

GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF VERMONT

NEWSLETTER

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dates to remember GSV membership meeting Saturday, April 24, 2004

Time schedule will be about our usual one. Place (in Chittenden County), program, and registration details will be announced later.

Vermont History Expo Saturday and Sunday, June 26-27, 2004 Tunbridge Fairgrounds, Tunbridge, Vermont

If you haven't attended a Vermont History Expo, you should certainly plan to do so. If you have attended previous ones, you know why you won't want to miss any of them.

GSV membership meeting Saturday, October 16, 2004 Details later.

New England Regional Genealogical Conference

March 31 to April 3, 2005

Holiday Inn By the Bay, Portland, Maine See comments below.

Report from NERGC

The seventh New England Regional Genealogical Conference, which took place in November 2003 in Falmouth, Massachusetts, was better attended than any of its planners had dared to predict, and received high marks for the opportunities it provided to learn something new about family history research. As always, the GSV booth was visited by many interested and interesting attendees, most of whom seemed to have an ancestor who lived in Vermont in the early nineteenth-century and who left barely a trace in any known record. Andre Senecal, whose talk was sponsored by GSV, was very well received as he presented an exciting and intriguing picture of the many strands that are woven together in what we think of as French Canadian culture, and of the fate of that culture through history and migration.

Planning for the next New England Regional Genealogical Conference, to be held March 31 to April 3, 2005, at the Holiday Inn By the Bay in Portland, Maine, is well underway. Follow progress on www.rootsweb.com/~manergc.

Vermont Historical Society museum

As of this writing, the ground floor of the Pavilion Building in Montpelier, which once housed offices, library, and museum for the Vermont Historical Society, is expected to reopen as a new museum of Vermont history in the spring of 2004. As the other facilities have moved into better space in Barre, expansion of the museum space will permit a much more comprehensive look at Vermont's history, from Native Americans thousands of years ago up to ... well, I guess it remains to be determined how much they are going to have about Howard Dean. It will be a must-see feature of the Montpelier landscape.

NewEnglandAncestors.org

Full access to this Web site is an important benefit of membership in the New England Historic Genealogical Society. A number of Vermont data bases have been posted in the site. A recent research article worth the attention of Vermont researchers is Scott Andrew Bartley's "Access to Vermont Newspapers," available at www.newenglandancestors.org/articles/research/?page_id=659&attrib1=1 &seq_num=106 (Or just log on and look for research articles!)

Hemenway on CD-ROM

New England Historic Genealogical Society has published a fully searchable single-disk CD-ROM version of Abby Maria Hemenway's Vermont Historical Gazetteer, certainly everyone's favorite published source of Vermont local history and (to some extent) genealogy. An introductory essay for the CD was written by your President and Scott Andrew Bartley, shamelessly drawing on the exceptional scholarship of Deborah Clifford in her

2001 book *The Passion of Abby Hemenway*. Although every Vermont bibliophile worth his or her salt will still desire a full set of the five volumes of Hemenway plus the published index, the genealogist will be well served, and much less bookshelf space consumed, by the CD. It's also cheaper: \$39.95, as compared to \$3000 for a full set I saw on the antiquarian book market recently.

THE BENNINGTON MUSEUM LIBRARY

The Museum's history-genealogy library is open on a three-day schedule this winter and spring - Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays.

Library director Tyler Resch said that the decision was made not to open on Saturdays any more in winter because patron visitation was consistently too low to justify it. And the decision to open on three consecutive days was to accommodate people from out of town whose research often takes more than a single day.

The Bennington facility will resume its six-day schedule (Mon.-Sat.) on May 1, 2004, for the ensuing six months. Hours open in all cases are from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

A quarterly publication © 2004 Genealogical Society of Vermont

News, articles and comments should be mailed to:

Mrs. Margaret R. Jenks 24 Mettowee Street Granville, NY 12832-1037 (518) 642-1894 e-mail: mjenks@capital.net

Dec. 15, Mar. 15, June 15 & Sept. 15 for the February, May, August and November issues of the Newsletter.

THE FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY Salt Lake City

For those of you planning a trip to the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, UT, please note a change in their hours and days closed. The new hours are Monday 8 a.m. - 5 pm, and Tuesday through Saturday 8 a.m. - 9 p.m., closed all national holidays and Pioneer Day in July.

THE WELSH-AMERICAN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

WAGS was formed September 1990 upon the request of individuals researching their Welsh heritage and realizing the need for a specialized genealogical society to aid them with their research and put them in touch with others doing the same.

The Society goals are to aid one in that respect with the production of four yearly newsletters packed with genealogical research information in which members can place a query for free. WAGS doesn't currently have personnel to so the research for members.

They are actively collecting bound copies of family histories, manuscripts, maps, bibles, photographs, etc. and books pertaining to Wales and the Welsh throughout the world, their genealogy dedication, history and many topics relating to them. A library is planned for Poultney's Main St. in the heart of the slate valley.

For more information contact: Welsh-American Genealogical Society, Inc., 60 Norton Ave., Poultney, VT 05764-1029; www.rootsweb.com/~vtwags/ or e-mail: wagsjan@sover.net

FAMILY REUNIONS

Announcements of family reunions must be received by the *Newsletter* editor no later than **March 15** each year to be included in the **May** *Newsletter*. Be sure to include date, place, name & address of contact person. Announcements received after March 15 will be used in the August *Newsletter* if they are for reunions held after Sept. 1.

The **Chapman Family Association** will hold its 4th annual convention and reunion May 14-16, 2004 at the Kansas City (MO) Airport Hilton. The convention will consist of a family business meeting, a variety of workshops and research sessions and local tours.

Individuals need not be a member to attend the sessions but registration is required and advance registration is highly recommended.

Further information is available by contacting one of the following: Chapman Family Association Data Central, PO Box 1586, Florissant, MO 63031; or Gill Alford, CFA, Corresponding Secretary at 314-831-8648; or the website: www.chapmanfamilies.org.

MEETINGS

SPRING VOCA MEETING

The spring meeting of the Vermont Old Cemetery Association is planned for Saturday May 1, 2004, at the Unitarian Universalist Meetinghouse, 21 Fairground Road, Springfield, VT, just off Route 11, fully accessable.

The speaker will be GSV member Valerie Berberich on Zerubbabel Collins Vermont's premier gravestone carver.

Please visit VOCA's web site at:

http://www.sover.net/~hwdbry/voca for registration information.

[This address is correct, but if you have a problem, go to the GSV site, www.rootsweb.com/~vtgsv, then link to VOCA.]

New England Historic Genealogical Society Programs:

GETTING STARTED

This program the first **Wednesday** of every month, at 12 noon and 6 p.m. at 101 Newbury Street, Boston, MA. This **free** program gives an introduction to NEHGS, its services and ways to help you find your family roots. Tips on how to begin your own family research, tour of the newly renovated library and a chance to meet the library staff. Non-members will receive free entrance to the library. No registration is required.

GENEALOGY IN A NUTSHELL

"Nutshell" class are short (one hour) lectures on a variety of genealogical topics. They are held at 101 Newbury Street from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. on Wednesdays and repeated on Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Registration is not necessary.

NEHGS Tours & Programs

WINTER RESEARCH WEEKEND GETAWAY February 26-28, 2004 or March 25-27, 2004. Join the NEHGS staff for guided research, one-on-one consultations, lectures and special access to the collections.

WRITING AND EDITING YOUR FAMILY HISTORY

Saturday April 3, 2004

Conducted by leading exerts in the field, this one-day program at 101 Newbury St., will offer you constructive advice and guidance on how to prepare your own family history book.

GENEALOGY & GENETICS

Saturday April 24, 2004

This one day program features several leading genetics experts in a series of informative and uncomplicated lectures and discussions.

IRISH GENEALOGICAL SEMINAR

Saturday May 8, 2004

This seminar will focus on Irish research methods and resources (many found at NEHGS).

COME HOME TO NEW ENGLAND.

June 13-20, 2004 or August 8-15, 2004 This week long program will fully acquaint you with the Society's holdings and expert staff. You will receive guided research assistance, personal consultations, informative lectures and much more.

ELECTRONIC AND ONLINE GENEALOGICAL RESOURCES

Saturday June 26, 2004

This seminar will acquaint you with technological tools that will greatly aid your genealogical research.

Pre-registration is required for the above programs. Contact the NEHGS Education Department, 101 Newbury Street, Boston, MA 02116-3007; phone 1-888-286-3447 or 617-536-5740, ext. 226 or by e-mail

THE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

| Financial Statement | | | | | | THE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY |
|--|----|-------------|----|-----------|------------|---|
| Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2003 | | | FY | 2002 | | OF VERMONT WELCOMES THE |
| General Fund | | | | | | FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS |
| Income | | | | | | I OLLOWING NEW INTEMBERS |
| Membership Dues | \$ | 16,708.00 | \$ | 15,745.00 | | 4711 (minutated) |
| Computer Fund Contributions | \$ | 114.50 | | 40.00 | | 4711 (reinstated) |
| Permanent Fund Contributions | \$ | 457.00 | \$ | 214.25 | | Harman R. Clark, Jr. |
| Fall 2001 Meeting | | | \$ | 896.00 | | PO Box 311 |
| Spring 2002 Meeting | | | \$ | 727.00 | | Sheffield, VT 05866-0311 |
| Fall 2002 Meeting | \$ | 1,055.00 | | | | |
| Spring 2003 Meeting | \$ | 866.00 | | | | email: hrclarkjr@kingcon.com |
| Fall 2003 Meeting | \$ | 366.00 | | | | research interests: Ham, Swett, Berry, |
| Miscellaneous Income | \$ | 15.31 | \$ | 131.25 | | • |
| Interest | \$ | 859.64 | \$ | 1,570.15 | | Smith, Gray |
| merest | • | 555.5 | • | .,0.0.,0 | | 6325 (reinstated) |
| Total Income: | \$ | 20,441.45 | \$ | 19,323.65 | | |
| | | • | | , | | Sherry Klinck |
| Expenses | | | | | | 1722 Route 30 |
| Bank Service Charges | \$ | 35.00 | \$ | 197.95 | | Cornwall, VT 05753 |
| Editor's Fee (Vermont Genealogy, 6 issues) | \$ | 6,000.00 | | | (2 issues) | |
| Vermont Genealogy Postage (6 issues) | \$ | 1,926.29 | | | (2 issues) | 6458 |
| Vermont Genealogy Printing (6 issues) | \$ | 13,386.42 | | | (2 issues) | |
| Newsletter Postage (5 issues) | \$ | 1,790.50 | | | (4 issues) | S. Dean |
| Newsletter Printing (5 issues) | \$ | 2,457.91 | | | (4 issues) | 30 Hampton Road |
| Miscellaneous | \$ | 2,101.01 | \$ | 173.47 | (1.00000) | Scarsdale, NY 10583-3027 |
| Office Supplies | \$ | 344.80 | \$ | | | |
| Postage | \$ | 646.97 | | 1,053.70 | | research interests: Sprague, Rogers, |
| Fall 2001 Meeting | Ψ | 040.57 | \$ | 1,195.87 | | Noyes, Webster |
| Spring 2002 Meeting | | | \$ | * | | Noyes, websici |
| Fall 2002 Meeting | \$ | 1,995.67 | Ψ | 2,023.34 | | 6459 |
| Spring 2003 Meeting | \$ | 1,652.87 | | | | |
| Fall 2003 Meeting | \$ | 272.95 | | | | Anita Bobee |
| _ - | \$ | 111.00 | ¢ | 109.95 | | 23 Meadowbrook Road |
| Promotional Expenses Five Projects Grants | \$ | 795.00 | | 3,510.00 | | Brattleboro, VT 05301 |
| NERGC | \$ | 523.32 | \$ | 110.00 | | |
| Subscriptions (FGS, VHS, VOCA, VMCTA)] | \$ | 170.00 | \$ | 135.00 | | email: anitab@sover.net |
| Subscriptions (FGS, VHS, VOCA, VMCTA)] | Ψ | 170.00 | Φ | 133.00 | | research interests: Lawrence, Stickney, |
| Total Expenses: | \$ | 32,108.70 | \$ | 18,761.38 | | Nickerson, Simonds |
| Excess of Income over Expenses: | \$ | (11,667.25) | \$ | 562.27 | | 6460 |
| • | | • | | | | Dolores Horn |
| Permanent Fund: \$19,132 | | | | | | 14210 Bateau Drive |
| Emergency Fund: \$15,448 | | | | | | Cypress, TX 77429 |
| Publications Account: \$32,329 | | | | | | |
| Checking Account: \$7,007 | | | | | | email: ddhorn2000@yahoo.com |
| Savings Account: \$1,821 | | | | | | research interests: Johnson |
| | | | | | | |

Respectively submitted, Janet E. Induni, Treasurer

PAID ADVERTISING

The Newsletter is now accepting paid advertising at the rate of \$3.00 per column inch. All advertising must relate to genealogy, preferably Vermont genealogy, and must be received before the deadline of the issue the ad is to appear in. Checks must Books for review should be sent to John be made out to GSV but sent to the Newsletter editor along with the exact wording for the ad. GSV offers no warranty on the services of the advertisers.

education@nehgs.org visit www.NewEnglandAncestors.org. Click on Education, then on NEHGS Events for full information.

BOOK REVIEW POLICY

A. Leppman, 20 Thwing Lane, Bellows Falls, VT 05101. Please note the new mailing address.

Jeffersonville, VT 05464 email: bartlau@pshift.com

research interests: Hoadley, Allen, Solger, Cady

6462

6461

Jennifer Bartlau 126 Tanner Road

Elisabeth N. Ward 140 Ogden Lane Sharon, VT 05065

email: elisabeth.ward@valley.net research interests: Bascomb, Page, Chamberlain, Ogden

6463

Nannette Dumas

650 Huntingdon Ave., #10 Boston, MA 02115-5919

email: nandumas@aol.com research interests: Taylor, Savery, Harrison, Dumas, Lapan

6464

Cecil R. Bunnell 1843 State Route 34 Genoa, NY 13071

email: cabunnell@clarityconnect.com

6465

Patricia Walker 26 Berlin St. Barre, VT 05641

email: ancestees@aol.com

6466

Rev. Jason H. Sanderson 74 Piscassic Road Newfields, NH 03856

email: lochepadre@comcast.net

6467

Debra Maloney-Evans 107 Evans Road Northfield, VT 05663

email: dmaloneyevan@pshift.com research interests: Kellogg, Wallace, Maloney, Woodworth, Flint

6468

Janet L. Clark 3968 VT Route 22A Addison, VT 05491

einail: jlclark@pshift.com

research interests: Clark, Martin, Ormsby,

Sibley, Alden

6469

Jeffrey D. Lewis 20 Stelyani Drive Bradford, MA 01835

email: jdl2444@aol.com

6470

Martha A. Rudd PO Box 101 North Pownal, VT 05260 email: ruddtree@sover.net

research interests: Herrick, Haskins,

Abell, Bates, Rudd

6471

Carol Strarup 2926 Meadow Lane El Campo, TX 77437

email: tulip@wcnet.net

research interests: Fisher, Barney, Chase

6472

Elisabeth Risdon 6627 Carrietowne Lane Toledo, OH 43615

email: risdon@buckey-express.com research interests: Cilley, Parkhurst, Richardson, Sawyer

6473

Daniel Horton 7405 Forty Acre Road Franksville, WI 53126

email: dehorton@wi.rr.com research interests: Horton, Haw, Carpenter, Martin, Franklin

6474

6475

Carmon D. Rust PO Box 228

Peru, NY 12972-0228

email: psgen@yahoo.com

research interests: Rust, Bearse, Perham, Hill. Cook

6476

Marsha Mott

815 N Prosperity Lane Andover, KS 67002

email: mdmott@sbcglobal.net research interests: Mott, Hewlett

6477

Susan Guarrera 1127 No Old Mill Road Azusa, CA 91702-2115

email: sueg1127@yahoo.com research interests: O'Neil, Miller, Moulton, Storrs, Baker

GSV News

Contributions to the Computer Fund

None

Contributions to the Permanent Fund

| Cliff Bresett | 3610 |
|----------------------|------|
| Charles G Davis, Jr. | 3440 |
| Barbara Dickinson | 2852 |
| Faith Kent | 178 |
| Vickie Storlie | 4014 |

Please send your donations to GSV, PO. Box 1553, St. Albans, VT. 05478-1006. Please mark your check "Permanent Fund" or "Computer Fund."

Janet Induni, Treasurer

B & T BACK ISSUES

Each issue is \$2 (including postage). Currently available are: Volumes 12:5; 14:1,3; 16:2, 18:1,2,3; 19:4; 20:1-4; 21:1-4; 22:2,3,4; 24:1-4.

VG BACK ISSUES

Each issue is \$5 (including postage). Currently available are: Volumes 1:1-3; 2:1-4, 3:1-3, 4:1-4; 5:1-4; 6:1-4; 7:1-4; 8:1,3,4.

Your checks should be payable to GSV and sent to: GSV Back Issues, PO Box 1553, St. Albans, VT 05478-1006.

ARE YOU MOVING? REPLACEMENT COPIES

Please notify the Society in advance of any address changes (including summer and winter addresses) at GSV. PO. Box 1553, St. Albans, VT. 05478-1006. Please do not send them to the *Newsletter* editor. Your copies of *Vermont Genealogy* and *The GSV Newsletter* are forwarded to you by the Post Office with additional charges to the Society if you have filed a forwarding notice with the Post Office.

We will send you replacement copies of *Vermont Genealogy* by first class mail for a small replacement fee of \$3.25 for each issue. Replacement copies of *The GSV Newsletter* will be forwarded at no charge. Thank you for letting us know of any address changes in advance. This helps keep costs down.

Janet Induni, Treasurer

How Old Did They Have to Be? Age Considerations in Genealogical Research (Age Categories and "Legal" Ages)

Copyright 2003 Eric G. Grundset October 18, 2003 Membership Meeting (Used with permission)

Note: The following information is an amalgam of facts from various periods in the colonial and early national periods and is designed to provide a frame of reference. Specific ages and actions may have occurred differently during different time periods. Some of the references relate to criminal law and others to civil law

"Age" -- "That period of life at which the law allows persons to do acts or discharge functions which for want of years they were prohibited from doing or undertaking before. [Bouvier's Law Dictionary]

"Adult" -- "In Civil Law. A male infant, who has attained the age of fourteen; a female infant who has attained the age of twelve. In Common Law. One of the full age of twenty-one. [Bouvier's Law Dictionary]

I. BIRTH TO 21 = INFANCY; MINORITY

"Infancy" "The state of a person who is under the age of legal majority, -- at common law, twenty-one years; now, generally 18 years. According to the sense in which this term is used, it may denote the condition of the person merely with reference to his years, or the contractual disabilities which non-age entails or his status with regard to other powers of relations." [Black's Law Dictionary]

"Minor" -- "An infant or person who is under the age of legal competence. A term derived from the civil law, which described a person under a certain age as less than so many years." [Black's Law Dictionary]

"Non-age" -- "Infancy or minority; lack of requisite legal age. Nonage entails various contractual disabilities and is a ground for annulment in some jurisdictions." [The Guide to American Law]

Infants in general: may not serve on juries; may only due by their next friend or guardian; may bind themselves to pay for their food, clothing, medicines, education; may not borrow money; cannot be sworn in an inquest [Hening, Virginia Justice, 1799, p. 269]; cannot be an "approver" -an accomplice in crime who accuses someone else of the same offense to save himself from punishment; OR, possibly, someone who assesses the value of property for tax values because they could not take the requisite oath. [Hening, Virginia Justice, 1799, p. 269]; may take certain actions at specific ages as detailed in the following sections.

I.a --BIRTH TO 7 = EARLY CHILDHOOD;

"infantia" -- "In the civil law, the period of infancy between birth and the age of seven years." [Black's Law Dictionary]

CHILD LACKS SUFFICIENT CAPACITY TO COMMIT A CRIME OR MAKE DECISIONS FOR HIMSELF. CANNOT BE CAPITALLY PUNISHED FOR A CRIME BECAUSE HE CANNOT BE CONVICTED OF IT.

I.b - 7 TO 12 OR 14 = SCHOOL AGE

(Female/Male)

"pueritia" -- "In the civil law, childhood; the age of seven to fourteen. The age from birth to fourteen years in the male, or twelve in the female." [Black's Law Dictionary] [Editors note: Fourteen is the age for both males & females in Vermont to chose a guardian.]

"Age of Reason" -- "Age at which a child is deemed to be capable of acting responsibly; commonly the age of 7." [Black's Law Dictionary]

CHILDREN SUPPOSEDLY "TEACH-ABLE"; ASSUMED INCAPABLE OF COMMITTING A CRIME, BUT COULD BE PROVEN WITH EVIDENCE, BUT COULD NOT MAKE DECISIONS FOR HIMSELF. A CHILD COULD BE A WITNESS DEPENDING ON THE COURT'S PERCEPTION OF THE INDIVIDUALS "COMPETENT DISCRETION."

7 -- "A FEMALE AT SEVEN MAY BE BETROTHED OF GIVEN IN MAR-RIAGE..." [Bouvier's Law Dictionary]

9 -- "A WOMAN AT NINE YEARS OF AGE MAY HAVE HER DOWER..." [Hening, *Virginia Justice*, 1799, p. 269; also in Bouvier's]

12 -- FOR FEMALES:

WITNESS DOCUMENTS, TESTIFY IN COURT, CHOSE GUARDIAN, BE APPRENTICED (GENERALLY FOR 7 YEARS), PUNISHABLE FOR A CRIME, MARRY WITH PARENTAL CONSENT (LATER RAISED TO 14)

12 -- "For Males:

SIGN THE OATH OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE CROWN [Hening, Virginia Justice, 1799, p. 269]

I.c -- 12 OR 14 -- PUBERTY (female/male)

"pubertia" -- "The earliest age at which a persons are capable of begetting or bearing children. In the civil law and common law, the age at which one becomes capable of contracting marriage. It was in boys fourteen and in girls twelve years. [Black's Law Dictionary]

I.d -- 12/14 -- 18/21 --ADOLESCENCE (female/male)

"Adolescence" -- "That age which follows puberty and proceeds the age of majority." [Black's Law Dictionary]

"Age of Discretion" -- "Age at which person could choose their own guardians." [Leary, North Carolina Research]; "At fourteen, children are said to have acquired legal discretion." [Bouvier's Law Dictionary] [understand the difference between good and evil]

14 -- FOR MALES WITNESS DOCU-MENTS, TESTIFY IN COURT, SELECT GUARDIAN, BE APPRENTICED (GENERALLY FOR 7 YEARS), PUN-OFFICES, ISHABLE FOR A CRIME, SHOW RELEASE LAND TO PROCESSIONERS, SIGN CONTRACTS, BE AN EXECUTOR, BE-ULATH PERSONAL PROPERTY themselves

16 -- MALES WERE TAXABLE, (TITHABLE) MALES WERE OF MILITIA AGE, MALES COULD SERVE AS PROCESSIONER

17 -- "A person is of age to be an executor at seventeen, and an administrator of one during the minority of an infant ceaseth when the infant comes to that age." [Hening, *Virginia Justice*, 1825, p. 376]

18 -- "The common law seems not to have determined precisely at that age one may make a testament of a personal estate; it is generally allowed that it may be made at the age of eighteen, and some say under." [Hening, *Virginia Justice*, 1825, p. 376] -- "None under eighteen years of age are capable of disposing of their chattels by will." [Hening, *Virginia Justice*, 1825, p. 376][also stated in 1799 edition]

"Age of Consent" -- "Age at which persons may marry without parental approval." [Black's Law Dictionary]

18 -- MALES COULD BE LICENSED TO PRACTICE A TRADE, FEMALES COULD MARRY WITHOUT PAREN-TAL CONSENT [Female Age of Consent]

II.21 -- MAJORITY

"Age of Majority" -- "The age of twenty-one, by common law, of both males and females, and twenty-five by civil law. [Bouvier's Law Dictionary] [Traditionally 21, now 18 in the United States; and "Full age, legal age; the age at which, by law, a person is entitled to the management of his own affairs and to the enjoyment of civic rights. Also the status of a person who is a major in age." [Black's Law Dictionary]

21 -- MALES COULD MARRY WITH-OUT PARENTAL CONSENT [Male age of Consent]: MALES COULD VOTE; MALES COULD PLEAD OF SUE IN COURT, SELL LAND, DEVISE LAND BY WILL, BE ELIGIBLE FOR PUBLIC

OFFICES, SERVE ON A JURY; RELEASE THEIR GUARDIAN.

"At 21, and not before, persons may bind themselves by any deed, and alien [i.e., sell] lands, goods and chattels." [Hening, *Virginia Justice*, 1799, p. 269]

OTHER AGE CONSIDERATIONS

Census listings Marriage Tithable Tax Lists Apprenticeship Military Service Life Expectancy Servitude

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July 7, 1777 Poultney, Rutland County, Vermont

Just six years after the settlement of Poultney began, General Burgoyne and his forces were knocking on the door. Most of the men of the village had gone to Castleton and Hubbardton where they were preventing Burgoyne's advance. July 7 was a Sunday and the women were holding a service, at one of their homes, when word came that they should evacuate the town. They quickly departed, some not even going home for provisions.

Tradition says there were 13 women with their children who fled the 50 miles to Bennington, and then on to their former homes in CT and MA. These 13 women are honored with a parade each year.

Recently I was asked to find the given and maiden names of these women, added in [-]. This search has now led me to believe there were at least 17 women with their 50 children who fled that day, the youngest child only 17 days old. As listed in the *History of Poultney*, p. 37-38:

Mrs. William Ward [Lucy Church, daughter of Noah & Lydia (Barnard) Church of Marlboro, MA].

Mrs. Thomas Ashley [**Zerviah Richards**, daughter of Zebulon & Lydia Richards].

Mrs. Ichabod Marshall [Lydia Stearns, daughter of Jonathan & Hannah (Chadwick) Stearns]

Mrs. Joseph Marshall [Elizabeth Bullen]. Mrs. Dan Richards [Huldah Fellows, daughter of Jonathan and Mary (Richards) Fellows].

Mrs. John Richards [? Do you have any idea who she was?].

Mrs. Timothy Hyde [Mary/Mercy ?Thatcher].

Mrs. Zebediah Dewey [Beulah Stearns Jackson, sister of Lydia Marshall].

Mrs. Silas Howe, [Susannah ?Franklin or ?French] of CT.

Mrs Nathaniel Smith [Lydia Richards, daughter of Zebulon & Lydia].

Mrs. Nehemiah Howe [Beulah Wheeler, daughter of Benjamin of Lancaster, MA]. Mrs. Josiah Lewis [Molly Cole. She received a land grant for her service in Bennington].

Mrs. Isaac Ashley [Olive Howe, daughter of Nehemiah & Beulah].

I now believe these additional women were in town at the time:

Mrs. John Ashley [Desire Thatcher, daughter of John & Lois].

Mrs. Enoch Ashley [**Phebe Owen**, dau. of Elijah a first settler of Poultney].

Mrs. Ebenezer Hyde [Lois Thatcher, probably a close relative to Ebenezer's mother Mercy Thatcher].

Mrs. Zebulon Richards [Lydia Brown, age about 55 that day, the oldest of the women, if she was still living, and mother of Dan, John, Zerviah and Lydia].

Any additional information on these women will be most welcome.

Peggy Jenks

VERMONT FAMILIES IN 1791, Volume 1

Edited by Scott A. Bartley

This award-winning first volume of a projected long series has stimulate research and guided many people to sources useful to establish their own ancestry. The goal of this series is to describe in detail the families listed in the First Federal Census taken in Vermont in 1791, the year Vermont joined the Union. Special Publication No. 1, 1992. xxvii + 281 pp., hardbound, \$30.00 Out of print.

Volume 2

Edited by Scott A. Bartley

This volume covers 107 families and has improved formatting and more complete information on the third generation. Special Publication No. 5, 1997. xlviii + 304 pp. . hardbound. \$30.00

VITAL RECORDS OF ROCKINGHAM, VERMONT AND THE RECORDS OF THE FIRST CHURCH OF ROCKINGHAM

Reprinted from the rare first editions of 1908 and 1902, this is an important source for one of Vermont's oldest towns, chartered in 1752. The town records extend to 1845, church records from 1773 to 1839. New to this publication is an indispensable index of nearly 10,000 names, constructed by Christopher T. Norris and Scott A. Bartley. GSV Special Publication No. 3, 1994, 323 pp., hardbound, \$30.00

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The directory lists addresses and interests of a majority of GSV members. Each member listed provided up to five surnames of Vermont families on which he or she might like to share information. Published in 1998 for GSV members only. 63 pp., \$3.00.

VITAL RECORDS OF PUTNEY, VERMONT TO THE YEAR 1900

Compiled and edited by Ken Stevens

This is not just a verbatim listing of such events, but a complete, concise and accurate compilation from all primary sources available in the town. This material is augmented by the ministerial records of the pastors who served from as early as 1776. Special Publication No. 2, 1992. x + 406 pp., hardbound, \$30.00

Georgia, Vermont Vital Records

Edited by Peter S. Mallett

The first of its kind for northern Vermont, this volume presents all births, baptisms, marriages, deaths and burials recorded in the town. All the civil books were transcribed as well as the records from the Georgia Plains Baptist Church, Congregational Church, Emmanuel Episcopal Church, and Methodist Church of Georgia and North Fairfax. GSV Special Publication No. 4, 1995, hardbound, \$30.00

Index to Branches & Twigs 1972-1995

Edited by Robert M. Murphy

The long-awaited every-name index to GSV's Branches & Twigs, published for 24 years, 96 issues. The 180,000 name entries include every name mentioned in every issue, except those cited in connection with Society business, those mentioned in purely casual historical context, and the ancestry service ("Apple Orchard") feature, which was alphabetically arranged. Separate sections of this work list the coverage of each installment of the Apple Orchard, and provide a full author-title index to book reviews. Branches & Twigs included immense quantities of information of interest to Vermont family historians. Special publication No. 7, 2000, 572 pp., hardbound \$65.00.

WINDSOR COUNTY VERMONT PROBATE INDEX, 1778-1899

Compiled by Scott Andrew Bartley and Marjorie-J. Bartley

A comprehensive index of all files in the Probate Courts of the two districts (Windsor and Hartford) in Windsor County, Vermont, between the earliest records (1778) and the end of the nineteenth century. More than 20,000 files are indexed by the name of the major party in the case, place of residence, district, type of record, year, and volume of the bound records in which the record(s) will be found. Special publication No. 6, 2000, 560 pp., hardbound, \$50.00.

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by Mary Ann Z. Wheeler

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