



BIBLE RECORDS AT NEHGS

The Lechmere-Cook Bible

The editors are pleased to introduce "Bible Records at NEHGS," a new column in NEW ENGLAND ANCESTORS. In each issue, Timothy Salls will present a transcription of an original record from the Society's R. Stanton Avery Special Collections Department. Readers are invited to submit Bible records to the Society for possible inclusion in this column. For more information on donating your Bible record to NEHGS please see "Donating Bible Records to NEHGS" on page 55.

In this first installment, we offer readers a transcription of the Lechmere-Cook Bible, discovered through the research of Randolph Tibbets (Houston, Texas) and donated to NEHGS by Philip Tilney of Kennebunkport, Maine, through the efforts of NEHGS Council member Davida Symonds (Agoura Hills, California).

[Title page]

T. Cooks Nich.^o Lechmere's 17
The Holy Bible,

Containing the Old and New Testaments:
Newly Translated out of the Original Tongues:
And with the Former Translations
Diligently Compared and Revised,
By His Majesty's Special Command.
Appointed to be Read in Churches.

London:

Printed by Thomas Baskett, Printer to the King's most
Excellent Majesty; and by the Assigns of Robert Baskett.
M.DCC.LL.

[First page]

Silas Cooke son of Silas and Rebecca
was born Sept 18th 1753
Ann Lechmere daughter of Nicholas and Elizabeth
was born June 19th 1755
and were married March 21 1778
Jarvis Buxton son of Peter & Ann
was born November 27th 1737
Sarah Barry daughter of Lewis & Francis
was born Jan^r 1st 1747
were married June 1787
Silas Cooke died at Newbern 25th March 1798
of a Sunday
Ann Cooke died at Newbern 4th October 1807
of a Sunday
Jarvis Buxton died at Beaufort NC August 1811
Sarah Buxton died at Newbern November 1803
and all are interred in the Newbern burying grounds
Henry Marchant Cooke son of Silas & Ann was born at
Newbern in the Glebe house of a Wednesday
7 April 1784
Elizabeth Cooke daughter of Silas & Ann was born at or
near Newport (RI) the 22nd Oct 1780 & died at

OCGS REFERENCE ONLY by Timothy G. X. Salls

Lechmere
fam

Newbern 10th October 1784

Thomas Cooke son of Silas & Ann was born on Lot No. 87
Newbern the 11th November 1787 and was lost at sea
between Cape Lookout and Bear banks in a violent storm
the 3rd & 4th September 1815

Frances Barry Buxton daughter of Jarvis & Sarah was born
on the north part of Lott No 345 Newbern 20th May
1788

Jarvis Barry Buxton son of Jarvis & Sarah was born on N^o
Lott no 345 Newbern the 17th January 1792

Henry M. Cooke and Frances B. Buxton were married of a
Sunday evening by the Rev^d Tho P Irving at the house on
the north part of Lott 345 in Newbern the 5th of March
1809

Henry, son of the above H M & EB. Cooke was born on the
north part of Lott No. 345 in Newbern on Friday, 22nd
december 1809

Thomas, son of H.M. & EB. Cooke was born at Letters
house near the east end of Beaufort NC on Saturday the 11th
January 1812

Julia Frances daughter of H.M. & EB. Cooke was born at
Letters house near the east end of Beaufort NC on Saturday
the 1st Jan 1814

Sarah Ann Cooke daughter of H.M. & EB. Cooke was born
at the same place Saturday September 23rd 1815

Francis Jarvis Cooke son of H.M. & EB. Cooke was born at
the same place on Sunday the 13th July 1817

Jarvis & Frances Cooke (Twins) was born at the same place
on Wednesday 19th May 1819; Jarvis died 10th Sept 1819 of
Friday & Frances died Tuesday the 12th Sept 1820

William Gaston Cooke son of H.M. & EB. Cooke was born
at Lott 29 Beaufort on Wednesday the 20th Dec^r 1820

Mary Eliza Cooke daughter of H.M. & EB. Cooke was born
on Lott No 29 Beaufort on Friday 3rd January 1823

Silas Lechmere Cooke son of H.M. & EB. Cooke was born
on Lott No 29 Beaufort (O Town) 6th February 1825

George Badger Cooke son of H.M. & EB. Cooke was born
on Lott No 29 Beaufort OT. 26 April 1827

Alexander Cooke son of H.M. and EB. Cooke was born
near Beaufort 11 May 1829

Henrietta Cooke daughter of H.M. and EB. Cooke was
born near Beaufort 12 May 1831; Frances B. Cooke departed
this life the 23rd Novr 1833 of a pulmonary disease and with
a full assurance of a blessed immortality

H. M. Cooke & Naomi Hackburn daughter of Peter &
Elizabeth Noe were married by Jechonias Pigott Esq. the 22
Feby 1834

[Second page]

Nicholas Lechmere & Elizabeth Gardiner were married by the
Rever^d Mr. Eben^m Punderson Missionary from the Society
for Groton, Connecticut the 30th of May 1745



A page from the Hyde family record kept by William, his son Noah Hyde (1717-1786), and granddaughter Ruth Hyde (1740-1816).

Jane Mecom's "Book of ages"

This "Book of ages" was created and kept by Jane (Franklin) Mecom (1712-1793), sister of Benjamin Franklin, and her grandson Josiah Flagg (1760-1840). This register contains births, marriages, and deaths of the Mecom and Flagg families of Boston. The first entry is the birth of Edward Mecom, Sr., in December 1704 and the last entry is the death of George Washington Flagg on October 17, 1819. However, Jane and Josiah recorded more than just names and dates; for example, the register includes the following: "September 19 1767 Nantukett at the house and under the most affectionate

care of my dear friend Kezia Coffin died my dear & beloved daughter Polly Mecom." Josiah also included a description of the loss of a loved one: "My father died in Boston June 1775 when the town was in possession of the British army's garrison. The family was then out of town fled with many others into the country and it was told to me that my father came to his death by being poisoned while sick by a surgeon in the British army by the name of Spencer who plundered the house of all its effects." What impact did this have on Josiah? He recorded his feelings on the last page of the family record: "I was left a helpless orphan at the age of fourteen and during the whole Revolution suffered very much."

With the outstanding volunteer efforts of our members, NEHGS acquires, preserves, and promotes access to manuscripts like the family records discussed above. We collect these sources for vital data, records of historic events, and a glimpse into the lives of our ancestors. However, genealogists cannot focus on the past to the exclusion of the present. It is equally important to assist future genealogists by documenting our lives today — to record vital data in our own family registers, with details about our education, occupations, clubs and associations, awards, hobbies, etc. A detailed family register is a valuable legacy for our descendants. Let us impress the archivists of the future with how well we've documented the lives of our families! ♦

TIMOTHY G.X. SALLS is archivist at NEHGS.

"A detailed family register is a valuable legacy for our descendants."

("The Computer Genealogist," continued from page 47)

With RootsMagic's approach I can easily create a complete book with many different reports on anyone I want to include. Each report selected opens the options for that specific report, allowing me to include only what I need.

Creating a website will not intimidate anyone who uses the program. The windows that open are easy to follow and walk you through the creation of files. You can determine what sources, notes, and photos to include, and you can protect living individuals in your database. You can add additional links to other websites you think visitors to your site might enjoy. After pages have been created, RootsMagic will let you know where they are saved on the computer, so that you can find them when you go to upload them.

If you haven't used genealogy software then you will find RootsMagic easy to navigate. If your present software isn't doing everything you had hoped, you may find RootsMagic has what you were looking for. All in all, it is a powerful, easy-to-use program that can greatly aid researchers in family history.

RootsMagic is available for \$29.95 (\$39.95 if you also want *Getting the Most Out of RootsMagic* by Bruce Buzbee), plus postage and handling from FormalSoft, Inc., P.O. Box 495, Springville, UT 84663, 1-866-GO-ROOTS, or at the website www.rootsmagic.com. System requirements are Windows 95 or later, 32 MB of RAM, CD-ROM drive, 50 meg free hard disk space. ♦

RHONDA R. MCCLURE is the author of *The Genealogist's Computer Companion* and *The Complete Idiot's Guide to Online Genealogy*.

DONATING BIBLE RECORDS TO NEHGS

While NEHGS is always pleased to receive donations of original material, the Society is also grateful when photocopies of original records are donated. Even if you would rather not donate your family heirloom, please consider sharing the genealogically valuable information contained within it. Your distant cousins and future genealogists will thank you for your foresight! The NEHGS archivist has established guidelines for donations to the NEHGS Bible Records Project. NEHGS is seeking:

- Original bibles (or other records containing family records), or
- Photocopies from such records with all pages containing family information as well as the title page.

In either case, please include a short note with the donor's name, address, and how the Bible was acquired. For more information about the Bible records project, please contact the special collections department staff (Tim Hughes at 617-226-1223 or thughes@nehgs.org, or Tim Salls at 617-226-1232 or tsalls@nehgs.org). Donations of Bibles or family records may be sent to Special Collections Department, NEHGS, 101 Newbury Street, Boston, MA 02116.

- Nicholas Lechmere son of the above (Old Stile) [Inserted page — front]
was born the 18th March 1749 James W. Cooke and Mary E. A. Watts were married July 5th
Anthony Lechmere Ditto was born the Do 1848 in Trinity Church Portsmouth VA.
25th of August 1752 Lechmere R. Cooke son of the above was born in Portsmouth
Ann Lechmere Daughter of Ditto was Do Va Nov 27th 1853
born the 19th of June 1755 Do Lechmere Cooke and Laura S. Spady, married in
Thomas Lechmere son of Ditto was Do Northampton Co., VA Oct. 10th 1877
born the 4th of October 1757 Elizabeth Lechmere Daughter of Ditto N.S. [Inserted page - back]
Elizabeth Lechmere Daughter of Ditto James Wallace Cooke son of Lechmere and Laura born in
was born the 9th of April 1765 Portsmouth VA April 9th 1879
Boston, November 22d, 1746, M^{rs} Ann Lechmere wife of Thomas Sanford Cooke born January 8th 1881 at Portsmouth VA
Thomas Lechmere Esq' Died Age 60 years
- Boston May 29th 1765 Died [Third page]
Thomas Lechmere Esq'. Husband Silas Cooke was born on Thursday
of the above M^{rs} Ann Lechmere Sepr 18th 1753 at Newport Rhode
Age 82 years Island [aged 44 y] & died Sunday
March 25th 1778 at Newbern
Thomas Cooke, (son of Silas and North Carolina —aged- [6 mo & 7
Ann) was born 11th November day]
1787 Nancy Ann Lechmere was born
Esther Wallace (daughter of James & Sunday June 19th 1755 at
& Jane) was born 17th March 1796 and died Sunday October 4th 1807
1795 at Newbern North Carolina
aged 52 yr 3 mo & 15 day
Thomas Cooke and Esther Wallace Silas Cooke & Nancy Lechmere
were married [per] Belcher Fuller, was married at on the 21st of Mar
Esq. April 8th 1810 1778
James Wallace Cooke son of the Israel Sheldon, son of Remington
above was born Sunday 23rd Aug and Huldah was born at Pawtuxet
1812 Rhode Island 22d Mar 1797
Harriet Wallace Cooke was born Harriet Wallace Cooke, daughter of
born Thomas and Esther was born at
26th Aug 1814 Beaufort, North Carolina 26th Aug
1814 and were married at Newbern
Thomas Cooke was lost on a voyage Greene County Alabama Tuesday
from New York to Beaufort in a Morning 28th May 1844
violent gale of wind on the 3rd or
4th of Sept 1815 & in which the
whole crew consisting of six persons
perished the remains of the
vessel was picked up on bear banks
Esther Cooke died at Beaufort on the 4th of October 1816 of
a consumption with a blessed assurance of a happy immortality
James Wallace Cooke and Mary E. A. Watts were married July
5th 1848 in Trinity Church Portsmouth Virginia
Lechmere R. Cooke son of the above was born
in Portsmouth Va Nov 27th 1853



A page from the Lechmere-Cook Bible.

PILGRIM LIFE

Mayflower Compact — A Dissenting View, Part Two

— continued from the summer 2003 issue —

But where did the charge of dread democracy arise that led Robinson to insist that his church was aristocratic despite being in some respects democratic? The pastor and deacons (teaching and ruling elders) were, after all, elected by the congregation from among themselves, or at least by the adult male members thereof. Robinson was at pains not to be considered an Anabaptist, and not to have adopted the Dutch Mennonite congregational system desired by his former colleague, Baptist founder John Smyth.¹¹ For whatever the twists and turns of the earliest Separatist congregations in England, it was those total dissenters, the Mennonites, whose idea of reviving New Testament forms provided the impetus for discovering congregational separation in the New Testament and justifying withdrawal from the national church. Robert Browne's contact with Mennonites in Zeeland had been inspirational. The Mennonites, despite their popular and fearful association with radical, revolutionary Anabaptist uprisings in Münster and Amsterdam in the 1530s, had become pacifists, withdrawn from participation in civil government. The Mennonites' church polity (through

"The Mennonites . . . had become pacifists, withdrawn from participation in civil government."

which any member of the congregation could be elected to lead, sometimes through divine guidance in choice by lot) — did not apply to civil society. Their religious definition of themselves required a society from which to be withdrawn. That

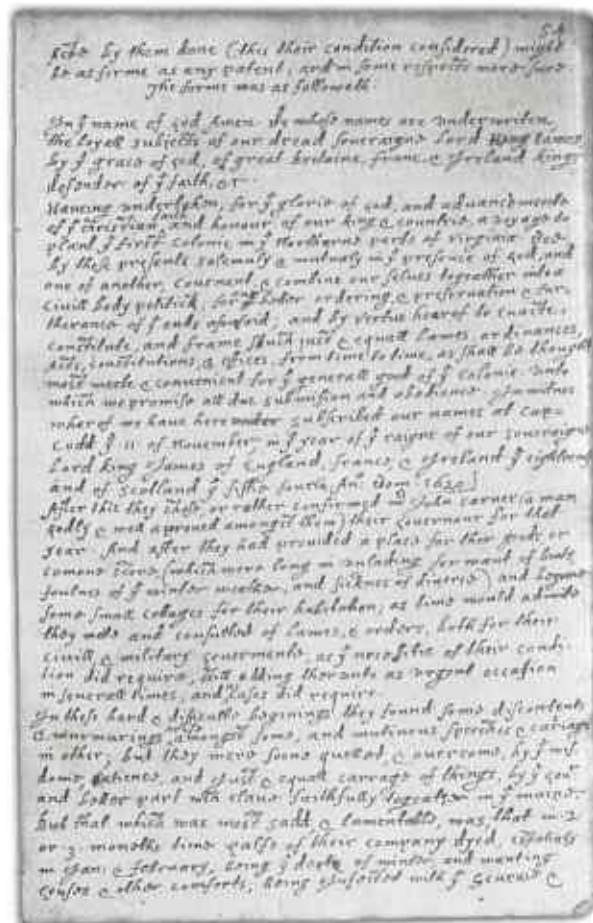
transfer (from religious to civil democracy) was the significant act of the Pilgrims, embodied in the Mayflower Compact and developed in later laws and structures proposed, accepted, and carried out by themselves.

But if this democracy, in which equal members of a community elect their governors from among themselves and establish their own laws and ordinances by majority vote, was an essential outgrowth of the Pilgrim leaders' concept of the true church and just Christian society, one would expect them not to forget the Mayflower Compact — and not to rejoice in its being "superseded" by the Pierce Patent of 1621 and the

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by Jeremy Dupertuis Bangs

Warwick Patent of 1629 (1630). That the text was first published in 1622 in the booklet now known as *Mourt's Relation* implies that in the earliest years, the Mayflower Compact was regarded as a document worthy of public attention. Later court records show that the Mayflower Compact was far from forgotten in the period of the Plymouth Colony. As Cushing says, "Plymouth clung tenaciously to the Compact as the cornerstone of its government until the very end."¹² The Pierce Patent of 1621 promised incorporation on request within the next seven years, granting in the meantime to John

"Later court records show that the Mayflower Compact was far from forgotten in the period of the Plymouth Colony."



A page from the Mayflower Compact.

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GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY