

This book given to John Cory by his
mother to carry with him to America.

The "Grate Booke."

Its Line of Descent

In 1603-1605-1609 or 16

It was printed on heavy English parchment, was brought to America by JOHN CORY, who landed at or near Boston, soon after the coming of the Mayflower. He was born about 1611, married Ann —, about 1638, children were: John, Abraham, Hannah, Jacob, Isaac and Abigail, all b. on eastern L. I. He died at Hashamomack, L. I., in 1685. ~~Will~~ He left the book to son John, who was b. about 1639, m. at Huntington, L. I., in 1667 to Mary Cornish. Children, Mary, Abigail, Elizabeth, John, Martha, Elnathan, Thomas and Abraham, (all b. at Huntington). He d. there in 1686-7, leaving the book to son John, he was b. 1674, m. at Elizabethtown, N. J. 1707 to Patience —, children, Mary, Elnathan, Hannah, John, Joseph and Benjamin, all b. at Elizabethtown, where he d. in 1722-3. Left the book to son Elnathan, b. 1710, m. 1729 to Sarah Simpson, to them were born: Ebenezer, Daniel, James, Joseph, Thomas, Jeremiah, Mary, Job and Sarah. He d. 1766. Left the book to son Ebenezer, who was b. 1739, m. Hannah — and Mary Mills, in 1752 and 1755. Children, Sarah, John, Elnathan, Hannah, Samuel, William, Ebenezer, (one author says Job and George should be added). He d. in 1785. Here the second son Elnathan gets the book. He was b. 1759, m. 1777 to Sarah Walker. His sons were: John, Jeremiah, Ebenezer, Abijah, Elnathan and David. He d. about 1809, to his eldest son John was left the book. He was b. 1778, m. 1797 to Mary Carbaugh, their children were: Jane, Elnathan, Margaret, Mary, Nancy, Sarah, Elizabeth, John, Barbara, Martha, Malinda, Hannah, Catherine, Rebecca and George W. He d. in 1845. Son Elnathan got the book, he was b. in 1800, m. Hannah F. Bartram in 1824. Children, Margaret A., Baby Boy, Mary Jane, Caroline, William Smith and Elnathan Augusta. He d. in 1874. To son William S. was left the book. He was b. in 1837, m. Sarah Jane Lester, in 1878. To them were given two children Elma and William Sidney. The "Grate Booke" is now in the keeping of William Smith Cory, who lives in the house built by his father in 1833.

JAMES E. CORY.

Diol. - Gift of a Mother, Three Cen-
turies Ago - My Family Relic.
"The Great Booke Printed in En-
gland in 1603 and handed
Down through Nine Generations,
Was Exhibited as Heirloom at Cory
Reunion, Near Caklandon.

"Yellow with age, yet held to-
gether firmly by its strong calf-
skin binding, 'The Great Booke'
which was printed in England
more than 3 centuries ago, was
exhibited to the descendants of
John Cory & his brothers at
the family reunion, held in the
Cory Grove, near Caklandon,
on Thursday. The book, which
is a priceless heirloom in the
family & has passed down
through nine generations, is now
the property of James E. Cory
of Pease, who at the recent

There are four distinct Cory families in the United States, but most of the Cory's in Indiana are descendants of John Cory, of Long Island.

Copied from - The Indiana
Tribune - Published
Sept. 3, 1904

Kin of Beloved Rev. Cory Recalls Some Events in Good Old Days

Editor's note: Orin R. Cory of 13406 Emily Ave., East Cleveland, recently asked The Press to reprint a story which traced the history of Cory Ave. The Cleveland street was named for his uncle, the Rev. J. B. Cory, who founded old Cory A. M. E. Church on Central Ave.

After listening to the many interesting memories of Cleveland and nearby communities Cory described from a diary, The Press feels that its readers might enjoy sharing some of them.

"Extra, extra, read all about it in your Press. Only a PENNY!"

Orin R. Cory was 14 years old when he shouted these words on an Oberlin street corner in 1888.

"Many days, I would sell as many as a dozen copies of the old Penny Press," Cory recalls with a chuckle. "I also had from 12 to 15 home deliveries."

Visits Aunt's Farm

Other bright spots that Cory recalls of his childhood were:

A VISIT TO AUNT MARY'S FARM (located in Trumbull County). "We had a small-sized yoke which we used to train calves to pull us on a sled or wagon. When they ran away, in spite of all our efforts, that meant trouble.

"We also had fun driving a

team of horses hitched to a big wagon over to the Bloomfield railroad station near Aunt Mary's to pick up a load of supplies for my father's store.

Visits Sugar Bush

A TREK TO NED FIFE'S sugar bush (also in Greene Twp.)—"I helped to boil the sap and keep the fires burning under the big iron kettles. Father made a crosscut saw for me and I had to have a friend help me operate it. It was just like a full-sized one."

A TOY TELEGRAPH—

"There were no television or radio sets at the time so we built a communication system of our own. I made a telegraph set in my room and strung wire to my friend's house on the next street. We learned the Morse code and, using bottle necks for insulators, had hours of fun talking to each other."

Came Here in 1894

In 1894 Cory came to Cleveland after graduating from Oberlin Business College.

Cory enrolled in the Cleveland School of Pharmacy, then a department of Western Reserve University, and graduated in 1897 with the degree of Pharmaceutical Chemist (Ph. C.).

His first job was as hospital pharmacist in Lakeside Hospital which had just been completed and was located

at E. 12th St. and Lakeside Ave.

Married 64 Years

Near the turn of the century he was married to his hometown sweetheart, Alma, by his uncle, the late Rev. J. B. Cory, in her home, in Greene Twp.

The Corys will celebrate their 64th wedding anniversary in November.

Cory bought a pharmacy at 1319 Superior Ave., sold it in 1908, and from 1912 worked at Otis Terminal Warehouse Corp. until he retired three years ago.

"I remember listening to John Phillip Sousa and his band at the Chicago World Fair in 1893," Cory continued. "In my estimation, none of the other fairs I saw, including the one in New York, was equal to that one in beauty and grandeur."

Recalls Armistice

Cory likes to recall the end of World War II.

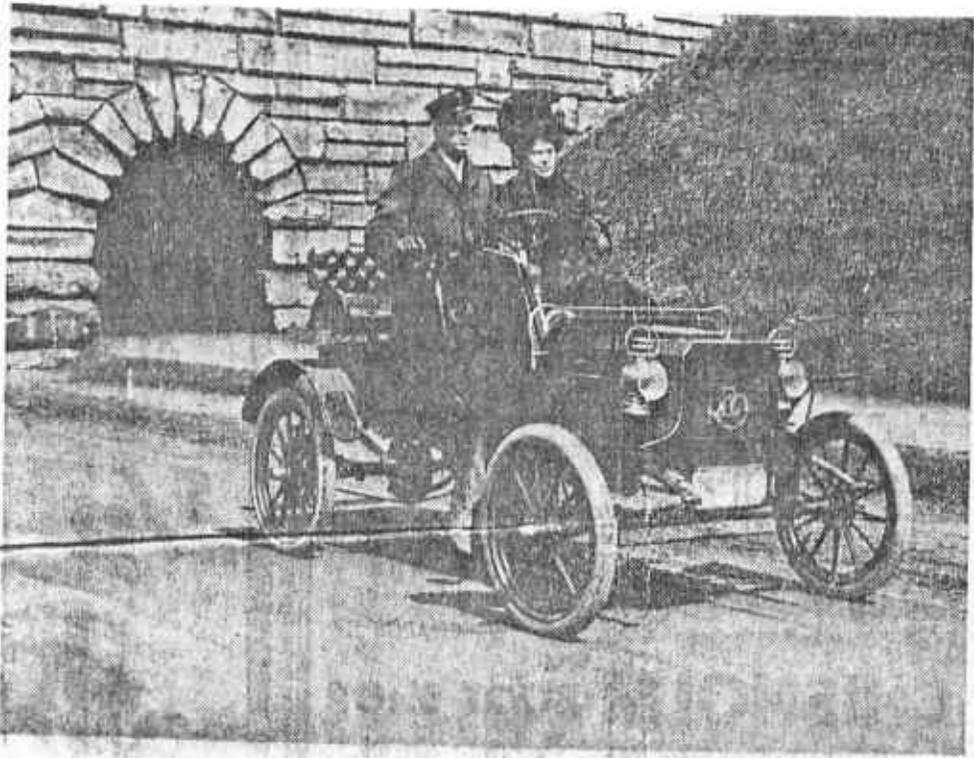
"I took a picture of the neighbors dancing in a victory celebration on our street. Banners were flying, and everybody was having a good time," he said.

Cory, who no longer drives, has owned 18 different cars: He and his wife still do the shopping every Thursday morning.

"The stores are close and the neighbors are nice. They take us around," he said.

son of Rev. J. B. Cory

I visited there - my grandmother's sister



CHUGGING THROUGH GORDON PARK was always a favorite pastime for the Corys, shown in an early photo taken shortly after he purchased this 1903 Reo.

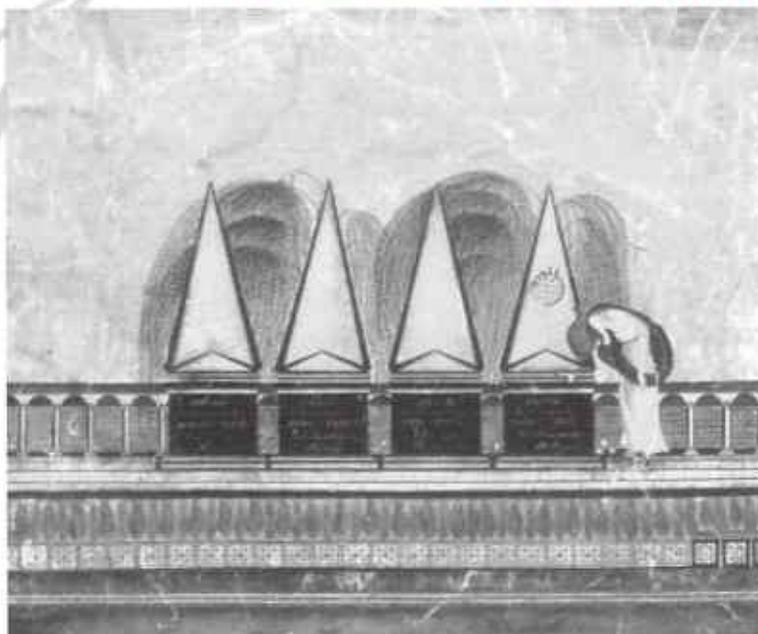
Cleveland Ohio

Cory study

An Unusual Mourning Picture

Four Men of the Cory Family

by Arthur and Sybil Kern



A MOST UNUSUAL MOURNING PICTURE, EXCEPTIONAL in several ways, recently came to the attention of the authors. It lacks some of the symbolic elements characteristic of the memorial painting, and some of those that are included are presented in an atypical way. Whereas most memorials commemorate the death of one or two family members, the Cory mourning picture commemorates four. The family history illuminates a fearful segment of late eighteenth-century New England culture.

The typical early American mourning picture includes an urn, "a symbolic bed for the departed spirit,"^[1] a tombstone with inscribed genealogical data, willow trees, evergreens, flowers, a stream of water, a church or family home, and one or more mourners.

The Cory mourning picture does not include a church, family home, or stream of water. Although an urn is present, it is very small and far less prominent than those usually seen in mourning pictures. Evergreen trees are present, but in a row of unnaturally small trunkless forms that run across the lower part of the picture.

Abstraction is so prominent in this piece that at first glance it appears very much like a modern painting. Each tombstone obelisk is suggested by a white triangular form outlined by black paint. Although they have pyramidal apices, only in an abstract sense do the obelisks give an impression of towering shafts of stone, as seen in the common mourning picture. Below each obelisk is the plinth, a black rec-

tangle lacking any sense of being three-dimensional. Between the obelisks are representations of willow trees in the form of rounded cascading masses of inverted green "V"-like forms.

The plinths bear the following painted inscriptions: "SACRED/ To the memory of/ Edward Cory/ Obit 1801/ AE 26 years;" "SACRED/ To the memory of/ PHILP (sic) CORY Jun./ Obit August 24, 1794/ AE 22 years;" / "SACRED/ To the memory of ABNER CORY/ Obit 1786/ AE 20 years;" and "SACRED/ To the memory of/ PHLP (sic) Cory/ Obit October 23d 1802/ AE 61 years."

"The typical early American mourning picture includes an urn, . . . a tombstone with inscribed genealogical data, willow trees, evergreens, flowers, a stream of water, a church or family home, and one or more mourners."

A significant feature of the picture is the figure of a grieving young woman with head bowed, wearing a high-waisted white dress and black shroud, shoes, and sash.^[2] Reinforcing the theme of death is the inscription, to the left of the mourner, "Memento mori" — or "Remember that you must die."

Another inscription, "Respectfully (sic)/ inscrib'd by a friend," is present on the face of one of the obelisks. It is likely that the "friend" had some connection with Mary Balch's school in Providence, Rhode Island, for the weeping mourner is strikingly similar to "weepers" often present on mourn-

ing embroideries and watercolors from this school.^[3] Further evidence is the depiction of willow leaves in other memorials by two of its students in the same manner as in the Cory memorial.^[4]

Above: *Mourning Picture for Men of the Cory Family, ca. 1812, attributed to Sarah (Sally) Munro Cory (watercolor on paper, 14" x 16 1/2"). Private collection.*

needed a special humidity-controlled environment and the Ebenezer Avery House in Groton didn't have the proper facilities. It was donated to NEHGS as part of the Avery Family Papers (Mss 541), with the photographs and a framed set of handmade nails from the Hive, the original Avery homestead built by James Avery in 1653. These nails were rescued from the site after a fire destroyed the dwelling in 1894.

The Bible opens with a handwritten note reading, "Rufus Avery Bible 1809 bought November 16, 1809 in New York by my son David." Rufus Avery was born November 16, 1758, at Groton, Connecticut, a seventh-generation descendant of Christopher Avery. (A reinterpretation of the first four generations of the Christopher Avery family is being published by the Newbury Street Press.) Rufus fought in the Battle of Fort Griswold during the American Revolution. His reminiscences of that experience were transcribed in *The Groton Avery Clan*. Rufus married Hannah Lord, daughter of Asa and Abigail (Mumford) Lord, on March 1, 1781. They had five children — including David, born on October 9, 1781. Rufus recorded family births, marriages, and deaths in his Bible, including events that pre-date David's purchase of the volume. After Rufus's death on July 30, 1842, it is likely the Bible passed to one of his children,

but no documentation exists to explain how it ended as a sale item more than one hundred and fifty years later.

Today, the R. Stanton Avery Special Collections Department features over one million manuscript items which range from the seventeenth century to the present. Nearly every New England family prior to 1850 is probably represented in this collection in some fashion, and other regions are covered as well.

The group of material donated by the Lantieres helps illustrate, in visual and handwritten records, the history of the Avery family descended from Christopher Avery. Taking steps to preserve their heritage led the Lantieres to make a valuable contribution to the extensive genealogical materials already at NEHGS.

MAUREEN A. TAYLOR, of *TaylorandStrong.com*, is the author of *Preserving Your Family Photographs* (Betterway, 2001) and *Uncovering Your Ancestry Through Family Photographs* (Betterway, 2000), as well as a guide to family history for children, *Through the Eyes of Your Ancestors* (Houghton Mifflin, 1999).

The Avery Family: The Ancestors and Descendants of Christopher Avery, edited by Maureen A. Taylor, will be available in fall 2003. Watch *NEW ENGLAND ANCESTORS* and *NewEnglandAncestors.org* for further details.

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The artist probably was Sarah "Sally" (Munro) Cory, daughter of Thomas and Sara Munro of Providence, who married Thomas Cory on September 25, 1808.¹¹¹ In September 1796, Sally, then a student at the Mary Balch school, executed a fine sampler¹¹² and, as a young adult, probably undertook the memorial for her new Cory relatives. Although its last recorded death occurred in 1802, that the painting was executed many years later is suggested by its backing by pages of a Providence newspaper dated June 26, 1829. Of the twelve children of Captain Philip Cory, excluding the sons memorialized in the picture in question (Philip, Edward, and Abner), the first to die was Mary, who passed away on October 15, 1817.¹¹³ Since she is not included in the mourning picture, it can be dated between 1808 and 1817.

Genealogical study of the picture's four subjects reveals an interesting story that relates to the importance of the ocean and its sailing ships in the life of Rhode Island men. The Cory line began in England, moved to Portsmouth, Rhode Island, in 1720, and then to Tiverton, Rhode Island.¹¹⁴ Although the land in Tiverton was admirably suited for agriculture and lumbering, a number of the town's residents turned to the sea. Whaling voyages from Westport, Massachusetts, only seven miles away, commenced about 1775¹¹⁵ and Tiverton was the home of many whaling families.

Philip, father of the three men on the memorial, was born November 23, 1741, in Tiverton to Philip and Hannah (Gray) Cory.¹¹⁶ He married Comfort Hicks on

March 18, 1764, and the couple had twelve children between 1764 and 1790.¹¹⁷ Philip was a partner with his brother, Isaac, in ship building, whaling, coastal trading, and fishing. Until his death at the age of sixty-one, Philip was primarily occupied in running the general store and the business end of their many sailing operations. He is buried in the Philip Cory Cemetery, on a lot behind the Smith house on Peaceful Way, Tiverton. Comfort and ten other members of the family also are buried there. However, his sons Philip, Edward, and Abner are not with their father in the cemetery.¹¹⁸

Abner Cory was born August 17, 1766, in Tiverton¹¹⁹ and, according to one report, was lost at sea about 1786.¹²⁰ This date is corroborated by the mourning picture's inscription indicating his date of death at age twenty. His death at sea is also reported by an Internet source, but neither report cites primary evidence. That Abner, Edward, and Philip Jr. died prior to 1802 is substantiated by the probate record of their father, dated October 12 of that year.¹²¹ These three sons are not mentioned.

Edward Cory was born in Tiverton on November 14, 1775,¹²² and unverified sources report that he died at sea in 1801. This date of death is supported by the inscription on the mourning picture that reports his age at death as twenty-six.

Philip Jr. was born January 5, 1772, in Tiverton;¹²³ this date is confirmed by the mourning picture. About 1792 he married Mary Gray of Tiverton, with whom he had a son — another Philip.¹²⁴ The will of Philip Sr., written in 1802, stipulates "I Give and Bequeath to my grandson, Philip Cory son of my son Philip Cory, Deceased three hundred Silver dollars to be paid to him when he comes to the age of twenty one years."¹²⁵ Philip Jr., therefore, must have died prior to 1802. The mourning picture's inscription indicates that he died on August 24, 1794, at the age of twenty-two years. A reference — which fails to indicate its source — reports that Philip Jr. died at sea from yellow fever.¹²⁶ Peleg Burroughs, in his diary entry of July 19, 1795, wrote, "But as news had just come of the death of young Philip Cory at sea, I visited his bereaved widow at Esqr. Philip Gray's."¹²⁷ News of his death apparently did not reach his wife for eleven months, probably because his ship returned to port many months later. The given cause of his death is probably correct since the Cory ships did travel "to the Western Islands [the Azores] & elsewhere,"¹²⁸ where yellow fever was endemic.

What has been established is that all three sons probably died at sea during their time aboard ships owned by their father and uncle Isaac. The names of the ships on which they sailed have not yet been determined. However, there were at least three vessels, the sloop *Reliance*, the brig *Polly*, and the schooner *Rhoda*, on which the young Cory men may have sailed.¹²⁹

Water was again involved in the death of another Cory — Captain Philip Cory's grandson, Philip, who drowned

in a Tiverton salt pond.^[24] Unlike his father and uncles, his body was recovered and his final resting place is in the Philip Cory Cemetery. The list of the cemetery's tombstone inscriptions includes "Philip son of Philip and Mary his wife died Jan. 4, 1803 in the 9th year of his age."

In conclusion, this study demonstrates, among other things, the value of mourning pictures in genealogical research.

Notes

¹ Anita Schorsch, *Mourning Becomes America: Mourning Art in the New Nation* (Clinton, New Jersey, The Main Street Press, 1976), p. 3.

² *Ibid.*, p. 7.

³ Betty Ring, *Let Virtue Be a Guide to Thee: Needlework in the Education of Rhode Island Women, 1730-1830* (Providence, The Rhode Island Historical Society, 1983), pp. 160, 180, 184, 195.

⁴ *Ibid.*, pp. 72, 73.

⁵ William Waterman Chapin, *Genealogy of the Nightingale Family* (Providence, manuscript, 1912), pp. 4, 5. Thomas and Sally Cory are buried in Grace Church Cemetery, Providence, Rhode Island.

⁶ Betty Ring, *Let Virtue Be a Guide to Thee* [note 3], p. 141.

⁷ Jane Fletcher Fiske, *Thomas Cooke of Rhode Island* (Boxford, Massachusetts, the author, 1987), vol. 1, p. 298.

⁸ Vernon Cory and Michael R. Cory, *The American Corys: Their Settlement and Dispersion in the United States and Canada* (Bowie, Md., Heritage Books, Inc., n.d.), p. 39.

⁹ *Historic and Architectural Resources of Tiverton, Rhode Island: State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, Preliminary Survey Report* ([Providence], Rhode Island Historic Preservation Commission, 1983), p. 14.

¹⁰ James N. Arnold, *Vital Record of Rhode Island, 1636-1850, First Series. Births, Marriages, and Deaths, Vol. 4. Tiverton. Part VII* (Providence, R.I., Narragansett Historical Publishing Company, 1893), p. 73.

¹¹ *Ibid.*, Vol. 4. Newport County, p. 18.

¹² Grace S. Durfee, Benjamin F. Wilbour, and Waldo C. Sprague, *Complete Cemetery Inscriptions of Tiverton, R.I.*, manuscript, 1936-1954, p. 33, later published in *Register* 118 (1964): 151.

¹³ Arnold, *Vital Record of Rhode Island, Vol. 4. Tiverton. Part VII* [note 10], p. 74.

¹⁴ Al Bertus Cory, *Corys of America: Ancestors and Descendants, Book Two* (Jacksonville, Florida, the author, 1991), p. 26.

¹⁵ Tiverton Probate Records, Book 5, p. 178, at office of town clerk.

¹⁶ Arnold, *Vital Record of Rhode Island, Vol. 4. Tiverton. Part VII* [note 10], p. 74.

¹⁷ *Ibid.*

¹⁸ A. B. Cory, *Corys of America* [note 14], p. 48.

¹⁹ Tiverton Probate Records, Book 5, p. 178.

²⁰ A. B. Cory, *Corys of America* [note 14], p. 48.

²¹ Peleg Burroughs's *Journal, 1778-1798: The Tiverton, Rhode Island Years of the Humbly Bold Baptist Minister*, edited by Ruth Ann Wilder Sherman (Rhode Island Genealogical Society, 1981), p. 325.

²² Edna S. Snell, "Whaling and Fishing," in *A Patchwork History of Tiverton, Rhode Island, Bicentennial Edition* (Tiverton, Rhode Island, Tiverton Historical Society, 1976), p. 98.

²³ Richard Cory Kugler, "Notes from a Talk at the Cory/Corey Family Reunion, August 8, 1993," in Charlotte C. Muller, *William Cory of Portsmouth, Rhode Island and his Descendants, Section I, Early Years* (Rhode Island, the author, 1993), p. 83.

²⁴ A. B. Cory, *Corys of America* [note 14], p. 48.

ARTHUR AND SYBIL KERN are researchers, writers, and lecturers on early American folk art. Their bibliography includes twenty-three magazine articles plus a chapter in *The Art of Family: Genealogical Artifacts in New England* (NEHGS, 2002). They have served also as guest curators for the American Folk Art Museum.

("The Kate Dyer Connection," continued from page 22)

It is not known who was on the *Kate Dyer* that day, but we do know who was not — Sarah Gunnison. Earlier in the same year — March 29 to be exact — Sarah Gunnison married Adna True Denison.^[5] Their daughter Hannah married Charles Wentworth in 1900, and my wife's grandmother, Marion, was born to the couple in 1905. Thus the family connection to the *Kate Dyer* and the reason Marion had the original painting of the ship.

And what of the connection to the immigrant who happened to land at Castle Garden around the time my great-grandfather did, which eventually led me to embark on this voyage of discovery? She came to America on the *Scotland* and mentioned the tragic event that occurred as her ship left New York Harbor on its return to Europe — the reason why she named the *Kate Dyer* in her article about Castle Garden.

My research ultimately led to the discovery that my wife's grandmother Marion had at least four ancestors on

the *Mayflower*, and that her first husband — my wife's grandfather, Frederick Wakefield Minor — was a descendant of Thomas Minor. Marion suspected that she and Frederick were distant cousins but was never able to trace the lineage. I would have loved to have shared these findings with her, but unfortunately she passed away in 1998.

Notes

¹ Jordan, William B., Jr., *A History of Cape Elizabeth, Maine* (Heritage Books, Inc., 1987).

² www.ancestry.com/search/rectype/usersub/worldtree/main.htm.

³ www.csnavy.org/css/fla/log1st.htm.

⁴ njlls.burleo.org/scotland.htm.

⁵ www.nv.com/ipusers/pcsmis/Denison/Isaac_Denison/Isaac_Denison.html.

THOMAS C. HOFFELDER is an aeronautical engineer with a long and avid interest in astronomy and geology, with genealogy now added to that list due to the events described above.