

Mayflower  
Society

# CANADIAN MAYFLOWER DESCENDANTS

## NEWSLETTER



Spring 1984

Vol. II No. 4

"We know on whose shoulders we stand."

### SOCIETY OFFICIALS

The following new officers were confirmed at the Society Meeting on Nov. 19th, 1983:

#### GOVERNOR

The Rev. Melvin V. Donald  
14 Belsize Dr.  
Toronto, Ont.  
M4S 1L4  
(416-481-4991)

#### DEPUTY GOVERNOR

Marshall M. Dean  
564 Mt. Pleasant Rd. #3  
Toronto, Ont.  
M4S 2M6

#### TREASURER

Miss Margaret Owen  
2682 Bloor St. W. #3  
Toronto, Ont.  
M8X 1A5

#### SECRETARY

Mrs. Lynn O'Keefe  
68 Devondale Ave.  
Willowdale, Ont.  
M2R 2E2

#### EDITOR

Mrs. Susan E. Roser  
4137 Tremaine Rd. RR6  
Milton, Ont.  
L9T 2Y1  
(416-876-4051)

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### SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING

Saturday, April 14, 1984

2:30p.m.-5:00p.m.

This year's Spring Meeting will be held at The Fellowship Room, at the back of 397 Brunswick (Church Army premises) in midtown Toronto - parking at back. By subway - to Spadina, exit on Bloor, walk west to Brunswick, north to #397.

Gov. Donald will speak on the theme "Where would our Mayflower Ancestors fit in today's religious spectrum?" Cost is \$2.00, payable April 14th but please advise our Secretary of your intention to attend.

This is an important gathering - let's have a good turnout!

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### MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

A reminder to those who have not already done so that 1984 membership dues are now due. Please send your payment of \$15.00 to our Treasurer.

Our Society depends on membership dues and donations for its survival. Let us all do our share.

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## TOURING PLYMOUTH COLONY...

- The General Court of Plymouth met for the last time on the first Tuesday of July, 1692. Its last act was to appoint the last Wednesday of the following August as a day of solemn fasting and humiliation.
- In 1764 there were 256 houses and 373 families in Plymouth. The population of 2246 included 48 Indians and 77 negroes.
- Cape Cod received its name from Capt. Gosnold who caught an abundance of codfish there when he discovered it in 1602.
- U.S. Presidents descended from Pilgrims include:  
Zachary Taylor from Brewster and Allerton; Wm. Taft from Cooke; U.S. Grant from Warren; and F.D.R. from Cooke, Allerton, Warren, Howland and J. Tilly.
- The only reference to the personal appearance of the Pilgrims was made by Thomas Morton of Dr. Samuel Fuller: "longe beard and a Garment like the Greeke that begged in Paul's Church." Although none too flattering, Morton was not a fan of the Pilgrims.

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## PLYMOUTH CHURCH RECORDS

1684

### Baptized

- William, son of Samuel Dunham Jr.
- Joseph, son of John & Mary Rickard, Jr.
- Benajah, son of Joseph Dunham
- Bartholomew, son of Thomas Cushman Jr. & Abigail his wife
- John, son of Nathaniel & Mary Wood
- William, son of Samuel Rider
- Rebekah, dau. of Joanna Morton
- Patience, dau. of Patience Holmes
- Mariah, dau. of Jonathan & Abigail Prat
- Martha, John, chil. of Esther Tinkham
- Priscilla, dau. of Thomas & Jane Faunce
- Mercy, dau. of Sarah Dotey
- Nicholas, son of Hannah Drue
- Margaret, dau. of Sarah Churchel
- John, son of Hannah Harlow

### Members Dyed

- Feb. - Giles Rickard, Sr., 87 yeares of age
- Aug. 17 - Abigail, wf. of Jonathan Prat, being newly entered into her 40th yeare.

### Members Admitted

- Stephen Bryant, Sr.
- John Cotton, Pastor's son

### Transactions

- May 2 - Letters were read from Bithiah Sandy to the church, manifesting her Repentance for the sin which the church sent

her Admonition for the last yeare, the church well accepted her letters.

July 13 - William Shirtliffe was called forth before the church in the open Assembly, to answer for his sin in carnall fellowship with her whom afterwards he married, his child being borne 26 weekes after marriage. William shewd little sense of sin, the church voted and the Elder laid him under Admonition, for his sin and for the pride and hardnesse of his heart and soe it was left for the present.

1685

Baptized

- Stephen, son of Eliezer & Mary Churchel (b.Feb. 16, bpt.Mar. 15)
- John, son of Mary Rickard, Jr. (b.Feb. 3, bpt.Mar. 15)
- Martha, dau. of Sarah Lobdel (b.Feb. 24, bpt.Mar. 29)
- Sarah, dau. of Isaac Cushman
- Nathaniel, son of Desire Southworth
- Eliezer, son of Samuel & Sarah King, Jr.
- Phebe, dau. of John & Phebe Morton
- William, son of Deborah Burden, of Barnstable church
- Isaac, son of Esther Tinkham
- Ebenezer, son of Deborah Barrow
- Benjamin, son of Joseph & Elizabeth Howland
- Joanna, dau. of John & Lydia Nelson
- Joanna, dau. of Elizabeth Tinkham

Dyed

June 28/29 - Nathaniel Morton, Secretary, in his 73d yeare.

Transactions

Joseph Bartlet having wickedly scandalized the Pastour, the church met Aug. 20 to heare and consider of the matter, the Elder and church greatly condemned his wickednesse and solemnly vindicated their Pastour, and ordered the slanderer to appeare publicly before the congregation to give satisfaction, which he did, Aug. 30, and a large confession of his sin was presented and read by the Elder, which he owned, as also his humble letter to the Pastor, the church then laid him under solemne Admonition.

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## BULLETIN BOARD

Insignia Fund

When the Canadian Society of Mayflower Descendants was organized one of the initial startup costs, amounting to a considerable amount, was for the purchase of insignia required. It was decided to set up a special fund for this purpose rather than use the income from membership fees which, in any case, could not cover the amount involved. Many of our early members made contributions to this fund and their support was greatly appreciated. The fund is still open and, while there is no obligation, it is possible that some of our newer members would like to contribute. If so donations may be sent to the Treasurer, Miss Margaret Owen, marked for the Insignia Fund.

Pilgrim Tours

There are two tours to England this year arranged for Mayflower Society members and friends. The dates are June 25 to July 10 and Sept. 17 to Oct. 2. Visits will be made to the towns and villages important to the telling of the story of the Pilgrims and the Mayflower. Information may be obtained from:

American Field Studies  
145 Court St.  
Plymouth, Mass.  
02360

PASTORS, ASS. PASTORS, ELDERS, DEACONS

PLYMOUTH

1620-1859

PASTORS

1629-1635 - Ralph Smith  
1636-1654 - John Reyner  
1669-1697 - John Cotton  
1699-1723 - Ephraim Little  
1724-1760 - Nathaniel Leonard  
1760-1799 - Chandler Robbins  
1800-1859 - James Kendall  
1859-1867 - Edward Henry Hall

ASS. PASTORS

1838-1852 - George Ware Briggs  
1853-1854 - Henry Lewis Myrick  
1855-1857 - George S. Ball  
1859-1859 - Edward Henry Hall

ELDERS

1620-1644 - William Brewster  
1649-1691 - Thomas Cushman  
1699-1746 - Thomas Faunce

DEACONS

1620-1621 - John Carver	1728-1750 - Haviland Torrey
1620-1633 - Samuel Fuller	1728-1728 - Thomas Clark
1629-1633 - Richard Masterson	1745-1777 - Thomas Foster
1629-1633 - Thomas Blossom	1745-1783 - Joseph Bartlett
- John Doane	1754-1776 - John Torrey
- William Paddy	1777-1814 - William Crombie
- John Cook	1784-1797 - Jonathan Diman
-1669 - John Dunham	1784-1818 - Ephraim Spooner
1669-1687 - Robert Finney	1797-1801 - John Bishop
1669-1693 - Ephraim Morton	1812-1825 - Lemuel Drew
1686-1699 - Thomas Faunce	1818-1842 - Wm. Putnam Ripley
1694-1727 - George Morton	1822-1837 - Rosseter Cotton
1694- - Nathaniel Atwood	1832-1841 - Ichabod Morton
1694-1697 - Thomas Clark	1853-1863 - Wm. Shaw Russell
1716-1741 - John Foster	1853-1854 - Thomas Russell
1716-1754 - John Atwood	

The above list of pastors is not entirely complete. The following did not settle but preached at different times: John Lyford 1624, Rogers 1628, Roger Williams 1631-34 (not ordained), John Norton 1635-36, Rev. Charles Chauncy 1638-41, James Williams and William Brimsmead 1664-66.

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MAYFLOWER GENEALOGIES

We will be featuring a Mayflower family in each issue, giving information up to and including grandchildren. In fond remembrance of our past Governor, Col. Harry F. Pierce, M.B.E., we will begin with his ancestor, William Bradford, the long time Governor of Plymouth.

William was baptized March 19, 1588/89, the son of Wm. Bradford and Alice Hanson. He married in Leyden May 16, 1613 Dorothy, dau. of Henry May. Dorothy was b.1597, d. Dec. 7, 1620; William died May 9, 1657. They had one son:

1. John - b.1616, d.1678, arr. in Plymouth 1627, m.c. 1640 to Martha Bourne, moved to Duxbury 1645, Marshfield 1653, Norwich Conn. 1660, no known children.

William married a second time on Aug. 14, 1623 to Alice Carpenter Southworth, dau. of Alexander Carpenter and widow of Thomas Southworth. Alice was b.1590, d.1670. They had three children:

2. William - b. June 17, 1624, d. Feb. 20, 1703/04, m. 1st Alice, dau. of Thomas Richards (b.1627, d.1671), 10 children:
1. John - b. Feb. 20, 1651/52, m. Mercy Warren\*
  2. William - b. Mar. 11, 1654/55, m. Rebecca Bartlett
  3. Thomas - b.c.1656, m. Ann Smith
  4. Alice - b.c.1658, m. 1st Wm. Adams, 2nd James Fitch
  5. Mercy - b. Sept. 2, 1660, m. Samuel Steele
  6. Hannah - b. May 9, 1662, m. Josiah Ripley
  7. Melatiah - b.c.1664, m. 1st John Steele, 2nd Samuel Stevens
  8. Samuel - b.1668, m. Hannah Rogers\*
  9. Mary - bpt.1669, m. William Hunt
  10. Sarah - b.1671, m. Kenelm Baker
- William - m. 2nd Mrs. Wiswall, 1 son:
11. Joseph - b.1674, m. 1st Anna Fitch, 2nd Mrs. Mary Fitch
- William - m. 3rd Mrs. Mary Holmes, 4 children:
12. Israel - b.c.1678, m. Sarah Bartlett
  13. Ephraim - b.1680, m. Elizabeth Brewster
  14. David - m. Elizabeth Finney
  15. Hezekiah - m. Mary Chandler
3. Mercy - b.1627, m.1648 Benjamin Vermayes, moved to Boston
4. Joseph - b.c.1630, d. July 10, 1715, m. May 25, 1664 Jael Hobart (bpt.1643, d.1730), 2 children:
16. Elisha - m. Hannah Cole, 2nd Bathsheba LaBrocke
  17. Joseph

\*denotes granddaughters of Mayflower Pilgrims.

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#### THE GOVERNOR'S CORNER

In the late Gov. Pierce's last words in this corner, he wrote, "we have not yet had a report as yet as to whether we won the membership award for 1982." Well, as it turns out, we did, a gain. This award is granted to the Society with the largest percentage net gain in membership in the calendar year. In 1981 our membership went from 29 to 38, a gain of 31%. In 1982 from 38 to 59, a gain of 55%. In the year just finished, 1983, our numbers went from 59 to 74, a gain of 25%. Since we have won twice we are now out of the running to give other societies a chance but, could we have come out ahead in 1983 making it three years in a row?

Actually, in 1983 we added 19 new members, but we lost four, Col. Pierce and Mrs. Blackley through death and another two members had to be dropped through non-payment of two years' dues. In our three years of life we have lost four through death, one by resignation and two have been dropped.

Our Spring Meeting is scheduled for Saturday, April 14th. Business will be discussed followed by refreshments. It is hoped the meeting will prove a success with a large turnout of Society members.

AND - our Fall Banquet will be held Saturday, Nov. 24th. Circle this date on your calendar now! Details will follow in the fall newsletter.

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### QUAKERS IN PLYMOUTH

"Our puritan fathers, having experienced the bitterness of intolerance and persecution from tyrants, were willing that a measure of the same spirit should be construed into the rights of conscience, and become a duty when exercised by themselves."

- James Thacher, 1835

Humphrey Norton was brought before the court Oct. 6, 1657 and subsequently found guilty of "divers horrid errors." His sentence was banishment to Assonet, near Rhode Island. He returned some time later with John Rouse and the two appeared before the court June 1658 and were committed to prison. After refusing to take the oath of fidelity they were further sentenced to be whipped. To add insult to injury the two men were returned to prison for refusing to pay the whipper's fee after the whipping!

The crime of which Norton & Rouse were guilty was that of practising Quakerism. Quakers began to appear in New England in the 1650s and it became painfully obvious that they and the Puritans would not mix. It is true that Plymouth was not as harsh on the Quakers as were their neighbours in Boston, but the whippings, imprisonments and banishments inflicted upon this religious group are proof of the bigoted society the Pilgrims created.

It could be seen as early as 1645 that other religious sects would find no solace in Plymouth. William Vassall of Scituate brought a petition before the General Court to be rid of religious discrimination. Unfortunately the court was divided, among those opposed to religious tolerance were Bradford, Winslow and Thomas Prentice; for, was Standish. The petition was delayed by Winslow and never passed. The following year Winslow was sent to England to answer charges against the colonists of religious intolerance and persecution.

It was unfortunate and untimely for Plymouth that at the height of the Quaker troubles in 1657 Thomas Prentice was elected Governor. Actually, this act reflected the sentiments of the majority of the Pilgrims since they were aware of Prentice's views and allowed him to govern for 16 long years. Prentice had very definite ideas regarding the treatment of the newcomers and has been described as harsh and overbearing. It has also been said of him that "once a Stranger he became one of the narrowest and most bigoted of the Saints." To dislike the Quakers was not enough, Prentice's personal view was that every man, woman and child should be "destroyed." It was an astonishment to many that John Alden was Prentice's right-hand man and felt exactly the same way. Stated James Cudworth of Alden, "(he had) deceived the expectations of many and indeed lost the affections of such as I judge were his cordial Christian friends."

The Quakers were not the only recipients of the Pilgrims' wrath, townspeople themselves were getting into hot water. Any person found in the company of a Quaker was fined £5 or whipped. Supplying Quakers with horses so they could move freely from town to town was punishable. A simple act such as pointing the way to Plymouth was good for a £10 fine! As for the unfortunate Quakers, upon entering town they were immediately apprehended and given a whipping not to exceed "fifteen stripes."

The Colony's records give several instances of the punishment of Quaker sympathizers. An entry Dec. 3, 1658 states:

"William Newland, for being att the meeting of those called Quakers eighteen times, fined nine pounds; and, for his wife being att the said meetings twenty times, fined ten pounds; and for entertaining John Copeland and another of those Quakers, fined five pounds."

The Oct. 1660 court entry shows the following colonists fined for attending Quaker meetings:

Robert Harper & wf.	Rodolphus Elmes
Joseph Allin	Henery Howland
Benjamin Allin	Peter Gaunt
John Newland & wf.	Dorothy Butler
William Allin	Obadiah Butler
William Gifford	John Jenkins
Mathew Allin	Richard Kerbey, Sr.
Mrs. Henery Dillingham	Richard Kerbey, Jr.
William Newland & wf.	Jone Swift
John Soule	John Smith & wf.
Lydia Hickee	

At one point the court decided to try a different approach to the problem but it backfired. They allowed Isaac Robinson and three others to attend the Quaker meetings in the hopes of pointing out to the Quakers the error of their ways. What better person to send than the trusted son of their beloved Leyden minister, John Robinson? What the town officials didn't count on however was that sensible, level headed Isaac would himself be attracted to many of the doctrines of quakerism. Poor Isaac was dismissed from civil employment and subjected to the outcry of public indignation.

The Quakers came along at a time when Plymouth was most vulnerable. They were without a minister during the height of the troubles, from 1654-1664 and therefore lacked steady spiritual guidance. Although, in view of the events that occurred in the rest of New England, it is doubtful if the presence of a minister would have made a difference in the treatment of Quakers and their sympathizers. The Pilgrims felt threatened by these people, by anyone who did not share their views. Were they so insecure that they could not trust themselves to live side by side with Quakers? Were they selfish in desiring to maintain a "pure" Puritan society? Or did they honestly believe theirs to be the one true religion and others the work of the Devil? Most likely all of the above, but it is truly astonishing that they did not remember that back in England they themselves were the "Quakers", harassed and persecuted for their choice of religion. Puritans had a right to religious freedom, but no one else did.

Although many of our Pilgrim ancestors were indeed bigots, you have to admit in all fairness that the Quakers did not make it easy for others to accept or understand them. They were not content to sit quietly in the shadows but felt compelled to travel near and far to spread their word to all, especially to those who did not want to hear. They were martyrs and they were self-righteous, and self-righteous martyrs do not sit well with anyone.

S. Roser

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IN THE NEWS...

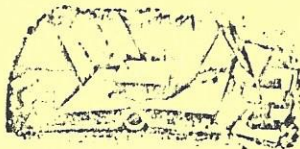
Our thanks to Miss Lila Leedy of Ottawa for spreading the word. We found out, not from Miss Leedy herself but another source, that she was responsible for an item about the Society appearing in the Sept. '83 newsletter of the Kingston branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society (OGS). They in turn printed it in the Jan. '84 newsletter of the Waterloo-Wellington branch.

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1984 is being celebrated on the Isle of Man as the 400th anniversary of the birth of Myles Standish.

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## Over the Editor's Desk



As you have noticed, while the format is basically the same, we are using a less costly method of turning out the newsletter. For the time being, it has been decided by the Executive to print two newsletters a year, Spring and Fall.

Our Queries section is still waiting for a response. Included on our mailing list is the Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. so you never know who will read your query and have answers.

A new regular feature is "Mayflower Genealogies" beginning with William Bradford. If you would like your Mayflower ancestor to appear in the next issue, write me. The purpose here is to provide genealogical data, particularly to those who are attempting to discover further Mayflower lines. Since the children and grandchildren of our ancestors often 'inter-married', it is possible that where there is one line there could be another.

I am still waiting for contributions for our newsletters; stories, items of interest, even an interesting Mayflower line you have come across. I would also like to know what you would like to see printed, a topic you would like to know more about. Let's have some communication; as I have said before, this publication is the one link we have with each other and at the moment, that link is one-sided.

I look forward to meeting many of you at our Spring Meeting in April.

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