

## Editorial

*HENRY B. HOFF: A TRIBUTE.* This issue marks the first time in the past twenty-four years that Henry's name does not appear as editor of the *Register*; though in truth it would be justified to leave it there, as every article in it was received and approved by him. Henry was the twenty-sixth editor since the *Register's* 1847 inception, and his term of service ranks as the third longest (just edged out by Henry Edwards Scott at twenty-five; John Ward Dean's aggregate total of twenty-nine-plus stands as the longest). I submitted my first article of any size to the *Register* back when Henry was just taking over the editorship from Jane Fletcher Fiske, and I distinctly remember his encouragement to me then as being one of the main reasons that I continued to write and submit articles. I thank Henry for his twin legacies of encouragement and excellence and will do my best to maintain those.

– Robert Battle



We begin this issue with Jeff D. Bissey's article on the **Origins of Joyce Cornish of Great Leighs and Fairstead, Essex, Wife of James Olmstead of Cambridge, Massachusetts, and Hartford, Connecticut.** Using chiefly parish registers and probate records, Bissey traces the ancestry of Joyce (Cornish) Olmstead from members of the Cornish and Loveday families of Great Leighs and nearby parishes in Essex. A point of interest is the involvement of members of this family in a 1584 witchcraft trial.

In **New Findings for the English Family of Thomas<sup>1</sup> Osborne of New Haven, Connecticut, and East Hampton, Long Island,** authors Kay Auxier Horwath and Trevor Angell prove that Donald Lines Jacobus was right in 1935 to conclude that the immigrant's father was Jeremy Osborne rather than Jeremy's brother John (both of whom had sons named Thomas), by demonstrating that the son of John was still living in England when Thomas<sup>1</sup> Osborne was known to be in the colonies. The authors go on to identify the immigrant's mother (who had been misidentified by Jacobus) and two generations of her ancestors, while greatly expanding our knowledge of the extended English Osborne family.

Patterns of association among early New England immigrants were often due to Puritan clerical connections, as demonstrated by Robert Charles Anderson in *Puritan Pedigrees: The Deep Roots of the Great Migration to New England* (Boston: NEHGS, 2018). Those ministerial connections were not always just those of preachers and congregants, but sometimes ties of blood and marriage. In **The Cumbrian Origins and Puritan Connections of Ann (Borodell) Denison and Margaret (Borodell) (Shepard) Mitchell,** Travis Dodge Miscia shows that an aunt of the two immigrants was the wife of a prominent Puritan layman and two Puritan ministers, one of whom was the renowned Rev. Jeremiah Burroughes (whose portrait is on the cover). The author also lays to rest multiple myths about members of this Borodell family, while tracing them back to the immigrants' great-grandfather.

The next article concerns a slightly later New England family that up to now has not been well studied in the literature. In **Timothy Sewell of Boston, Lynn, and Mendon, Massachusetts, and His Children**, authors Susan Hedeem, Larry Davis, John Clarke, and Eben W. Graves demonstrate that Timothy Sewell, a resident of Massachusetts in the first half of the 18th century, married twice and was the father of eight children, six of whom survived and left children of their own. Several of Timothy's children left Massachusetts, going north to New York and Canada and south to what was to become West Virginia. Massachusetts probate settlements supply the vital links that prove the identities of these far-flung children.

Robert Battle's article on the **Ancestors of Widow Martha<sup>1</sup> (Wood) Beard and Mary<sup>1</sup> (Wood) Platt, Both of Milford, Connecticut**, is concluded in this issue. In this installment, the maternal ancestry of the immigrants is traced from the late 1400s in the Essex parishes of Manuden, Epping, and Roydon. Besides being first cousins of each other on both the paternal and maternal sides, the immigrants were both second cousins, once removed, of Maryland immigrant Thomas Hussey. These relationships are shown in the chart on page 292. Coincidentally, a maternal great-uncle of the Milford immigrants (and great-grandfather of Hussey) employed Abraham<sup>1</sup> Belknap before the latter's removal to Lynn, Massachusetts, possibly facilitating Belknap's marriage.

We finish up this issue with Henry B. Hoff's list of **New England Articles in Genealogical Journals in 2022**, and wish him a very happy and healthy retirement!

– Robert Battle and David Curtis Dearborn