

Editor's Introduction



In **Francis Curtis of Plymouth, 1671, and Three Generations of His Family**, William J. Utermohlen continues his study of this family, largely still in Plymouth and surrounding towns, with a few descendants making their way to central Massachusetts and Rhode Island. Marriages with descendants of the Brown, Cooke, and Doty families are included.

Utermohlen's next article, **Joseph Whiton of Hingham and Rehoboth, Massachusetts, and Ashford, Connecticut**, adds new information related to a previous article on the Rickard family (see next), by including the family of Rickard descendant Joseph Whiton and his ten children by his two marriages.

In **Descendants of Giles¹ Rickard of Plymouth Colony**, Edward Charles Horton continues with the third generation of this family, largely (like the Curtis family above) still in Plymouth and surrounding towns. The children of Rickard daughters are treated within these sketches, with male Rickards being continued in later installments. Marriages with descendants of the Alden, Billington, Brewster, Brown, Chilton, Cooke, Doty, Eaton, Edward and Samuel Fuller, Hopkins, Howland, Samson, Standish, and Warren families are included.

In **The Smart Old Man: Alexander⁶ Alden of Jay and Milo, Maine, and His Seven Children**, Gregory S. Childs reconstructs the family of Alden descendants that moved from Bridgewater, Massachusetts, to Maine in the early nineteenth century, with particular aid from a local newspaper in 1850 that ran a short dispatch about Alexander Alden, a spry elderly gentleman then living in remote Piscataquis County, Maine ("A Smart Old Man"). The genealogical summary includes Alexander's seven children and twenty grandchildren.

Richard Hall includes another article on Notable *Mayflower* Descendants this time covering *Star Trek* creator **Gene Roddenberry**, tracing his lineage back to *Mayflower* passenger George Soule, in a line that leaves Massachusetts in the late nineteenth century, going south to Georgia and Florida, and then going west to California.

Descendants of Betsey Manchester and Jacob Galusha Jr.: Continuation of a Richard Warren Line, follows up an article Michael Sean Dunn wrote for this journal in 2020, continuing his

own line of descent for three more generations. The family goes west from western Massachusetts through New York State with migrations into Pennsylvania, Ohio, Minnesota, and many families in Michigan. Dunn also includes DNA matches amongst pertinent descendants as an additional corroborating piece of evidence as he had in his previous article.

This journal has largely outlined the *Mayflower* lineages of individuals in a way that I have chosen to call “Silver Books style.” Traditionally American genealogies apply the generational number after the forenames and before the surname, indicating their number of generations back to the senior immigrant to North America (usually male), such as Joshua² Child (Benjamin¹). From roughly 2004 through 2020, most publications within *Mayflower Families Through Five Generations (MF5G)* deviated from this custom where the generational number came after the surname unless the surname itself was the surname of the senior *Mayflower* passenger, such as Eleazer Crocker⁴ (*Ruth Chipman*³, *Hope*² *Howland, John*¹). In cases where the surname was also a *Mayflower* surname but not of direct descent (such as descendants of John Winslow, Henry Howland, etc.), the generational number still followed the surname as in those cases that surname did not lead back to a passenger with that surname, such as Edward Winslow³ (*Mary*² *Chilton, John*¹).

I have largely followed this custom in my editorship of this journal when the genealogical summary begins with someone of *Mayflower* descent or a spouse introduced along the way is as well, as I found this is much easier to show all *Mayflower* descents rather than just say someone is “a descendant of Pilgrims John Alden, William Mullins, and William Brewster” as this briefer summary within *MF5G* has occasionally resulted in certain passenger descents being omitted if the intermarriage occurred in an earlier generation beyond that subject’s parents. The only place this journal has continued the traditional American generational numbering system (which I’ll call “Register style,” for lack of a better term), is when the focus of the article is on a family where the surname itself is not a *Mayflower* family, such as the Curtis and Rickard articles in this issue and my previously published Orcutt installments. “Silver Book style” *Mayflower* descents are included in these articles, but only when introducing a spouse of a subject within these treatments. With the 2023 publication of Part Three of Volume 19 (Thomas Rogers), *MF5G* publications have now gone back to “Register style” generational numbering, while this journal has chosen to continue the custom of “Silver Books style.”

I want to thank my many colleagues for their help with this issue: Cécile Engeln and Ellen Maxwell from the NEHGS Publications Staff; as well as Gary Boyd Roberts, Robert Charles Anderson, and Jason Harrison.

—Christopher Challenger Child