

Editorial

Genealogists have long worked to discover and map out the pre-colonial kinships of Great Migration immigrants to New England. One such family network is outlined in our lead article, **The Wheeler and the Spokes: The Wells-Tapp-Tuttle Kinship: Discussing the Immigrants Anne¹ (Wells) Wheeler, Edmund¹ Tapp, Elizabeth¹ (Herbert) Corwin, John¹ Herbert, Richard¹ Tuttle, John¹ Tuttle, and William¹ Tuttle**, by Travis Dodge Miscia. The author's discovery of the 1656 will of the Rev. William Wells of Moulsoe, Buckinghamshire, which names his daughter Anne Wheeler "who now liveth in New England," provides circumstantial but overwhelming evidence that she was the wife of Ephraim¹ Wheeler of Concord, Massachusetts, and Fairfield, Connecticut, and was part of a previously unidentified cluster of immigrants to New England.

The immigrant Zacheus¹ Curtis of Massachusetts, who arrived on the *James* from Southampton, England in 1635, has long been thought to have been from Downton, Wiltshire, although no record of him has ever been found there. In **The English Origin of Zacheus¹ Curtis of Salem, Reading, Gloucester, and Rowley, Massachusetts**, author Robert Battle reveals that his baptism has been discovered in the bishop's transcripts records of Durnford, Wiltshire, about eight miles north of Downton.

John Snelling (c1628-1672), a small trader of fish and foodstuffs along the New England coast, is found first in Saco, Maine by 1655 and in Boston two years later. An article in the July 1898 issue of this journal stated that he was the nephew of Dr. William Snelling (1624/5-1678), a native of Plympton St. Mary, Devon, who immigrated to New England in 1647. In **John Snelling of Boston, Massachusetts, and His Purported Uncle, Dr. William Snelling of Boston**, author Marjorie P. Snelling examines the lives of both men, concluding that there is no evidence of ties between them. John Snelling, who was often a defendant in court cases, left an estate of only £16, leaving a widow in need of support from the town of Boston, never seeking help from her husband's purported uncle. Dr. William, on the other hand, was a well-educated member of an established gentry family and was comfortably well off at his death.

Genealogists have long been intrigued by the 1649 will of Elizabeth Morrnick of Roxbury, Massachusetts, that mentions three other New England immigrants: William Fellows of Ipswich, Massachusetts, Richard Fellows of Connecticut, and Samuel Fellows of Salisbury, Massachusetts. The will also points to Elizabeth's connection to southern Leicestershire, where the surname of Fellow(s) is plentiful. Working with these clues, author Clifford L. Stott, in **The English Ancestry of Brothers William Fellows of Ipswich, Mass., and Richard Fellows of Hartford, Conn., and Springfield, Northampton, and Hadley, Mass.**, searched local parish and probate records, tracing the family origins back for several generations.

Henry¹ Luce and his wife Remember (Litchfield) settled on Martha's Vineyard in the early 1670s, leaving a family of ten children as chronicled by Charles Edward Banks in his history of the island published in 1911. As was

common at that time, Banks did not indicate the specific sources supporting his statements. In **The Family of Henry and Remember Luce of Martha's Vineyard**, author B. Darrell Jackson systematically analyzes the evidence for each child to document their presence on Martha's Vineyard, determining that Banks's genealogical account of the family is sound.

In the next article, author Clifford L. Stott extends the pedigree of Daniel¹ Lovett of Braintree, Massachusetts for two generations in **The Lovett Family of Chesham, Buckinghamshire, Ancestors of Daniel¹ Lovett And His Half-Sister Elizabeth (Lovett) Twitchell, Wife of Joseph¹ Twitchell, of Massachusetts**. While evidence for the placement of the immigrant in this family is circumstantial, the author makes a reasoned argument for the connection to his half-sister, based on the fact that she and her husband settled in neighboring Dorchester, Massachusetts.

We present the third and final installment of **The English Origins of John Thurber of Swansea in Plymouth Colony and His Descendants**, by Florence Thurber Gargaro, Kathryn Davitt Peters, and Barry R. Smith. This completes the third generation, nearly all of whose members lived in Swansea and Rehoboth, Massachusetts and adjacent parts of Rhode Island.

New England Articles in Genealogical Journals in 2021 indexes articles in fifteen journals by name, place, and some subjects.

We conclude this issue with a multipart article by Rhonda R. McClure. In Part 1 of **The Rotches and the Rodmans: A Tale of New England Quakerism**, the author discusses the spread of Quakerism in New England and its effects on the interrelated Rotch and Rodman families of New Bedford, Massachusetts. Immediately following, Part 2 consists of a genealogy of the families. Parts 3 and 4 will be published in later issues of the *Register*.

– Henry B. Hoff and David Curtis Dearborn