

The Missouri Compact

Newsletter of the Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Missouri

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September A. D. 2020

From the Governor's Quill

As I write this, it would have been the week that many *Mayflower* descendants would have been celebrating in Plymouth, Massachusetts. However, the weather here in Missouri is very pleasant and fall-like, so no reason to dwell on what we're missing!

The sad news of the passing of past Governor James Shoemaker was a blow to our organization. We are moving forward with his vision with the help of his daughter, Kate, to have his music performed at our Mayflower Compact Luncheon. Kate is working with the Landolfi String Quartet to produce a CD of his musical composition. We hope to have a big turnout with the ballroom suited to social distancing as well.



Gov. Sumner Hunnewell

Marietta Boenker of our nominating committee has worked diligently to come up with a slate for the 2020-2022 term, which we will hold to elect at our September business meeting:

Governor: Sumner Hunnewell

Deputy Governor, Counselor: Vicki Smith

Recording Secretary: Ann McReynolds

Corresponding Secretary: Julia Jackson

Treasurer: Joan Gooding

Historian: Damon Hayward

Elder, Captain: Fred Evermon

Surgeon: Pamela Zink

Assistants: Marietta Boenker, Sandra Walker, Don Palmer,

Terri Hardy, Christy Scott, Dustin Peetz

AG: Vicki Smith

DGG: Lei Ruckle-Ausman

On December 21st, we'll have an on-line meeting to toast our ancestors as done by the Old Colony Club of 1769. See you then!

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Oldies but Goodies

NEHGR



The New England Historic Genealogical Society has been stalwart in genealogical research for over 150 years now. Its journal, the *New England Historic Genealogical Register* (NEHGR), is indispensable for any research into deep New England roots. The very first year of its publication (1847), shows just how important the history of the *Mayflower* was at that time. As an example, the frontispiece of the first issue is Schoff's engraving of Brown's "The Landing of Pilgrims at Plymouth 11th Dec. 1620."

An article and chart of the *Mayflower* passengers by the esteemed Nathaniel Bradstreet Shurtleff determines that there were 101, based on the available documentation at the time (only notes from Bradford's journal were available). They also published an inventory of books in possession of Miles Standish.

One of the more fascinating articles is on the foundation of the "Old Colony Club" and "The Pilgrim Society." The former was established in 1769 at Plymouth and celebrated the "Landing of the Forefathers" with a feast on December 22 of that year. Four years later, the club was dissolved due to conflicts among the membership about the simmering rebellion. 50 years after the formation of the Old Colony Club, the "Old Colony Pilgrim Society" established itself, was incorporated in 1820 as the "Pilgrim Society," and followed with a celebration on December 22. As of 1847 the Society was still going strong. (The original records of the Old Colony Club were published by the Massachusetts Historical Society in 1887.)

Finally, there is a notice about a *Bible* owned by "the widow Lucy Waters" of Sharon, Massachusetts, purported to have come over on the *Mayflower*. There is a transcription of Bradford family information from the 1700s found therein.





The Courtship of Miles Standish

“Why don’t you speak your mind, John?” is one of those phrases with which you are familiar like “Barkus is willin’.” You either know it or not! The first quote comes from Longfellow’s “The Courtship of Miles Standish.” In 1903 the Bobbs-Merrill Company received permission from Houghton Mifflin to publish the poem in a gift edition.

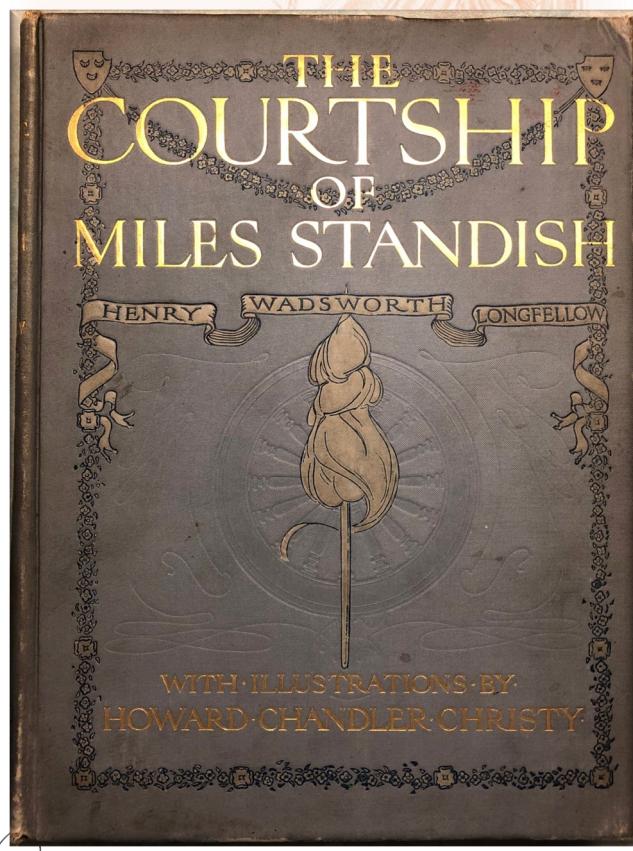
The book certainly is worth having. Illustrated by Howard Chandler Christy, you are treated with over 40 illustrations (ten in color). Christy was a illustrator and you might be familiar with some of his World War I poster work, such as “[GEE!! I wish I were a man. I'd join the Navy.](#)” One of his pieces hangs in The White House.

The book designers have made each page an enjoyable experience, whether it is the thick glossy pages or the subdued underlay of ink designs. Almost every

page or facing page has an illustration or design.

The poem holds up very well. Like Hawthorne, Longfellow takes liberties with historical characters and situations to tell a timeless story. The subjects need not have been the Pilgrims, but this certainly was an American touchstone within 19th century culture. It is obvious that Longfellow was well schooled in Pilgrim lore. Our pious Calvinist ancestors certainly would have understood all of the Biblical references and undercurrent of the poem, but I’m not sure whether the allusions would make sense to most people today (it certainly would have been lost on me in my youth).

The book is available at [archive.org](#), but there is nothing like the look, feel, and smell of a well-produced book! Copies can be found on the secondary market . . . A must for all Alden descendants.



Stephen Hopkins

Jamestown lessons brought to New Plymouth

Stephen Hopkins is one of those rare individuals in the world of hereditary societies that makes one eligible for many different groups. Two of the more prestigious are namely the General Society of Mayflower Descendants (1897) and the Jamestowne Society (1936).

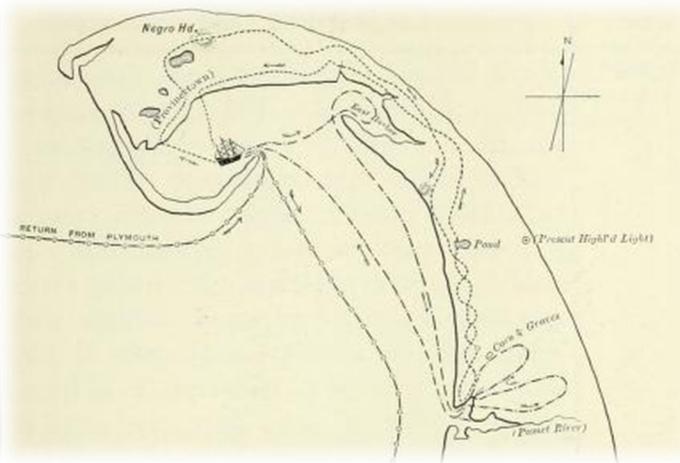
Hopkins arrived at Jamestown on the *Sea Venture* in 1610, after having been shipwrecked in Bermuda. He returned to England and, due to his experience in the New World, he was considered an ideal settler. Twice the *Mayflower* returned to England after its sister ship, *Speedwell*, was considered unsafe for the passage. Hopkins and his family could have stayed behind as others did. His wife, Elizabeth, was pregnant, after all, and he had his children to think of as well as two servants.

In 1620, the *Mayflower* was no better at finding its planned settlement than the *Sea Venture*. Planning to settle along the Hudson River Valley, the Captain was evidently in cahoots with the Dutch, thereby landing at Cape Cod. An effort to get around Cape Cod with the ship was aborted, so they made the best of it where they were.

Hopkins was nearly hanged in Bermuda for suggesting that those stranded there should jettison their decision to continue to Virginia and instead settle there. Here he found himself in a similar situation in a land outside of the patent given by King James. In order to prevent anarchy, the Mayflower Compact was created and signed by men of age. This formed the passengers “into a civill body politike” to which they were all bound.

Although Hopkins (like many others) was involved in many of the events during their initial landing, there are a few where he was mentioned by name. His advice and expertise with native populations was relied upon more than once.

In order to explore the area (and fish), a shallop was brought on board the *Mayflower*. This small boat, battered by the journey, required the shipwright time to mend it. However, after two months at sea and a week after sitting in the harbor at modern day Provincetown, the men were getting antsy. It was “rather permitted then [than] approved” to allow 16 men to set out on November 15 (Old Style) with Capt. Miles Standish, under the advisement of William Bradford, Stephen Hopkins, and Edward Tilley. It was a two-day venture into



the country, where they tracked natives to no avail and drank "our first New-England water with as much delight as euer we drunke drinke in all our liues." They found graves and an old make-shift European fort. Also, they discovered and dug up Indian corn, which would help them survive the winter. Hopkins also recognized a native deer trap. Bradford, at the rear of the company, curiously inspected it only to have the trap spring: a rope wrapped around his leg and hoisted him into the air.

It was getting late in the year and with the shallop repaired, ten men (including Hopkins) set out on December 6 (O. S.) to explore for land (with fresh water and a harbor) which would make a suitable settlement. It was on this journey that many of the members took sick and later died due to complications of the harsh weather. They found a formidable native grave yard encompassed by a palisade. It was also on this journey that their "First Encounter" happened with the natives. The explorers had set up a temporary fort and in the morning of the 8th, they were attacked by men of the Nauset tribe. The English defended themselves, driving their foes away. Later that day, all of the men, having taken to the shallop, found themselves in trouble as a storm hit.

This rain and snow storm in a Cape Cod December almost cost the party their lives. With the rudder broken and the mainsail mast shattered in three pieces as well, some men took to oars, while the pilot was able to guide them into an island's harbor (Clark's Island). The next day they explored the island, finding no one. Evidently, they repaired their shallop as well. The following day, it being the Sabbath, the men rested. Their rest was rewarded for the next day the men found a suitable site for their colony which became Plymouth.

The following year in February, while some townsmen were planning where to put their cannons, two natives appeared making signs that they wished to parley. The men armed themselves. Captain Standish and Hopkins were chosen to speak with them, but the natives did not wait and left the scene. In a month's time, another particular native would change their fortunes significantly.

Once again, while meeting about the protection of the colony, they were interrupted. A native boldly strolled towards the settlement. They barred his way and he saluted them with "Welcome." This was Samoset from Maine, who had learned English from the fishermen at Mohegan Island and the first native with which they held a conversation. From Samoset, they found out the history of where they had landed as well many of the other surrounding tribes. This included the Wampanoags and their king, Massasoit. Unsure of Samoset's motives, they tried to send him away or have him stay on the shallop. He not willing to do the former nor was the wind cooperating to bring the shallop to shore for the latter, he was put up in the home of Stephen Hopkins.

Samoset received gifts and left the next morning promising to bring Massasoit's men and skins for trading. It was this man, who started the trade with local natives, who brought the invaluable Tisquantum (Squanto) to the settlement, and told Massasoit of the newly founded colony.

Later that Spring, a peace treaty was signed by Massasoit. And that July, it was determined by Governor Carter to send Hopkins and Edward Winslow to visit the Great King as they styled him. Their friend Tisquantum was to go with them. Their mission was “to know where to find them...as also to see their strength, discover the Country, prevent abuses in their disorderly comming vnto vs, make satisfaction for some conceived jniuries to be done on our parts, and to continue the league of Peace and Friendship betweene them and vs.” The injuries included the corn that was dug up and removed the winter before. The governor wanted to make restitution. The colonists needed Indian corn to survive.

Hopkins and Winslow carried Horse-mans coat of red Cotton, and This would seem a strange gift for when the English first met him. Hopkins knew that this would be would present him with a copper could be used by a messenger the colonists.

On the way to the town of were welcomed by the natives by them Maizium, and the boyled mustie Acrons, but of the Tisquantum, they moved on with (probably Titicut), where the shared some of their stores. They since the natives had no shelter

The next day an envoy of five or leg of their journey. They came to a While in the water, two natives in their them with bow and arrow. Assured that They shared food with the party, while the English gave them a small beaded bracelet. Crossing another brook, the natives in the party offered to carry them and their guns to the other side.

They came to Massasoit's town but the King was not there, so they waited. While he was being fetched, they prepared to fire their guns in a salute. Upon his arrival, the salute was given and they were brought to his house. They transmitted the governor's message and presented Massasoit with gifts – including the Horseman's coat, whereupon “he was not a little proud to behold himselfe, and his men also to see their King so brauely attyred.”

Massasoit promised to keep the peace, to see his people would no longer pester the colonists, and to help them with their need for corn. The King then made a long speech, which delighted his followers



with them a suit of clothes and “a laced with a slight lace for a present.” Massasoit, who wore little clothing It seems that from past experience an impressive gift. They also chain, which (like a signet ring) from Massasoit to send news to

Namaschet, the ambassadors with food “a kinde of bread called spawne of Shads...with these they Shads we ate heartily.” Urged by some natives to another placed natives shared fish and the English spent the night in an open field, erected in this summer fishing place.

six natives went with them on the last river, which they had to wade through. seventies on the opposite bank challenged they were no enemies, friendships were made. Crossing another brook, the natives in the party offered to carry them and their guns to the other side.

but became tedious to the English. He offered them tobacco and discussed the English and French, not wanting the latter to settle near by for he "was King Iames his man." It was then time for evening rest.

...he layd vs on the bed with himselfe and his wife, they at the one end and we at the other, it being onely plancks layd a foot from the ground, and a thin Mat vpon them. Two more of his chiefe men for want of roome pressed by and vpon us; so that we were worse weary of our lodging then of our iourney....the Savages barbarous singing, (for they use to sing themselves asleepe) lice and fleas within doores, and Muskeetoes without, wee could hardly sleepe all the time of our being there...

Massasoit's sachems (called "governors") arrived the next day to play games "for skins and kniues." Winslow and Hopkins challenged them to shoot for skins, but they refused, wanting to see them shoot at a mark instead. After noon, Massasoit brought two large fish that he had shot, which he shared. The King wished for them to spend many nights, but the English thought it prudent (due to their lack of sleep) to be home by the Sabbath, so they left before sunrise the next day to return home.

There is much more that can be written about Stephen Hopkins, but this article provides a view not afforded to many of the other *Mayflower* passengers. His prior residence in Jamestown provided experience, which was invaluable to the fledgling colony of New Plymouth.

[Quotations were taken from Henry Martyn Dexter's *Mourt's Relation or Journal of the Plantation at Plymouth* (Boston: John Kimball Wiggin, 1865), however, the orthography was changed to make it easier for the modern reader.]

A New Member at 99 Years

To the right is a photo of one of our newest members, D. Lorraine Ives of Cole Camp, Missouri.

She is 11th in descent from Edward Fuller and became a member on June 20th this year.

Lorraine will turn 100 next month!



November's Compact Luncheon

Our Compact Luncheon this year falls on the exact 400th Anniversary of the signing of the Mayflower Compact, November 21! To commemorate this occasion, late Past Governor Dr. James Shoemaker created "The Voyage of the Mayflower," which will be played by the Landolfi String Quartet. The Luncheon will take place (with plenty of room for social distancing) at the Frontenac Hilton, 1335 S. Lindbergh, Saint Louis, MO, 63131, Saturday, November 21, 2020, at 11:00. A cash bar will be available. *More details forthcoming!*

Welcome New Members!

New members—some newly discovered cousins

- ✿ Katrina (née Crissler) Prater, Platte Woods, Descendant of Stephen Hopkins
- ✿ Robert Keenan, Turney, Descendant of Thomas Rogers
- ✿ Barbara (née McIntosh) Smith, LaDue, Descendant of John Alden (dual member with Florida)
- ✿ Floyd Bowles, Jackson, Descendant of Richard More (transfer from the South Carolina Society)
- ✿ Laura Stanley Bowles, Jackson, Descendant of Priscilla Mullins (transfer from the South Carolina Society)

Supplemental applications approved

- ✿ John E. Charles, Springfield, Descendant of Edward Fuller
- ✿ Sumner G. Hunnewell, Arnold, Descendant of Richard Warren
- ✿ Sandra Walker, Seymour, Descendant of William Bradford

Many thanks to our Historian, Damon Hayward, and his mother, Karen!

New Juniors Members

- ✿ Kylee Sims, granddaughter of Phoebe Wright. Descendant of Edward Fuller.
- ✿ Marissa Sims, granddaughter of Phoebe Wright. Descendant of Edward Fuller.

Thanks to Our Scholarship Fund Donors

William Byrd Jr. ✿ Ruth Cox ✿ Gary L. Davis ✿ James Milton Greenway

Carole E. Masotto ✿ Kimi Rensing ✿ Wilbert C. Schade ✿ Thomas Skinner

Marybeth Sotos ✿ Jeffrey Thornton ✿ Carol Williams

Scholarship Fundraisers

We have many ways to support our scholarship fund. One of these is Wreaths Across America. On December 19, this organization will coordinate wreath-laying ceremonies at national cemeteries across America. Many of our members have taken part in laying the wreaths across Missouri. You can order your wreaths here: <https://tinyurl.com/MayflowerWreaths>.

The Society also has premiums available (pins, a medal, prints). Details are found at our website: <https://momayflower.org/scholarship-fundraiser/>.

USPS, US Mint, and Royal Mint in the News

The U. S. Postal Service has created a collectable stamp set and booklet for the 400th anniversary of the sailing of the *Mayflower*. The book is 16-pages, telling the story of the journey. The stamps are “five progressive stamp proofs, the final stamps in a pane of 20.” This is limited to 2500 sets.



The U. S. Mint and Royal Mint have partnered to create sets of silver and gold proof coins and medals to commemorate the 400th anniversary.

As seen on the left, the top shows the British £2 coin (reverse and obverse) and the bottom show the medal (reverse and obverse of the medal).

The coins and medals will be available for sale this fall.

The Missouri Compact

Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Missouri

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2020-21 Calendar

September 26, Saturday, 11:30 a.m., State luncheon and business meeting, C.J. Muggs, Webster Groves.

November 21, Saturday, 11:00 a. m. Compact Luncheon and musical performance, Hilton Frontenac ballroom, St. Louis.

December 21, Monday, 7 p.m., Forefathers Day Toast, on-line via Zoom.

April 11, 2021, Sunday, Spring Luncheon, Grand Street Café, Kansas City.

Colony meetings will resume once it is considered safe to do so.

Luncheon dates are subject to local government mandates.

Don't forget. Dues must be received by December 31!

