

EDITOR'S PREFACE

Migrations out, migrations in—one aspect of nineteenth-century Vermont underlying this issue. Vermont's seemingly static population from 1850 to 1950 belies a more complex demographic. By mid-century, as native-born Vermonters moved west, immigrants came to take their place. In his first *Vermont Genealogy* study, Joseph C. Anderson explores the stuff of legend, **VERMONTERS IN THE CALIFORNIA GOLD RUSH, EL DORADO COUNTY, 1850**. Who were they? Who struck it rich? Who died in penury? Who returned? In linking three clusters of men back to their roots in the Green Mountains, Joe answers some of these questions. This series will continue—in the hope that our readers will find some of these adventurers in their own families. The second installment of Robert M. Murphy's **LEWIS HALL OF SMITHFIELD, VERMONT, AND HIS DESCENDANTS**, also documents migrations out as some of Lewis's progeny left northern Vermont for Ohio, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Wisconsin, Utah, California, and Washington.

And what newcomers came to Vermont? Ruth B. Ekstrom's **THE TIFFANY "BROTHERS" OF BENNINGTON, VERMONT** showcases the story of four brothers from Yorkshire, England, who eventually located in Bennington. Their story speaks to a time when industrial entrepreneurs found an opportunity to establish businesses in Vermont. Ruth's splendid collection of family photos enhances the article.

No analysis of Vermonters from this era would be complete without assessing the toll of the Civil War on communities and individuals. Data from Civil War pension files add poignancy and depth to several families among Bob Murphy's Lewis Hall descendants. The example of Lucius Leach points out that the historical record does not end with the death of this young Civil War unmarried veteran; his mother, Elizabeth (Prouty) Leach was awarded Lucius's pension. Thorough research often prompts new discoveries. Bob Murphy's recording of non-family census names in Sherman households beckoned further exploration of some early French Canadians. **CONNECTING PROVOSTS TO SOPHIA (—) SHERMAN OF FRANKLIN COUNTY, VERMONT** pieces together another immigrant family, one impacted by the Civil War and migrations west.

Our issue concludes with Bob Murphy's first installment of **RECORDS OF THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF NEWBURY, VERMONT, 1786–1835**, an important source for revealing relationships omitted from vital records. Bob hoped his transcription might shed more light on his Thomas Crown family. While they did not, his efforts might be someone else's gain. If that is the case, we would like to hear from you.

With completion of the Fall 2016 issue of *Vermont Genealogy*, we have caught up to the current year. Our Spring 2017 issue, already a work-in-progress, will reach mailboxes before summer's end. Once again, my gratitude to Joe Anderson for his editorial guidance, skill, and the mammoth task of completing the **Name Index**.

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