

Editorial

We are pleased to announce that David Curtis Dearborn, FASG, has assumed the role of associate editor of the *Register*.

The lead article of this issue is **The English Ancestry of Rodolphus¹ Elmes of Scituate, Massachusetts, and His Cousins John and Samuel Elmes and Lydia M. (Latrobe) Roosevelt of New York**. Authors Robert Battle and Henry B. Hoff have presented an account of the paternal gentry ancestry of Rodolphus¹ Elmes, noting distant royal descents. To this has been added an account of his cousins John and Samuel Sellon of Massachusetts and their great-niece Lydia M. (Latrobe) Roosevelt of New York.

We begin **The Journals of James Hodge, Gravestone Cutter of Albany, New York**, which is expected to continue for several issues. James Hodge (1761–1819) provided gravestones for residents of the Hudson River Valley and beyond. He meticulously recorded details for each gravestone. Field Horne transcribed the records for the *Register*.

Next is **Samuel¹ Newman of Dorchester and Weymouth, Massachusetts, and Rehoboth, Plymouth Colony, His Origin and Early Career**, by Austin W. Spencer. Newman was from Banbury, Oxfordshire, and graduated from Oxford in 1629. His English career was entirely in Yorkshire before he and his family immigrated to New England in 1637.

In **The Increase³ Robinson Family of Taunton, Massachusetts**, Marion Vermazen identifies the fourteen children and more than sixty-five grandchildren of Increase³ (*Increase², William¹*) and Mehitable (Williams) Robinson. Since the original vital records burned in 1838, the author relied on deeds and probate as well as the recreated vital records of Taunton.

The English Origin of William¹ Hudson of Charlestown and Boston, Massachusetts, appeared to have been Chatham, Kent, but Randy A. West has shown that William Hudson was from Stoke by Nayland, Suffolk, where he was baptized in 1588/9.

Robert M. Call has researched **Samuel⁴ and Abigail (Sprague) Call of Charlestown, Massachusetts, and Nova Scotia**, and their children. Analysis of the identity of various family members is included, especially that of Martha (Safford) Call, a daughter-in-law.

A Quest to Find the Parents of Cynthia Lovett Leads to a Valuable Probate Record Documenting the Lovett Family of Rhode Island and New York is concluded. In order to identify the parents of Cynthia (Lovett) Miller of Schenectady, New York, author Abigail B. Miller had to identify all legatees named or alluded to in the probate of James Lovett of New York City, who died childless in 1850. The author successfully established Cynthia's parentage.

New England Articles in Genealogical Journals in 2020 indexes articles in fifteen journals by name, place, and some subjects.

We conclude **A Roll of Arms Registered by the Committee on Heraldry of the New England Historic Genealogical Society: Eleventh Part**. The twenty-four entries (nos. 790–813) are illustrated with four pages of six shields per page. These are followed by Additions and Corrections to the Eleventh Part and earlier.

– Henry B. Hoff and David Curtis Dearborn

Updated Editorial from the July 2011 Issue

This issue marks our tenth anniversary as editor and associate editor. Looking back, there have been several innovations, yet most were hardly noticeable as there was no change in the appearance of the *Register* [other than illustrated covers starting in 2015]. In 2001 we added an editorial in each issue, and Additions and Corrections each October. In 2002 we added “New England Articles in Genealogical Journals” each July. In 2009 we added a supplement, *American Ancestors Journals*, published each October [until 2014].

Starting in January 2007, each issue was put on the Society’s website as a PDF. Two years later, the Society offered readers the option of foregoing a paper copy of the *Register*, with the result that [most] of the membership now reads the *Register* only on the website.

Authors have continued to submit high-quality articles. Predictably, these are usually about families of English ancestry in New England or their origins in England. However, we welcome articles on families of other backgrounds, and have been glad to publish work on African Americans (2002, 2008, 2009, 2011, 2012–2017, 2018); Scots (2003, 2008, 2010); Native Americans (2003, 2007, 2014); Irish Americans (2003, 2027, 2011, 2016); French Canadians (2005, 2016, 2018); French (2014, 2015); Channel Islanders (2011); Portuguese (2006, 2015); Jewish (2014, 2015).

What are we trying to accomplish with the *Register*? To quote the editorial in the April 2005 issue:

Rarely, if ever, will you open an issue of this journal and find an article about one of your brick wall families. Yet the indirect answers to some of your brick wall problems for New England, at least, are in the pages of this journal. See what relevant sources our authors have used in their articles — and seek out those sources. Notice how authors have pieced together an identification or track a migrating family. Allow yourself to be reminded of small but potentially crucial, examples of human behavior.

We hope you agree with our goals and believe we are accomplishing them with every issue.