

## EDITOR'S PREFACE

Committed genealogists know on-line sources do not represent the totality of what constitutes a thorough analysis. No project is complete without examining the unique resources of Vermont's many active historical societies, such as the Poultney Historical Society. Their collections include print, photographic, and manuscript materials, in addition to the expertise of volunteers who provide knowledge of old families that sometimes exists only in oral tradition. Our annotated map on the next map reflects Andrea Mott's research on Poultney school districts.

A lithograph of Horace Greeley has pride of place in the entrance hall of the Poultney Historical Society, the former East Poultney Schoolhouse. It makes us recall the famous phrase for which Greeley gets credit, "Go west, young man." His sense of direction, however, for many 19<sup>th</sup> century Vermonters was imprecise: he went south; others went north. In this issue, articles on three generations of the Gorham and Morehouse families exemplify an under-studied aspect of Vermont history and genealogy: migration to the Eastern Townships of Québec as well as to new towns in Ontario. Contrary to a popular assumption, these families did not move to Canada because they were descended from Loyalists. Instead, the lure of more arable land, the opportunities for entrepreneurial adventures, and the zeal to establish new religious communities all drew them to other places. These family studies also provide evidence of how the footprint of Vermont genealogy extended from the Confederacy to California.

Merle A. Kimball's **Six Gorham Brothers of Vermont and Connecticut** reflects four decades of her exhaustive research. She has employed a variety of sources to complete this study, made more challenging by the Gorhams' frequent moves. Merle's finished article has navigated the shoals of the same name but different families in the same community. Likewise, Jane Belcher's analysis of **Sturgis Morehouse of Shelburne** skillfully separates a father and son of the same name who died only a year apart. Moreover, she elucidates how the Morehouse and Hawley families became so entwined that Sturgis Jr.'s sister-in-law became his step-mother. Filling a significant genealogical void, Patricia A. Haslam once again marshals local source material in **Reconstructing the 1890 Census: Greensboro, Orleans County, Vermont**. My own contribution, **Libya and Elisha Washburn Jr. of Moretown and Burlington, Vermont**, presents the case that these two brothers were indeed sons of Elisha Washburn Sr. of Wendell, Massachusetts. Mariessa Dobrick brings us another **Gems from the Vermont Archives: Lotting Plan, So. Hero, 1794**, a wonderful visual source. Robert M. Murphy completes with his usual thoroughness the remaining third-generation descendants of **Lewis Hall of Smithfield, Vermont**, and he delivers the second installment of **Records of the First Congregational Church of Newbury, Vermont**.

My thanks to all our contributors for their sharing their work which enriches our knowledge of Vermont families, and to Joe Anderson for his guidance throughout the production of this issue.

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