

**L**OW Family Records from a Bible now in the possession of Colonel Carroll H. Clark of Ogunquit, Maine, and furnished by Barbara (Budsell) Getzler of Downey, California.

Nathaniel LOW was born March 20th, 1782 (in Maine).  
Izetta GOOCH was born April 26th, 1790.  
The above were married July 28th, 1808.

#### Children's Births

Sally H. LOW	born	Nov. 17th	1808
Lavinia LOW	born	March 6th	1810
Horace LOW	born	July 14th	1812
John LOW	born	April 3rd	1815
Thomas LOW	born	Dec. 26th	1816
Abigail LOW	born	July 19th	1820
Betsy B. LOW	born	May 9th	1822
Mary B. LOW	born	July 28th	1824
Almira S. LOW	born	Jan. 30th	1828
Joseph G. LOW	born	May 1st	1832
Sabra J. LOW	born	Feb. 25th	1835

#### Marriages

Lavinia LOW married to Bradford OAKES April 6th, 1834.  
Thomas LOW married to Mary D. TOWNE September 1838.  
Betsy B. LOW married to Enoch COUSANS June 6th, 1842.  
Almira S. LOW married to Pheneas H. RICKER August 6th, 1848.  
Joseph G. LOW married to Sophia N. MURPHY January 1st, 1851.

Mr. William L. CLARK and Miss Sabra Jane LOW were joined in marriage by me in accordance with the laws of the state of New Hampshire at Somersworth, N. H., this sixteenth day of Sep. A. D. 1862.

Attest

Samuel A. Collins

Paster (sic) of Baptist Church

Lolo  
FAM

OCGGS REFERENCE ONLY

# *Will/Grundy Genealogical Society*

honors a pioneer,

*Thomas Lowe,*

who lived in Grundy County in 1892.

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Thomas Lowe was born on the 26th of March 1860 in Gloucestershire, England and was married on 18 March 1882 at New Tredegar, Glamorganshire, Wales, to Mary Jane Jones (born in New Tredegar 14 February 1861 to William and Margaret {Coates} Jones).

The 1900 federal census of Grundy County indicates the couple, with their young children - Mary Ann, Edith Louise, and Margaret Coates - emigrated from their home in the British Isles sometime in 1888 and settled in the small community of What Cheer, Keokuk County, Iowa, where their fifth child, Joseph, was born. A short time later, the family left Iowa and traveled to Braceville, Grundy County, Illinois. Four other children - Sara Jane, Alice F., William T. and Jessie May - were born to Thomas and Mary Jane after they settled at Braceville. William died in 1900 at the age of two months. Their first child, Samuel, had died in 1883 shortly after birth.

Thomas, like many other men in and around the Braceville area, worked as a coal miner for a number of years. He later was employed by the E.J. & E. Railway in Joliet, Will County, Illinois, a position he held until the time of his death. His community activities included membership in the Ancient Order of Foresters lodge.

Mr. Lowe became a naturalized citizen of the United States on 14 April 1902.

The death of Thomas Lowe occurred on the 29th of September 1920 in Joliet. His wife continued to live in Braceville until her death on 18 December 1922.

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NOTE: WGGG member Shirline (Yedlicka) Skuban is a descendant of Thomas Lowe, whose daughter Sara Jane was married to Anton James Yedlicka.



The danger passed and the families returned to Lockport. At that time indigenous Pottawatomi lived on each side of the Runyons, and a trail connecting the encampment ran alongside the Runyon home. As they passed, Pottawatomi oftentimes would enter the cabin, and the family would remember later that the Native Americans were generally well behaved.

However, while Armstead Runyon was gone to Danville on business, an epidemic of small pox broke out in the Indian encampments. The Runyon home was no longer open to the Pottawatomi, and although offended, the Native Americans nevertheless left the family alone.

In 1849 Runyon would move on to California, and even though his touch with local lore ended, he would continue to leave his mark. Unlike the thousands of other Forty-Niners who descended on California in search of gold, Runyon stopped at Sacramento County and took up his lifelong occupation, farming. He apparently identified the fertile valley as being ideal for fruit trees and, according to Mrs. Waldvogel's research, he was the first to plant orchards in the California county.

In the later years of his life Runyon became involved in mining operations, and all of his ventures led to his becoming quite wealthy. He was a major contributor to the building of Christian College and Pacific Methodist College. He died on September 8, 1876, in Santa Rosa, California, where he had resided since 1871.

The gravesite in Lockport, surrounded by a two-foot high stone wall, contains the remains of Runyon's first wife, Anna Hornbecker Runyon, who died in 1839; son Winfred Runyon, who died just short of two years of age in 1849; and son Oliver, who died at age seven in 1853.

Reprinted from the Forest Preserve Citizen, Vol. 17, No. 2, Spring 1999, by kind permission of Mr. Hodgson.

Editor's Note: Armstead Runyon's second wife was Mary Crawford Runyon; the two children buried in the family cemetery are from this second marriage. A copy of Mrs. Ruth Waldvogel's biography of Armstead Runyon is in the Vertical File in the WGS Library.

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### DEFINITIONS

Genealogy The finding of vital statistics on your ancestors and their relatives. Needed are names; dates of birth, death and marriage; to whom married and where; places of birth and death.

Pedigree A genealogy limited to your own specific descent.

Family History Incorporates not only genealogical material but also deeds, adventures, lifestyles, and the history of the times and places in which your people lived.

Joseph J. Carr in The Highlander.

## Family's Undertaking Is Undertaking

By DAVID McCORMICK, Associated Press

LOWES, Ky.—Roy Lowe has spent his life burying the descendants of settlers buried by his great-grandfather.

The Lowe family has been in the funeral business in this town of 130 people for four generations, and Roy, 78, is the last of the Lowe males in it. He is not unhappy his one son decided to become a corporate lawyer for Exxon, because his daughter and granddaughter have entered the trade.

Despite his age, Lowe says he has no intention of retiring from Lowe Funeral Home. He took up the task in the days when funerals were prepared at a family's home.

### First Funeral Home

He later introduced embalming to the area, and eventually built its first funeral home. Now, he is letting the women of the family do the innovating.

"My granddaughter was one of the first women to graduate from the embalming school in New Albany," he said. "They didn't use to have women in the business."

When Lowe was a child, his father sold pine caskets from the back of his general store in the Graves County community. "He'd ask the people what color they wanted—white or black. There weren't any other colors."

According to local superstition, when someone died, the family would measure the casket using a stick cut to the length of the deceased's body.

"They all had tape measures, but they wouldn't use them," he recalled. "They'd always go cut a stick. I'd see two or three men coming up to the store carrying a stick, and I'd say, 'Daddy, somebody's dead.'"

That had changed by the time Lowe entered the business, but the preparation of the dead for funerals was still commonly done in people's homes.

### Horse Retired in 1928

Lowe introduced embalming in 1926, and built the town's first funeral home in 1940.

Lowe used to carry bodies from people's houses to the cemetery in a horse-drawn hearse built in 1890, but traded it in for a motorized model in 1928. He still keeps the horse-powered model in a nearby barn, however, and old-timers regularly ask if he would haul it out for their funerals.

But Lowe said the modern way of death would not allow that.

"It's got to be pulled by horses, and nobody's got the time now to follow behind that thing. I remember you'd spend four or five hours just getting from somebody's house to the churchyard in that thing."

Lowe has kept a record of every person he has buried, but has no idea how many names are on the thick notebooks piled around his office.

"It's up into the thousands, all right," he estimated.

His funeral home used to handle hundreds of services a year, in the time when influenza and pneumonia were deadly plagues. Now, the home handles about 60 funerals annually, mostly of people who have moved to the nearby cities of Paducah and Mayfield.

"People don't hardly die anymore," he said. "So many people used to die young that to be 40 was to be an old man. Now, most teen-agers have never seen a dead person."

His daughter, Judy Milner, owns the Milner Funeral Home in Bardwell with her husband, Billy. Lowe's granddaughter, Andrea Orr, runs the Milner Funeral Home in Wickliffe with her husband, Randy.

Mrs. Orr, 25, said her parents thought the family business had come to an end after they produced no boys among their four children.

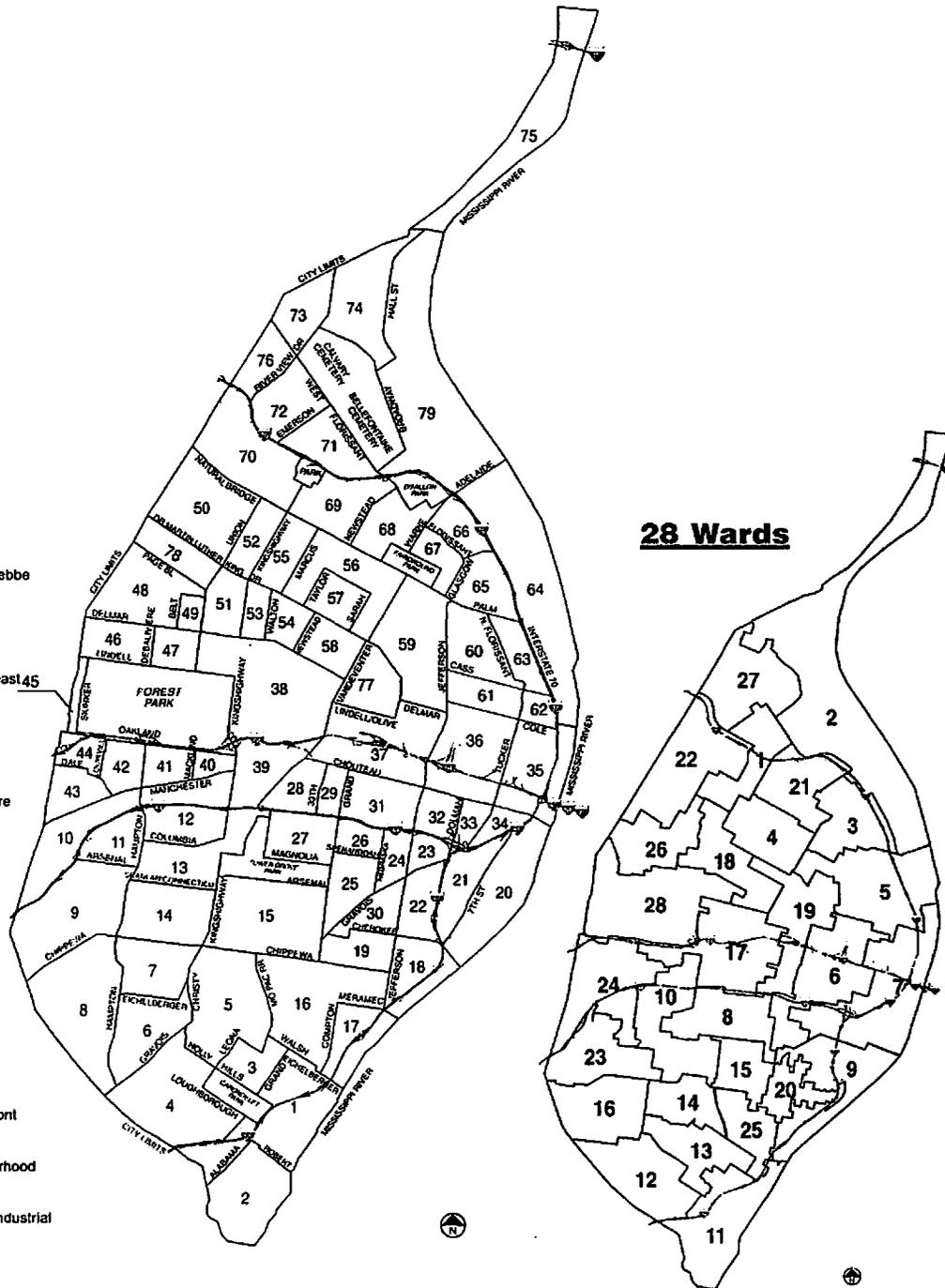
"But my husband got interested in it and we decided to try it," she said.

# City of St. Louis Neighborhoods and Wards

**P**resent-day neighborhoods in the City of St. Louis are shown below, left. Boundaries of the twenty-eight wards, on the map on the right, were set after the 2000 census and will be redrawn to reflect population shifts after the 2010 census. From the *Good Neighbor Guide*, by the City of St. Louis, 2008.

## 79 Neighborhoods

- 1 Carondelet
- 2 Patch
- 3 Holly Hills
- 4 Boulevard Heights
- 5 Bevo Mill
- 6 Princeton Heights
- 7 South Hampton
- 8 St. Louis Hills
- 9 Lindenwood Park
- 10 Ellendale
- 11 Clifton Heights
- 12 The Hill
- 13 Southwest Garden
- 14 North Hampton
- 15 Tower Grove South
- 16 Dutchtown
- 17 Mount Pleasant
- 18 Marine Villa
- 19 Gravois Park
- 20 Kosciusko
- 21 Souard
- 22 Benton Park
- 23 McKinley / Fox
- 24 Fox Park
- 25 Tower Grove East
- 26 Compton Heights
- 27 Shaw
- 28 McRee Town
- 29 Tiffany
- 30 Benton Park West
- 31 The Gate District
- 32 Lafayette Square
- 33 Peabody, Darst, Webber
- 34 Lasalle
- 35 Downtown
- 36 Downtown West
- 37 Midtown
- 38 Central West End
- 39 Forest Park Southeast
- 40 Kings Oak
- 41 Cheltenham
- 42 Clayton / Tamm
- 43 Franz Park
- 44 Hi-Point
- 45 Wydown / Skinker
- 46 Skinker / DeBaliviere
- 47 DeBaliviere Place
- 48 West End
- 49 Visitation Park
- 50 Wells / Goodfellow
- 51 Academy
- 52 Kingsway West
- 53 Fountain Park
- 54 Lewis Place
- 55 Kingsway East
- 56 The Greater Ville
- 57 The Ville
- 58 Vandeventer
- 59 JaffVanderLou
- 60 St. Louis Place
- 61 Carr Square
- 62 Columbus Square
- 63 Old North St. Louis
- 64 Near North Riverfront
- 65 Hyde Park
- 66 College Hill
- 67 Fairground Neighborhood
- 68 O'Fallon
- 69 Penrose
- 70 Mark Twain / 1-70 Industrial
- 71 Mark Twain
- 72 Walnut Park East
- 73 North Point
- 74 Baden
- 75 Riverview
- 76 Walnut Park West
- 77 Covenant Blu Grand Center
- 78 Hamilton Heights
- 79 North Riverfront



## 28 Wards

To find out in which ward you live, call the Neighborhood Stabilization Team at 622-4628.

Office Of The Mayor  
City Hall - Room 200  
Saint Louis, MO 63103

Lowe(e)  
Family

## The Low(e) Family of Portsmouth, New Hampshire

### A Case Study in Research Fundamentals

by Edward E. Steele

**M**y genealogical research began in 1977 when a relative, who knew how to research his family history, visited and taught me a few of the basics. It wasn't long before I was hooked.

#### The Lowe Family of Portsmouth, New Hampshire

My mother, whose maiden name was Barbara A. Lowe, had long before prepared a handwritten family history chart which showed that her great-grandfather was Benjamin Franklin Lowe (who I shall refer to here as "BFL") and that he had been born on 13 May 1814. She also told me that he went into a business partnership with his brother-in-law, Arthur M. Ebbets, forming a company called Ebbets & Lowe. They were living in New York City, where BFL had married Arthur's sister, Delia Ebbets, in 1843. When the California gold rush exploded in 1849, Ebbets & Lowe answered the call by purchasing goods in New York and sailing around the Horn to San Francisco where they then sold their merchandise at enormous profit.

Benjamin remained in San Francisco for many years and joined an organization there called the Society of California Pioneers, which still exists. In January 1979 I wrote to them to ask if they had a copy of his application for membership. They did, and it not only confirmed his date of birth as 13 May 1814, but it also gave his place of birth (in his own handwriting) as Portsmouth, New Hampshire, and in a later handwritten note at the bottom it also supplied the date and place of his death in New York City on 9 October 1890.<sup>1</sup>

So far, this family history research was easy. I just had to write letters and I got my answers.

My next step, of course, was to write to New York to get Benjamin's death certificate, which I did in March 1979. On 12 March 1979 I received that certificate (See next page, top.) which informed me that his father was Frank Lowe from New Hampshire

and his mother was Jane [—?—] from Massachusetts.<sup>2</sup> I was greatly disappointed to not have Jane's maiden name, but at least I now had confirmation of his death and the given names of his parents.

I was, however, puzzled by the fact that his death certificate gave his place of birth as "Mass." To add to the confusion, his obituary from the *New York Times* (on next page), while giving some interesting details about his reason for being in New York City, also said, "Mr. Lowe was born in Boston, Mass."<sup>3</sup> I was now getting conflicting information. What to believe?

County of Calif. Process Archives Vol. 2 354

SOCIETY OF CALIFORNIA PIONEERS

H. T. GRAVES, Secretary  
—AND—  
EDWARD E. CHEVER, Care of Request for Completion of Records

In compliance with your request, the information asked for, is given below:

Name, in full, Benjamin Franklin Lowe  
Date of Birth, May 13th 1814  
Birth place, Portsmouth New Hampshire  
Present Post Office Address, 33 Pine Street New York  
New York E. Lowe  
Occupation, Retail Grocer  
Date of Arrival in California, August 15th 1849  
Name of Vessel, Steamer Panama, Capt Bailey  
If Overland, what route, \_\_\_\_\_  
Died, \_\_\_\_\_ Signature, B. F. Lowe  
New York City  
November 1872  
October 9th 1890.

Benjamin Franklin Lowe's Application to the Society of California Pioneers



## The Low(e) Family of Portsmouth, New Hampshire

was a lazy afternoon. So I decided to doodle on the Internet by exploring some websites when I stumbled into a previously unknown site that had indexed some early California newspapers. The California Digital Newspaper Collection website at <<http://cdnc.ucr.edu/cdnc>> looked interesting, and I began entering surnames. I got some tidbits on some of my other early California lines, and then I decided to enter "B. F. Lowe." What I found surprised me!

In the matter of the estate of Thomas Pickering, deceased, ordered Nov. 23d be appointed for hearing the application of Benjamin F. Love, praying to be appointed administrator.

*Alta California*, 15 November 1851

On 15 November 1851 the *Alta California* newspaper (which was published in San Francisco) contained a brief notice (above) which read, "In the matter of the estate of Thomas Pickering, deceased, ordered Nov. 23d be appointed for hearing the application of Benjamin F. Love [*sic*], praying to be appointed administrator."<sup>4</sup> Ten days later, on 25 November 1851, that same newspaper (below) reported,

PROBATE COURT.—Before Judge Campbell. In the matter of the estate of Thomas Pickering, deceased, ordered that letters of administration issue to Benjamin F. Lowe on his filing a bond in the sum of \$10,000.

*Alta California*, 25 November 1851

"PROBATE COURT.—Before Judge Campbell. In the matter of the estate of Thomas Pickering, deceased, ordered that letters of administration issue to Benjamin F. Lowe on his filing a bond in the sum of \$10,000."<sup>5</sup>

Who in the heck was Thomas Pickering? In my thirty years of researching BFL, I had never heard the name. I reasoned that BFL would only post a \$10,000 bond to apply as administrator of Pickering's estate if they were somehow related. So that same day I began researching Thomas Pickering.

Since Thomas died in 1851, I began by looking at the 1850 census. There he was, in San Diego, California, where he was working as a joiner (carpenter).<sup>6</sup> I was especially encouraged to see that Thomas L. Pickering was thirty-eight years old (hence, born about 1812) and that his birthplace was *New Hampshire*. So, he was a contemporary of BFL (who was born in 1814) and, most significantly, had also been born in New Hampshire. I was getting excited.

I then went to the Heritage Quest Online website (thanks to the St. Louis County Library), searched for "Thomas Pickering," and was delighted to discover that they had a digital copy of the book *Supplement to Genealogical Data Respecting John Pickering of Portsmouth, N.H., and his Descendants*. On page sixteen of that book I read, "Thomas Pickering ... of Newington [New Hampshire]; b. Aug 6, 1779; m. Aug 23, 1810, Lydia Low; and d. Sept 14, 1855. Children: Thomas L., b. July 6, 1812; m. Mar. 10, 1843, Margaret Weeks, and d. in California, Aug. 26, 1851."<sup>7</sup>

At last. Here was that same Thomas L. Pickering, whose estate was administered by BFL. And his mother was *Lydia Low* of New Hampshire!

We were leaving Maine a couple of weeks later to return to St. Louis, and Newington, New Hampshire, was just a few miles off the Interstate, so I detoured there to visit the local library. As it turns out, the Pickering family name is common in the area—but not the Low/Lowe family. In fact, my research there indicated that Lydia's parents were "unknown." Stuck again.

### Making the Connection

Fortunately, during my thirty years of research I had made the acquaintance of another Lowe family researcher in New England. I contacted him, and he knew just who Lydia's parents were. Lydia Low (1746–1842) who married Maj. Thomas Pickering in Portsmouth in 1810 was the daughter of Richard Low (1762–1825) and Mary

## The Low(e) Family of Portsmouth, New Hampshire

“Polly” Patterson (ca. 1762–1816). Richard and Polly were married in Portsmouth on 20 June 1784<sup>8</sup> and had twelve children, the oldest of whom was Lydia.

The second of Richard and Polly Low’s children was Joseph Lowe, who was born on 17 November 1786 in Portsmouth. Joseph married Jane Norrie at the South Church in Portsmouth on 22 May 1813. (See notice below.)<sup>9</sup> Thus Joseph (not Frank) and Jane (Norrie, not Norris as my New England friend had originally

**MARRIED,**  
In this town, Mr. Joseph Low, jun. to Miss Jane Norrie.  
Mr. John Abbott to Miss Frances Plaisted.  
In Berwick by the Rev. Mr. Thompson, Mr. Robert Waldron, of this town, to Miss Mary Abbott, of the former place.

*New Hampshire Intelligencer, 27 May 1813*

recorded) Low were married in Portsmouth almost exactly one year before BFL’s birth there in 1814. I have found no civil or church record of Benjamin’s birth or baptism.

My initial research into Jane Norrie led to a book entitled *Lineage and Biographies of the Norris Family in America*, by Leonard A. Morrison. A footnote on page twenty-one reads, “On the Portsmouth records are the following unassigned *Norris* records: James and Katherine Norris—children, b. Portsmouth, N.H.: Mary Norris, b. Dec. 17, 1784; Margaret Norris, b. Aug. 16, 1787; Elizabeth Norris, b. Sept. 15, 1789; Jane Norris, b. April 25, 1792.

This preponderance of evidence demonstrates that Lydia Low(e) and Joseph Low(e) were siblings, and therefore the Thomas L. Pickering who died in San Francisco in 1851 was BFL’s first cousin. No wonder Benjamin was the administrator of Thomas’s estate.

Subsequent research indicates that Benjamin’s father, Joseph Low(e), was a ship’s captain in Portsmouth.<sup>10</sup> He was last known to be living there in 1827, when he would have been about forty-one years old.<sup>11</sup> Jane (Norrie) Lowe does not appear in the census records until 1850 when

she was living with her married sister, Elizabeth (Norrie) Hastings, in Watertown, Middlesex County, Massachusetts.<sup>12</sup> In 1860 she was still living with her sister’s family, but they had then moved to Newton, Massachusetts, a suburb of Boston.<sup>13</sup> She died in Newton on 23 March 1868 and was buried at Mount Auburn Cemetery in Cambridge.<sup>14</sup> I have visited that cemetery and there is no stone to mark her place of burial.

### What Happened?

So, why did it take me thirty years to discover BFL’s true parents? It all goes back to that New York death certificate. So let’s take a closer look at it.

For years I have taught that a death certificate is primary evidence of death information, but that it is secondary (e.g., “hearsay”) for just about everything else on the document. Unfortunately, I did not heed my own advice in this case.

One of the most important items of data on a death certificate is the name of the informant—the person who supplied the information that was written on the certificate. In BFL’s case the informant was likely his oldest son, William Ebets Lowe, with whom BFL had been living just prior to his death. William was born in New York City on 31 October 1844. Thus, he would have been twenty-four years old when his paternal grandmother, Jane (Norrie) Lowe, died in Newton in 1868. So he would have known Jane and had probably visited her at her home in that Boston suburb. But William’s paternal grandfather, Joseph Low, had died in Portsmouth years before William’s birth—probably in the late 1820s. Thus William never had any firsthand knowledge of Joseph. When it came time to provide information for that death certificate, William, under stress at his father’s sudden and unexpected death, erred in providing his grandfather’s name and only knew his grandmother as “Jane Lowe” and a resident of Newton, near Boston. It was probably also William, then, who provided that incorrect Boston birthplace for his father on the death certificate and in that *New York Times* obituary.

## The Low(e) Family of Portsmouth, New Hampshire

### Genealogical Summary

Benjamin Franklin Lowe was descended from Thomas Low (1605–1677) and Margaret Todd (1597–1660) who likely came with Rev. Nathaniel Rogers on the ship *Rebecca* from Gravesend, England, in 1636 and became a pioneer settler of Ipswich, Essex County, Massachusetts. As a direct result of finding an 1851 San Francisco newspaper article, I have broken through a long-standing brick wall to discover seven additional generations of my mother's paternal ancestry back to the immigrant ancestor in 1636. Through the many marriages into this branch of my mother's family history, I have also added well over fifty new surnames to my family tree.<sup>15</sup>

Benjamin Franklin Lowe's line of descent is:

**Thomas LOW**, baptized 11 July 1605 in England; died 8 September 1677 in Ipswich, Essex County, Massachusetts.; married 22 June 1630 in Polstead, Suffolk County, England, **Margaret TODD**, born 23 November 1597 in Boxford, Suffolk County, England; died before 1660 in Ipswich.

**John LOW**, baptized 2 March 1633 (or 1635, the record is unclear) in England; died before 28 January 1706 in Essex, Essex County, Massachusetts.; married 10 December 1661 in Beverly, Essex County, Massachusetts, **Sarah THORNDIKE**, born about 1638 in Beverly; died before 1673.

**Thorndike LOW**, born about 1670 in Massachusetts; died 5 November 1759 in Ipswich; married 2 July 1709 in Ipswich, **Mary CHAPMAN**, born 12 March 1677/8 in Roxbury, Essex County, Massachusetts; died 12 January 1736 in Ipswich.

**Joseph LOW**, born about 1712; died 3 July 1782 in Ipswich; married 18 November 1736 in Gloucester, Essex County, Massachusetts, **Elizabeth EVELETH**, the widow of Thomas Haradin, born about 1706 in Ipswich; died after March 1746.

**Joseph LOW** (2), born 25 August 1737 in Gloucester; died before December 1807;



*Benjamin Franklin Lowe (1814–1890)*

married 12 October 1759 in Portsmouth, Rockingham County, New Hampshire, **Rachel JACKSON**, born about 1739; died 14 May 1799 in Portsmouth.

**Richard LOW**, baptized 7 March 1762 in Portsmouth; died 4 February 1825 in Portsmouth; married 20 June 1784 in Portsmouth, **Mary "Polly" PATTERSON**, born about 1762; died 11 August 1816 in Portsmouth.

**Joseph LOWE** (3), born 17 November 1786 in Portsmouth; died after 1827 in Portsmouth; married 22 May 1813 in Portsmouth, **Jane NORRIE**, born 23 April 1792 in Portsmouth; died 23 Mar 1868 in Newton, Middlesex County, Massachusetts.

**Benjamin Franklin LOWE**, born 13 May 1814 in Portsmouth; died 9 October 1890 in New York City, New York County, New York; married 5 June 1843 in New York City, **Delia EBBETS**, born 29 September 1817 in New York City; died 4 January 1888 in Catskill, Greene County, New York.

### Conclusions:

This experience, as exciting as it has been for me in learning my mother's Lowe family ances-

## The Low(e) Family of Portsmouth, New Hampshire

try, has also re-taught me some basic lessons in genealogical research.

- Stick to those genealogical basics: (1) start with yourself and work backwards; (2) work from the known to the unknown; (3) document every fact. Early in my research, I failed to recognize that BFL's death certificate was not the best documentation for his birth or the names of his parents.
- Periodically re-examine your assumptions. I had had "Frank Lowe" as BFL's father on my pedigree charts for thirty years. Having seen that again and again as I searched in vain for him, I simply believed that "Frank" was BFL's father—there was that name on my chart. That assumption consumed untold hours (and years) of wasted research.
- As wonderful as those published family history books are, they are not primary records and can contain errors (e.g., "Norris" instead of "Norrie"). Always follow up by looking for primary documentation for every fact.
- Keep searching. New information comes along daily, especially on the Internet. Never give up the possibility that you can break through that "brick wall."

### Endnotes

1. Society of California Pioneers, archives, volume 2, certificate no. 354.
2. Benjamin F. Lowe, death certificate no. 32428 (1890), New York City, New York.
3. "Dead at the Grand Union Hotel," *New York Times*, 10 October 1890, page 8.
4. *Alta California*, 15 November 1851, page 2.
5. *Alta California*, 25 November 1851, page 2
6. 1850 U.S. census, San Diego, San Diego County, California, page 549 (page 275).
7. R. H. Eddy, *Supplement to Genealogical data respecting John Pickering of Portsmouth, N.H., and his Descendants* (Boston: American Antiquarian Society, 1884), 16.
8. Portsmouth Town Records, volume 11, page 146. Also see Charles W. Brewster, *Rambles about Portsmouth* (Portsmouth, New Hampshire: Lewis W. Brewster, 1878), volume 1, page 52.
9. *New Hampshire Intelligencer*, 27 May 1813, page 3. Also, Rev. Alfred Gooding, "Records of the South Church of Portsmouth, N.H.," *New Eng-*

*land Historic and Genealogical Register* 82: 47; 83: 25–26.

10. *Portsmouth Oracle*, 15 January 1817, page 3, "For the West Indies. The Brig Elizabeth, to sail for the West Indies, in 30 days, will take 30 hhds. [hogsheads] & 100 barrels freight, if offered soon.—Apply to Joseph Lowe." *Portsmouth, New Hampshire, City Directory*, 1821 (transcript), page 19, "Lowe, Joseph, jr. ship master, house Jefferson street." 1821-23 (transcript), page 30, "Lowe, Joseph Jr, Jefferson, ship master." 1827, page 40, "Lowe, Joseph, Jr. ship master, Jefferson st."
11. *Portsmouth, New Hampshire, City Directory*, 1827, page 40.
12. 1850 U.S. census, Watertown, Middlesex County, Massachusetts, page 712 (page 357).
13. 1860 U.S. census, Newton, Middlesex County, Massachusetts, page 344.
14. Massachusetts vital records, volume 212, page 178. *Boston Daily Advertiser*, 26 March 1868, "DIED. In Newtonville, 23d inst., Mrs. Jane Lowe, formerly of Portsmouth, N.H., 75 years, 11 mos." Mount Auburn Cemetery, Lot 2264, Elm Ave.
15. Sources of information on Benjamin Franklin Lowe's ancestors are listed on Ted Steele's website at <<http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=steeles&id=195>>.

As an interesting genealogical aside, William Ebbets Lowe's daughter, Margaret "Peggy" Lowe (1888–1944) married William L. Chamberlain. Their daughter, Mary Lowe Chamberlain, is the wife of the former governor of Pennsylvania, William L. Scranton. During my attempts to establish BFL's parentage, I contacted the governor's family; they knew nothing further of the Lowe ancestry, but they did provide me with a transcript of a journal kept by William Ebbets Lowe, which provided more biographical details about his father.

Ted Steele is the author of *A Guide to Genealogical Research in St. Louis*, and *A Steele Family History*, which was recognized as the "Best Family History of 2001" by the Connecticut Society of Genealogists. In 2005 he published *Ebbets: The History and Genealogy of a New York Family*. Ted has presented lectures at a number of local and national genealogical conferences. He is past president of the St. Louis Genealogical Society and regularly teaches a class on writing your family history.

## Using a Style Sheet to Maintain Consistency

by Venita Archer Lake

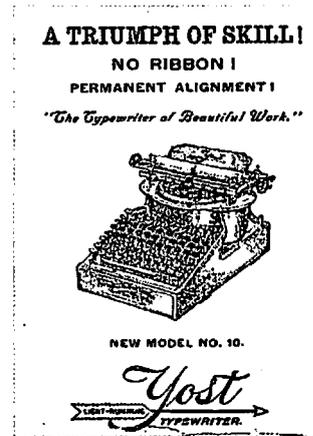
Once upon a time we used typewriters. And before that we used pencils, or pens, or crayons. We may have written things out and then typed them. If we wanted to publish our work, it may have been sent off to be typeset. In today's world of computers, we can "self-publish," no longer just paying (or even being paid by) a publishing company to put our work into its final form, but producing that article or book so that it is ready for print.

It's not quite that simple, of course, but using a computer and a word processing program has certainly made it easier to produce multiple copies of material considered worthy of sharing or saving for others. The challenge is to use the computer programs effectively, make decisions about formatting the document, and establish a set of guidelines to maintain consistency throughout the document—things an editor would have done in the past.

For genealogical works, *Producing a Quality Family History* by Patricia Law Hatcher, CG, (Salt Lake City: Ancestry Inc., 1996) is an excellent resource. It covers much more than we can discuss here and is available for purchase through the StLGS website <[www.stlgs.org](http://www.stlgs.org)>. If you are going to write your family history, *buy this book*.

If you are starting out smaller, for example, writing an essay about one member of your family or preparing something for publication in a journal such as the StLGS *Quarterly*, you will still want to make some decisions about the appearance of your work. One small piece of this effort involves development of a style sheet. The accompanying sample is the style sheet used for the *Quarterly*. It is a living document, meaning that it may be changed or expanded as questions about usage arise. This style sheet was developed by StLGS Publications Director Ilene Murray, Ann Fleming, and past *Quarterly* editor Laura Mackinson, and as the current editor, I have made various additions or changes in the past year and a half.

For our purposes here, the *Quarterly* style sheet does not cover the fonts and font sizes we use (Times New Roman set in 11 point for the main text), the margins and paragraph styles (full



justification), or other matters dealing with the appearance of the publication. The primary resource for our style is the *Chicago Manual of Style*, published by the University of Chicago Press. This is a huge accumulation of rules and samples. However, not everyone is expected to consult a \$55 book that is two inches thick and weighs two and a half pounds. Languages change and, as a result, grammar, punctuation, and spelling rules may change. Some choices about these occasionally flexible rules must be made and standardized within each publication. These choices are recorded in the style sheet as a quick reference.

Here are some of the choices we have made for the *Quarterly* style sheet with explanations or amplifications where needed and a few computer tips related to them. Note, the computer tips relate to Microsoft Word, because that is the program I currently use, but these features are available in similar fashion in most other programs.

Let's start with *Periods* in many varied uses: For those of us who took typing or secretarial practice courses in high school, the standard was to put two spaces after the period at the end of the sentence. Doing so left a nice space that put some added finality to the end of that thought. With today's word processors and other text-based programs, the accepted practice is to use *only one space* after periods at the end of sentences and to let the program do the appropriate spacing for us. Some of us still have that twitchy thumb that automatically hits the space bar twice or just prefer the added space, but the *Quarterly*