

# Canadian Pilgrim

NEWSLETTER OF

*canadian society of mayflower descendants*

Fall 1992

Vol.XII No.21

## Governer General at Annual Meeting

DATE: Saturday, November 14th, 1992

PLACE: Royal York Hotel, Toronto, Ont.

TIME: Cash bar: 6:00 p.m., Dinner: 7:00 p.m.

MENU & PRICE: \$35.00 (gratuity & taxes incl.)

Cream of Pumpkin Soup, Roast Ontario Turkey with Traditional Dressing & Gravy, Herb Roasted Potatoes, Carrot & Parsnip sticks with sage butter, Broccoli with lemon butter, Rolls, Pecan Pie with Fresh Whipped Cream, Coffee/Tea.

### GOVERNOR GENERAL, MISS MILDRED RAMOS

has very graciously accepted our invitation to be our Guest of Honor & Speaker at our 12th Annual Meeting & Compact Dinner. We urge you to make a special effort to come out and join with us in welcoming Miss Ramos to Canada.

In honor of our very special guest, we will be meeting at the newly renovated and exquisite Royal York Hotel, in the heart of Toronto. (Map & directions enclosed.)

It is extremely important that you send your paid reservation no later than 20th October 1992. We are anticipating a larger than usual turnout and if so, we will need to make the appropriate arrangements at the Royal York. Please help us by sending your paid reservation no later than 20th October to: Mr. Robert Cruikshank, 500 Duplex Ave., Suite 1903, Toronto, Ont., M4R 1V6.

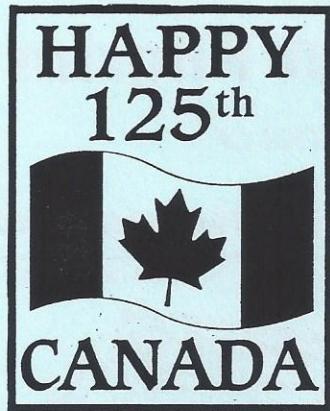
### ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The Nominating Committee (Ruth Ferguson, Deborah Clarke, Paul Hill) has submitted their slate of nominees as follows:

HISTORIAN: Susan E. Roser  
C. SECRETARY: Judy Galvin  
MEMBER AT LARGE: Arthur Harris

TREASURER: L. Allyn Dean  
CAPTAIN: Robert Cruickshank

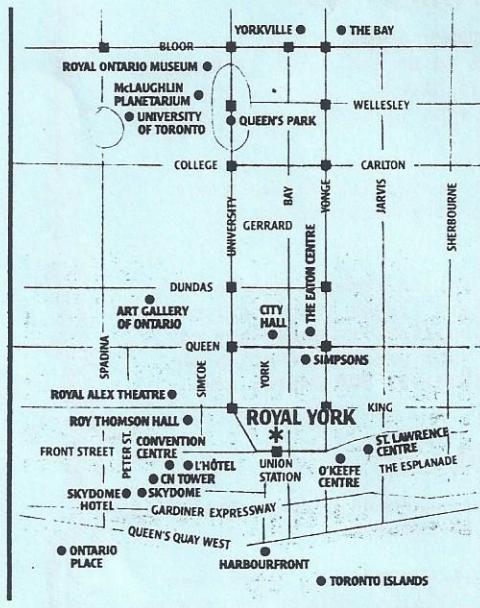
## DO YOU KNOW YOUR HISTORY?



- Ottawa, our capital city, was once a remote timber centre called "Bytown".
- From a scattered, largely rural population of about 3.3 million in 1867, Canada has grown to 27.3 million, with almost one third in the Montreal, Toronto and Vancouver areas.
- Slavery was abolished in Upper Canada in 1793 and in the rest of British North America in 1833. Between 1812-1860, an estimated 50,000 blacks, both slaves & free, escaped to Canada via the Underground Railroad, many through Chatham, Ont.
- On 7 Nov. 1885, at Eagle Pass, B.C., Donald Smith (subsequently Lord Strathcona) hammered the last symbolic spike of the Canadian Pacific Railway, linking the country from coast to coast. 19 years later, in Sept. 1904, Billy Miner committed Canada's first train robbery in Mission, B.C.
- Of the 37 Canadians aboard the Titanic, 20 died including Henry M. Molson, age 56, the grandson of John Molson, founder of the brewing empire.
- Manitoba was the first province to grant women the vote in 1916.
- On 20 June 1942, a Japanese submarine shelled a wireless station and lighthouse on Vancouver Island causing minor damage - the only time during either World War that enemy shells fell on Canadian soil.
- Greenpeace was founded in 1970 by three Canadian activists to protest U.S. nuclear tests off the Aleutian Islands.



MAP & DIRECTIONS  
ROYAL YORK HOTEL, TORONTO  
NOVEMBER 14TH, 1992



\* ROYAL YORK

100 Front Street West  
Toronto, Ontario  
Canada M5J 1E3  
Telephone: 416-368-2511  
Fax: 416-368-2884

● POINTS OF INTEREST



GENEALOGY  
FAMILY TREE RESEARCH



"We're not interested in family history. We just want to find out if we have any relatives in Florida we can visit."

ONTARIO GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY - OTTAWA 1993

The OGS will be meeting in Ottawa the weekend of Mar. 27th, 1993. Among the speakers will be noted Nova Scotia genealogist Terrence M. Punch, CG(C) who will be giving three talks: Migration from the British Isles to Atlantic Canada before 1850; Genealogical Research in Atlantic Canada and Genealogical Accreditation In Atlantic Canada. For further information contact the OGS.



# Plymouth Colony Records

(Source: Records of Plymouth Colony, by Nathaniel B. Shurtleff, repr.1976. Original numbering, e.g. <PCR 8:15>, included.) Continued from the Fall 1991 Newsletter.

## PLYMOUTH REGESTER OF THE BEIRTH OF THEIRE CHILDREN, 1652 (cont-d)

(p.14)

<PCR 8:15>

Jan. 27th, Samuell, son of William Harlow  
Feb. 20th, John, son of William Bradford  
Mar. 4th, Jonathan, son of Thomas Savory  
Mar. 8th, Mary, dau. of Richard Foster  
Mar. 15th, John, son of Thomas Pope

## PLYMOUTH REGESTER OF MARRIAGES AND BURIALS, 1652

Apr. 2nd, Rebeckah Willett died  
Nov. 20th, Arther Hathaway married to Sara Cooke  
Nov. 23rd, Joseph Reyner died  
Dec. 23rd, James Cole, Junier married to Mary Tilson  
Dec. 24th, James Shaw married to Mary Michell  
Feb. 9th, William Pontus died



Old Plymouth  
County  
Courthouse

## ATT THE TOWNE OF EASTHAM

(p.15)

<PCR 8:16>

Oct. 26th, 1654, Jonathan Sparrow married Rebeckah Banges  
Jan. 18th, 1654, Marke Snow married to Ann Cooke  
Feb. 25th, 1654, William Walker married to Sarah Snow  
May 20th, 1652, Mehitabell, dau. of Richard Knowles, born  
Aug. 26th, 1654, Rebeckah, dau. of Job Cole, born  
Mar. 8th, 1654, Deborah, dau. of Ralph Smith, born  
May 28th, 1650, Bethyah, dau. of Edward Bangs, born  
Oct. 15th, 1651, Marcye & Apphyah, twin daus. of Edward Bangs, born  
Jan. 8th, 1653, Israell, son of Daniell Cole, born  
Apr. 24th, 1655, Nathaniell, son of Thomas Williams, born  
Nov. 24th, 1655, John, son of William Walker, born

<PCR 8:17>

## PLYMOUTH REGESTER OF THE BEIRTH OF THEIRE CHILDREN, 1653

Mar. 26th, Jacob, son of Jacob Cooke  
May 14th, Joseph, son of John Faunce  
June 7th, Mannasses & Ephraim, twin sons of John Morton  
June 20th, Feare, dau. of Elder Cushman  
Aug. 12th, Benjamin, son of John Winslow  
( ), Josias, son of Ephraim Morton  
Sept. 17th, John, son of Arther Hathewey  
Sept. 18th, Mary, dau. of Edward Gray  
Oct. 5th, Sarah, dau. of William Spooner  
Nov. 16th, "or thereabouts", Hezekiah, son of Capt. Willett  
Dec. 3rd, Mary, dau. of James Cole, Junier  
Dec. 10th, Sarah, dau. of George Bonum  
Dec. 25th, Peter, son of Ephraim Tinkham  
Feb. 27th, Isacke, son of John Wood

(p.16)

## PLYMOUTH REGESTER OF THE BEIRTHES OF THEIRE CHILDREN, 1654

Mar. 9th, Margerett, dau. of Samuell Hickes  
Apr. 1st, William, son of William Browne  
Apr. 7th, Mara, dau. of Thomas Savory  
Apr. 19th, Samuell, son of Samuell Sturtivant  
Apr. 20th, Eliazer, son of John Smith, Jun.

<PCR 8:18>

## PLYMOUTH REGESTER OF MARRIAGES AND BURIALS, 1654

June 7th, died Thomas Gray  
Nov. 29th, died John Faunce  
Mar. 23rd, died Susanna Jenings

(to be cont-d)



# Welcome Aboard!

Historian Arthur Harris has been hard at work! The following eight have received final approval with two additional applications awaiting their General number from Plymouth.

Mr. Wayne Colwell, 105-1285 Cahill Dr., Ottawa, Ont. K1V 9A7 (#154, #57904, BREWSTER)  
Mr. Andrew Colin Berry, 2210 Robb Ave., Comox, B.C. V9N 4T1 (#155, #57905, WHITE)  
Mr. Robert Edward Lydiard, 9 Siebold Lane, Cascade, MT, USA 59421 (#156, #58240, WARREN)  
Mr. David George Allen, Box 217, Mahone Bay, N.S. B0J 2E0 (#157, #58241, WARREN)  
Mr. Douglas F.J. Parsons, 60 Baxter Cresc., Whitecourt, Alta. T0E 2L0 (#158, #58300, WARREN)  
Mr. Jeffrey William Parsons, 60 Baxter Cresc., Whitecourt, Alta. T0E 2L0 (#159, #58301, WARREN)  
Mr. Ian Gerard Graham, 102-1800 Baseline Rd., Nepean, Ont. K2C 3N1 (#160, #58302, WARREN)  
Ms. Nanda Leigh Graham, 1308 Acadia Dr. S.E., Calgary, Alta T2J 2V9 (#161, #58303, WARREN)

(At least five of the above are children of current members. We appreciate the efforts of those who by joining family members, help strengthen our Society which in turn, keeps the memory of our Mayflower ancestors alive. Special mention to member Ann Murphy of Alberta who is responsible for memberships for the last four --- to Douglas, Jeffrey, Ian & Nanda - Merry Christmas!!)

\*\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

## In Memoriam

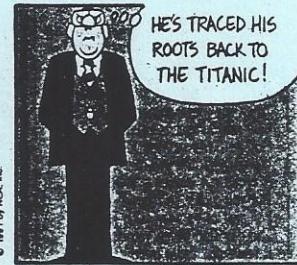
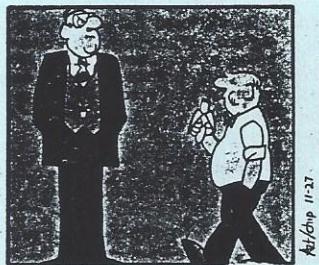
## CORRECTION

Mrs. Pauline Mattinson, of Chester, N.S. on July 19th, 1992. Our most sincere condolences to Pauline's family.

\* \* \* A correction to the Fall '91 Newsletter, p.4: under New Members: Ms. Joyce Berry, not Judith. \* \* \* (Sorry Joyce!)

\*\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

BORN LOSER



## FROM THE GOVERNOR

The summer here in Toronto has been one of the wettest on record but wonderful for growing grass and flowers!

In July, The Globe & Mail did an article on our Society plus a photo of yours truly which pleased me a great deal. As a result, I have received five inquiries at the time of writing from people who have done a great deal of research on their Mayflower ancestry. I sent each a brochure on our Society.

In September I am looking forward to once again attending the General Board of Assistants meeting. This year it will be held outside Washington at Tysons Corners, Vienna, Virginia. It will be a time to renew old acquaintances and make new ones.

November will be an exciting time for our Society. Plans are well underway for our Annual Compact Banquet. The location will be the beautifully renovated Royal York Hotel in Toronto, a famous landmark! Our guest of honour and speaker will be none other than Miss Mildred Ramos, the Governor General of the General Society. We are indeed privileged to have her as our guest and we hope she enjoys her stay with us. Please remember! Space is limited so please send your cheque in early for the banquet to avoid disappointments!

Our Society continues to grow and this gives me a great deal of satisfaction.

Leon Warmski  
Governor



## Society News

## SPRING TEA REPORT



On May 23rd, 1992, members and friends attended the Semi-Annual Meeting at the CHP Heritage Centre Cumberland Terrace in Toronto, Ont. Governor Leon Warski opened the afternoon with a few words of welcome. We then watched a video on the 400th Anniversary of Pilgrim Governor **William Bradford's Birth and Baptism in Austerfield, England**, filmed in 1989.

A very informal tea followed. Everyone enjoyed themselves as they examined the exhibits on display in the Heritage Centre, renewed old acquaintances and met new "Mayflower Cousins".

- Deborah Clarke  
Recording Secretary



### TREASURER'S REPORT

The Editor decided that rather than give you the bad news that I should do it! Yes, the dues are going up for 1993 to \$25.00 per year which means Life Memberships will increase as of 31st Dec. to \$250.00. Also included in the fees increase are the application fees for new members which rises to \$25.00.

Two factors brought about the necessity for these increases: a) Interest rates are down and so the invested funds from the life memberships (which provide our working capital) are down; b) We the executive undertook several new items in 1991 which ate into the funds. Obviously it is rather bad timing to raise the dues during a recession but we could not see how to remain a viable society without the extra monies. Of course, we are going to examine all future expenditures much more carefully before implementing some.

The Canadian Society at present has 118 members of which 55 are Life Members and 73 are yearly paying members. Of the 73, 8 have not yet paid for 1992 and of these 8, 3 have not paid for 1991. A reminder that 1993 dues (\$25.00) are due on Nov. 30th. Please give this matter your attention before the Christmas rush. Members attending the Fall Banquet may pay at that time.

- L. Allyn Dean  
Treasurer



## LIBRARY REPORT

Donations of genealogical books for our Library are very much needed and would be greatly appreciated. The following was recently donated (1 copy to the Historian, 1 copy to our Library):

1. Mayflower Births & Deaths, by Susan E. Roser, 2 Vols., Genealogical Publishing Co., 1992.

- Arthur Harris  
Librarian



**HELP WANTED— AND VERY MUCH NEEDED!**

The Board of Assistants would like to appoint an Arrangements Committee. Duties would include scouting possible towns and sites for our Spring Tea & Fall Banquet, suggesting programmes & guest speakers and arranging for refreshments at the Spring Tea. If you would like to volunteer please contact our Corresponding Secretary.

Our Newsletter was recognized in the Fourth Annual Mayflower Quarterly Awards in the Feb. 1992 issue, with a reprint of a story which appeared in our Fall '91 issue. This is the third year in a row that we have been honoured. (Unfortunately the last three paragraphs of the story were "lost" during printing and were not included.)

TIRED OF BEING JUST ANOTHER NUMBER?

## Get to Know Us!

#115 -- Charles W. Baker of Calgary, Alberta is a John Billington descendant. Our membership includes seven "Bakers", so Charles and his family have certainly done their share in promoting our Society. And - Charles is 92 years old!! I wish I could spend an afternoon with you Charles, having lived through the events of this entire century you must have a treasure chest full of memories and stories - how I'd love to hear them all!

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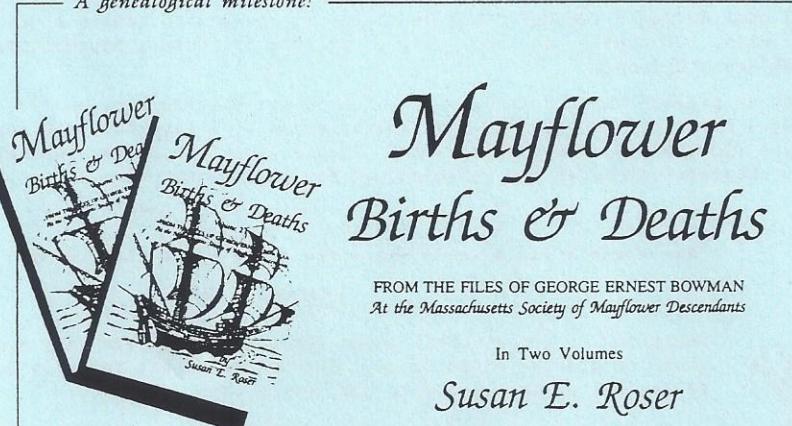
#92 -- Marion L. Smith, also of Calgary, Alberta has written us with a change of address - and a change of name! In her words: "Yes, I am getting married again, at age 69 - wish me luck!" Since the effective date is September 5th, I assume this is the wedding date. To the newlyweds - Mr. & Mrs. J.D. MacIsaac - we send congratulations along with our warmest wishes for a very happy and healthy life together.

#113 -- Marjorie Bulmer, of Truro, Nova Scotia has a job the rest of us would die for - Genealogy Co-ordinator at the Colchester Historical Society in Truro. A Life Member, descended from George Soule, Marjorie has answered more than 1,000 genealogical queries in her six years at the Society and was featured in The Daily News in Sept. 1991. Our thanks to Marjorie for mentioning our Mayflower Society in the newsletter of the Colchester Historical Society.

#148 -- Joyce Berry, of Comox, British Columbia began her genealogical research only five years ago, and has written 850 letters! Her tenacity paid off as she is now a member of the Mayflower Society (through William White), Daughters of the American Revolution and The International Society of the Descendants of Charlemagne. Joyce was featured in a fascinating account of her ancestry in the Comox District Free Press in July 1991.

Write to me (the Editor) and tell me something about yourself (or another member). If a newspaper article has been written about you, send me a copy for my collection. Remember - if a local paper does a story on your genealogical interests, mention our Society - let people know we are here!

*A genealogical milestone!*



*Mayflower Births & Deaths* is a compilation of birth and death records from the Bowman files, the largest manuscript resource on Mayflower genealogy in existence. With its companion volume, *Mayflower Marriages*, it comprises all the vital records of the descendants of the Mayflower passengers as found in the research files of the renowned genealogist George Ernest Bowman, founder of the Massachusetts Society of Mayflower Descendants and for over thirty-seven years editor of its quarterly, *The Mayflower Descendant*.

Volume 1 of *Mayflower Births & Deaths* contains data on the descendants of twelve Mayflower families, John Alden through Samuel Fuller, while Volume 2 continues with eleven more Mayflower families, Stephen Hopkins through Edward Winslow. Within the covers of these two volumes will be found data on approximately 50,000 ancestors! As well as records of births, baptisms, deaths, and burials, additional data is often provided—burial location, cause of death, and address at death, for example. Deeds and land records and in particular wills and probate records are frequently referred to in determining an approximate date of death or to provide additional data on a person or family. In addition, gravestone inscriptions, excerpts from wills, court and church records, and transcripts of personal letters all provide a respite from the seemingly endless listing of names and dates.

In keeping with the format established in *Mayflower Marriages*, lines of descent are shown which enable the reader to trace back to the first generation any name that is accompanied by a generation number. Most lines are carried to the seventh and eighth generations, and some to the tenth, so almost without effort the reader can see the complete line of descent.

Although the text contains only data found in the Bowman Files, where names and dates were lacking the author resorted to outside sources such as published vital records, articles in scholarly journals, and the ongoing Mayflower Five Generations Project to fill in the gaps, carefully listing the data and the sources in footnotes. Finally, to give the researcher every possible advantage, at the end of each family section she has appended a list of pertinent articles which have appeared in *The Mayflower Quarterly* and the venerable *Mayflower Descendant*. Readers should note that each volume is separately indexed, so finding a name among the 50,000 or so mentioned couldn't be easier.

2 vols. 7" x 10". 525 & 548 pp., indexed, paperback. 1992.  
ISBN 0-8063-1340-4. \$75.00

Postage & handling: First book \$2.50; each additional book \$1.00. Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc.  
1001 N. Calvert St. / Baltimore, MD 21202-3897

# THE SALEM WITCHCRAFT TRIALS

## PART II



### A TYPICAL CASE: THE TRIALS OF REBECCA NURSE

On 23 Mar. 1692, 71 year old Rebecca Nurse was arrested for practising witchcraft. Rebecca and her husband, Francis, had eight children and were considered pillars of the community. Rebecca herself was known as a deeply religious woman who was well liked & highly respected for her kind and generous nature. She was so well thought of in fact, that when he was accused, the stunned authorities at first refused to issue the warrant.

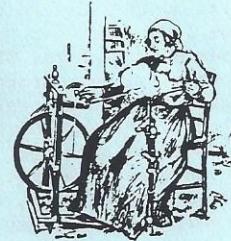
Rebecca was first examined at the Salem meetinghouse on March 24th, where two of the afflicted girls, Abigail Williams and Ann Putnam (both about 12) accused her of physically harming them and causing their fits. Rebecca denied the accusations saying she could not have harmed the girls because she had been bedridden the past week. Just as the case was about to be dismissed, another of the afflicted (Ann Putnam's mother) cried out, "Did you not bring the black man with you? Did you not bid me tempt God and die? How often have you ate and drank your own damnation?" Unfortunately for Rebecca, she was too stunned by this outburst to respond. Seeing that she was weakening under the pressure, two more afflicted girls, Mary Walcott & Elizabeth Hubbard, stood up and accused her. The trial continued in earnest.

Three witnesses were brought forth to testify against Rebecca. Sarah Houlton stated that Rebecca once became angry with Mr. Houlton after his pigs got loose and destroyed her garden. Several weeks later her husband died unexpectedly, no doubt from Rebecca's curse, said Sarah. Henry Kenny stated that he could not breathe properly whenever Rebecca was near him, he too blaming her for putting a curse on him. Edward Putnam testified he had witnessed his niece, Ann, having a fit which he was sure Rebecca had caused. A group of women then searched Rebecca's body for evidence of a witch mark and reported they had found several. Rebecca responded that natural growths could be found on any elderly person.

After this examination by the magistrates, Rebecca was taken to jail where she remained in chains for eighteen days. After another pre-trial by the Deputy Governor, she was jailed in Boston for approximately eleven weeks until the date of her final trial, June 29th. The evidence against Rebecca was overshadowed by the respect of her peers and the jury found her not guilty. The afflicted girls immediately "made an hideous out-cry" so the Chief Justice asked the jurors to reconsider their verdict. They did. At the urging of her family, Rebecca was granted a reprieve by the Governor but he too was forced to retract it. On July 3rd Rebecca received a punishment that to her, was far worse than a death sentence. Heavily chained, she was brought before the entire church congregation who voted that she be ex-communicated. On July 19th, this kindly old woman was hung on Gallows Hill.

### TWENTY INNOCENT PEOPLE EXECUTED

Bridget Bishop kept a tavern in Salem Village, was married, and owned property where she lived in Salem Town. Her fatal mistake was enjoying her work and the company of her customers, much to the chagrin of the neighborhood women. Many testified at her trial, including William Stacey who had many complaints - Bridget had once paid him for a job but the money disappeared from his pocket; he once stopped his wagon to speak to her and a wheel became stuck in a rut; his horse once refused to move when Bridget walked by and - he blamed her for putting a spell on his daughter who had died two years earlier. Bridget was the first to hang, June 10th.



On July 19th, five women were hung on Gallows Hill. Sarah Good was pregnant at the time of her arrest but the child, who was born in jail, died soon after birth. Her five year old daughter, Dorcas, was also jailed (for approx. 8 mths) and was coached by Sarah to confess to being a witch to escape execution. You can well imagine what eight months in jail, her mother branded and executed as a witch, and her own confession to being a witch, did to the mind of this five year old child. Eighteen years later, in 1710, her father petitioned for damages, saying "she hath ever since been very chargeable having little or no reason to govern herself". Susanna Martin had long been suspected of witchcraft and had been arrested in 1669 but was released. Rev. Cotton Mather said of her, "(she) was one of the most Impudent, Scurilous, wicked creatures in the world". Among the many complaints against her - she was seen flying over a bridge, she walked from Amesbury to Newbury without getting her shoes wet and she bewitched cattle and puppies. Elizabeth How had also been suspected of witchcraft about ten years earlier. One of her many accusers this time around, Martha Wood, testified that she became sick after eating apples Elizabeth had given her. Sarah Wildes was the mother of Ephraim Wildes, a constable from Topsfield who was responsible for arresting those accused, but even he could not save his mother. The 5th woman hung was Rebecca Nurse.

On August 19th, four men and one woman were hung. George Jacobs biggest crime in life appeared to be the fact that he did not always join his family during evening prayers and when he did, he

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sometimes fell asleep. One of his accusers was his grand-daughter Margaret Jacobs who, after being given detailed accounts of the horrors of hanging, admitted to being a witch (thus sparing her life) and was similarly pressured into accusing Rev. George Burroughs, Samuel Wardwell and her grandfather. She soon after retracted her confession & accusations in a letter to the Court which has been preserved and reprinted. <NEHGR 24:402> Her words are touching and vividly express the fear and helplessness that is felt when innocent persons are accused of unspeakable acts against God and mankind. Margaret states that after she had made her confession, she "was in such horror of conscience that I could not sleep, for fear the Devil should carry me away for telling such horrid lies". She asks the judges to "take pity and compassion on my young and tender years...having no friend but the Lord above to plead my cause for me; not being guilty in the least measure of the crime of witchcraft, nor any other sin tht deserves death from man". Fortunately for Margaret, the madness ended before she was hung, her grandfather wasn't so lucky. Rev. George Burroughs, a Harvard graduate, had been the Pastor at Salem Village from 1680-83, leaving after a parish quarrel. The afflicted girls accused him of being the "Head Witch" and the authorities travelled all the way to Wells, Maine (where he was now pastor) to arrest him. While standing on the hangman's ladder proclaiming his innocence he made a very heart-felt speech, ending with a perfect recitation of the Lord's Prayer (a feat that witches were considered incapable of). The audience was genuinely moved by his words but unfortunately Rev. Cotton Mather was present. Sensing the weakening of the crowd in Burroughs' favour, he quickly spoke up and convinced those present not to believe the Reverend because "the Devil has often been transformed into an Angel of Light". Burroughs was hung. (Note: Rev. Cotton Mather had a knack for accomplishing more for the Devil, in the name of God, than for the good Lord himself!) John Willard was employed to arrest those who were accused but he quit the job after he was told to arrest persons he thought well of. Questioning the wisdom of the judges, or the actions of the afflicted, brought only one result - John himself was arrested and hung. Both John Proctor and his wife Elizabeth were arrested but the Judges, full of Christian compassion, agreed to spare Elizabeth - until after her baby was born. The fifth to hang on August 19th was Martha Currier, whose children accused her of riding to witch meetings on the kitchen broom. Said Mather: "This Rampant Hag, Martha Currier, was the Person, of whom the Confessions of the Witches, and of her own Children among the rest agreed, That the Devil had promised her she should be Queen of Hell."



Giles Cory and his wife had attended the early trials, mostly out of curiosity. Martha however, made the mistake of publicly stating it was all nonsense; soon after she was accused, tried and executed. Giles, trying to support his wife's innocence by condemning the afflicted girls, was also arrested. He refused to enter a plea at his trial, knowing that under English Common Law he could not be tried for a crime (except high treason) until he entered a plea. Also, if he could not be tried then he could not be convicted, which meant that his land, money & belongings could not be confiscated by the government as was happening to the convicted witches. Giles was taken to an adjoining field where he was staked to the ground with a heavy beam placed across his body. One by one rocks were piled on the beam until he either entered a plea or was crushed to death - he chose the latter.

Is it possible that the authorities and the afflicted girls were worried their power might be coming to an end? On Sept. 22nd they managed to squeeze eight hangings into their busy schedule. Three days after her husband was pressed to death, Martha Cory was hung. Mary Eastey joined her sister Rebecca Nurse who was hung in July. Their sister Sarah Cloyse was in prison awaiting her execution as were dozens upon dozens of others. Samuel Wardwell had tried to spare his life by confessing to witchcraft but upon finding that he could not live with himself in the face of such a monstrous lie, retracted it. A young man of 24, Samuel was accused of "loving a gurl of fourteen, but couldn't have her", drinking rum "but not getting drunk" and "telling fortunes which sometimes come to pass". Wilmot Redd/Reed, an eccentric old woman in Marblehead, was very proud of the fact that she was a witch, but although those who confessed were spared, she was not. The remaining four who were hung that day were Alice Parker, Ann Pudeater, Mary Parker, and Margaret Scott.

#### AN END TO THE NIGHTMARE

Nightmare - the only word that can describe what had happened during a brief 11 month period. A troubled conscience is a heavy burden, as the good citizens of Salem Village discovered when they finally came to their senses and realized the terrible enormity of their actions.

What caused their sudden awakening? No doubt it was a combination of reasons. The jails were over crowded with accused awaiting trials & executions which caused life in the village to come to a standstill. Church services were almost non-existent with most of the parishioners in jail. The afflicted began making costly errors in judgement by accusing the family members of their supporters - ministers, judges and even the Governor's wife. And, credit must be given to the writings and outspoken opinions of sensible and respected men such as Thomas Brattle and Robert Calef, who were brave enough to speak out against the ignorant ravings of the powerful Cotton Mather.

- S. Roser

(References: See Spring '92 Newsletter)

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