war has taken the feeling of

¹⁶ *The Independent-Reporter*, undated clipping from Nana's Scrapbook [note 1], p. 3.

¹⁷ *The Independent-Reporter*, undated clipping from Nana's Scrapbook [note 1], p. 13.

¹⁸ *The Independent-Reporter*, undated clipping from Nana's Scrapbook [note 1], p. 16.

¹⁹ *The Independent-Reporter*, undated clipping from Nana's Scrapbook [note 1], p. 17.

good cheer from nearly every home. It surely put a new feeling of cheerfulness into me and I hope that I may have the chance to thank you personally some day.

I was the first one to receive your box but undoubtedly the rest of the fellows will receive theirs in a day or two as mail is coming in very fast now. We have all been quite lucky so far in receiving mail, but we are always looking for more because it seems that a letter or a parcel is all that keeps us in touch with civilization.

Everything has been going fine ever since we landed here except that the weather is getting colder, which makes it a little harder to get up in the morning to go out and drill, but otherwise we are standing the strain wonderfully and hope we can keep it up.

We have been issued our steel helmets and gas masks, so you see we are being prepared to meet the "bosches." You would hardly recognize the "boys of 1917" now when in "full dress."

Aeroplanes are as common as automobiles here and most any time during the day we can hear the hum of the engines as they sail high above our heads.

I suppose it must be lonesome in Skowhegan now with the "class of 1917" gone. It will surely be a more experienced group at the next class meeting. I will close now wishing you all a "Merry Xmas" and a very "Happy New Year" although it will be rather late when this letter reaches you.

The class of 1918 at Skowhegan High School sent a Christmas package and a Class Letter to Ralph Merrow, who became a member of the class in its sophomore year, moving from Hartland to live with his brother William Merrow in Skowhegan. Corporal Merrow responds:²⁰

Just a few lines today to say I received your nice package. Believe me, I was sure glad to get the candy as well as the cigarettes, for we cannot get either in this country. I would like to be back at school and enjoying the High School life, but I think my country needs me more at the present time, but hope I will be back soon.

Fred Tuttle, 2nd Lieutenant with Company E, wrote his grandmother Mrs. A. S. Lovett of Brookline, Massachusetts, on December 25th:²¹

You are surely a star correspondent. During the last few days I've received six letters from you all written in November. Your first package came last night. Believe me it was some package too. I've never seen so many good things crowded together.

This has been quite a festive day. All the morning truck load after truck load came up from the railroad. Christmas packages, huge bags stuffed with mail were dumped at each company headquarters. The men cheered loudly as each new load came in. It snowed last night so today is a real white Christmas. The little village back of our camp looks quite picturesque among the white hills.

Private Harry D. St. Ledger wrote to his mother, Grace (Mitchell) St. Ledger, to tell what kind of Christmas he had:²²

Dean Pray²³ and I went over to the town where McQuillan²⁴ and Philbrick²⁵ are and spent the day with them. We had a very good turkey dinner and my first piece of pie

²⁰ *The Independent-Reporter*, undated clipping from Nana's Scrapbook [note 1], p. 12.

²¹ *The Independent-Reporter*, undated clipping from Nana's Scrapbook [note 1], p. 17.

²² *The Independent-Reporter*, undated clipping from Nana's Scrapbook [note 1], p. 34.

was relished at this meal. It was apple pie at that. You know how I used to dispise [*sic*] apple pie at home, well believe me, ma, it tasted very good over here. We hung around in the afternoon and in the evening went down to an old French lady's and had her roast a turkey over an open fireplace. We did away with that and more apple pie and called our feed over. By the way, Ma, this old lady has lost her husband and two sons in the war. She is now living alone, and seems to enjoy life as best she may.

According to the Maine National Guard website, the 103rd Infantry moved to the front lines near Chemin des Dames on the Soissons Front on February 6, 1918, where they experienced their first combat, coming under artillery and gas attacks.²⁶

On April 1, the 103rd transferred to the Toul Front and the Germans began a heavy raid at Xivray on June 16. John W. Healy, recently promoted to Captain Healy, sent a note to *The Independent-Reporter* about Company E's involvement in this battle, and enclosed a clipping from the Paris edition of *The New York Herald*.²⁷ Healy writes, "Our regiment has been cited in French Army Corps orders and my company was in there. Our general came into my dugout the next day and commended me and my company for our good work."²⁸

Unfortunately, these offensive attacks led to serious wounds and deaths for the men of Company E. Sergeant Harold McElhiney, son of Reverend C. H. McElhiney, was killed on June 16th.²⁹ Corporal Clarence S. Dunlap died of wounds in a hospital a few hours after McElhiney was killed. He was the only child of Fred C. and Kalista (Smith) Dunlap.³⁰ Corporal Simon Peters was killed in action on July 23. He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Peters of Skowhegan and had been with Company E in Mexico.³¹ A[lphe] St. Peter of Anson, another member of Company E, was killed in France.³² Born in Lewiston "20 years ago," he was the son of Charles and Josephine St. Peter.³³ Corporal Allen J. Fitzmorris, son of Frank Fitzmorris of East Front Street in Skowhegan, was killed in action on July 18.³⁴ Other Skowhegan

²³ Dean Pray was the son of George R. and Mary Pray, living in Skowhegan in 1910 (George R. Pray household, 1910 U.S. Census, Skowhegan, Somerset Co., Maine, E.D. 237, sheet 5A).

²⁴ Arthur McQuillan was b. Skowhegan, 3 July 1895, son of Nathaniel and Esther B. (Flanders) McQuillan (Maine, Birth Records, 1715–1922, image, ancestry.com).

²⁵ Maurice Philbrick was b. 31 May 1896, son of John R. and Jennie F. (Swain) Philbrick, both born Skowhegan (Maine, Birth Records, 1715–1922, image, ancestry.com).

²⁶ Maine Army National Guard website, www.me.ngb.army.mil/about/history/ww1.aspx.

²⁷ *The Independent-Reporter*, undated clipping from Nana's Scrapbook [note 1], p. 24.

²⁸ *The Independent-Reporter*, undated clipping from Nana's Scrapbook [note 1], p. 24.

²⁹ *The Independent-Reporter*, undated clipping from Nana's Scrapbook [note 1], p. 34.

³⁰ *The Independent-Reporter*, undated clipping from Nana's Scrapbook [note 1], p. 37.

³¹ *The Independent-Reporter*, undated clipping from Nana's Scrapbook [note 1], p. 35.

³² *The Independent-Reporter*, undated clipping from Nana's Scrapbook [note 1], p. 40.

³³ *The Independent-Reporter*, undated clipping from Nana's Scrapbook [note 1], p. 40. Son Alphe was living in his parents' household in 1900 (b. Dec. 1896) and 1910 (Charles St. Pierre household, 1900 U.S. Census, Lewiston, Androscoggin Co., Maine, E.D. 18, sheet 3B; Chas. St. Peter household, 1910 U.S. Census, Anson, Somerset Co., Maine, E.D. 213, sheet 9A).

³⁴ *The Independent-Reporter*, undated clipping from Nana's Scrapbook [note 1], p. 40.

men who were reported as seriously wounded include Cassimir Bisson, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Bisson; Edward Vigue, son of Mr. and Mrs. Octave Vigue; and James Gilbert, son of Joseph Gilbert.

Company E and the 103rd Infantry next moved to the Chateau-Thierry front where they took an active role in the 26th Division assault on June 18th. According to the Maine National Guard website, "In the first twenty-two minutes, they had seized the village of Torcy to their front. After the first hour they had consolidated their position and thrown up defensive positions." The assault continued on June 20th, with heavy casualties.³⁵

Sergeant Cassimir Bisson wrote to the local paper about Company E's involvement at Chateau Thierry:³⁶

We got our first casualties about four o'clock, but these were mostly New Hampshire men who had been transferred to Co. E. at Westfield. I was near Allen Fitzmorris when he was hit in the leg about 4:30. At the same time a piece of shrapnel hit me in the left shoulder, pretty well up to the neck, and also the left arm. We fell very near each other, and were unconscious at first, but a little later we regained consciousness. He called out to me, to ask who I was, and how badly I was hurt, and we talked for a few minutes. I learned from him that he did not think he was badly wounded, but a few minutes later he was hit a second time by a shell fragment in the abdomen.

In the little conversation which we afterward had, he told me he knew he should not live. He died about an hour later on the way to the first aid station.³⁷

Corp. Alvan W. Bucknam, Corp. Harry D. St. Ledger, Corp. Millard M. Corson, Corp. Simon Peters, Pvt. Placide Bolduc, Sergt. Arthur McKenzie, Pvt. A. St. Peter, Stanley Beane and Pvt. Blendon Dean were killed about an hour after I was wounded. Of course I learned none of these particulars until after I had been in the hospital several weeks.

I subsequently learned that Corp. Bucknam and Corp. St. Ledger were near each other at the time they were hit and I understand they were both struck by machine gun bullets.³⁸

I can remember that the smoke was thick as fog among the trees and the air was full of the smell of gases and burned powder. Branches, and even trees, were falling all around us, and big shells would throw up dirt in every direction. The concussion from them would throw the boys over, even if they were some distance away.³⁹

Bisson ends his letter writing: "Skowhegan people will be privileged to remember that her boys of Co. E led the advance at Chateau-Thierry on the morning of the big drive which, as it afterwards proved, was the turning point in the great war."⁴⁰

³⁵ Maine Army National Guard website, www.me.ngb.army.mil/about/history/ww1.aspx.

³⁶ *The Independent-Reporter*, undated clipping from Nana's Scrapbook [note 1], p. 54.

³⁷ Bisson was picked up at the same time, taken to a first aid station, and then to the Field Hospital and an Evacuation Hospital. He had two operations to remove the shrapnel and was able to return to duty.

³⁸ Both Alvan Bucknam and Harry St. Ledger were members of the famous "high school squad," which left high school to join Company E in April 1917.

³⁹ *The Independent-Reporter*, undated clipping from Nana's Scrapbook [note 1], p. 54.

⁴⁰ *The Independent-Reporter*, undated clipping from Nana's Scrapbook [note 1], p. 54.

After a short rest, the 103rd resumed its offensive again on August 12 on the St. Mihiel Front. Another break and they took part in the great Allied offensive of the Meuse-Argonne on November 8. They were prepared for another offensive drive on the morning of November 11th, but it was called off. At 11 o'clock the guns went quiet and the armistice began.

An article in *The Independent-Reporter* cites a letter from a reliable source which states that

Company E had been "Over the Top" for the last time. They were in reserve expecting to be sent at once to the rear for rest. The last time they were in the trenches there were no casualties among the Skowhegan boys. This news was so close to the cessation of hostilities as to almost equal the assurance that the Skowhegan boys, at least, are safe so far as the period of actual battle is concerned.⁴¹

When word of the German surrender reached Skowhegan on Monday, November 11, plans were immediately made for a big celebration. There was a huge parade, followed by a program with speakers at the Skowhegan Opera House. The celebration continued into the evening hours with impromptu parades and bonfires in Railroad Square.⁴²

Skowhegan and Somerset County held another huge celebration when the soldiers returned. *The Independent-Reporter* called it "one of the grandest and biggest public events ever held at its county seat, Skowhegan."⁴³ The local paper describes the parade procession:

Capt. Fred C. Dunlap on horseback led the cavalcade in a stately fashion with four of Skowhegan's police force in attendance. Immediately following was Edward Sayers, leading the Regimental Band, as escorts to Co. E. With Lieut. Col. R. L. Marston in the lead came about 500 returned soldiers in uniform, led by their captain, John W. Healy. The soldiers and marines were loudly applauded and were a splendid lot, men to be proud of not only because of their valor in the old fighting days but because of their fine appearance, their stalwart forms and commanding style in the ranks again. Wounded men of Co. E were driven by Miss Ruth Greenwood in a decorated car.⁴⁴

The parade included cars containing Grand Army veterans and Red Cross ladies, as well as floats representing the Red Cross and the DAR. Several bands marched as did different organizations in the area. Local companies such as Skowhegan Creamery, American Woolen Co., and North Anson Manufacturing Co. were represented in decorated automobiles and floats. The Somerset County float included a white column with doves of peace and a great ringing bell.⁴⁵ Other towns in Somerset County sent cars and floats.

⁴¹ *The Independent-Reporter*, undated clipping from Nana's Scrapbook [note 1], p. 42.

⁴² *The Independent-Reporter*, undated clipping from Nana's Scrapbook [note 1], p. 59.

⁴³ *The Independent-Reporter*, undated clipping from Nana's Scrapbook [note 1], p. 58.

⁴⁴ *The Independent-Reporter*, undated clipping from Nana's Scrapbook [note 1], p. 58.

⁴⁵ *The Independent-Reporter*, undated clipping from Nana's Scrapbook [note 1], p. 58.

Louise Helen Coburn wrote a poem entitled “Welcome Home—To the Returned Soldiers of Somerset County.” The first verse reads:

From far strange streams and an alien shore,
From the bayonet’s thrust and the cannon’s roar,
To bright home rivers, fields dear and known,
With joy and with tears we welcome our own-
We welcome you home.⁴⁶

Company E from Skowhegan was not the only National Guard unit to be activated in World War I; however, it is probably representative of Maine’s service in this war. Young men, even those still in high school, enlisted with patriotic zeal and served with dedication and bravery. One hundred years later, we remember and honor them.

GENEALOGIES OF HIGH SCHOOL SQUAD AND COMPANY OFFICERS

Bugler **CLYDE CHURCH BADGER** was born in Bingham, Maine, 19 October 1898, the sixth child of George W. and Mary (Church) Badger.⁴⁷ In 1900 he was living in Bingham with his parents and his brothers Leroy B., 21; George P., 15; Omar P., 11; and Guy W., 7.⁴⁸

Clyde left Skowhegan High School to enlist in the National Guard, 13 April 1917, the date that the U.S. entered World War I. Private Badger was a bugler with Company E, serving overseas from 25 September 1917 to 5 April 1919, and honorably discharged 28 April 1919.⁴⁹

In 1920, Badger aged 21, was living with his parents and brother Guy in Worcester, Massachusetts, working as a reporter for the Worcester *Telegram & Gazette*.⁵⁰ In 1922, he married MABEL LOIS CHILDS,⁵¹ born Worcester, 13 October 1900, daughter of Herbert I. and Mary (Broderick) Childs.⁵² They were living in Quincy, Massachusetts, and had three children in the 1930 census: Mabel M., 6; Clyde C. Jr., 3; and Marion B., 1.⁵³ Mabel died in Leominster, Massachusetts, 4 August 1972,⁵⁴ Clyde Badger died there 31 July 1955.⁵⁵

⁴⁶ *The Independent-Reporter*, undated clipping from Nana’s Scrapbook [note 1], p. 61.

⁴⁷ Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921, image, familysearch.org.

⁴⁸ George Badger household, 1900 U.S. Census, Bingham, Somerset Co., Maine, E.D. 145, sheet 6B.

⁴⁹ James W. Hanson, Adjutant General, *Roster of Maine in the Military Service of the U.S. and Allies in World War 1917–1919*, 2 vols. (Augusta, 1929), 1:71.

⁵⁰ George Badger household, 1920 U.S. Census, Worcester Ward 2, Worcester Co., Mass., E.D. 205, sheet 11B.

⁵¹ Massachusetts, Marriage Index, 1901–1955 and 1966–1970, image, ancestry.com.

⁵² Massachusetts, Birth Records, 1840–1915, image, ancestry.com.

⁵³ Clyde Badger household, 1930 U.S. Census, Quincy, Norfolk Co., Mass., E.D. 115, sheet 12A.

⁵⁴ Massachusetts Death Index, 1970–2003, database, ancestry.com.

⁵⁵ U.S., Headstone Applications for Military Veterans, 1925–1963, image, ancestry.com.

Corporal **CASSIMIR ANTHONY BISSON** was born in Skowhegan, 31 January 1897, son of Amadie Edward and Mary (Corrigan) Bisson.⁵⁶ While still in high school, he enlisted in the National Guard, 17 April 1917, as a private and was promoted to corporal on 2 July. He was wounded at Xivray, 18 July 1918, and was honorably discharged 28 April 1919.⁵⁷

Cassimir's father, Amadie Edward Bisson, was born in Canada, 28 April 1860, died 19 October 1929, and is buried in Calvary Cemetery, Skowhegan.⁵⁸ His second wife and Cassimir's mother, Mary Corrigan, was born 7 January 1867, daughter of Hugh and Mary (Burke) Corrigan, died 20 December 1944, and is buried with her husband in Calvary Cemetery.⁵⁹

An osteopathic physician, Cassimir Bisson attended Bowdoin College and graduated from Kirksville College of Osteopathy and Surgery in 1925.⁶⁰ He married in Kirksville, Adair County, Missouri, 28 December 1928, MARY LUCILLE MILLER of Kirksville,⁶¹ and returned home to Skowhegan to begin his practice.⁶² By 1940 he was living in his own home in Skowhegan with his wife Mary and son John, 7.⁶³ Cassimir Bisson died in Winter Park, Florida, in March 1966.⁶⁴

Corporal **ALVAN WILLIAM BUCKNAM**, the only son of Frank W. and Gertrude (Whitcomb) Bucknam, was born in Yarmouth, Maine, 6 January 1899,⁶⁵ He was a student at Skowhegan High School when he enlisted 16 April 1917 as a private.

⁵⁶ His birth record gives his name as "Effel Bisson," b. Skowhegan, 31 Jan. 1897, son of Edward and Mary E. (Corrigan) Bisson (Maine, Birth Records, 1715–1922, image, ancestry.com). That this was the birth record for the man known throughout his life as "Cassimir" is seen on the U.S. Social Security Death Index, 1935–2014, database, ancestry.com, which also gives his birth date as 31 Jan. 1897, and on the 1910 U.S. Census, in which "Casmere," aged 12, was living with his parents Amidee and Mary Disson on Bush Street in Skowhegan (E.D. 238, sheet 25A).

⁵⁷ Hanson, *Roster of Maine in the Military Service* [note 49], 1:154.

⁵⁸ Gravestone photo, findagrave.com #153096362.

⁵⁹ Gravestone photo, findagrave.com #153096361. In 1880 Mary Corrigan was listed as the 13-year-old daughter of Hugh and Mary Corrigan (Hugh Corrigan household, 1880 U.S. Census, Vassalboro, Kennebec Co., Maine, E.D. 105, p. 431C). Mary Burke's maiden name is found on a delayed record of birth for Thomas Joseph Corrigan entered in the Vassalboro vital records on 13 Jan. 1944 by Mary Bisson, sister (Cassimir's wife) (Angela M. Foster, *Vital Records of Vassalboro, Maine* [Rockport, Maine, 2003], 371).

⁶⁰ Coburn, *Skowhegan on the Kennebec* [note 22], 2:834.

⁶¹ Missouri, Marriage Records, 1805–2002, image, ancestry.com.

⁶² In 1930, Cassimir A. and Mary L. Bisson were living with his mother, Mary E. Bisson, on Water St. in Skowhegan (Mary E. Bisson household, 1930 U.S. Census, Skowhegan, Somerset Co., Maine, E.D. 78, sheets 1B–2A).

⁶³ Cassimir Bisson household, 1940 U. S. Census, Skowhegan, Somerset Co., Maine, E.D. 13-58, sheet 10A.

⁶⁴ U.S. Social Security Death Index, 1935–2014, database, ancestry.com.

⁶⁵ Maine, Birth Records, 1715–1922, image, ancestry.com; *The Independent-Reporter*, undated clipping from Nana's Scrapbook [note 1], p. 36.

Promoted to corporal on 22 November, he was killed in action at Chateau-Thierry, France, 17 July 1918.⁶⁶

An article in *The Independent-Reporter* in 1925 states that Mrs. Gertrude Whitcomb Bucknam, wife of Frank W. Bucknam, committed suicide. She was mother of Alvan W. Bucknam, who was killed in World War I, and the daughter of Mrs Sarah L. Whitcomb.⁶⁷

Sergeant **JOHN D. EMERY** was born in Raleigh, North Carolina, 14 November 1897, son of Frank E. and Clara A. (Drew) Emery.⁶⁸ Frank and Clara were married in Fairfield, 20 February 1885.⁶⁹ The Emery family moved to Skowhegan by 1910, when John D., 12, was living with his mother and six siblings.⁷⁰

John D. Emery enlisted from Skowhegan 14 April 1917, while still a student at Skowhegan High School. He was promoted to 2nd lieutenant 24 March 1919 and honorably discharged 29 April 1919.⁷¹ He soon went to Cuba where he worked on the sugar plantation of the Cape Cruz Company and married, 19 March 1920, REGINA STELLA FROOM of Ensenada-de-Mora, Cuba.⁷²

In 1930, Emery, age 32, was living in San Diego, a partner in a hardware store, with wife Regina S. Emery, 30, son John F. Emery, 5, and daughter Joy F. Emery, 4.⁷³ He died in San Diego 29 August 1974.⁷⁴

Captain **JOHN WESTON HEALY** enlisted in the National Guard 13 June 1913 and was promoted to 2nd lieutenant 29 May 1914. He served with the Maine National Guard in Mexico with Company E in 1913 and in Europe with the 103rd Infantry in World War I. When the original commander of Company E, Roy L. Marston, was assigned to other duties, he became the commander of the company, serving with them in England, Lorraine, Champagne-Marne, Aisne-Marne, St. Mihiel, and Meuse-Argonne.⁷⁵

Born in Lexington, Maine, 13 July 1886, John Weston Healy was the son of Edgerly Hiram and Elizabeth ("Lizzie") (Weston) Healy,⁷⁶ and a descendant of Joseph Weston, the first settler in what is now Skowhegan.⁷⁷

⁶⁶ Hanson, *Roster of Maine in the Military Service* [note 49], 1:254.

⁶⁷ *The Independent-Reporter*, undated clipping from Nana's Scrapbook [note 1], p. 229.

⁶⁸ U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs BIRLS Death File, ancestry.com.

⁶⁹ Maine, Marriage Records, 1713–1922, image, ancestry.com.

⁷⁰ Clara A. Emery, 1910 U.S. Census, Skowhegan, Somerset Co., Maine, E.D. 237, sheet 14B.

⁷¹ Hanson, *Roster of Maine in the Military Service* [note 49], 1:629.

⁷² *The Independent-Reporter*, undated clipping from Nana's Scrapbook [note 1], p. 202.

⁷³ John D. Emery, 1930 U.S. Census, San Diego, San Diego Co., Calif., E.D. 109, sheet 6A.

⁷⁴ Gravestone photo, Mt. Hope Cemetery, San Diego, findagrave.com #71893613.

⁷⁵ Hanson, *Roster of Maine in the Military Service* [note 49], 1:911.

⁷⁶ Birth date from gravestone, findagrave.com #143796978; in 1910, son John W. Healy, 23, was living with his widowed mother in Skowhegan (Lizzie W. Healy household, 1910 U.S. Census, Skowhegan, Somerset Co., Maine, E.D. 237, sheet 1B). His parents m. Skowhegan, 20 Nov. 1878 (Sally Furber Nelson, *Vital Records of Skowhegan, Maine* [Rockland, Maine, 2010], 332).

⁷⁷ Mrs. Lizzie Weston Healey, DAR lineage #149367, ancestry.com.

John W. Healey of Waterville married, first, in Skowhegan, 31 July 1909, LOIS ALTINE COOL.⁷⁸ Their daughter, Althea, was born 25 May 1910,⁷⁹ and Lois died at age 23 on 14 August 1912.⁸⁰ He married, second, in Skowhegan, 24 July 1914, LELIA MAUDE WYMAN,⁸¹ and they had two sons: Richard Wyman Healy, born in Madison, 4 November 1916, and Robert Morse Healy, born 8 January 1920.⁸²

John Weston Healy died in Augusta, 3 January 1951, and is buried in Southside Cemetery, Skowhegan.⁸³

Lieutenant Colonel **ROY LEON MARSTON** was the commanding officer of Company E when it was first formed in Skowhegan in April 1913 as a Maine National Guard unit. Under his direction, the company served in Mexico in the Pancho Villa Expedition. He remained captain of Company E when it was called up for service in World War I. He was soon, however, assigned to other duties; he was in charge of the landing of the entire 26th “Yankee” division as well as the infantry brigades of the 2nd division and parts of the 42nd division.⁸⁴ He was promoted to major 22 October 1918 and to lieutenant colonel 18 February 1918.⁸⁵

Marston was born in Skowhegan 10 September 1877, the first child of Charles Albert and Sarah (Steward) Marston.⁸⁶ His ancestors include several of the early families of Skowhegan—the Marstons, Stewards, and Coburns.⁸⁷ He married, first, in New Haven, Connecticut, 29 November 1904, JULIE PARMELEE of New Haven.⁸⁸ They had no children and the marriage ended in divorce. He married,

⁷⁸ Maine, Marriage Records, 1713–1922, image, ancestry.com.

⁷⁹ Althea E. Healy birth record, Maine, Birth Records, 1715–1922, image, ancestry.com; Althea Elizabeth Healy Cayford d. 28 Dec. 1986 and is buried in Athens (findagrave.com #124448342).

⁸⁰ Lois Cool was b. West Pittsfield, daughter of John N. and Alfreda (Osborn) Cool (Maine, Death Records, 1761–1922, image, ancestry.com).

⁸¹ Maine, Marriage Records, 1713–1922, image, ancestry.com. Lelia Maude Wyman was b. Phillips, Maine, 18 July 1887, daughter of Frank and Clara (Dolbier) Wyman (Maine, Birth Records, 1715–1922, image, ancestry.com).

⁸² Maine, Birth Records, 1715–1922, image, ancestry.com.

⁸³ Gravestone photo, findagrave.com #143796978. A Healy Family tree (www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/13990135/person/34690701/facts) says that John Healy was recalled to active duty in 1941, serving his country once again as Inspector General for the 43rd Division at Camp Blanding, Fla. He later became Commanding Officer of District #5, Fourth Service Command, at Camp Blanding. In Maine, Healy was elected Sheriff of Somerset County in 1924 but left that position to become Superintendent of Public Buildings for the State of Maine. He later served as Director of Enforcement for the State Liquor Commission and then in the Plans and Training Office at Camp Keyes in Augusta.

⁸⁴ Coburn, *Skowhegan on the Kennebec* [note 22], 2:614–17.

⁸⁵ Hanson, *Roster of Maine in the Military Service* [note 49], 1:1326.

⁸⁶ Maine, Birth Records, 1715–1922, image, ancestry.com.

⁸⁷ His paternal grandfather, Capt. Isaiah Marston m. Eliza Coburn in 1829; his maternal great grandfather, Ens. Asa Steward, m. Sally Parker of Belgrade in 1818 (Nelson, *Vital Records of Skowhegan* [note 76], 133, 148).

⁸⁸ *Biographical Record of the Graduates and Former Students of the Yale Forest School* (New Haven, 1913), 43.

second, in Skowhegan, 15 October 1915, MARY ELIZA EMERY, born in Raleigh, North Carolina, about 1894 (aged 21 at marriage), daughter of Frank E. and Clara (Drew) Emery and sister of John D. Emery, above.⁸⁹

Roy Leon Marston attended Bloomfield Academy and Skowhegan High School, and received a B.A. degree from Bowdoin College in 1899. He was in the lumber business for five years before entering the Yale Forest School. He taught at the Yale Forest School until 1906, and then became forester to the United States Military Academy.⁹⁰ In 1930 Roy and Mary Marston were living on Main Street in Skowhegan with their children Sarah, 13; Coburn, 9; Roy L., Jr., 5; and Mary J., 4.⁹¹

Roy L. Marston died at the Togus veterans facility, 6 July 1936, from complications after an appendectomy, and is buried in Southside Cemetery, Skowhegan.⁹²

Corporal **RALPH MERROW** enlisted in Company E at the age of 18 and was promoted to corporal 2 July 1917. He saw action at Chemin des Dames, Apremont, and Xivray, where he was seriously wounded 16 June 1918.⁹³ *The Independent-Reporter* wrote in 1919 that he was hospitalized for a long time, adding that “he has now however practically regained his health and has accepted a position as salesman at the Hamilton drug store.”⁹⁴

Ralph Merrow was born in Hartland, Maine, 14 October 1898, the fifth child of Frank and Minerva (Dunlap) Merrow.⁹⁵ His father died 6 May 1907 of liver cancer,⁹⁶ and his mother died 1 May 1909 of stomach cancer.⁹⁷

Then an orphan, Ralph Merrow, aged 11, was living in 1910 in Hartland in the household of his brother Harry L. Merrow, 29.⁹⁸ By 1920, he was living in Hartland with his sister Blanche L. Harding and her daughter Berniece.⁹⁹

⁸⁹ Maine, Marriage Records, 1713–1922, image, ancestry.com.

⁹⁰ *Biographical Record of the Yale Forest School* [note 88], 43.

⁹¹ Roy L. Marston household, 1930 U.S. Census, Skowhegan, Somerset Co., Maine, E.D. 76, sheet 12B. They had 5 children: *Sarah Marston*, b. 16 March 1916 (Maine, Birth Records, 1715–1922, image, ancestry.com); *John Henry Marston*, b. 26 Nov. 1917 (Maine, Birth Records, 1715–1922, image, ancestry.com), d. 1929 (Southside Cemetery, Skowhegan, photo, findagrave.com #1437771312); *Coburn Marston*, b. 7 Oct. 1920, d. 13 May 1992, served in World War II and Korea (Southside Cemetery, Skowhegan, photo, findagrave.com #143777132); *Roy Leon Marston Jr.*, b. 24 April 1924, d. 24 Jan. 1988 in Titusville, Fla; m. 1845 Elaine McQuillan (obituary notice, <https://externalapps.westpointaog.org/Memorials/Article/14794/>); *Mary Jane Marston*, b. 8 July 1925, d. 1950, apparently unmarried (Southside Cemetery, Skowhegan, photo, findagrave.com #143777130).

⁹² Gravestone photo, findagrave.com #143777128; obituary notice, *Biddeford Daily Journal*, 7 July 1936, p. 4.

⁹³ Hanson, *Roster of Maine in the Military Service* [note 49], 1:1359.

⁹⁴ *The Independent-Reporter*, undated clipping from Nana’s Scrapbook [note 1], p. 48.

⁹⁵ Maine, Birth Records, 1715–1922, image, ancestry.com.

⁹⁶ Maine, Death Records, 1761–1922, image, ancestry.com.

⁹⁷ Maine, Death Records, 1761–1922, image, ancestry.com.

⁹⁸ Harry L. Merrow household, 1910 U.S. Census, Hartland, Somerset Co., Maine, E.D. 228, sheet 5A.

⁹⁹ Blanche L. Harding, 1920 U.S. Census, Hartland, Somerset Co., Maine, E.D. 108, sheet 5A.

He married ALTHEA LOUISE MARGARET STAPLES of Pittsfield, 23 November 1924.¹⁰⁰ She was born in Bartlett, New Hampshire, 3 May 1899, daughter of George S. and Louise (Crabbe) Staples.¹⁰¹ She died (as Louise Margaret Smith) in Alameda County, California, 16 May 1994.¹⁰² Ralph died in Newport, Maine, 3 January 1963, and is buried in the Maine Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Augusta.¹⁰³

Corporal **HARRY DEWEY ST. LEDGER** was born in Skowhegan, 13 April 1898, the oldest son of Michael and Grace (Mitchell) St. Ledger.¹⁰⁴ His father was the son of Edward and Mary (Sharkey) St. Ledger, both born in Ireland.¹⁰⁵ Born in Dracut, Massachusetts, 11 April 1869,¹⁰⁶ Michael came to Skowhegan when he was twenty-one and soon became a prominent businessman there.¹⁰⁷ On 25 January 1896 in Skowhegan, Michael F. St. Ledger married Grace May Mitchell, born Skowhegan about 1875, daughter of Frank and Julia (Williams) Mitchell.¹⁰⁸

Corporal St. Ledger was killed in action at Chateau-Thierry on 18 July 1898,¹⁰⁹ and is buried in Southside Cemetery in Skowhegan.¹¹⁰

Sergeant **BROOKS ELLIOT SAVAGE** enlisted in Company E on 17 April 1917, and was promoted to sergeant 4 November 1918.¹¹¹ He was gassed on 27 July and hit in the leg by high explosives on the day before the armistice.¹¹²

Born 23 February 1898, Brooks was the only child of Mark W. and Nellie (Berryman) Savage.¹¹³ His parents were married 28 January 1896 in Skowhegan.¹¹⁴

Brooks E. Savage married in Boston, Massachusetts, in 1929, ELIZABETH HOWARD HARMON.¹¹⁵ She was born in 1907, died in 1985.¹¹⁶ They had one son, Mark Elliott Savage, born in Massachusetts, 10 April 1933, died 29 June 1988.¹¹⁷ Mark married in Los Angeles, California, 17 April 1954, Dema Bernice Riddle,¹¹⁸ who survived him.

¹⁰⁰ Maine, Marriage Index, 1892–1996, database, ancestry.com.

¹⁰¹ U.S., Social Security Applications and Claims Index, 1936–2007, database, ancestry.com.

¹⁰² California, Death Index, 1940–1997, database, ancestry.com.

¹⁰³ Maine Death Index, 1960–1997, database, ancestry.com; findagrave.com #73852443.

¹⁰⁴ Maine, Birth Records, 1715–1922, image, ancestry.com. The given name of this male child was blank on the form, but that it was Harry is seen from other records herein cited.

¹⁰⁵ *The Independent-Reporter*, undated clipping from Nana's Scrapbook [note 1], p. 238.

¹⁰⁶ Massachusetts, Birth Records, 1840–1915, image, ancestry.com.

¹⁰⁷ *The Independent-Reporter*, undated clipping from Nana's Scrapbook [note 1], p. 238.

¹⁰⁸ All information from Maine, Marriage Records, 1713–1922, image, ancestry.com.

¹⁰⁹ Hanson, *Roster of Maine in the Military Service* [note 49], 2:301.

¹¹⁰ Gravestone transcription, findagrave.com #126506500.

¹¹¹ Hanson, *Roster of Maine in the Military Service* [note 49], 2:314.

¹¹² *The Independent-Reporter*, undated clipping from Nana's Scrapbook [note 1], p. 48.

¹¹³ Maine, Birth Records, 1715–1922, image, ancestry.com.

¹¹⁴ Maine, Marriage Records, 1713–1922, image, ancestry.com.

¹¹⁵ Massachusetts, Marriage Index, 1901–1955 and 1966–1970, database, ancestry.com.

¹¹⁶ Gravestone photo, Southside Cemetery, Skowhegan, findagrave.com #143077937.

¹¹⁷ Gravestone photo, Southside Cemetery, Skowhegan, findagrave.com #143077939.

¹¹⁸ California, Marriage Index, 1949–1959, database, ancestry.com.

For several years, Brooks E. Savage was a state representative from Skowhegan and a state senator. In 1949, he was the Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee.¹¹⁹ He died 7 October 1951.¹²⁰

Mechanic **CARL WEEKS TOBEY** enlisted in Company E, 103rd Infantry on 19 April 1917.¹²¹ An article in *The Independent-Reporter* states that he was severely wounded at St. Mihiel and transferred to several hospitals in Europe and the United States before he was discharged.¹²²

Tobey was born in Jefferson, Maine, 5 September 1897, the first child of George W. and Emma (Linscott) Tobey.¹²³ On 22 June 1921, he married in Skowhegan PRUDENCE WOOD WADSWORTH.¹²⁴ She was born in Skowhegan 20 October 1898, daughter of Dr. John E. and Alice L. (Locke) Wadsworth.¹²⁵ She died in 1941 and is buried in Southside Cemetery, Skowhegan.¹²⁶

In 1930, Carl and Prudence were living in Brooklyn, New York, with their two children, Gwendolyn, 7, and Carl, 6.¹²⁷ In 1940, the family was in Quincy, Massachusetts, where Carl was described as an orchid salesman at an orchid nursery.¹²⁸ Carl Tobey died in Bath, Maine, 8 September 1982, age 85,¹²⁹ and is buried in the Maine Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Augusta.¹³⁰

Sally Furber Nelson (978 Hallowell Litchfield Road, West Gardiner ME 04345; sallynelson877@gmail.com) is a retired community college administrator who has been researching her family and others for over forty years. She has transcribed the vital records of six towns in Maine and provided several sketches for the Maine Families in 1790 project.

¹¹⁹ *Portland Press Herald*, 16 April 1949, p. 6.

¹²⁰ Gravestone photo, Southside Cemetery, Skowhegan, findagrave.com #143077935.

¹²¹ Hanson, *Roster of Maine in the Military Service* [note 49], 2:519.

¹²² *The Independent-Reporter*, undated clipping from Nana's Scrapbook [note 1], p. 48.

¹²³ Maine, Birth Records, 1715–1922, image, ancestry.com.

¹²⁴ Maine, Marriage Records, 1713–1922, image, ancestry.com.

¹²⁵ Maine, Birth Records, 1715–1922, image, ancestry.com; *The Independent-Reporter*, undated clipping from Nana's Scrapbook [note 1], p. 199.

¹²⁶ Gravestone photo, findagrave.com #142862539.

¹²⁷ Carl Tobey household, 1930 U.S. Census, Brooklyn, Kings Co., N.Y., E.D. 1344, sheet 17A.

¹²⁸ Carl W. Tobey household, 1940 U.S. Census, Quincy, Norfolk Co., Mass., E.D. 11-220, sheet 9A.

¹²⁹ Maine Death Index, 1960–1997, database, ancestry.com.

¹³⁰ Gravestone transcription, findagrave.com #41746740. Findagrave erroneously entered his date of enlistment, 19 April 1917, as his birth date, although the death date is correct.

IDENTIFYING AN UNKNOWN DAUGHTER OF GEORGE BOWES OF WASHINGTON, MAINE

By Analysis of a Deed

By *Glenn A. Sampson*

While researching the George Bowes family of Washington, Knox County, Maine, a deed was encountered implying that a man named George Bailey was one of Bowes's heirs. The natural assumption was that Bailey had married a member of the Bowes family, but whom? This article will identify all the people mentioned in the deed, revealing their relationship to the Bowes family and, most specifically, resolving the mystery of George Bailey's connection.

George Bowes and his wife Elizabeth (Gibson) emigrated with their children from England to Boston, Massachusetts, in the period 1800–1804.¹ On 7 November 1804, George purchased at Boston a parcel of one hundred acres in Union, Maine, from a Boston merchant and land agent named Alanson Tucker.² When Bowes died in 1817 or 1818,³ a portion of his estate fell to his widow, Elizabeth. Elizabeth, aged 80–89, was living with her son John in 1840,⁴ but died by September of the next year, when her heirs agreed to sell the property that she had held at the time of her death. A partial transcription of the deed documenting that sale appears below:

Know all men by these presents, that I George Bailey, Peter Light, Mary Light & John Bowes, of Washington, Cephus Cole, of Waldoboro, county of Lincoln State of Maine, Joseph & Rachel Galbath of Waltham, in the county of Sussex [*sic*] & State of Massachusetts, heirs at law of Elizabeth Bowes of Washington in said County of Lincoln In consideration of the sum of five hundred dollars paid by Isaac Collomore of Appleton in the county of Waldo yeoman[,] the receipt whereof we do hereby acknowledge; do hereby remise release, bargain sell & convey & forever quit claim unto the said Isaac Colomore his heirs and assigns forever, all right title & interest in & to a certain lot or piece of land situated in said Washington & bounded as follows. . .

. . . In the interest whereof we the said George, Peter, Mary, John, Cephus, Joseph & Rachel have hereunto set our hands and seals this twenty first day of September in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred & forty-one.

¹ For their background in England, see the Genealogical Summary.

² Lincoln Co., Maine, Deeds, 96:103. The land purchased by George Bowes in 1804 was originally located in the northwest part of the town of Union, which was at that time in Lincoln Co. In 1811 the area that included the Bowes property was incorporated as the town of Putnam. In 1823 the name of Putnam was changed to Washington. On 1 April 1860, Washington, Union, and several towns then in Lincoln and Waldo cos. became the newly created Knox Co., where they remain today. All place names in this article are given as they now exist, without regard to how they might have been originally recorded.

³ On 21 Jan. 1818, John Bowes, yeoman, was appointed administrator of the intestate estate of George Bowes, late of Putnam, yeoman (Lincoln Co. Probate Records, 16:502).

⁴ John Bowes household, 1840 U.S. Census, Washington, Lincoln Co., Maine, p. 51.

Signed sealed & delivered	George Bailey	L. S.
in the presence of George Gray	{Peter Light	L. S.
Joseph M Light, W ^m Light	{Mary Light	L. S.
Henry Kennedy witness to C. Cole	{John Bowes	L. S.
Lincoln Ss Sept ^m 21, 1841	{Cephus Cole	L. S.
Personally appeared George	{Esther Cole	L. S.

Bailey, Peter Light, Mary Light & John Bowes & acknowledged the above instrument to be their free act & Deed before me

Robert C Rider Justice of the Peace

Rec^d Oct 21st 1. o clock P.M. 1843 entered & examined by

Sam^l Fuller Register⁵

In the course of this study, it will be necessary to identify all the children of Elizabeth and George Bowes represented in this deed, and, secondarily, to identify all other individuals appearing in it.

The first obstacle to these objectives is that a wife's property in those times belonged to their husbands. Added to this is the fact that there are a number of minor errors in this document. These errors may have existed in the original deed, but more likely they were introduced by the copyist at the registry of deeds. The formatting of the signature section is awkward and probably inaccurate. I believe the signature section of the original deed was (or should have been) as follows:

Signed sealed & delivered		
in the presence of		
George Gray	{George Bailey	L. S.
Joseph M Light	{Peter Light	L. S.
Wm Leghr	{Mary Leghr	L. S.
	{John Bowes	L. S.
Henry Kennedy, witness to C. Cole	{Cephas Cole	L. S.
Lincoln, SS Septm 21, 1841	{Esther Cole	L. S.

Personally appeared George Bailey, Peter Light, Mary Leghr & John Bowes & acknowledged the above instrument to be their free act & deed before me.

Robert E Rider, Justice of the Peace

It can readily be seen how, in script, the surname *Leghr* might be mistranscribed as *Light*, especially since one of the other heirs was in fact named Light. This error will be made more apparent below. That being said, the problem of identifying the signers and witnesses of this sale, and their possible relationship to George and Elizabeth Bowes, remains.

Those children who were previously known or can be easily determined from this document are as follows:

- 1 JOHN BOWES, b. [calc.] June 1782, d. 26 Oct. 1866, aged 84y 4m, and bur. in Maple Grove Cemetery, Washington.⁶

⁵ Knox Co., Maine, Deeds, 7:305-6.

⁶ Gravestone transcription (no photo), findagrave.com #173030276.

- 2 JOSEPH BOWES, b. "Durham," England, [calc.] 30 Jan. 1788, d. Waddington, Saint Lawrence Co., N.Y., 1 Feb. 1860, aged 72y 11m 1d.⁷
- 3 RACHEL BOWES, b. England, [calc.] Oct. 1790, d. Waltham, Mass., 25 Jan 1886, aged 95y 3m;⁸ m. Boston, Mass., 18 June 1818, JOHN GALBRAITH.⁹ He was likely deceased by 1830, when Rachel headed her household at Washington.¹⁰
- 4 ESTHER BOWES, b. [calc.] Nov. 1790, d. Waldoboro, Maine, 5 Sept. 1846, aged 55y 10m;¹¹ m. Waldoboro, 4 Nov. 1822, Capt. CEPHAS COLE.¹²
- 5 MARY BOWES, b. ca. 1796, d. 22 Sept. 1848, aged 52y, and bur. in Maple Grove Cemetery, Washington;¹³ m. Washington, 15 Feb. 1815, HENRY LEGHR.¹⁴ He d. 17 April 1839, aged 52y, and bur. in Maple Grove Cemetery.¹⁵
- 6 HANNAH BOWES, b. [calc.] Sept. 1798, d. 25 Dec 1864, aged 65y 3m, and bur. in Maple Grove Cemetery, Washington;¹⁶ m. Washington, 24 Nov. 1816, PETER LIGHT.¹⁷

Therefore, the grantors of the deed can be identified as follows:

George Bailey, a proposed but unproven husband of an unknown daughter of George and Elizabeth Bowes.

Peter Light, the husband of Hannah Bowes, daughter of George and Elizabeth Bowes.

Mary "Light" was in fact Mary (Bowes) Leghr, daughter of George and Elizabeth Bowes, representing herself, as her husband had died in 1839.

John Bowes, eldest son of George and Elizabeth Bowes.

Cephas Cole, husband of Esther (Bowes) Cole, daughter of George and Elizabeth Bowes.

"*Joseph & Rachel Galbath*" were not husband and wife, but rather brother and sister. He was Joseph Bowes, son of George and Elizabeth Bowes, and she was Rachel (Bowes) Galbraith, daughter of George and Elizabeth Bowes, representing herself as a widow. Both Joseph and Rachel were living in Waltham, Mass., at the time. (It is curious that there is no notarized consent from Joseph and Rachel attached to this deed).

The witnesses are as follows:

George Gray, unknown connection, if any, to the family. He does not appear by name in any census or other records for the local area.

Joseph M Light, b. Washington, [calc.] 13 July 1825, son of Peter and Hannah (Bowes) Light, d. Appleton, Maine, on 20 July 1912, aged 87y 7d.¹⁸

⁷ Massachusetts Vital Records, 1841–1910, 139:184 [image, americanancestors.org]. His death was recorded in Waltham, Mass.

⁸ Massachusetts Vital Records, 1841–1910, 374:220 [image, americanancestors.org].

⁹ Massachusetts Town and Vital Records, 1620–1988, image, ancestry.com (citing Boston Marriages, 1807–1828, 15:233).

¹⁰ Rachel Galbrath household, 1830 U.S. Census, Washington, Lincoln Co., Maine, p. 66.

¹¹ Maine, Death Records, 1761–1922, image, ancestry.com.

¹² Maine Marriage Records, 1713–1937, image, ancestry.com.

¹³ Gravestone transcription (no photo), findagrave.com #173067615.

¹⁴ Marlene A. Groves, *Vital Records of Washington, Maine* (Rockport, Maine, 2005), 111.

¹⁵ Gravestone transcription (no photo), findagrave.com #173067570.

¹⁶ Gravestone transcription (no photo), findagrave.com #55412877.

¹⁷ Groves, *Vital Records of Washington* [note 14], 110.

¹⁸ All information from Maine, Death Records, 1761–1922, image, ancestry.com.

W^m Light. He was *either* William Henry Light, son of Peter and Hannah (Bowes) Light, *or* William Leghr, b. ca. 1825, son of Henry and Mary (Bowes) Leghr (see Genealogical Summary below).

Henry Kennedy, b. Jefferson, Maine, 23 Sept. 1799,¹⁹ d. Waldoboro, Maine, 19 Oct 1875.²⁰ He was a deacon, state representative, and prominent resident of Waldoboro. He had no apparent familial relation to members or in-laws of the Bowes family.

The other persons whose names appear incidentally within the deed are:

Isaac Collamore, grantee, b. Hope, Maine, 27 March 1807, son of Peleg and Elizabeth (Hawthorn) Collamore, d. Washington, 25 April 1889.²¹ He had no known relationship to the Bowes family.

Robert E. Rider, Justice of the Peace, b. Albion, Maine, ca. 1803, d. Albion, 1 Jan 1873, aged 70y.²² Dr. Rider studied medicine at Bowdoin College, and graduated there in 1832. He was a physician and merchant in Washington, and a state senator in 1860 and 1861.²³ He was not related to the Bowes family.

WHO WAS GEORGE BAILEY'S WIFE?

George Bailey was born about 1770.²⁴ He died in Washington, 22 January 1858.²⁵ He married first, in Woolwich on 2 July 1791, Rebecca Gould.²⁶ Rebecca was born in Woolwich, 24 December 1765, daughter of Samuel and Mary (Gooch) Gould,²⁷ and died 24 December 1826, aged 61 years, buried in Maple Grove Cemetery, Washington.²⁸ They had eight children born in the period 1792 to 1804.²⁹

George Bailey moved his family from Wiscasset to Washington, Maine sometime before 1820.³⁰ By the time his first wife, Rebecca, died in 1826, all their children were grown.

¹⁹ Harold Lewis Bond, "Early Vital Records of Jefferson, Maine," http://archives.maine genealogy.net/2006/07/early-vital-records-of-jefferson-part_12.html.

²⁰ Maine, Death Records, 1761–1922, image, ancestry.com.

²¹ Charles Hatch, *Genealogy of the Descendants of Charles Collamer of Scituate, Massachusetts* (Salem, Mass., 1915), 152.

²² *General Catalogue of Bowdoin College and the Medical School of Maine, 1794–1894* (Brunswick, Maine, 1894), 110.

²³ See preceding note.

²⁴ He was aged 80 in Alfred Hilton household, 1850 U.S. Census, Washington, Lincoln Co., Maine, p. 282.

²⁵ Petition of Elias Bailey for administration of estate of George Bailey, Lincoln Co. Probate Records, 74:310.

²⁶ Marlene A. Groves, *Vital Records of Woolwich, Maine* (Waterville, Maine, 2015), 476.

²⁷ Groves, *Vital Records of Woolwich* [note 26], 330.

²⁸ Gravestone transcription (no photo), findagrave.com #71063289.

²⁹ George Bayley household, 1800 U.S. Census, Pownalborough, Lincoln Co., Maine, p. 497; 1810 U.S. Census, Wiscasset, Lincoln Co., Maine, p. 154.

³⁰ George Bailey household, 1820 U.S. Census, Putman, Lincoln Co., Maine, p. 303.

George Bailey married second, probably before the taking of the 1830 census, a daughter of George and Elizabeth (Gibson) Bowes.³¹ She died sometime before 1850, as she does not appear with him in the 1850 census.³² They had no children.

In 1830 George Bailey's household consisted of himself aged 50–59, his second wife (née Bowes) aged 40–49 (thus born 1780–90), a girl aged 10–14, and a boy aged 5–9.³³ There are several possibilities for the young girl. Born in the period 1815–20, she cannot be a daughter of George's first wife, Rebecca, as Rebecca would have been over fifty at her birth. She could be a daughter of George's second wife, but not by him, as Rebecca was still living when the girl was born. On the other hand, she could be someone completely unrelated. There is insufficient evidence to draw any firm conclusions as to her identity.

Finding the identity of the young boy, however, was more successful. He was still living in George Bailey's household in 1840, aged 15–19, along with George, aged 60–69, and his wife, aged 50–59.³⁴

An online search was conducted for all males born between 1821 and 1825 who appeared in the 1850 Washington census. All candidates, however, were eliminated, primarily based on their parents' names as given on their death certificates. Noting that two of the four witnesses to the 1841 deed were children of the signers, another online search was conducted for men named George Gray (the unidentified witness) born in Maine between 1821 and 1825. This search turned up a Massachusetts death record for a George Gray, who died at Concord, Massachusetts, on 12 January 1901, aged 76 years and 12 days. The record stated that he was born in Washington, Maine, his birth date calculated to be 1 January 1825. His father's name was "not known," but his mother's maiden name was listed as Bowes.³⁵

Fortunately, the son of George Gray, George Arthur Gray, produced a genealogy of his mother's family, in which he included a brief section on his father's origin:³⁶

George Gray's father was a sea captain sailing out of New Orleans. He married Jane Bowes, who, after going to sea with him a little more than a year, went to her sister's in Maine to give birth to a son (George Gray). While there her husband was lost at sea. On her recovery she started for New Orleans, but was shipwrecked on the way, so both of George Gray's parents are buried in the unmarked Atlantic. Mr. Gray has also been in

³¹ Less than two months after Rebecca died, a George "Bayley" filed marriage intentions in Washington, 17 Feb. 1827, with Mrs. Ann E. Booker, both of Washington (Groves, *Vital Records of Washington* [note 14], 36). The marriage, if it occurred, was not recorded in Washington records. No further information has been found about Ann or whether her intended was the George Bailey who married first Rebecca and later a daughter of George Bowes.

³² Alfred Hilton household, 1850 U.S. Census, Washington, Lincoln Co., Maine, p. 282. George, aged 80, was living in the family of his son-in-law and daughter Alfred and Jane L. Hilton.

³³ George Bailey household, 1830 U.S. Census, Washington, Lincoln Co., Maine, p. 66.

³⁴ George Bailey household, 1840 U.S. Census, Washington, Lincoln Co., Maine, p. 47.

³⁵ Massachusetts Vital Records, 1841–1910, 517:465 [image, americanancestors.org].

³⁶ George Arthur Gray, *The Descendants of George Holmes of Roxbury 1594 – 1908*. (Boston: David Clapp & Son, 1908), 153.

New Orleans to search, but could get no satisfactory information regarding his father. His Christian name has never been obtained.

While in part fanciful, this account at least gives us the name of the eldest daughter of George and Elizabeth Bowes who became the second wife of George Bailey. This led to the discovery of the baptism of Jane Bowes on 1 February 1784, daughter of “Geo. Bowes,” at Auckland St. Andrew, county Durham, England,³⁷ a parish adjoining Auckland St. Helen where her father, George Bowes, was baptized.

There may be some truth to the account that Jane had lived in New Orleans, as her brother, Joseph, had lived there within eight years of George Gray’s birth. (See birth of Joseph’s daughter, Ann D. Bowes, in the Genealogical Summary below). Clearly Jane (Bowes) Gray was not shipwrecked soon after giving birth. She married George Bailey by 1830, and was still living in Washington, Maine, at least as late as September 1841, when the deed in which her husband was one of the grantors was executed. It is possible that she died at sea, considering that she is the only one of her siblings not to have a marked grave, but this is unproven. George Gray would have been aware of these things, although his son may not have been. George Gray’s mother would have been in her early forties when he was born. Other than the girl in George Bailey’s household in the 1830 census, who may have been Jane’s daughter, there is no firm evidence that she had any other children.

This analysis underscores the benefit in genealogical research of thoroughly examining all persons who interacted with our ancestors, especially on important financial transactions. It was *only* by studying everyone named in the deed—not only the grantees and grantor, but also the witnesses and incidental parties—that Jane’s identification was ultimately made possible.

GENEALOGICAL SUMMARY

GEORGE¹ BOWES was baptized 15 March 1761 at Auckland St. Helen, a parish in the town of Bishop Auckland, co. Durham, England, son of Joseph^A Bowes “of Evenwood,” co. Durham.³⁸ He died, probably in Washington, Maine, before 21 January 1818, when the administration of his estate was assigned to his son John.³⁹ He married in Brancepeth, county Durham, England, on 16 May 1780, ELIZABETH GIBSON,⁴⁰ baptized at Brancepeth, 13 July 1760, daughter of John Gibson.⁴¹ She died in Washington probably shortly before 21 September 1841, when the deed of

³⁷ England Births and Christenings, 1538–1975, database, familysearch.org, citing Family History Library, Salt Lake City [FHL], film #434933.

³⁸ England Births and Christenings, 1538–1975, database, familysearch.org, citing FHL film #91079.

³⁹ Lincoln Co. Probate Records, 16:502.

⁴⁰ England Marriages 1538–1973, database, familysearch.org, citing FHL film #94986. The parish of Brancepeth adjoins Auckland St. Andrew to the north.

⁴¹ England Births and Christenings, 1538–1975, database, familysearch.org, citing FHL film #94986.

sale was executed by her heirs. George Bowes was assessed for land tax in co. Durham in 1798, 1799, and 1800.⁴² He appears in Boston in the Boston taking books of 1801, but was not assessed,⁴³ and in the 1803 Boston Directory, residing on Williams Court as a laborer.⁴⁴ George Bowes was a farmer and weaver.⁴⁵

Children of George¹ and Elizabeth (Gibson) Bowes:

- i JOHN² BOWES, bp. Brancepeth, co. Durham, England, 22 July 1781,⁴⁶ d. 26 Oct. 1866, aged 84y [*sic*] 4m, and bur. in Maple Grove Cemetery, Washington;⁴⁷ m. Union, Maine, 18 March 1818, FANNY WALCOTT,⁴⁸ b. Union, 6 Aug. 1795, daughter of Spencer and Hannah (Woodcock) Walcott, d. 15 Sept. 1856, aged 61y, and bur. with her husband in Maple Grove Cemetery.⁴⁹
 - Children, b. Washington:⁵⁰ 1. *Spencer George*³ *Bowes*, b. 30 March 1819, d. 28 Feb. 1866, aged 46y 11m 28d.⁵¹ 2. *Norris Piper Bowes*, b. 11 Jan. 1821, d. 19 Aug 1822.⁵² 3. *Henry Joseph Bowes*, b. 26 May 1822, d. Union, 15 Sept. 1892, aged 70y 3m 19d.⁵³ 4. *John Manning Bowes*, b. 30 July 1825, d. 24 July 1900, aged 74y 11m 24d.⁵⁴ 5. *Hannah Elizabeth Bowes*, b. 5 Sept. 1829, d. Washington, 18 Jan. 1846.⁵⁵ 6. *Moses Walcott Bowes*, b. 16 Aug. 1830, d. Union, 8 April 1900, aged 68y [*sic*] 7m 22d.⁵⁶ 7. *Mary Ann Bowes*, b. 18 Nov 1832, d. Waltham, Mass., 9 Jan. 1903, aged 70y 2m.⁵⁷ 8. *Avis Hills Bowes*, b. 11 June 1837, d. Washington, 10 July 1901, aged 64y 1m.⁵⁸

⁴² UK, Land Tax Redemption, 1798, images, ancestry.com, citing Land Tax Redemption Office: Quotas and Assessments, IR23, Records of the Boards of Stamps, Taxes, Excise, Stamps and Taxes, and Inland Revenue, The National Archives, Kew, Richmond, Surrey, England.

⁴³ Boston Taking Books, 1801, Boston Public Library, Rare Books Collection.

⁴⁴ 1803, *The Boston Directory* (Boston, n.d.), NEHGS Rare Book Collection, call #F73.2.A2.

⁴⁵ John Langdon Sibley, *A History of the Town of Union* (Boston, 1851), 513.

⁴⁶ England Births and Christenings, 1538–1975, database, familysearch.org, citing FHL film #94986, son of George Bowes.

⁴⁷ Gravestone transcription (no photo), findagrave.com #173030276.

⁴⁸ Bowes Family Register, in the possession of Mrs. Annie Adelma (Linscott) Bowes, Washington, Maine. This is a 19th-century color-lithographed form with dates of birth, marriage, and death of all members of the family of John and Fanny (Walcott) Bowes recorded upon it by hand, through the death of John Bowes in Oct. 1866. It appears to have been created by one person after 18 Jan. 1846, with up to three other hands completing the entries thereafter.

⁴⁹ Gravestone transcription (no photo), findagrave.com #173030289.

⁵⁰ Birth dates from Bowes Family Register [note 48].

⁵¹ Gravestone transcription (no photo), findagrave.com #55412929.

⁵² Bowes Family Register [note 48]; Groves, *Vital Records of Washington* [note 14], 4.

⁵³ Maine, Death Records, 1761–1922, image, ancestry.com.

⁵⁴ Maine, Death Records, 1761–1922, image, ancestry.com; gravestone transcription (no photo), Hope Grove Cemetery, Hope, Maine, findagrave.com #157454544.

⁵⁵ Bowes Family Register [note 48]; gravestone transcription (no photo), Maple Grove Cemetery, findagrave.com #173030299.

⁵⁶ Maine, Death Records, 1761–1922, image, ancestry.com.

⁵⁷ Mary A. Whitten death record, Massachusetts Vital Records, 1841–1910, 540:759 [image, americanancestors.org].

⁵⁸ Avis H. Marr death record, Maine, Death Records, 1761–1922, image, ancestry.com.

- ii JANE BOWES, bp. Auckland St. Andrew, co. Durham, England, 1 Feb. 1784,⁵⁹ d. 1841–50; m. (1) — GRAY; m. (2) by 1830, GEORGE BAILEY, b. Woolwich, ca. 1770,⁶⁰ d. Washington, 22 Jan. 1858.⁶¹
 Child of — and Jane (Bowes) Gray: 1. *George Gray*, b. Washington, [calc.] 1 Jan. 1825, d. Concord, Mass., 12 Jan. 1901, aged 76y 12d.⁶²
- iii JOSEPH BOWES, b. [calc.] 28 Feb. 1787, bp. Brancepeth, co. Durham, England, 1788,⁶³ d. Waddington, Saint Lawrence Co., N.Y., 1 Feb. 1860, aged 72y 11m 1d;⁶⁴ m. by 1814, MARGARET —, b. England,⁶⁵ ca. 1789–90, d. Waltham, Mass., 29 March 1849, aged 59y.⁶⁶ Joseph Bowes moved around quite a bit in his lifetime, as seen from the birthplaces of his children. Joseph and his family were living in Washington, Maine, in 1830,⁶⁷ and in Waltham, Mass., in 1840.⁶⁸
 Children: 1. *Alice W Bowes*, b. Lexington, Ky., [calc.] 11 April 1814, d. Plympton, Mass., 20 Sept. 1888, aged 74y 5m 9d.⁶⁹ 2. *Ann D. Bowes*, b. New Orleans, La., [calc.] 13 Nov. 1817, d. Waltham, Mass., 17 Jan 1900, aged 82y 2m 4d.⁷⁰ 3. *Elizabeth Gibson Bowes*, b. Boston, Mass., ca. 1821, d. Boston, 5 Nov. 1884, aged 63y.⁷¹ 4. *Catherine P. Bowes*, b. abt. 1828, d. Waltham, Mass., of dysentery, 25 or 26 Aug. 1847, age 19y.⁷² 5. *Thomas James Bowes*, b. ca. 1831, d. Waltham, Mass., 22 June 1836, aged 5y.⁷³
- iv ESTHER BOWES, twin, b. ca. Oct.–Nov. 1790, bp. Witton-le-Wear, co. Durham, England, 28 Dec 1790,⁷⁴ d. Waldoboro, Maine, 5 Sept. 1846, aged 55y 10m;⁷⁵ m. Waldoboro, 4 Nov. 1822, Capt. CEPHAS COLE,⁷⁶ b. Maine, ca. 1789, living in

⁵⁹ England Births and Christenings, 1538–1975, database, familysearch.org, citing FHL film #434933, daughter of Geo. Bowes.

⁶⁰ See note 24.

⁶¹ See note 25.

⁶² Massachusetts Vital Records, 1841–1910, 517:465 [image, americanancestors.org].

⁶³ England Births and Christenings, 1538–1975, database, familysearch.org, citing FHL film #94986, the full date not given, son of George Bowes.

⁶⁴ Massachusetts Vital Records, 1841–1910, 139:184 [image, americanancestors.org].

⁶⁵ The death record of daughter Alice gives her mother's name as Margaret, b. England.

⁶⁶ *Vital Records of Waltham, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850* (Boston, Mass., 1904), 254.

⁶⁷ Joseph Bows household, 1830 U.S. Census, Washington, Lincoln Co., Maine, p. 61.

⁶⁸ Jos. Bowes household, 1840 U.S. Census, Waltham, Middlesex Co., Mass., p. 271.

⁶⁹ Alice W. Roberts death record, Massachusetts Vital Records, 1841–1910, 392:378 [image, americanancestors.org].

⁷⁰ Ann D. Dalgell death record, Massachusetts Vital Records, 1841–1910, 505:733 [image, americanancestors.org].

⁷¹ Elizabeth G. Moulton death record, Massachusetts Vital Records, 1841–1910, 357:297 [image, americanancestors.org].

⁷² *Vital Records of Waltham* [note 66], 254.

⁷³ *Vital Records of Waltham* [note 66], 254.

⁷⁴ Northumberland & Durham Baptisms Transcription, findmypast.com, twin daughter of George Bowes. The parish of Witton-le-Wear adjoins both Bishop Auckland and Brancepeth to the west.

⁷⁵ Maine, Death Records, 1761–1922, image, ancestry.com.

⁷⁶ Maine Marriage Records, 1713–1937, image, ancestry.com.

Waldoboro in 1870, aged 81y.⁷⁷ Cephas and Esther (Bowes) Cole do not appear to have had children.

- v RACHEL BOWES, twin, b. ca. Oct.–Nov. 1790, bp. Witton-le-Wear, co. Durham, England, 28 Dec 1790,⁷⁸ d. Waltham, Mass., 25 Jan 1886, aged 95y 3m;⁷⁹ m. Boston, Mass., 18 June 1818, JOHN GALBRAITH,⁸⁰ b. Oldhamstocks, East Lothian, Scotland, 16 June 1795,⁸¹ son of Thomas and Mary (Grieve) Galbraith,⁸² probably deceased by 1830, when his wife headed her household in Washington, Maine.⁸³

Children: 1. *John³ Galbraith*, b. Boston, Mass., [calc.] Aug. 1820, d. Weston, Mass., 12 May 1895, aged 74y 9m.⁸⁴ 2. *Elizabeth Ann Galbraith*, b. New York, N.Y., ca. 1823, d. Waltham, Mass., 23 Oct. 1905, aged 82y.⁸⁵ 3. *George G. Galbraith*, b. Boston, Mass., [calc.] 15 Dec 1825, d. Waltham, Mass., 5 Sept. 1873, aged 47y 8m 20d.⁸⁶ 4. *Mary Frances Galbraith*, b. Boston, Mass., [calc.] 17 Feb. 1829 [*sic*], d. Waltham, Mass., 9 April 1899, aged 70y 1m 22d.⁸⁷ 5. *Esther Caroline Galbraith*, b. New York, N.Y., ca. 1829, d. Waltham, Mass., 6 May 1901, aged 72y.⁸⁸

- vi MARY BOWES, b. prob. England, ca. 1796, d. 22 Sept. 1848, aged 52y, and bur. in Maple Grove Cemetery, Washington;⁸⁹ m. Washington, 15 Feb. 1815, HENRY LEGHR,⁹⁰ b. prob. Waldoboro, ca. 1787, son of Peter and Katherine (Brodtmann) Lehr,⁹¹ d. 17 April 1839, aged 52y, and bur. with Mary in Maple Grove Cemetery.⁹²

⁷⁷ John L. Allen household, 1870 U.S. Census, Waldoboro, Lincoln Co., Maine, p. 661.

⁷⁸ Northumberland & Durham Baptisms Transcription, findmypast.com, twin daughter of George Bowes.

⁷⁹ Massachusetts Vital Records, 1841–1910, 374:220 [image, americanancestors.org].

⁸⁰ Massachusetts Town and Vital Records, 1620–1988, image, ancestry.com (citing Boston Marriages, 1807–1828, 15:233).

⁸¹ David Dobson, *Scots in New England, 1623–1873* (Baltimore, 2002), 75.

⁸² “Old Parish Registers, Oldhamstocks,” National Records of Scotland, OPR714/ 10 349 [www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk].

⁸³ Rachel Galbraith household, 1830 U.S. Census, Washington, Lincoln Co., Maine, p. 66. John Galbraith’s last child was born in New York in July 1829. He has not been found after that date. That Rachel was a grantor on the 1841 deed suggests she was a widow.

⁸⁴ Massachusetts Vital Records, 1841–1910, 455:433 [image, americanancestors.org].

⁸⁵ Elizabeth Ann Livermore death record, Massachusetts Vital Records, 1841–1910, 1905/92:220 [image, americanancestors.org].

⁸⁶ Massachusetts Vital Records, 1841–1910, 257:268 [image, americanancestors.org].

⁸⁷ Mary F. Thomas death record, Massachusetts Vital Records, 1841–1910, 493:655 [image, americanancestors.org]. The 1865 Mass. State Census suggests she was b. a few years earlier, her age then given as 39, i.e., b. ca. 1826 (Charles W. Fogg household, 1965 Mass. State Census, Waltham, Middlesex Co., Mass., p. 152). This earlier date fits better with the birth ca. 1829 of her younger sister Esther Caroline Galbraith.

⁸⁸ Esther C. Fogg death record, Massachusetts Vital Records, 1841–1910, 517:808 [image, americanancestors.org].

⁸⁹ Gravestone transcription (no photo), findagrave.com #173067615.

⁹⁰ Groves, *Vital Records of Washington* [note 14], 111.

⁹¹ Wilford W. Whitaker and Gary T. Horlacher, *Broad Bay Pioneers: 18th Century German-Speaking Settlers of Present-Day Waldoboro, Maine* (Rockport, Maine, 1998), 593.

⁹² Gravestone transcription (no photo), findagrave.com #173067570.

Children as found, possibly others: 1. *Emily Ann Leghr*, b. Washington, [calc.] 4 Aug. 1815, d. Washington, 5 Dec. 1893, aged 78y 4m 1d.⁹³ 2. *Eliza Jane Leghr*, b. Washington, [calc.] 1 May 1817, d. Appleton, Maine, 16 Jan. 1899, aged 81y 8m 15d.⁹⁴ 3. *William Leghr*, b. ca. 1825, d. Kingsclear, York Co., New Brunswick, Canada, 18 April 1904, aged 79y.⁹⁵ 4. *Henry L. Leghr*, b. ca. 1829, d. 11 Oct 1846, aged 16y.⁹⁶ 5. *Mary Caroline Leghr*, b. [calc.] 4 July 1833, d. 5 Sept. 1868, aged 35y 2m 1d, and bur. in Miller Cemetery, Appleton, Maine.⁹⁷

vii HANNAH BOWES, b. England, [calc.] Sept. 1798, d. 25 Dec 1864, aged 65y 3m, and bur. in McDowell Cemetery, Washington;⁹⁸ m. Washington, 24 Nov. 1816, PETER LIGHT,⁹⁹ b. Waldoboro, ca. 1785, d. 7 April 1863, aged 78y, and bur. with his wife in McDowell Cemetery, Washington.¹⁰⁰

Children: 1. *William Henry Light*, b. Washington, [calc.] 10 March 1819, d. Washington, 26 July 1909, aged 90y 4m 16d.¹⁰¹ 2. *Elizabeth Ann Light*, b. Washington, [calc.] 27 March 1821, d. Richmond, Maine, 11 Oct. 1913, aged 92y 6m 14d.¹⁰² 3. *Margaret J. Light*, b. Washington, [calc.] Feb. 1823, d. Salem, Mass., 21 April 1885, aged 62y 2m.¹⁰³ 4. *Joseph M. Light*, b. Washington, [calc.] 13 July 1825, d. Appleton, 20 July 1912, aged 87y 7d.¹⁰⁴ 5. *Sarah T. Light*, b. Washington, ca. 1828,¹⁰⁵ d. Waldoboro, 7 Jan. 1873.¹⁰⁶ 6. *Emily Caroline Light*, b. Washington, [calc.] 21 Aug. 1830, d. Liberty, Maine, 22 Dec. 1897, aged 67y 4m 1d.¹⁰⁷ 7. *Wesley Light*, b. ca. 1836.¹⁰⁸ 8. *Esther Caroline Light*, b. 4 June 1841, d. 7 Dec 1928, and bur. in Sawyer Cemetery, Durham, Maine.¹⁰⁹

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⁹³ Emily A. Mitchell death record, Maine, Death Records, 1761–1922, image, ancestry.com.

⁹⁴ Eliza J. Burkett death record, Maine, Death Records, 1761–1922, image, ancestry.com.

⁹⁵ “Vital Statistics from Government Records (RS141),” Provincial Archives of New Brunswick, Name: Leah, William; County: York; Code: 3663; Ref C4/1904; Microfilm: F18713.

⁹⁶ Gravestone transcription (no photo), findagrave.com #173067707, bur. with his parents.

⁹⁷ Mary C. Danforth gravestone photo, findagrave.com #86010956.

⁹⁸ Gravestone transcription (no photo), findagrave.com #55412877.

⁹⁹ Groves, *Vital Records of Washington* [note 14], 110.

¹⁰⁰ Gravestone transcription (no photo), findagrave.com #55412877.

¹⁰¹ Maine, Death Records, 1761–1922, image, ancestry.com.

¹⁰² Elizabeth Pierpont death record, Maine, Death Records, 1761–1922, image, ancestry.com.

¹⁰³ Margaret J. Chapman death record, Mass. VRs, 1841–1910, 364:296 [image, americanancestors.org]; gravestone photo, Pierpont Cemetery, Washington, findagrave.com #72424287.

¹⁰⁴ Maine, Death Records, 1761–1922, image, ancestry.com.

¹⁰⁵ As the wife of Oliver C. Skinner, she was aged 22y in Cephus Cole household, 1850 U.S. Census, Waldoboro, Lincoln Co., Maine, p. 204;

¹⁰⁶ Marlene A. Groves, *Vital Records of Waldoboro, Maine* (Rockland, Maine, 2008), 418.

¹⁰⁷ Emily C. Overlock death record, Maine, Death Records, 1761–1922, image, ancestry.com.

¹⁰⁸ Aged 14 in 1850 and 23 in 1860 U.S. Censuses, Peter Light household, Liberty, Waldo Co., Maine, pp. 48 (1850), 3 (1860). He is not found again after 1860.

¹⁰⁹ Esther C. Light Miller gravestone, photo, findagrave.com #46704331.

REVIEW

EARLY FAMILIES OF LYMAN, MAINE, by Frederick R. Boyle (Portsmouth, N.H.: Peter E. Randall, publisher, 2011), hardcover, viii+439 pp., including bibliography and index, \$65.00 plus \$3.30 sales tax (Maine residents only) and \$6.00 postage & handling. Order from the author, 16 Joy Street, Springvale, ME 04083-1806.

Genealogically speaking, York County, Maine, has been blessed. The publication nearly a century ago of *The Genealogical Dictionary of Maine and New Hampshire* covered all known York County families (then including all of Maine) through the end of the 17th century. York County's deeds and court records up to the early part of the 18th century have been published, and there are transcriptions or abstracts of the probate records available through 1800 and wills through 1858. The vital records of most York County towns are also in print, as are the cemetery inscriptions. Charles Bradbury, Everett S. Stackpole, and Gideon T. Ridlon contributed early accounts (though imperfect) of the families of Kennebunkport, Kittery, and the Saco Valley. Ruth Bridges Ayers compiled a comprehensive early-families book for Newfield in 1995, as did Robert L. Taylor for Limerick and Limington. And in the 1980s, Dotty Keyes began the *York County Genealogical Journal*, still in publication today.

Not since John Eldridge Frost, however, has anyone done as much for York County family research as has Fred Boyle. His *Early Families of Lyman, Maine* is the fifth *Early Families* compilation that he has written, the others being for Sanford-Springvale (1988/1995), Shapleigh and Acton (2002), Alfred (2006), and Waterboro (2012). His latest book for Lyman completes the circle of central York County towns. Lyman, located right in the middle of the county, abutting Waterboro to the northwest and Arundel and Kennebunk to the southeast, was first settled in the 1760s and was originally named Coxhall. One of the benefits of whole town research are the insights that can be drawn that would not be apparent otherwise. Boyle notes that while many of Waterboro's early settlers came from Brentwood and Exeter, N.H., the settlers of Coxhall/Lyman migrated there from the Wells/ Kennebunk/Kennebunkport area, as well as from Essex Co., Mass.

The scope of this book, like Boyle's previous *Early Families* volumes, covers all families enumerated in the 1790 census of Coxhall and continues them forward for as long as they remained in town. For some families, such as that of Samuel Emmons, descendants are taken down as many as five generations. In addition to the published vital records and cemetery records, Boyle consulted deeds, probate records, Revolutionary War pensions, Bible records, and reliable published genealogies, all of which are fully documented with footnotes. It is striking how often his previous *Early Families* books are cited here, underlining the mobility and intermarriage of families among the neighboring towns. This work is an important new resource for genealogical research and is highly recommended.

—Reviewed by Joseph C. Anderson II, Editor

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The Maine Genealogist

Journal of the Maine Genealogical Society

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