



The *Canadian* Pilgrim

Newsletter of the Canadian Society of Mayflower Descendants

Vol. 44, No. 2



Fall 2024

A black and white photograph of a classical building with several tall columns. Bare trees are in the foreground, and their shadows are cast on the building. The sky is cloudy.

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Vol. 44, No.2



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TABLE OF CONTENTS



- 2.** *Governor's Message*
Bill Curry
- 3.** *CSMD News*
- 4.** *Remembering Joyce Cutler*
Susan Roser
- 5.** *Passenger Inheritance Program*
Bill Curry
- 6.** *Historian's Report*
John Noble
- 7.** *Membership Reminder*
Bob Power
New CSMD Certificate
- 8.** *NS Colony Conference*
Barry Frame
- 9.** *Salt*
Carol Martin
- 11.** *Elizabeth Doane*
Bob Power
- 13.** *Book Review- Devil-Land*
Becket Soule
- 15.** *Facebook Favourite*
Carol Martin
- 16.** *Juniors' Activities*



Editorial



elcome to the 2024 Fall edition of The Canadian Pilgrim!

After our summer and fall seasons of visits, vacations, Mayflower Zoom meetings and Conferences, and Canadian Thanksgiving, we are once again counting down the days before the arrival of the winter season.

In this issue I am pleased to offer you an article from Carol Martin on the topic of Salt. How did the Pilgrims obtain this valuable seasoning and preservative? Bob Power writes a fascinating article about his acclaimed 6th great-grandmother whose independence and resilience are a testament to her character. Becket Soule did not disappoint- he provided a book review. But you will note that Becket Soule's usual Elder report is not available- he was unfortunately affected by the hurricane in North Carolina and has been busy getting things back in order. We are grateful he was safe through the storm.

And we have posted a favourite from our Wednesday Facebook page on packing for a trip on the vessel, Mayflower. What would you have taken? Other important topics include the Officers' reports, and the Passenger Inheritance Program and the Nova Scotia Conference.

The Canadian Pilgrim is published twice yearly, in the spring and the fall, and is available to all CSMD members in good standing. If you keep your membership current, you will continue to receive it. Remember, you need to pay your dues by December 1. Since it is primarily sent electronically, please inform us if your email address changes. Changes in your regular postal address should be sent to us, too.

Submissions: We want to hear from you! I invite you to submit an article for a future publication. I especially hope to see other contributions like Bob Power's article on his ancestor Elizabeth Osborn- who happens to be my 6th great-grandmother, too. Is there a notable person in your Mayflower lineage-other than the Pilgrim? Tell us their story. Comments and suggestions for the newsletter are welcome.

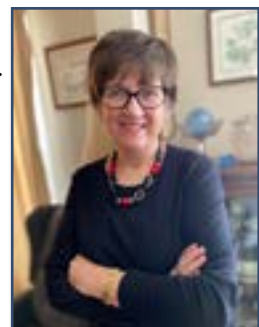
Submitted articles should preferably be Microsoft Word documents or PDFs not exceeding 1000 words in length. Photographs should be sent as 300 dpi or higher. The deadline for the Spring publication is March 31, 2025. Please email me at editor@csmd.org regarding ideas for future newsletters.

Be sure to like and follow the Society on Facebook at:
<https://www.facebook.com/canadiansocietyofmayflowerdescendants>

Keep informed via our web address: <https://csmd.org>.
Keep safe as we enter into another season of Christmas and other holiday celebrations and for most of us, winter weather.

Cheryl Anderson
Editor, CSMD

Cover photo: Plymouth Rock Monument Cheryl Anderson



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Bill Curry

From the Governor



Since last year, we've had our CSMD Membership committee meet and we've made a sub-committee for the webpage which has met a few times and is working on the "forward facing" items for our members which others will address. I had wonderful conversations with other Governors, and can say that our website is up there with the other good ones.

We continue to work with the Board of Assistants and others to come up with ways to provide more for our CSMD members. Our Facebook posts are very well read – Carol Martin, our Surgeon has produced a weekly Mayflower-themed offering that is read by hundreds of people and shared widely. We continue to give out certificates and a letter from me to all new CSMD members.

I have spent some time on our Junior Program run by the NS Colony for the CSMD, which continues to grow; we now have 3 dozen or so Junior members. I would remind people that the cost is very low to enrol Juniors under 18 in the CSMD Junior plan. The details of the program are on our website.

I attended the NS Colony conference and AGM in Middleton, NS this past September – it was well attended, and we had a great two days of discussion and friendship.

I am writing a piece (see in this issue) about our first member to achieve the obtaining of Mayflower ancestors' certificates from the GSMD via the Passenger Inheritance Program. My brother Bob got the additional 6 lines I had proven, via the PIP, so he had to pay Plymouth the one-time fee plus a small fee for each certificate. He now has the same 7 proven lines that I do (and which I spent more than a decade proving!). His certificates came directly from Plymouth and the GSMD, so the CSMD really didn't have much to do with this, except make people aware of the opportunity this gives to current members.

2024 was an interesting year, 2025 should also be interesting as well, and our Mayflower activities can be a large part of that.

Cheers,
Bill

Bill Curry
Governor, CSMD





New CSMD Members

Kimberly Jean Davis Campbell (ON)	<i>Stephen Hopkins</i>
Robert Edwin Skaftfeld (SK)	<i>William Brewster</i>
Rev. Michael Richard Denney (ME Dual Member)	<i>William Brewster</i>
Rebecca Lynn Taplin (ME Dual Member)	<i>Richard Moore</i>
Michael Coyne (NB)	<i>George Soule</i>
Donna Koning (SK)	<i>John Cooke</i>
Sharon Boone (BC)	<i>Francis Cooke</i>
Eleanor Bulger (PE)	<i>Francis Cooke</i>
Tarra Hopkins (ON)	<i>Stephen Hopkins</i>
Marissa Wallace (ON)	<i>Francis Cooke</i>
Valrie Foote (AB)	<i>Stephen Hopkins</i>

Supplementals

Craig Sheldon Rogers (BC)	<i>William Bradford</i>
Craig Sheldon Rogers (BC)	<i>Francis Cooke</i>
Patricia Bruce (NS)	<i>Stephen Hopkins</i>
Burnley Nickerson (ON)	<i>John Howland</i>

Silver Supplementals

Jody Barbara Smith Champlin (MA)	<i>William Brewster</i>
Paul Roney (ON)	<i>Constance Hopkins</i>
Paul Roney (ON)	<i>Mary Brewster</i>
John Goudey (ON)	<i>John Billington</i>
John Goudey (ON)	<i>Francis Eaton</i>
John Goudey (ON)	<i>Samuel Fuller</i>

****Robert Curry (MA) inherited six lineages from his brother Governor William Curry under the GSMD Passenger Inheritance Program for Isaac Allerton, John Billington, William Brewster, Stephen Hopkins, Elizabeth Tilley, and Richard Warren**



John Noble
Historian CSMD

NECROLOGY



The Canadian Society
extends sincere sympathy to
the families of:

Janice Ellen Fochuk Ottawa, ON November 2, 2023	Harvey Hatch Vancouver, BC May 6, 2024
Kenneth W.L. Wright Aylmer, ON November 12, 2023	Douglas Arthur Clark Toronto, ON July 7, 2024
Ross Stuart Andrews North Vancouver, BC February 3, 2024	Joyce Aletia Cutler Oakville, ON August 9, 2024

SHOW YOUR PILGRIM PRIDE!



These handsome lapel pins featuring the armorial bearings of the Canadian Society of Mayflower Descendants are now available to members for \$15.00, which includes shipping & handling. The symbolism for the arms is as follows:

Arms: The red and white are the colours of Canada. The ship represents the English ship Mayflower which transported Pilgrims to New England

in 1620. The scallop shells are the traditional symbol of Pilgrims.

Crest: The Canada jay represents the Canadian identity of the Society. The boulder represents Plymouth Rock, the traditional landing spot in Massachusetts of the Pilgrims from England in 1620.

Motto: While being a pun on the name Mayflower, the motto also evokes a hope of growth of the Society.

To place an order, cheques should be made payable to Canadian Society of Mayflower Descendants and sent to CSMD Treasurer, 3455 Highway #1, Port Maitland, NS B5A 5T6; e-transfers may be sent to treasurer@csmd.org (please remember to include your name and address) and PayPal payments using the "Pay Now" button at the bottom of the Membership page of the CSMD website page (<https://csmd.org/membership/>).

REMEMBERING

Joyce Cutler



Joyce Cutler, the 9th Governor of the Canadian Society of Mayflower Descendants passed away at Oakville, Ontario 9 August 2024.

Joyce joined the Canadian Mayflower Society in 1996, through her descent to John Billington. It didn't take long before she volunteered to join the Board of Assistants (1997) and thus began almost twenty years of service as librarian (1998-2010), Deputy Governor (2001-2003) and Governor (2003-2012). For many years Joyce served as DGG or AG, representing Canada at General Society meetings. Putting her artistic background to work, Joyce designed our society's first pin, with a depiction of the ship Mayflower, which was also on the masthead of our newsletter Canadian Pilgrim for many years. We got to know daughter Carole and granddaughters Andrea and Ashley at our annual Mayflower meetings in Toronto as they handled our raffle and sales table.

Joyce had a passion for family history and genealogy. When I was planning my research trips to New England back in the '90's, all I had to do was mention it – and she was in! We travelled together for many years, trudging in and out of cemeteries (our favorite spots) as well as libraries and court houses. We came close to running out of gas many times when we were in the middle of nowhere looking for a cemetery, we just knew had to be close by. We climbed over many fences and metal gates to get into cemeteries and I pushed her butt up more than one stone wall! Once in Stonington, Connecticut we were elated that we had found the cemetery, but to temper our excitement her car (a red Mustang!) wouldn't start. We were in the midst of a hurricane once in Plymouth, Massachusetts; the entire town was closing at noon so we ran out and bought two flashlights and sandwiches. We reasoned that if the power went out, we would at least have light to work on (what else?) - our family research. In between researching there was shopping – lots of shopping – we never passed a Christmas Tree Shop in Massachusetts without going in. Joyce was a lovely person; she was fun to travel with and game for anything. We had some amazing times together that I will always cherish.

My heartfelt sympathy goes out to son John Heeney and daughter Kathleen Merkel; and her eight grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren. She is predeceased by

sons Michael Heeney (2020) and Daniel Heeney (2021); daughter Carole Cormier (2022); and husbands John Heeney and Murray Cutler, with whom she co-published Old Autos Newspaper. Joyce was so proud of her family!



Susan E. Roser
Member-at-Large CSMD



The Passenger Inheritance Program

The Passenger Inheritance Program (PIP) is an opportunity for Mayflower Society members to “inherit” ancestors from their sibling, parent or grandparent OR from their child or grandchild without completing a formal application. And – here’s the best part – each PIP is a flat fee, regardless of how many ancestors are available to inherit. The General Society has put the program in place to make it easier to approve supplemental applications from within the same immediate family.

The Canadian Society of Mayflower Descendants has already had our first person take advantage of this – Governor Bill Curry’s brother Bob Curry inherited the other 6 proven lines Gov. Bill had done over the last 10 years.

In order to take advantage of this program, you need to already be a member of the GSMD, in our case via membership in the CSMD, and you can then “inherit” the proven lines from your sibling, parent or grandparent by paying one flat fee to the GSMD in Plymouth, plus a small fee if you want each line recognized with a GSMD certificate.

Learn more about eligibility and “inherited ancestors” today!

The details:

Both the beneficiary [the person receiving the inherited ancestor(s)] and the benefactor (the person who had the lineages approved) must be previously approved, regular (adult) members. Unless, of course, the benefactor is deceased.

1. For \$150, a beneficiary may inherit an unlimited number of ancestors, provided the line has never been rejected.
2. A member may only inherit from one relative per PIP application. So, if each of your grandparents has proven lineage to passenger ancestors, you may complete a PIP going through each grandparent, but not one PIP application for both. The PIP is per family line.
3. The beneficiary may purchase ancestor bars from the GSMD website for each inherited ancestor after successfully completing the PIP process. Notification of approval will occur via email directly to the beneficiary.
4. A certificate may be purchased for each inherited ancestor for \$10 each. These certificates will be generated from and mailed by GSMD; Member Societies are not responsible for creating or distributing certificates for inherited ancestors.
5. Inherited ancestors will be attributed to a member’s official membership file. Recognition of the lineage to inherited passenger ancestors will be via email to both the beneficiary and his/her Member Society Historian.
6. No traditional application is created or verified.
7. Either the benefactor or the beneficiary may initiate the PIP process.
8. The benefactor need not be living; however, the beneficiary must be and must have at least one proven lineage through GSMD. No inheritances may be granted posthumously.
9. No rejected or “on hold” lines may be inherited. If a line is rejected after the inheritance has been completed, the beneficiary may retain their certificate or ancestor bar, if purchased.
10. Inherited passengers are not eligible to be inherited by future generations. For example, you may

inherit passenger ancestors from your grandparent, but your children or grandchildren may not inherit those same ancestors from you. Instead, regular supplemental applications will be required for previously inherited ancestors.



Full details and an online order form can be found under the Members Only tab of The Mayflower Society website. You must be signed into website to access this section. See TheMayflowerSociety.org

Bill Curry
Governor, CSMD

Historian's Report

Since the last AGM a total of 13 new member certificates, 10 Supplemental certificates and 10 Silver Supplemental certificates have been approved by Plymouth. That is a decrease by 16 compared to the number of new certificates issued in 2023. We have also welcomed two new dual members and another member on transfer from the Maine Society, including Rev Michael Denny, the GSMD Elder General. The processing time in Plymouth for new applications and supplementals is about three months. Silver Supplementals, which do not involve any supporting documentation, are usually processed in less than two weeks and sometimes in less than a week.

New applications across Member Societies for the first seven months of 2024 received in Plymouth were down by 18 percent. The number of Supplementals and Silver Supplemental application received by GSMD in the same period was down by 28 percent. That has resulted in a considerable loss of revenue which forced GSMD to reduce a certain number of staff in the Research Center and other parts of its Plymouth operations. One of the positions cut meant that Plymouth is no longer looking for previously approved applications that might best match a new application. Rather responsibility for that has been downloaded to the Member Societies. Co-Historian Dave Bradley, who is also Historian of the NS Colony, now has access to Plymouth's entire Vault of previously approved applications as well as a new database of approved applications, to enable him to identify previously approved applications relevant to a new application.

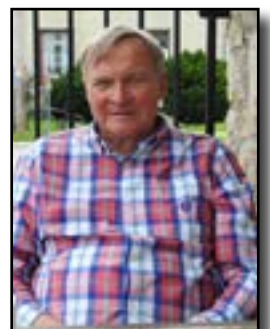
With my agreement, Judi Archibald has continued working on several long-standing applications and has completed several of them. Thank you, Judi.

The Board of Assistants agreed to a proposal by Elaine Senack that it sponsor a brick for the Historian Walkway in Plymouth to honour Judi Archibald's service as CSMD Historian. The brick has been ordered and will be engraved "Judith Archibald CSMD Historian 2015 -2021". There is already a brick in the Historian Walkway in honour of Susan E. Roser CSMD Historian 1993 – 2015.

The BoA agreed to purchase a new set of Silver Books for Dave Bradley's use, since the set Judi Archibald used was on loan from someone else. The cost of a full set of Silver Books (38 volumes) is \$1460.10 USD which includes a 30% discount Plymouth offers to anyone who purchases a full set. The new set will remain the property of CSMD and was recently delivered to Dave.

I want to thank all other members of the Historian Team for their on-going commitment and sharing the workload: Co-Historian Elaine Senack, Co-Historian Dave Bradley and First Contact Margaret Dougherty. Without them I would be snowed under! As First Contact, Margaret explains the process to people who make enquiries and follows up with them in obtaining an initial application worksheet, before passing the file on to Dave Bradley. Dave verifies the line and adds information from previous applications before we decide on who will work with the applicant, Elaine, Dave or myself. So far it has worked well.

John Noble
Historian CSMD



Membership Dues

The annual assessment which GSMD charges for each CSMD Member remains at \$35 USD. That is included in your CSMD annual dues which remain at \$75 CDN. Dues are payable by 1 December 2024 and notices have been sent to all Members in mid-October.

Membership dues may be paid by PayPal, using any credit card, by clicking the button “Pay Now” at the bottom of the CSMD Membership page of our website (<https://csmd.org/membership/>) or by e-transfer from your Canadian bank account to treasurer@csmd.org.

You do not have to create a Pay Pal account, simply click “continue as guest”, and for payments from members in the United States or elsewhere outside Canada you can choose payment in Canadian dollars for which PayPal will automatically calculate the exchange rate and charge your credit card accordingly.



Please email the Treasurer at treasurer@csmd.org if you have any questions. Payment may also be made by cheque, made payable to “Canadian Society of Mayflower Descendants” and sent to the CSMD Treasurer, 34 Ballantrae Rd, Stouffville, ON L4A 1M5. Cheques from US banks are accepted if payable in US Dollars. Please consult the Treasurer to obtain the exchange rate.

Bob Power
Treasurer CSMD

New CSMD Certificate

Members wishing to order the new CSMD Member's Certificate (shown above) which costs \$5 for Members in Canada and \$10 for Members outside Canada should remit the fee by PayPal, using any credit card, by clicking the button “Pay Now” on the CSMD website (<https://csmd.org/membership/>) or by e-transfer from your Canadian bank account to treasurer@csmd.org.

The fee can also be paid by cheque payable to Canadian Society of Mayflower Descendants and mailed to the Treasurer, 34 Ballantrae Rd, Stouffville, ON L4A 1M5. Cheques drawn on US banks must be payable in US dollars. If you wish to use that option, please contact the Treasurer for the correct exchange rate.



2024 Nova Scotia Colony Conference

The Nova Scotia Colony of Mayflower Descendants held its Annual Conference and AGM on September 20th & 21st in Middleton, Nova Scotia.

The conference began on Friday night with registration and a reception, allowing members and guests to reconnect with old friends from across the province, enjoy refreshments, and view display tables organized by various individuals and historical societies.

The programmed portion of the weekend began with an official welcome given by our Regent Cheryl Anderson, followed by three short presentations that we like to call "Our Mayflower Ancestors", where selected colony members provide a brief history of their proven Mayflower ancestor. This year, Deborah Trask, Janet Eisses, and Barry Frame discussed their ancestors Richard More, Richard Warren, and John Alden respectively. Each presenter brought a unique perspective to the topic and were encouraged to tell the story of how they personally became interested in the Mayflower Society.

To end the evening, our gathering was treated to a musical performance by a choral group under the direction of Bill Perrot. The singers, including colony member Peter Fillmore among others, entertained us with a variety of musical pieces dating back to the era of the

Plymouth Colony.

Our theme for Saturday was the use of DNA testing in proving family connections. The morning began with a presentation by Bobbi Jo Atkinson and Debbie Mader, two devoted community volunteers who work with the Shelburne Genealogical Archives. Bobbi Jo and Debbie walked us through a real-world example of how they were able to use DNA testing to find missing connections for a friend who never knew the identity of her biological father.

Our second presenter on Saturday was Gary Bennett, the first member of the Canadian Society of Mayflower Descendants to successfully prove a line through the new CSMD DNA Policy. Although Gary had previously proven many Mayflower lines on his mother's side, he was determined to prove a line through his biological father. Gary regaled us with the story of how he grew up as an adopted child not knowing the identity of his biological family, and how he discovered the identity of his father through the use of DNA, and eventually proved a line back to his Mayflower ancestor despite the complete lack of documentation linking him to his father.

Later in the afternoon, Bill Curry, Governor of the CSMD, gave a talk on the science behind DNA testing, the

differences between the various commercially available test kits, and how best to use the results for finding out more about your ancestry.

During the conference proceedings, Membership Certificates were presented to the people whose applications were approved over the last 12 months.

The AGM portion of the weekend conference was held Saturday afternoon. On the program this year was the election of the colony's officers and board of directors for a two-year term. People assuming new positions for the coming term are Barry Frame as Regent, Janet Eisses as Vice-Regent, and Jill Mattinson as Treasurer. Other members of the board were re-elected to their existing roles, with of course Cheryl Anderson assuming the position of Past Regent.

Leaving the board of directors are Gary and Judi Archibald. Both Gary and Judi were recognized for their longtime support of the Nova Scotia Colony. Gary has been for a long time our colony treasurer (as well as conference Emcee) and Judi has worked wonders for years as our colony historian and CSMD co-historian.

Next year's conference will take place on September 19th and 20th in Yarmouth, so mark the dates on your calendar now and we hope to see you there!



Barry Frame
Regent NS Colony

SALT



The Elemental Key to Flavour, Health and Survival

SALT comes from dead, dried-up oceans or living ones. It can bubble to the surface as brine or crop out in the form of salt licks and shallow caverns. It can be evaporated from salt “pans”, boiled down from brine, or mined, as it often is today, from shafts extending half a mile down.

Common salt (NaCl - sodium chloride), is a substance almost too ordinary to think about yet it is the oldest of our raw materials. As far back as 6050 BCE, salt has been an integral part of the world’s history and has been interwoven into the folklore of countless civilizations.



- The word, “salt”, comes from sal, the Latin for salt. The word “salary” is derived from the Latin word, salarium, indicating an individual Roman soldier’s “salt money”. Salt was essential for an army on the march because it was needed for preservation and flavouring of meat etc. Hence to be “worth your salt”, means to be worthy of the payment of salt money in terms of value

for your service.

- The word “salad” also originated from sal, and began with the early Romans salting their leafy greens and vegetables.
- The phrase, “salt of the earth” has its origins in the Bible, Jesus having said the following in his Sermon on the Mount: Ye are the salt of the earth... (Matthew 5:13).
- The phrase to “take something with a grain of salt” is thought to come from Pliny the Elder's Naturalis Historia, regarding the discovery of a recipe written by the Pontic King Mithridates to make someone immune to poison. One of the ingredients in the recipe was a grain of salt.
- During the Middle Ages, the ancient sanctity of salt slid toward superstition. The spilling of salt was considered an ominous portent of doom. (In Leonardo da Vinci’s painting The Last Supper, the scowling Judas is shown with an overturned salt cellar in front of him.) After spilling salt, the spiller had to cast a pinch of it over his left shoulder, a place thought to be sinister where evil spirits would tend to congregate.



- Also from medieval Europe, the salt cellar indicated the status of the diners: those seated “above the salt” (near the end of the table where the host and hostess sat) were the guests of honour. Children and less important guests sat in the middle or at the other end of the table, or “below the salt.”



Salt Crystals (NaCl)



Rock Salt

photos courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

Before the discovery of the national salt reserves in Cheshire, England, the British Empire was relying on so much salt from the colonies in the Caribbean for the preservation of fish and the manufacturing of fur that the leading cargo carried to North America — more tonnage than sugar, molasses, and rum — was salt.

Salt played a crucial role in the survival and success of the Plymouth Colony pilgrims in the 1600s. It was essential for preserving food, especially meat and fish, in the era before refrigeration. The pilgrims needed salt to survive the harsh

winters and ensure a steady food supply. At many colonial dinner tables, the salt cellar, or “standing salt,” served as a centerpiece.

The pilgrims arrived in Plymouth in 1620 with limited supplies, including salt. They struggled to preserve food, leading to food shortages and malnutrition. Salt was exceedingly heavy and expensive to keep shipping from England - the pilgrims had to find a way to produce their own. So, in 1623, the pilgrims established a saltworks in Plymouth, where they produced salt through the solar evaporation of seawater. This innovation helped them preserve food and engage in trade with neighbouring colonies. The saltworks was likely located near the Plymouth Harbor, where seawater could easily be accessed. The pilgrims used a simple evaporation process, where seawater was collected in shallow pools and left to evaporate under the sun, leaving behind salt crystals. This saltworks was one of the first in the American colonies, making Plymouth a hub for salt production.

Captain John Smith, best known for his critical role in the development of the English colony at Jamestown and his rescue by Pocahontas from execution at the hands of Chief Powhatan, was no stranger to New England. In fact, he gave that name to the region. In 1624, Captain Smith wrote an account entitled, “The present estate of the plantation at New-Plimoth”. This excerpt mentions the saltworks:

At New-Plimoth there is about 180 persons, some cattle and goats, but many swine and poultry, 32 dwelling houses, whereof 7 were burnt the last winter, and the value of five hundred pounds in other goods;

the Town is impaled about half a mile in compass. In the town upon a high Mount they have a fort well built with wood, loam and stone, where is planted their Ordnance: Also a fair Watch-tower, partly framed, for the Sentinel . . . they have made a saltwork, and with that salt preserve the fish they take, and this year hath fraughted [filled] a ship of 180 tons.

Salt became a vital trade item, exchanged for goods like furs, tools, and grains. The pilgrims’ control of salt production helped establish them as key players in regional commerce. Access to salt enabled them to settle and thrive in the area. It contributed to the growth and stability of the Plymouth Colony, allowing them to expand their settlements and develop a more sustainable food system. It’s an often-overlooked aspect of their story, but one that highlights their resourcefulness and ingenuity.



Most people probably think of salt as simply that white granular seasoning found in saltshakers on virtually every dining table. It is surely that, but it is far more. It is an essential element in the diet of not only humans but of animals, and even of many plants. It is one of the most effective and most widely used of all food preservatives. Its industrial and other uses are innumerable.

Humans evolved on a low-sodium diet of just of 200-600 milligrams/day. Our bodies retain sodium while discarding potassium, which was more available in the environment. Consuming too much sodium increases the risk of hypertension, kidney disease, heart attacks and other health problems. Today the American Heart Association recommends consuming no more than 2,300 milligrams/day, but Americans on average consume one third more than that amount.

If the importance of a food to a society can be measured by the allusions to it in language and literature, then the significance of salt is virtually unrivaled. Nearly four pages of the Oxford English Dictionary are taken up by references to salt — more than that of any other food. Indeed, there can be no doubt that salt has seasoned history itself.



Submitted by
Dr. Carol A. L. Martin
CSMD Ship's Surgeon

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A Mayflower Legacy: Elizabeth Osborn's Enduring Impact on Nova Scotia

On a small copper plaque, embedded in a large rock, outside the Old Meeting House in Barrington, Nova Scotia, is a memorial to my 6th great-grandmother Elizabeth Osborn Myrick Paine, wife of Edmund Doane. Erected in 1912 — 114 years after her death — during a Doane family reunion, it is a testament to a woman through whom many Nova Scotians can trace their Mayflower lineage.

Though this solid tribute is significant — especially for a woman of the 1700s — it falls short of capturing Elizabeth's true impact on the people of Southwestern Nova Scotia. Elizabeth's story is one of love, loss, resilience, and an enduring commitment to her community.

Born in 1715, Elizabeth Osborn came from a distinguished New England family. Her father, Rev. Samuel Osborn, was a schoolteacher and pastor, while her mother, Jedidah Smith, was descended from Governor Thomas Mayhew, the early grantee and governor of

Martha's Vineyard. Though not a Mayflower descendant herself, Elizabeth's family ties ran deep in the history of the region. Elizabeth received an education that was rare for girls of her time. She was taught not only in school but also by her father, who valued education deeply. Her brother, John, attended Harvard, and became a successful doctor and poet.

Elizabeth married Captain William Merrick/Myrick in 1733, a seafaring man 10 years her senior, their marriage producing three children. But the life of a sailor's wife brought hardship. In 1742, William died at sea, leaving Elizabeth widowed at just 27, with her youngest child born after her husband's death. As if this loss were not enough, her mother passed away the following year, compounding her grief. In an era where widowed women faced bleak prospects, Elizabeth's intelligence and determination saw her named the administrator of her husband's estate — a rare occurrence. This secured her family's future, but she faced the monumental task of raising three young children alone.

Elizabeth found companionship again with William Paine, a wealthy merchant, magistrate, and Mayflower descendant. A funny childhood encounter with William may have foreshadowed this connection. They married in 1745, but her brief reprieve from hardship was shattered once more. Paine was killed in 1746 during the Siege of Louisbourg in Nova Scotia. Elizabeth was widowed again, this time with another newborn son. Despite the promise of stability through her marriage to Paine, the reality was that his estate was declared insolvent. Elizabeth's survival and perseverance through these losses underscore her strength. Each tragedy forced her to rely on her intelligence and resourcefulness to provide for her family.

After two marriages and the births of four children, Elizabeth finally accepted the proposal of her childhood sweetheart, Edmund Doane. At 33, Elizabeth married the man she had loved as a girl, and they went on to have seven more children together. In 1761, the couple made the bold decision to leave Massachusetts and head to Nova Scotia. General Charles Lawrence had offered New Englanders land in Barrington, after the expulsion of the Acadians and the Doane family embarked on what would become an arduous and dangerous journey. Edwin Crowell recounts that the Doanes' initial voyage was disrupted by storms, resulting in the loss of their supplies and forcing them to winter in Liverpool, Nova Scotia. It was a particularly harsh winter, with famine and illness rampant.

Yet, in this bleak setting, Elizabeth emerged as a beacon of hope. Nova Scotia diarist Francis F. Tupper wrote of Elizabeth's selfless care during that terrible winter. When sickness spread and food was scarce, Elizabeth tended to the sick, especially

pregnant women, saving many from certain death. Her knowledge of midwifery and medicinal herbs became invaluable to the struggling community. Tupper credited Elizabeth's care with saving countless lives during that dire winter.

When the Doanes finally settled in Barrington in 1762, Elizabeth continued her work as a healer and midwife. The harsh conditions and lack of medical resources made her skills essential. The Doane family built the first frame house in the area and established a store and tavern, becoming cornerstones of the fledgling settlement. Yet, life in Barrington was far from easy, and the town's poverty meant there was little cash to pay for goods.

Despite these challenges, Elizabeth remained devoted to her work. Her contributions as the town's healer did not go unnoticed. By 1770, when Edmund sold their property with plans to return to New England, Elizabeth's departure threatened to leave a void in the community. Women of the town, for whom Elizabeth had been a literal lifeline, convinced her to petition for land to remain in Barrington. Thirty-eight men signed the petition, undoubtedly influenced by their wives who had benefitted from Elizabeth's care.

The petition was successful, and Elizabeth stayed in Barrington, continuing to deliver babies and tend to the sick well into her later years. As she aged, when she could no longer travel on foot, she was carried in a basket by two men to tend to her patients. Her knowledge of herbal medicine, passed down through family and study, became legendary.

1975 Sketch of Granny Doane by artist John Smith – Copy available at Cape Sable Historical Society.



Today, her pestle and herb book 'The English Physician' are displayed in the Barrington Museum as relics of her lasting legacy.

Elizabeth Osborn Doane passed away on May 24, 1798, in Barrington, after a life dedicated to her family and community. Though her descendants erected a plaque to commemorate her life, they did so under the shadow of her grandson, John Howard Payne, the author of the famous song "Home Sweet Home." While Payne's achievements are notable, they should not overshadow the immense impact Elizabeth had on the people of Nova Scotia. Her resilience through loss, her determination to provide for her family, and her service to a struggling community make her a woman worth remembering.



As long as her story is told, Elizabeth Osborn's legacy will live on. She may have lived in a time when women were footnotes to history, but her contributions stand as a testament to the strength of the women who built and sustained communities in early North America. And, as the saying goes, "People die twice — once when they leave this earth and again the last time someone says their name." Elizabeth Osborn will never die that second death, as long as we continue to remember her.

This article is a condensed version of Bob's recent blog

which can be found at:

<https://polynose.com/2024/03/26/week-9-changing-names-uber-basket-service-home-sweet-home/>

Bob Power

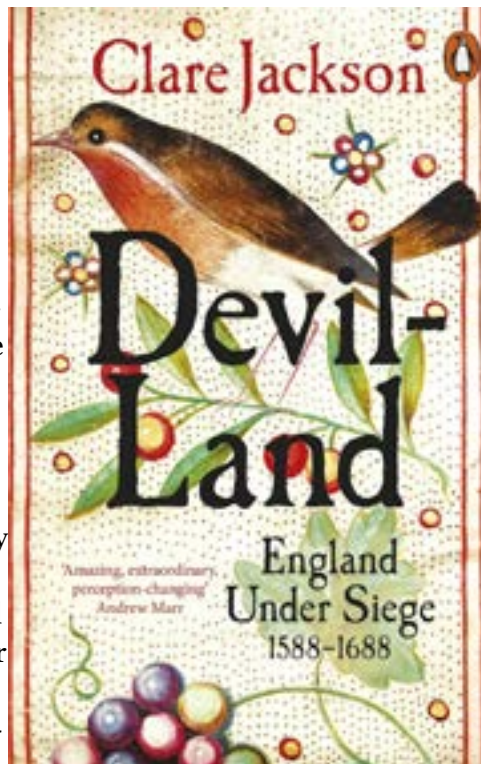
Treasurer, CSMD

Book Review

Devil-Land: England under siege

Clare Jackson, *Devil-Land: England under siege, 1588–1688*. London: Allen Lane, 2021. 704 pp. isbn: 978-0241285817 (hardback), £35; 978-0141984575 (paperback), £16.99. Winner of the Wolfson History Prize 2022. Available from Amazon.ca, barnesandnoble.com, and other online retailers.

Histories of the Pilgrims and Separatists tend to be enormously nearsighted: few works detail what was happening in England after 1621, and when the first settlers arrived in the Great Migration in the 1630s, it is almost as if they materialised out of a vacuum – and when the Great Migration ended, rather abruptly, in 1640, this also is portrayed as a puzzling glitch. While there is certainly no lack of historical works on the England of the seventeenth century – as my dissertation director told me over forty years ago, “You are just going to have to go to England: they still fight about this stuff over there” – there are precious few works that could tell us how the Pilgrims in particular, or even the English in general, were seen in the rest of Europe. Rarely is the British backstory of the Pilgrims presented, other than as a chronicle of persecution; almost never is



this put in a European context. Clare Jackson's huge volume is a narrative of English history from the execution of Mary, Queen of Scots in 1587, to the Glorious Revolution, with an epilogue taking the story to the death of Queen Anne in 1714. What makes this work most interesting, and valuable, is that it is based mostly on the observations of foreigners, including Scots, with some domestic commentaries; the common theme of the book is how baffling, disturbing, volatile and unpredictable outsiders found the English politics of the period. An extreme illustration of this is summed up by the quotation which provides the title of the whole work, from a Dutch pamphleteer in 1652, who suggested the famous Latin pun that twinned Anglorum (English) with angelorum (angelic) should be reversed, to dub England “Devil-land”. These

judgements are delivered pell-mell through the course of a very long and dense volume, which doubles as an account of English foreign policy in the age. A reader is left to identify those aspects of this selection that provide any new information or perspectives. This one would suggest the following to be especially noteworthy.

First, Devil-land acts as a valuable reminder of how wide the horizons of the Stuarts themselves were. Even in the early part of the period, James I's queen, Anne, wrote fluently in seven languages, and their daughter Elizabeth received newsletters from one agent alone written in six countries as far off as India. The vicissitudes of exile meant that Charles II knew most of western Europe before he was restored to his throne, and James II, William III and Mary II had also of course spent long periods on the Continent. Conversely, Continental Europeans were deeply interested in English affairs. In 1624, the English ambassador to The Hague complained that speeches in his own nation's Parliament "are scarcely out of men's mouths when they are here in Dutch". The Genevan theologian Theodore Beza wrote a poem to celebrate England's defeat of the Spanish Armada, which was translated into seven languages (including Spanish!).

Charles I's posthumously ghosted and published prayers and meditations, Eikon Basilike, was not merely an English bestseller, but went into seven editions -- in Dutch alone -- within a year. When Mary II died, tributes to her were printed as far off as in Leipzig and Wittenberg. This narrative reveals how English affairs could appear on the Continent. The peaceful accession of James I astonished most observers there, who were expecting a civil war. On the other hand, both they and the English themselves found James's attempts to ally with both Catholic and Protestant states, and understand and approve. Continental leaders courted England's Cromwellian Protectorate assiduously because of its military strength, but their subjects -- even the Protestant and republican Dutch, who should have had most empathy for it -- generally persisted in regarding it as a diabolical usurpation. William of Orange's invasion of England in 1688 was made possible by a single tactless speech from the French ambassador to The Hague, which convinced both the Dutch and the Holy Roman Emperor that a secret alliance existed between England and France, making a pre-emptive strike against the current English government an urgent necessity.

The appearance of such a wide-ranging study of the Stuart period testifies amply to the continuing interest of the English in their most dysfunctional century. Such an interest has tended historically to burgeon most strongly among them during periods in which they have felt particularly excited and threatened by changes in national life. The late Victorian period, during which they adjusted to the dramatic processes of democratization, religious liberalisation, urbanisation and industrialisation, was one of those, and the decades between the world wars, as the economy was stricken by recession, and democratic states seemed to be on the retreat globally, was another. So were the 1960s and 70s, as the nation shed empire, great power status, a reliance on heavy industry and a traditional social morality. It may be telling that the same interest seems to be manifesting so obviously now, as the place of England in the world, in Europe, and in its own archipelago, seems

once more to be in question.



(The Rev. Dr.)
W. Becket Soule
Elder, CSMD

MAYFLOWER OCCUPATIONS

Answers on page 15

The names of occupations were quite different than those we are used to today. See if you can match the description to the occupation. The answers are listed below.



Paul Roney
Digital Administrator,
CSMD

Occupation

1. Cordwainer
2. Fuller
3. Tanner
4. Sawyer
5. Cooper
6. Castor
7. Silkmaker throster
8. Fleshewer
9. Furner
10. Simpler

Description

- a. A male spinner
- b. An herbalist
- c. Someone who cuts wood
- d. A workman who cleans and thickens freshly woven cloth
- e. A baker
- f. A butcher
- g. A hat maker
- h. A barrel maker
- i. A shoemaker who makes new shoes from new leather
- j. Someone who makes leather from animal skins or hides

A Facebook Post Favourite

Here is a summary of some of the key items on the provision lists suggested for the Pilgrims' voyage:

Food and Drink

Biscuit (flour and water), beer, salt, (dried) beef, salt pork, oats, peas, wheat, butter, sweet oil, mustard seed, ling or cod fish, "good cheese", vinegar, aqua-vitae, rice, bacon, cider.

Clothing

Monmouth cap, falling bands, shirts, waistcoat, suit of canvas, suit of cloth, Irish stockings, 4 pairs of shoes, garters. Slippers, plain shoes, little shoes, French soles. Sewing needles.

Bedding

Canvas sheets, bolster "filled with good straw", rug and blankets.

Arms

Light armor (complete), fowling piece, snaphance, sword, belt, bandoleer, powder horn, 20 pounds of powder, 60 pounds of shot.

Household

Iron pot, kettle, frying pan, gridiron, two skillets, spit, platters, dishes, spoons of wood, napkins, towels, soap, hand mill, mortar and pestle.

Tools

Broad hoes, narrow hoes, broad axe, felling axe, steel handsaw, whipsaw, hammers, shovels, spades, augers, chisels, gimlets, hatchets, grinding stone, nails, locks for doors.

Reference:

Caleb Johnson's <http://mayflowerhistory.com>

Submitted by

Dr. Carol A. L. Martin

Surgeon, CSMD



*A seventeenth century militiaman ready to fire his matchlock.
From Jacques de Gheyn, Maniement d'Armes, 1608.*



*From Walter Bith,
The English Improver Improved, 1653*

MAYFLOWER OCCUPATIONS ANSWER FROM PAGE 14

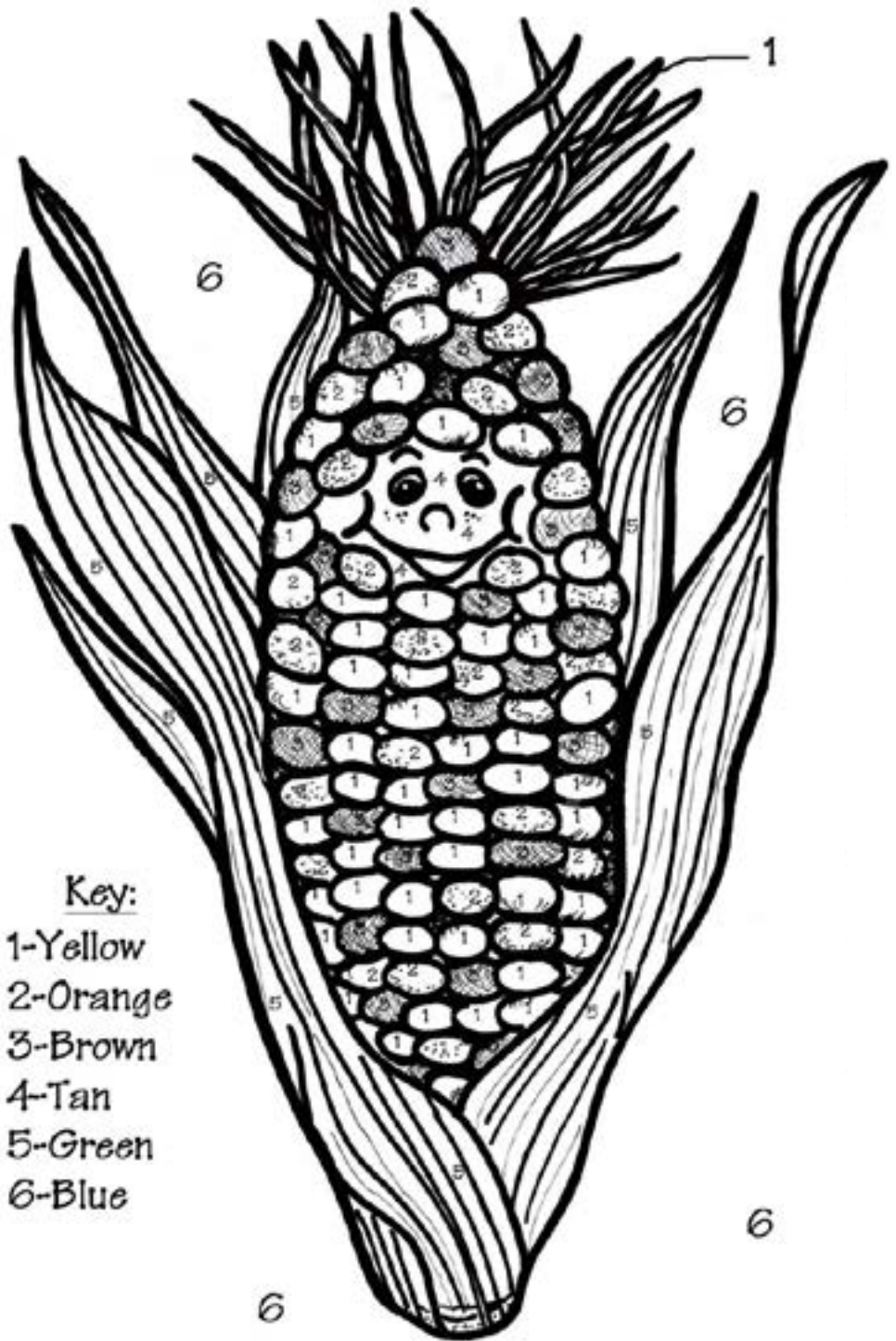
q-01 'e-6 j-8 'a-7 's-9 'u-5 'c-4 'i-3 'd-2 't-1

Juniors' Activities

Read the article that tells us what the Pilgrims were told to bring to their new homes. Maybe someone in your home would read it with you. Imagine that you are moving far away to a new home -just like our Pilgrim ancestors did long ago. You are allowed to take 9 items with you to your new home in a new country. Each one begins with a letter of the ship's name. What will you pack?

M
A
Y
F
L
O
W
E
R

I'd like to see your list.
Ask if you can email it to me
at editor@csmd.org



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