

EDITOR'S PREFACE

The motivations and migration of Vermonters to and from Canada present complex studies in contrast within this issue.

In our first article, **Anna and Parthena Canfield, Sisters from Arlington, Vermont, and Their Descendants**, authors Hayden, Connolly, and Martin provide rich corroborating details of two Loyalist families who settled among other Vermont exiles with similar aspirations in the Eastern Townships of Québec. Anna and Parthena married two brothers, Gilbert and Cornelius Hyatt. Within their collective story, our trio of researchers bring to light the voice of one woman whose written testimony lifts the veil of obscurity hiding so many women known only as wives and mothers. A copy of Anna (Canfield) Hyatt's letter, reproduced on the next page, serves to illustrate her resolve. Yet the Hyatt families, who qualified as United Empire Loyalists, lived in proximity with other Vermont emigrants, among them, Thomas Youngman who crossed the border to take advantage of expansive and productive farmland.

Priscilla L. Partridge's study, **The Elusive Daughters of Thomas Youngman, A Revolutionary Patriot**, follows the clues left by this soldier who moved his family to Canada and then back to Vermont in the last two decades of his life. The three-generation genealogical summaries within these two articles reveal, once again, how far the footprint of Vermont genealogy extends, encompassing a full sweep of the North American continent.

An infusion of immigrants from Québec in the nineteenth century transformed Vermont demographics as many local farmers picked up and moved elsewhere. Although French-Canadians may have moved only a few hundred miles or less, their identity sometimes changed when they crossed the Vermont border. Over time, some descendants became disconnected from their heritage, especially as names changed. **Names of French Canada Lost in Vermont: Moses L. Sanborn**, the first in a new series, tells one story of identity transformation.

When no single record can identify an ancestor definitely, and secondary sources disagree, one must follow a trail of evidence, which may only make sense after all pieces are assembled. Jane Belcher's **Sarah Foster, Wife of Michael Sawtell, of Chester, Vermont**, methodically illustrates how, step-by-step, the author arrived at her conclusion, supported with meticulous documentation. In a similar vein, Drew Bartley probes the question of **Who Was Reuben Spaulding of Sharon, Vermont?** His investigation sifts through several people with the same name.

Bob Murphy's patient transcription skills give us another installment of **Methodist Episcopal Church Records, Vershire Circuit**. Our issue concludes with John Leppman's review of **The Vermont Brigade in the Seven Days: The Battles and Their Personal Aftermath**.

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