

## Editorial

The sharp-eyed reader will note in the preceding pages that David Curtis Dearborn, FASG, and Christopher Challenger Child have traded places as Associate and Consulting Editors. David has had a long and significant role in the editorship of the *Register*; he served as Editor in the interim between Jane Fletcher Fiske and Henry B. Hoff in 2001, and in recent years he has ably and sacrificially assisted both Henry and me in the role of Associate Editor. David has my heartfelt gratitude for his assistance, graciousness, and wise counsel.

– Robert Battle

Records generated by lawyers are some of the most useful resources for genealogists, especially when they deal in matters of inheritance. The genealogical literature is replete with examples of English origins of New England immigrants discovered from clues found in the records produced in Massachusetts by lawyers Thomas Lechford (1638–1641) and William Aspinwall (1644–1651). In our lead article, **English Origins of William Clarke of Hartford and Haddam, Connecticut**, author Jeff Bissey makes use of a letter written in 1651 by barrister William Lyngwood of Braintree, Essex, to his “Cosen Clarke,” preserved among early land records of Connecticut, and the lawsuit in England mentioned in that letter and preserved among the Chancery papers of the (British) National Archives, to identify that cousin as William<sup>1</sup> Clarke of Hartford and Haddam.

In the next article, Sue Allan and Caleb Johnson detail **New Records of James Chilton, *Mayflower* Passenger from Canterbury and Sandwich, Kent**. Passengers on that famous ship, especially those with living descendants, have likely received more attention over the years than any other such cohort; but *Mayflower* specialists Allan and Johnson demonstrate that there remains more to be found. In this article, new details from the lives of James Chilton and his parents and grandparents are presented and combined with the results of previous work to provide an up-to-date summary of this family, an excellent companion to Sue Allan’s *In Search of Mayflower Pilgrim James Chilton of Canterbury* (Boston: American Ancestors, 2024).

The following article shifts focus to 18<sup>th</sup>- and early 19<sup>th</sup>-century New England and New York. In **A Family for Roswell Rowley: Correcting the Family of Samuel Rowley**, author Kory L. Meyerink employs a systematic survey of Rowleys in and around Granville, Massachusetts to identify the parents and siblings of Roswell Rowley, a Revolutionary War soldier serving from that

town. While New England has been blessed with a better surviving collection of early vital records and probate records than many other American regions, those records are by no means complete. This article ably demonstrates some alternative ways to determine family connections, even when those two essential sources are lacking.

We go back to England in the next article, **Ancestors of James Beard, Husband of Widow Martha<sup>1</sup> Beard of Milford, Connecticut**. In this follow-up piece to his article on the ancestry of the widow Martha<sup>1</sup> (Wood) Beard and her double first cousin Mary<sup>1</sup> (Wood) Platt, author Robert Battle traces several generations of the ancestry of Martha's husband in Essex. James Beard's maternal ancestry includes a descent from an Adams family claimed to have also been ancestral to Abraham<sup>1</sup> Belknap; however, that claim is probably false. In an appendix, this article also demonstrates that the name of the daughter of James and Martha (Wood) Beard who married Nicholas<sup>2</sup> Camp of Milford was almost certainly "Mary" and not the oft-claimed "Sarah."

In this issue, we begin a long article asking **Was John Rows, whom Patience (Baker) Rows Divorced in 1728 for Desertion, the Father of John Rowse, whom Alice (Hazen) Rowse Divorced in 1758 for Desertion, Both in New London County, Connecticut?** Author Allan H. Rouse investigates this intriguing question, determining that the answer is a probable "yes," though not a definite one. The bulk of the article, to be continued in the next one or two issues, consists of a thorough treatment of the descendants of the second John Rouse in Connecticut, New York, Pennsylvania, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Michigan, Oregon, and California.

A recent *Register* article by Travis Miscia revealed the Cumberland ancestry of the New England Borodell sisters. In this issue, author Randy A. West adds some important details found in **Some Additional English Records for the Borodell Ancestry of Sisters Ann<sup>1</sup> (Borodell) Denison and Margaret<sup>1</sup> (Borodell) (Shepard) Mitchell**.

– Robert Battle and Christopher Challender Child

In this issue we begin **A Roll of Arms Registered by the Committee on Heraldry: Twelfth Part**, containing an introduction and the first twenty-four entries (nos. 814–837). This set of entries includes early New England immigrants Edward Rainsford, John, Elizabeth, and Anne Mansfield, Anne (Derehaugh) Stratton, Thomas Burton, Elizabeth Godman, Jane (Greene) Poole, Henry Archer, and Edward Bullock.