

The Howland Quarterly

Published by

THE PILGRIM JOHN HOWLAND SOCIETY

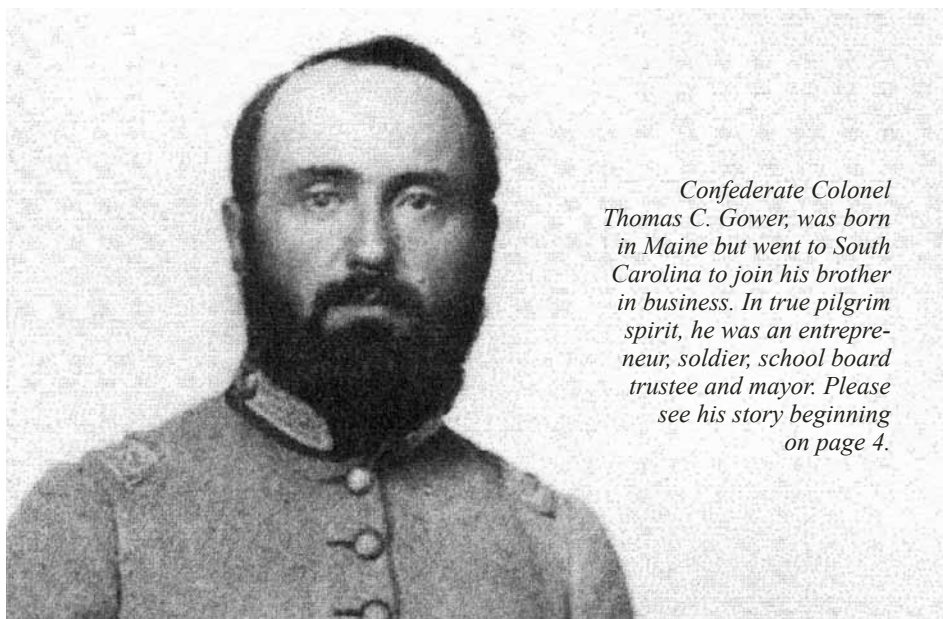
(Founded in 1897)

Volume 80

March 2015

No. 1

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Confederate Colonel Thomas C. Gower, was born in Maine but went to South Carolina to join his brother in business. In true pilgrim spirit, he was an entrepreneur, soldier, school board trustee and mayor. Please see his story beginning on page 4.

The Howland Quarterly

Published by

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From the President – Bradford Gorham

To all of you who believed the predictions of *climate change*: You got your wish, the *climate is changing*. If you live in New England all you have to do is look out your window.

Our Pilgrim ancestors could hardly wait until spring. Now we know how they felt. But not really: they were worried about survival; we worry about a parking spot.

For John Howland, winter, especially that first winter, was a season to be feared; spring was a celebration. It is a continuing wonder to me how they made it through.

On another note. Christine and I are going to England in May. We fly to London May 13 at 10pm. Arrive in Cambridge on May 18. Henlow and Fenstanton on May 19 and 20. York on May 21. Back to London on the 22nd and home on the 23rd. Not too late to join us. Please do.

Historic Coin Found in England

Fred and Joyce Almey of Cardiff, sent us an article from the *Daily Mail*, Saturday, September 6, 2014 with an interesting story about an early New England coin that was found in the Midlands.

Amateur treasure and coin hunter John Stoner was out digging near the village of King's Clipstone, in Nottinghamshire, when his metal detector made the sounds of detecting metal. The first was a random piece of metal, but the second, which was buried about five inches in the soil, was a coin. He did not recognize the coin, but knew it was not English. He posted a picture on his blog and got lots of responses! When he showed the coin to expert, Peter Spencer, Peter was quite excited and said it was genuine and in the condition as the day it was struck.

The coin is a threepenny piece with an oak tree on the reverse. It has the date 1652 but that does not necessarily mean it was struck that year. Those coins were struck from 1652-1682.



News and Announcements

118th Annual Meeting

The **118th Annual Meeting** will be held August 14-15, 2015, Plymouth, MA. Details to follow. The meeting and banquet information and reservation card will be in the June 2015 *Quarterly*.

Sailing: Michael Goldstein, Admiral

Please check the **Shallop Elizabeth Tilley Facebook** page for updates! <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Shallop-Elizabeth-Tilley/107685509331437>.

War Stories

The series for the War of 1812 is over. The War Between the States last issue will be the June 2015 *Quarterly* as the sesquicentennial ends this year. Please send your photos/story of a Howland descendent to the editor at: gailsline@aol.com.

Scholarship Fund

The Executive Board is happy to announce the 2015 scholarship opportunity for all members who are currently enrolled or will be entering higher education.

One \$1,000 award will be presented at the Annual Meeting in August.

The winner does not need to be present at the meeting to accept the award but is encouraged to attend, if possible. Applicants must meet the criteria outlined below at the time of application submission. Please email pjsocialmedia@gmail.com to request an application. All submissions must be electronic and in addition to the application the following criteria must be met:

- The recipient must be a member in good standing for at least two years at the time of application submission.
- Must show proof of enrollment in a higher education institution or trade school. A letter on school letterhead must be submitted on behalf of the student from the registrar.
- Must submit at least one letter of recommendation from a teacher, employer, etc. No family or friends.
- An essay must be submitted on a topic outlined in the application.
- Applications are due June 1, 2015. Please email the address listed above with any questions.

Social Media:

We are on Twitter @PilgrimJHowland and Facebook! Our website is: www.pilgrimjohnhowlandsociety.org. Follow us for meeting information and upcoming events. Feel free to make suggestions on how we can make these outlets better. We want to hear from you! Please email to pjhsocialmedia@gmail.com.

CIVIL WAR STORIES

Editor's Note: 2011-2015 is the sesquicentennial of the War Between the States. Here in Virginia, where I and Dr. Gower live, there are many activities and commemorations around the state. Thank you Dr. Gower for sharing your story.

.....

Thomas Claghorn Gower **By Dr. Arthur Gaillard Gower, III**



Colonel Thomas C. Gower

My great grandfather, Thomas Claghorn Gower was born in Abbott, Maine on April 23, 1822. His parents were James Gower and Suzana Norton Gower. Suzana was a descendent of John Howland, through his daughter Hope as well as Richard Warren. After finishing Foxcroft Academy at age 19, he ran away from home to Greenville, South Carolina traveling by sleigh, buggy, stage and rail to join his brother, Eben. Eben was in the carriage making trade. Thomas Gower became an apprentice making \$50,000 a year with room and board.

After marrying Jane Jones Williams, Thomas established his own factory in 1845 on a farm fourteen miles south of Greenville. This farm was given to the couple as a wedding present by his wife's grandfather. He was so successful that his brother, Eben, offered him partnership in his business.

He accepted the offer and the business became "Gower, Cox and Gower." The business prospered greatly until the outbreak of The War Between the States. Mr. Thomas

Gower enlisted in the Confederate Army in the Brooks Troop. This Troop became a part of General Wade Hampton III's Army and fought in the First Battle of Manassas (Bull Run, Virginia) July 21, 1861. Thomas Gower served as a Quartermaster. General Hampton's troops captured Ricketts Cannon Battery which was one factor in determining the outcome of the battle. After one year serving in the War he was sent back to Greenville, SC to purchase and manufacture supplies (wagons, caissons, ambulances, etc.) for the Quartermaster and Ordinance Departments of the Confederate Army. By 1865 the Confederate Army owed him \$140,000 for supplies. After General Robert E. Lee's surrender the Army paid him \$70,000 in Confederate money which was valueless. He said it was "good for starting fires for cooking." Because of his business savvy he was able to sell the business and pay all his debts within a few years. The carriage factory still stands today at the Peace Center in Greenville, South Carolina.

After this he invested heavily in real estate. In 1888 he sold back to the school system at his cost land to build schools. *(continued on page 6)*

Thomas Claghorn Gower mayor of Knoxville, TN 1870-1878



1

2

3

4

Above. Seated: Mamie Crosswell, Col. Thomas Claghorn Gower, Corie Mills. Standing: Charlie Gower and Arthur G. Gower, Sr.
Right: Arthur G. Gower, Sr., grandfather of the author, Dr. Arthur Gower, III, established the first Boy Scout Troop in South Carolina. In 1938 he organized the South Carolina State Mayflower Society.



CIVIL WAR STORIES *continued*

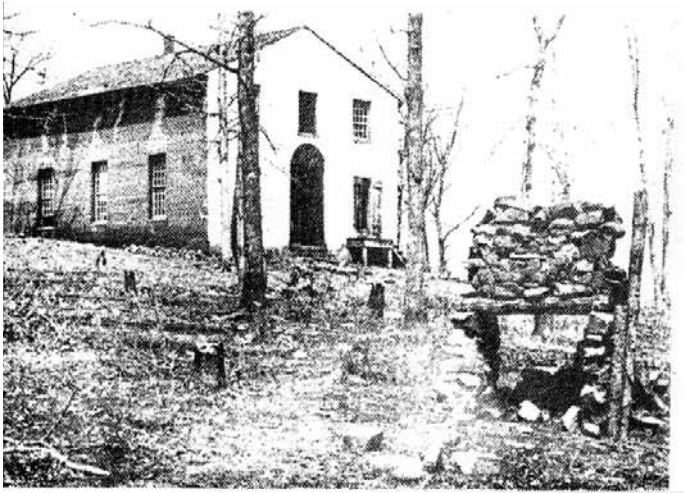
In 1870 he was elected Mayor of Greenville by a one vote margin. His platform was to build a bridge over the Reedy River. In 1872 he built the first street car line with horse drawn cars. He operated a tannery, a building supply company, a shoe factory and a coal company.

In 1886 Mr. Gower established a public school system in Greenville. He became the first Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Public Schools. In 1888 after much opposition public school bonds were passed. This allowed for land to be purchased at his cost. Central, Union and Qualdown Schools were built and equipped on these lands.

My grandfather, Arthur Gaillard Gower, Sr. was born to Thomas Claghorn Gower and Jane Williams Gower in October 1861. He established the first Boy Scout Troop in South Carolina in 1910. My father, Arthur G. Gower, Jr. who was born January 1, 1899 was a member of the first Boy Scout Troop. One of the troop's hiking trips was to the home of the widow of General Stonewall Jackson. My grandfather also organized the Mayflower Society of South Carolina on August 11, 1938.

.....

Sudley Church A Little Serendipity



Sudley Church as it appeared in 1862.

When Dr. Gower moved to Manassas, Virginia, he did not know that he had an ancestor that had been in the First Battle of Manassas (Bull Run) in 1861. For an even more interesting twist of fate, Dr. Gower had treated his staff to a fundraiser at the local "Fried Oyster" supper to benefit Sudley Church where his ancestor had been.

During the battle, Sudley Church was used as a hospital. The Yankees were winning and had their wounded there. However, the Confederates fought back and the Yankees had to flee. They decided to leave their young Private John L. Rice thinking that he was not going to make it. They did not want to leave his body there so moved it to a field

near a fence and then fled. Two days later the Union survivors were in Washington D.C. and reported Private Rice as deceased and his family in New Hampshire were notified.

However, he was not dead and two days later a local family, Mr. and Mrs. Amos Benson, found him. The Bensons tried to get the doctors to help, but with the large chest wound filled with maggots, they thought it was a hopeless case and they could better serve the other wounded. The Bensons could not leave him there to die alone. They erected a small tent to protect him from the elements, cleaned and bandaged his wounds, and stayed with him. After 10 days Private Rice was well enough to move and the Confederate doctors took over his care. Rice spent time as a prisoner of war, re-enlisted and rose to the rank of Colonel. Years later Rice decided to visit the Bensons and to thank them for saving his life. He wanted to repay them in some way, but they said no, it was their Christian duty. They told him that if he really wanted to help, that little Sudley Church owed \$200 in debt from repairs and he could help pay that debt. Rice went home and put the story in his local newspaper, *The Republican* in Springfield, Massachusetts. Donations totaling \$235 were sent in, which he forwarded to the Bensons.

Today, little Sudley Church is an active Methodist church, still having fried oyster supper fundraisers.

.....

**Capt. W. B. Prichard,
38th Virginia Regiment of Infantry**

The Howland Homestead, Vol. 2, Number 2, April 1913

The passing away in the 92d year of her age on April 23, 1913, of Mrs. Mary Margaret Prichard, in Petersburg, Virginia, a wonderful personality is gone.

Mrs. Prichard was a descendant of Pilgrim John Howland of the Ship Mayflower. Her many sterling qualities endeared her to a large circle of friends. She was the wife of William Irwin Prichard of Petersburg, and had 12 children – four of whom were sons and who served in the Confederate Army under General Lee, and all four surrendered with Lee at Appomottax. During the war she fed and nursed many soldiers regardless of whence they came. It was one of her sons, Capt. W.B. Prichard of the 38th Virginia Regiment of Infantry, who discovered Colonel Fletcher Webster, son of Daniel Webster, soon after he was mortally wounded.

Kneeling beside his enemy, he asked if he could be of any service, and received the reply, “Water!” “Water!” Captain Prichard brought him a canteen of water, and asked if he could be of any further service. Webster replied: “I am dying.” Capt. Prichard assured him that he would see his body delivered to his friends. Webster handed Capt. Prichard his eyeglasses and a ring, which Prichard restored to Webster’s wife in Boston after the close of the war.

Mrs. Prichard resided in Petersburg during the war and had many thrilling experiences during the bombardment of the city. She was the mother of Mr. Irwin S. Prichard of Quincy, Massachusetts, who is a member of the Society for whom much sympathy is expressed in his great loss.

Editor’s Note: Thank you to Eldon Gay for reminding me of this story for our Sesqui-centennial commemoration of the War Between the States. *The Howland Homestead* was published from 1911-1913.

Howland Valentine Donated to PJHS



Thanks to Philip Winter and Nancy Rosin for their gift of an Esther Howland Valentine. Inside verse below.

The Society has received a gift of an Esther Howland valentine. Esther is considered to be the “Mother of the American Valentine.” She was born in 1828 in Worcester, Massachusetts. Her father, Southworth Allen Howland, was a printer and stationer and provided her with all the supplies to make valentines. Her brother, Charles Allen Howland was a founder and member number one of the PJHS.

The gift is from Philip Winter of Swansboro, North Carolina, and Nancy Rosin, President of the National Valentine Collectors Association.

The valentine, shown at left, features embossed blue and pink card stock with applied blue and white rectangle with an open cartouche, through which is seen a die-cut scrap of a young couple. A layer of gilded white lace paper covers the entire front and is embellished with additional scraps.

EVER TRUE

*It is the beauty of the mind –
The gems of truth and virtue pure –
Mildness and grace – affections kind,
That waken love that will endure.*

Howlands in the News

Pilgrim John Howland Society member Robert Dempster is the governor of a new colony for the General Society of Mayflower Descendants in California. The name of the colony is the Rancho Conejo Colony and it was chartered on September 27, 2014.

Mr. Dempster is proud to take on this roll and said that “People want a sense of their roots... We take great pride in what our ancestors did; those who left their native countries to find opportunity, religious freedom...or otherwise...whether they came on the Mayflower or through Ellis Island...this is one of the few places you could do that.”



l to r: Lorraine Kocen, Dee Rickards, Ken Whittemore, Robert Dempster and Helen Wyers. Lorraine is also a Howland descendent.



Mayflower State Governor Ken Whittemore (right) presents the Charter to Robert Dempster (left), first governor of the new Rancho Conejo Colony.



News from Henlow, England

30 December 2014

Dear Friends

It is Tuesday 30 December, and we have just witnessed a momentous occasion. For the last 6 months, work has been going on pulling down the old sports pavilion on the sports field and building a new, shiny replacement. This afternoon saw the grand opening. It was officially opened by Alistair Cooke, England cricket captain, who comes originally from Bedfordshire. It is a magnificent facility and will be a great asset to the village, offering facilities for the sports that happen here – football, cricket, outdoor bowls, indoor bowls and darts – as well as providing a meeting place for other village organisations.

I may have told you before, but we have a lot of things going on in this relatively small village community – Senior Citizens Lunch Club, Exercise Group, Senior Citizens Social Club, Bingo Session, Book Club, Women’s Institute, Methodist church coffee mornings, St Mary’s church coffee mornings, Bell ringing, church choir, village choir, baby and toddler group, preschool group, lower school (ages 4 to 9) and middle school (ages 9 to 13). From 13 onwards the children go to a school in nearby Shefford.

Fortunately we are quite well off for meetings rooms. St Mary’s church has a small room, appropriately called “The Upper Room,” the Methodist church have a hall, the Parish Hall in the centre of the village has good facilities, the Sheltered Housing Estate have a community hall and both the Lower School and Middle School have halls that can be hired out. Now we have this new facility we are a lot better off than most places.

Christmas has come and gone. The Christingle service on Christmas Eve went well – lots of carols. The junior handbell group at St Mary’s performed “We wish you a Merry Christmas” and “Jingle Bells” on the Sunday before Christmas (ages from 3 to 9), Midnight Mass was on Christmas Eve, and the Christmas morning service (to which we go) was a nice start to the day. In church we had a large decorated Christmas tree, and the crib set out in the lady chapel – flower arrangements in red and gold to continue the festive theme.

This last few days it has been very cold with heavy frost at night, but fortunately no snow as yet.

So very close to the end of 2014, we wonder what will happen in the New Year, and we wish you the very best for 2015. If anyone thinks of coming to the UK, do contact us. Our e-mail address is alanpainter468@btinternet.com and we hope to hear from some of you.

Love from

JACKIE AND ALAN PAINTER

News from Fenstanton, England

17th March 2015

Dear Friends,

I hope that this finds you all well. As I write to you today there is a definite feel of Spring in the air. As I walk around the village there are daffodils and crocuses in bloom and the trees are covered in blossom – it is all very pretty. Although it isn't such a big deal for us here I should imagine that there are lots of St Patrick Day celebrations taking place in America at this time.

We celebrated our Mothering Sunday this Sunday just gone, and had a lovely church service where all the Mothers were given a posy of spring flowers and the congregation shared a delicious Simnel cake. Easter is of course, just around the corner and we are looking forward to a children's workshop on Good Friday and a lovely church service on Easter Sunday.

My family are all well, although we have had a pretty shaky start to 2015. I was extremely unwell with a flu virus followed by a dreadful head cold followed by a sinus infection – it was awful and I seemed to lose about 6 weeks. David had his tonsils and adenoids removed at the end of January but thankfully the operation went well with no complications and he has now made a complete recovery. I am extremely relieved that it is over as he had been waiting for the operation since last October.

I look forward to welcoming one of your cousins to Fenstanton in April, where we will tour around the church and the churchyard and hope to take a walk around the village and finish off in the pub for a drink! Please remember to let me know if you are visiting Fenstanton as it is always such a pleasure to meet members of your amazing family.

Best wishes

REBECCA CUMBERS

bex@qcumbers.co.uk

*If you would like to help the Society preserve
Howland history and protect our heritage for future
generations, please consider making
a tax-deductible gift. Mail your check to:*

*Gabriella Higgins
Treasurer for Membership
11 Endicott Street, Saugus, MA 01906*

Please make checks payable to the Pilgrim John Howland Society.

The Roosevelt Line

Ken Burns' Roosevelt Series on PBS has generated much interest in the Roosevelt Family of which President Franklin D. Roosevelt and his step sister Helen R. Roosevelt submitted applications to join the PJHS. President Theodore (Teddy) Roosevelt Jr. married twice. Both Alice, his first wife, and Edith, his second wife, are descendants of John and Elizabeth Howland.

References:

- John Howland of the Mayflower* Volume 1, 2
- Mayflower Families Through Five Generations* Volume 23 Part 1, 3
- Mayflower Descendant* Volume 63, Issue 1



| John Howland | Elizabeth Tilley |
|--------------|------------------|
|--------------|------------------|

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| Joseph Howland m. Elizabeth Southworth | Desire Howland m. John Gorham | John Howland Jr. m. Mary Lee |
| Nathaniel Howland m. Martha Cole | John Gorham m. Mary Otis | Hannah Howland m. Jonathan Crocker |
| Nathaniel Howland Jr. m. Abigail Burt | Stephen Gorham m. Elizabeth Gardner | Lydia Crocker m. Benjamin Bodfish |
| Joseph Howland m. Lydia Bill | Nathaniel Gorham m. Mary Soley | Hannah Bodfish m. Caleb Nye |
| ----- | | |
| Susan A. Howland m. John Aspinwall Jr. | Gardiner G. Howland m. Louisa Meredith | Elizabeth Gorham m. John Leighton |
| Mary R. Aspinwall m. Isaac Roosevelt | Rebecca B. Howland m. James Roosevelt | Elizabeth Leighton m. Benjamin Lee |
| James Roosevelt m. Sara Delano | Helen R. Roosevelt m. Theodore R. Robinson | Emily Lee m. Daniel Tyler IV |
| Franklin D. Roosevelt m. Eleanor Roosevelt | Gertrude E. Tyler m. Charles Carow | Caroline H. Haskell m. George C. Lee |
| | Edith K. Carow m. Theodore Roosevelt Jr. | Alice H. Lee m. Theodore Roosevelt Jr. |

*Thank you to Eldon Gay, Historian,
for sending this chart.*

Alice L. Roosevelt
m. Nicholas
Longworth

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 15, 1933.

My dear Mr. Howland:

It is with a great deal of pleasure that I accept honorary life membership in The Pilgrim John Howland Society.

I am glad to be associated in this manner with a representative group of those who are descendants of the small group who braved the perils of a New World that they might find liberty of expression.

Very sincerely yours,



McClure M. Howland, Esq.,
The Pilgrim John Howland Society,
18 East 82nd Street,
New York, N. Y.

THE LETTER

by Cheryl Rinehart Dooley

While researching the family tree of Dean M. Stearns (my sister Mary's husband) of Whitewater, Wisconsin, I realized that he was a descendant of John Howland and Elizabeth Tilley. Mary and I are Howland descendants thru Desire. Learning that Dean was also a Howland descendant was an exciting and unexpected discovery! She asked me to document the connection as a surprise for him. And thus began the search for marriage, birth, death and obituary records that led to the finding of the special letter.

In 2011, Dean and Mary had given me several pages of hand written family records that had been with an old family Bible and also many family pictures. I started to make copies of these records, but it was two years later that I sat down to attempt putting the information together. It was then that I realized Dean was descended from Revolutionary War patriot Joseph Nye, and that he was a Howland descendant thru John and Elizabeth Tilley Howland's son John.

I told Mary that the documentation was good, but that I did not know what state Dean's great-grandparents, Daniel Mansfield Stearns and Mary Jane Robinson, had been married in. I knew Mary Jane had been born in Bakersfield, Vermont and that her mother died when she was young and her father remarried. I also knew from her obituary that she came to Sugar Creek Twp. in Walworth Co., Wisconsin as a bride. And I knew that Daniel was living in Sugar Creek with his parents before the marriage, although

*Then came the
call from Mary
in August 2013!
She hadn't been
able to sleep and
decided to look
thru the family
Bible again.*

the Stearns family had also lived in Bakersfield, Vermont. And Mary Jane's father, Levi Robinson, had lived briefly in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin with his third wife Adelia and his son Stephen Pearl Robinson. But I could not find a marriage record in Wisconsin or Vermont for Mary Jane and Daniel. I also could not find the marriage record for Levi Robinson and Mary Jane's mother Harriet Maynard Farwell. It had been the second marriage for both Harriet and Levi, who was the Howland descendant.

Then came the call from Mary in August 2013! She hadn't been able to sleep and decided to look thru the family Bible again. The very large leather bound Bible was imprinted on the front with "PRESENTED TO D. MANSFIELD STEARNNS BY HIS WIFE M. J. STEARNNS. And inside the Bible was the record of their marriage on Feb. 13, 1861 in Bakersfield, Vermont. So Daniel left Wisconsin to return to Bakersfield, marry the woman he loved and bring her back with him to Wisconsin. The couple resided in Sugar Creek Twp., Wisconsin until their deaths, with Mary Jane outliving her husband by 27 years.

Also with the Bible was a letter. The letter had been written by Mary Jane's mother Harriet to Ezra Martin Farwell, a son from Harriet's first marriage, and was signed with her new married name of Harriet Robinson. The letter not only documented the children from both marriages, but also told of her husband Levi Robinson, their struggles, and the living conditions of people in Georgia, Vermont at that time. It is truly a piece of American history – containing a wealth of information on the everyday lives of some of our Howland ancestors in the 1800's.

The letter was written on a large piece of paper, 16" x 12", that had been folded in half like a book to form 8" x 12" pages. After the letter was written, it was folded up

several times, addressed, and sealed with wax. It was mailed to Martin Farwell, Boston, Massachusetts, in April, from Fairfax, Vermont. The year is not certain, but is between 1846 and 1849, as she talks of the “babe” Stephen Pearl who was born in February 1846, and death records show that Harriet died in November 1849.

The letter starts out:

*“Fair Distance Though not Forgotten Son,
After remaining silent so long time I have seated myself for the purpose of
commencing a correspondence with you.”*

Harriet described living in Georgia, Vermont a little over two miles from Milton falls and a half mile from the grist mill and saw mill. She said they had a black smith, shoe maker and a store close by, and lived only a few rods from the bridge that crossed the river to Milton. She added that they had a very good house to live in that was conveniently situated and stood in a very pleasant place. The farm they lived on was rather rough and hilly but good for English grain and corn. She noted that Mr. Robinson had sowed five acres of winter rye the previous fall and it was looking well. He and her son Oel were plowing and intended to plant three acres of corn. He had also sowed 3 bushels of wheat and intended to plant enough potatoes for their own use.

Harriet wrote that their family still had enough potatoes to eat and plant, but that they were very scarce and many families had not a potato to eat nor any way to get them. She said that there was corn and enough rye to be sold at four shillings a bushel. And she added, *“I am in hopes if we live and prospere we shall raise grain enough for our family this year.”*

In talking of her children with Levi Robinson – Mary Jane, Maynard and Stephen Pearl, Harriet said that Mary was as pretty as ever and wanted to see Martin, *“Maynard is driving around as smart as ever”* and often spoke of Martin, and Stephen Pearl, the babe, was *“trotting all about full of mischief.”* She also tells how the children of her first marriage are doing – son Oel, and daughters Harriet and Isabella. She thought Oel would stay with them that year as he was not as tough as he was before he got sick. The two girls were living in Bakersfield and she said there had been a number of deaths there since she left. One young girl had just died of measles after starting to get better. She



Cheryl Dooley's brother-in-law, Dean M. Stearns, holds the old family Bible and the letter. Cheryl discovered that Dean is also a Howland descendant.

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The marriage certificate for Daniel Mansfield Stearns and Mary Jane Robinson dated Feb. 13, 1861 in Vermont. Mary Jane is the daughter of Harriet Robinson, who wrote the 1840's letter.

added: "So you see while we are in life we are in death. Therefore it stands us in hand to be prepared whenever the summons come."

In closing her letter to her son, Harriet tells him to remember the Sabbath and said she hoped he was attending meetings every Sabbath.

She ended her letter, "Your Loving Mother, Harriet A. Robinson."

Of the children listed in the above letter, it is Mary Jane, Maynard, and Stephen Pearl, the children of Levi Robinson who are the Howland descendants. Levi also had five other children. With his first wife Rosetta Hart, he had Lucia Ann, Francis Hamilton, Juliette, and Charles Levi. With his third and last wife, Adelia Hollis Tuttle, he had one son, Oel F. Robinson. This is not the same Oel mentioned in the letter. That Oel was a Farwell from Harriet's first marriage.

When Harriet died in 1849, she was buried in Maple Grove Cemetery in Bakersfield, Franklin Co., Vermont next to her first husband Ezra Farwell. Her tombstone is inscribed "HARRIET, WIFE OF LEVI ROBINSON." Levi died in 1877 and was buried in Os-good Hill Cemetery in Westford, Chittenden Co., Vermont next to his first wife, Rosetta. His third wife, Adelia, who outlived him, is also buried there.

This appears to have been a close family as there are later letters written from Adelia to her step-daughter, Mary Jane Robinson Stearns, at least one of them written after each has become a widow. The family information and history left in these letters is a treasure. (continued at right)

Donors

Gabriella Higgins, Treasurer for Membership

Though donations were down (total \$10,772, last year \$13,176), we are grateful for our members' generosity. These donations help us to maintain our 1667 Jabez Howland House, our very historic and well used Shallop, and the Rocky Nook Site. We are the stewards of these treasures and it is up to us, all of us, to help preserve and care for them for future generations. Thank you for your generosity!

| | | |
|------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| <i>Gail Ann Adams</i> | <i>Erin Bentham</i> | <i>Elsie Buffum</i> |
| <i>Henry Adams</i> | <i>Pamela Bergen</i> | <i>Arthur Bullock, Jr</i> |
| <i>Rebecca Adams</i> | <i>Donna Berglund</i> | <i>Frederick Burdick</i> |
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| <i>Barbara Augspurger</i> | <i>Mary Blanchard</i> | <i>Richard Clary</i> |
| <i>Evelyn Aulenback</i> | <i>Eleanor Blish</i> | <i>Lois Clements</i> |
| <i>Richard Baker</i> | <i>Jimmie Bodenhamer</i> | <i>Rev. Robert Cole</i> |
| <i>Gloria Barron</i> | <i>Katherine Booker</i> | <i>Lois Coleman</i> |
| <i>Richard Bastow</i> | <i>Sandra Bowers</i> | <i>Diane Comstock</i> |
| <i>Virginia Baxley-Brown</i> | <i>Robert Boydon</i> | <i>Edward Comstock</i> |
| <i>Charles Baxter</i> | <i>Nancy Boydon</i> | <i>C. Boyd Cote'</i> |
| <i>Ann Bell</i> | <i>Timothy Brinson</i> | <i>Edwin Cox</i> |
| <i>Sylvia Bell</i> | <i>Eleanor Brinson</i> | <i>Cynthia Creed</i> |
| <i>Joseph Bennett</i> | <i>Deborah Brown</i> | <i>Marcia Crissey</i> |
| <i>Suzanne Benoit</i> | <i>Joanna Brown</i> | <i>Henry D'Alby</i> |
| <i>James Benoit</i> | <i>Margery Brown</i> | <i>Schuyler Dalton</i> |
| <i>Gordon Benoit</i> | <i>Barbara Browne</i> | <i>Christopher Davidson</i> |

Old letters: A glimpse into the everyday lives of our ancestors. A chance to know them, making them more than statistics on a census record or a death certificate or a tombstone. With this century's email, text, twitter, etc., it makes me wonder what record we will leave for our descendants.

Editor's Note: *Thank you Cheryl for sharing this wonderful and historic 1840's letter!*

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|---------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| <i>Donors continued</i> | <i>Jeremy Galloway</i> | <i>David Howard</i> |
| <i>Ricky Joe Davis</i> | <i>Eldon Gay</i> | <i>From the Family of</i> |
| <i>Susan DeKoch</i> | <i>Charles Gedney</i> | <i>John R. Howland</i> |
| <i>Elizabeth DeKoch</i> | <i>E. Bowen Gerry</i> | <i>Carolyn Humphreys</i> |
| <i>Susan DeKoch</i> | <i>Barbara Giesler</i> | <i>William Hunt</i> |
| <i>Rev. David Dean</i> | <i>Cathy Gilman</i> | <i>Wanda Hutter</i> |
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| <i>Robert Dempster</i> | <i>Charlotte Gintert</i> | <i>Joyce Johnson</i> |
| <i>Roberta Denner</i> | <i>Panela Glaser</i> | <i>Shirley Johnson</i> |
| <i>Philip Denner, Jr</i> | <i>John Gordon</i> | <i>Gerald Jones</i> |
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| <i>Bernard Elfring</i> | <i>Lois Hall</i> | <i>Walter Kenyon</i> |
| <i>Judy Elfring</i> | <i>Catherine Harrison</i> | <i>Danna Kesler</i> |
| <i>Barbara Elliott</i> | <i>William Heath</i> | <i>Jonathan Klardie</i> |
| <i>Jean Ellis</i> | <i>Patricia Heimburger</i> | <i>Patricia Kniess</i> |
| <i>Claudia Elmore</i> | <i>Daniel Herres</i> | <i>Howard Knowles, Jr</i> |
| <i>Diane Fiejdasz</i> | <i>Janet Hetterly</i> | <i>Lewis Knudsen, Jr</i> |
| <i>Jean Field</i> | <i>Helen Higdon</i> | <i>Gail Kohler</i> |
| <i>William Fifer</i> | <i>Gabriella Higgins</i> | <i>Leslie Kramer</i> |
| <i>Timothy Finton</i> | <i>Glenn Higgins</i> | <i>Janet Kres</i> |
| <i>Edith Fischer</i> | <i>Terri Hightower</i> | <i>John Krigbaum</i> |
| <i>Donald Fisher</i> | <i>Robert H. Hillick</i> | <i>Shannon Kruep</i> |
| <i>Harry Folger, III</i> | <i>Patricia Hiott</i> | <i>Linda Lake</i> |
| <i>Raymond Ford</i> | <i>Hayward Houghton, II</i> | <i>Harry Lamphier</i> |
| <i>Isabelle Frasier</i> | <i>Mary Elizabeth</i> | <i>Barbara Lane</i> |
| <i>Carol Gagnon</i> | <i>Housekeeper</i> | <i>Bertina Larochelle</i> |
| <i>Carrie Gagnon</i> | <i>Edwin Houston</i> | <i>Phyllis Larson</i> |

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| <i>Betty-Jane Lee</i> | <i>Elizabeth Otis</i> | <i>McKeldon Smith, III</i> |
| <i>Ruth Lee</i> | <i>Joan Petty</i> | <i>Christine Spaulding</i> |
| <i>Lucie Lindberg</i> | <i>Nancy Phillips</i> | <i>Hazel Stapel</i> |
| <i>William Lindberg</i> | <i>Margery Piersen</i> | <i>Helen Stefanka</i> |
| <i>Arlene Lisinski</i> | <i>Catherine Pommer</i> | <i>Jeannine Steniger</i> |
| <i>Linda Loerch</i> | <i>Martha Pope</i> | <i>Nancy Stewart</i> |
| <i>Gayle Machado</i> | <i>Margaret Porter</i> | <i>Betsy Stoll</i> |
| <i>Elizabeth Mader</i> | <i>Carolyn Pribble</i> | <i>Leona Stone</i> |
| <i>Lynnell Marquis</i> | <i>Violet Price</i> | <i>William F. Tatem</i> |
| <i>Peggy Marsh</i> | <i>Miriam Ragsdale</i> | <i>Elizabeth Taverner</i> |
| <i>Andres Martinez-Fortun</i> | <i>Linda Rasley</i> | <i>Mary Thieme</i> |
| <i>Gabriel Martinez-Fortun</i> | <i>Patricia Reed</i> | <i>William Thomas, IV</i> |
| <i>Ortelio Martinez-Fortun</i> | <i>Patricia Rice</i> | <i>George Thurber</i> |
| <i>Bruce Matthews</i> | <i>David Richards</i> | <i>Frances Tuel</i> |
| <i>Lucille McCallum</i> | <i>Shirley Richmond</i> | <i>Laura Vanderbosch</i> |
| <i>John McCullough, Jr</i> | <i>Marilynn Ridland</i> | <i>Beatrice Wadland</i> |
| <i>Barbara McDaniels</i> | <i>Carla Rigby</i> | <i>Peter Wagoner</i> |
| <i>Barbara McNamara</i> | <i>Barbara Ripley</i> | <i>Paul Walker</i> |
| <i>Vanettisch Meiser</i> | <i>Scott Ripley</i> | <i>Alvene Watson</i> |
| <i>Robert H. Meiser, Jr</i> | <i>Keith Robinson</i> | <i>Russell Weber</i> |
| <i>Gayle Merrill</i> | <i>Elaine Rosok</i> | <i>Katherine Whitehead</i> |
| <i>JoAnne Miley</i> | <i>Milton E. Ross</i> | <i>Douglass Williams</i> |
| <i>Louisa Miller</i> | <i>Rev. Nancy Ryan</i> | <i>Claudia F Williams</i> |
| <i>Thomas Moote</i> | <i>Patricia Sayko</i> | <i>in Memory of</i> |
| <i>Glee Murphy</i> | <i>Marilyn Scheier</i> | <i>Jean Platt Fety</i> |
| <i>Kazimiera Neavill</i> | <i>John Schellinger</i> | <i>Virginia Wilman</i> |
| <i>Jane Nerney</i> | <i>Dorothy Schwaner</i> | <i>William Wilson</i> |
| <i>Helen Newton</i> | <i>Joyce M. Shiloff</i> | <i>James Wiseman</i> |
| <i>Barbara J. Nichols</i> | <i>Daniel Silliman</i> | <i>Lester Wormell, Jr</i> |
| <i>Ronald Knickerson</i> | <i>James Simes</i> | <i>Alan Wright</i> |
| <i>Shirley Nickle</i> | <i>Caroline Smith</i> | <i>Patricia Wyman</i> |
| <i>Elizabeth Nilsson</i> | <i>Dean Smith</i> | <i>Evelyn Zuercher</i> |
| <i>Barbara Ostrom</i> | <i>Andree Smith</i> | |

New Members

Lee Martin

PJHS Registrar, Lee Martin reports there are six new members this quarter. They descend from four of the Howland children and come from six states ranging from Virginia to Alaska. Welcome cousins!

3398 Hope

Daniel Gawain Lower-Basch

Falls Church, VA 22041

3401 Hannah

Christy Ann (Hubbs) Scott

Altenburg, MO 63732

3399 Joseph

John Edward Myers

Falls Creek, PA 15840

3402 Desire

Thomas William Rueter

Anchorage, Alaska 99516

3400 Desire

Roger Wesley Lane

Ann Arbor, MI 48104

3403 Hope

Pamela Jeanne (Hackett) Manning

Glenwood, IA 51534

From the Editor

It has been interesting featuring stories on our ancestors who were in the War Between the States. The June 2015 *Quarterly* will be the last issue featuring these stories as the sesquicentennial ends this year. I enjoyed talking with Dr. Gower (story on page 4) and happy to find a Howland cousin only 45 minutes down the road.

The meeting this year is earlier than usual. I am excited because our usual weekend finds Plymouth, Massachusetts bursting with the street fairs that bring lots of traffic. Hopefully the traffic will be better.

I hope you enjoy the e-mails from our contacts in England. Good to hear about current events in the places our ancestors came from.

Today, after the coldest, snowiest winter I can recall, was a lovely 70 degrees! Of course tomorrow is back in the 50's, but that is better than the 20's! Signs of bulbs popping up are everywhere....spring is coming!

Will I see you in Plymouth for our Annual Banquet and Meeting?

Gail Ann Adams

MOVING? Please send address changes to Gabriella Higgins, Treasurer for Membership. Her address is on page 2.