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### JOE BARBER'S COLUMN

The purpose of this newsletter is to facilitate the exchange of research information among Jabez

The 13th reunion of the Olmste(a)d Family Association (since the ssociation was reorganized in 1972) was held at the learning center at Lake Chautauqua, New York State on September 9-12, 1999. While the attendance was not as large as some previous reunions, those present had an enjoyable time renewing acquaintances, meeting new folk, discussing family history and generally enjoying the program Esther & Albert Olmstead had prepared for the group. One of the highlights of this reunion for me was to meet our publisher Carl Hommel and his wife Marge.

descendants and to encourage and assist with ongoing research.

Carl and I made a brief presentation to the group on the Jabez line. Presentations were also made on the other major Olmste(a)d lines in North America. Some of those in attendance posed challenging questions as they struggle to trace earlier generations of their Olmste(a)d ancestry. Roger O. Olmsted, of the Richard of Norwalk line, spoke on his recent visit to Olmsted Hall in England, his visit to record offices over there and the other places he visited while there.

Greg Kinal, a local school teacher, made a unique and interesting presentation on the World of Frederick Law Olmsted. Rather than talking about the works of F.L.O., he compared the customs and life styles of F.L.O.'s time to the way we live to-day.

I am presently compiling a mailing list of our subscribers while I hope we will be able to include with a newsletter next year. This mailing list will include the six earliest generations of pedigree line from Jabez for each person, to the extent we have that information. If there is a handi-note with your newsletter asking for the information please send it to Carl or myself when you renew your subscription.

Happy ancestor hunting in the months ahead.

Joe Barber.

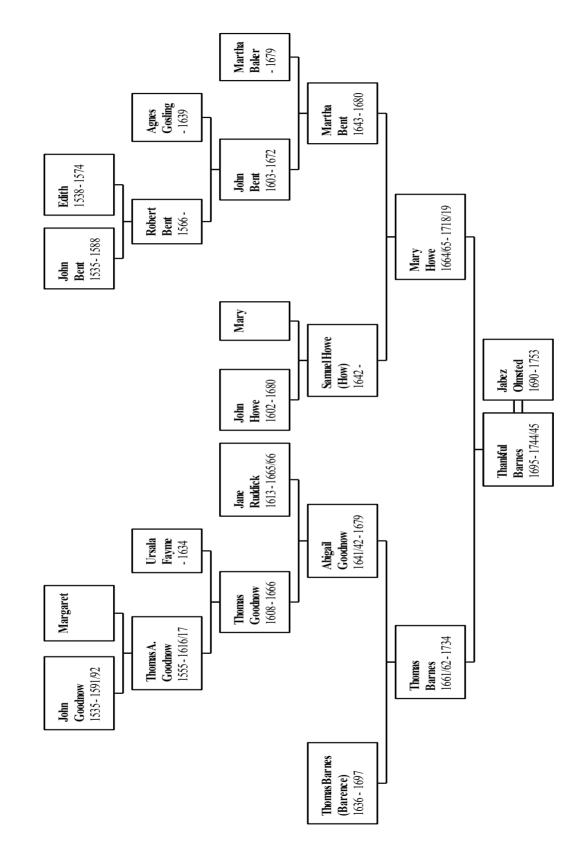
# NEW OFFICERS OF OFA

The officers of the Olmste(a)dFamily Association were elected/reelected at the Chautauqua reunion, and are:

President, Barbara Taylor, 144 W. Mountain Road, Sparta, NJ 07871; Phone: 973-729-1565; E-Mail: taysmi@spsrta.csanet.net Vice President, Marion Krass, P. O. Box 1793, Etowah, NC 28719; Phone: 651-487-2572;, E-Mail: anmkr@juno.com

Secretary, Marty Lamb, P. O. Box 40192, St. Paul, MN 55104; Phone: 651-487-3672.

Treasurer, Audrey Miller, 104 Buffalo Trail, Asheville, NC 28805; Phone: 828-298-1704.



Ancestors of Thankful Barnes

# ANCESTRY OF THANKFUL BARNES

I said in the last issue of this Newsletter I would present the ancestry of Thankful Barnes, wife of Capt. Jabez. The references for the chart on the previous page are:

"Goodenows, Who Originated in Sudbury, Massachusetts, 1638 A.D.", by Theodore James Fleming Banvard, *Publication Sponsored by the* Goodenow Family Association, Gateway Press, Inc., Baltimore, 1994. Marlborough Vital Records.

Sudbury Vital Records.

- "The History of Sudbury, Massachusetts, 1638-1898", by Alfred Sereno Hudson, Sudbury Press, Sudbury MA, 1898.
- "New England Marriages Prior to 1700", by Clarence Almon Torrey, Baltimore, Genealogical Pub. Co., 1985.
- New England Historical and Genealogical Record, 49:65, 32: 409; 48: 288.
- " The Pioneers of Massachusetts", by Charles Henry Pope, Boston, 1900.

"Founders of Early American Families", by Meridith Colket.

"History of the Town of Marlborough, Middlesex,

Massachusetts", by Charles Hudson, Boston, 1862.

## Genealogy of the Olmsted Family in America

Some of our subscribers may not have the "Red Book", and have not seen the article on Capt. Jabez. It is repeated here for their information.

#### CAPT. JABEZ OLMSTED, OF WARE, MASS.

(INTRODUCTION BY FREDERICK S. HAMMOND, ESQ., OF SYRACUSE, N. Y., COMPILER OF THE HAMMOND GENEALOGY)

The ancestry of Jabez Olmsted, who was born about 1690, is one of the unsolved genealogical problems.

It seems strange that the parentage of a man of so much importance in the locality in which he lived cannot be established with some degree of certainty, but we must bear in mind the fact that the emigrant ancestry of a very large percentage of the families who came between 1630 and 1700 is either unknown or established by unsatisfactory circumstantial evidence. We have our "Farmer " and our "Savage " and our " Hotten's Lists " of emigrants but still we know that many thousands landed upon our shores of whom we have no record whatever. The writer has found many circumstances in his own genealogical work to prove this fact conclusively.

It has also been asserted on good authority that many came under assumed names to escape religious persecution and for various other reasons.

There are indications of other Olmsteds in this country at an early date, not of the families of James and Richard Olmsted although possibly closely connected with their families. It seems probable that

Jabez Olmsted belongs to one of these closely connected families. In the early Court records of Preston and Norwich, Conn., we find references to a Mrs. Joanna Rose, widow of Anthony Rose, who married second a man named Fleming and for her third husband an Olmsted whose given name does not appear. In 1688 she was living as Mrs. Joanna Olmsted, in Norwich, Conn. There does not appear to have been any known member of the James or Richard Olmsted lines who could have been her husband. Dr. John Olmsted had but recently deceased in Norwich, leaving a widow, Elizabeth (Marvin) Olmsted, and it seems probable that her husband was more or less distantly related to Dr. John Olmsted.

It is possible that a solution of this problem might reveal the parentage of Jabez. Sheldon's "History of Deerfield" mentions just two of the name: Jabez, a soldier in the Indian wars in 1709, and William Olmsted, a Conn. soldier who, with one Benton, was killed by the Indians July 31, 1704. This William may have been the father of Jabez. The late Dr. Henry K. Olmsted supposed this William to have been a son of Nehemiah and Elizabeth (Burr) Olmsted, but a thorough search of the records at Fairfield, Conn., shows that the said Nehemiah who died in 1657 left an only child, a daughter, Sarah. The final settlement of his estate a year later shows a division between the widow and this child, precluding the possibility of any posthumous child.

Genealogists who have undertaken to solve this problem have (*Continued from page3*)

evolved various visionary theories which when followed out to their supposed foundations have been found to be absolutely

(Continued on page 4)

Hyde, in his anniversary address at Ware, Mass., made prominent a tradition that Jabez Olmsted had Indian blood in his veins. This is so utterly improbable as to be scarcely worth the mention. If true he must have been a half breed or at least a quarter breed Indian and no one of mixed blood would have held a commission in the British service. There were Indians and half breeds in the ranks and as scouts but none amongst the officers.

Furthermore a part blood Indian would never have married into a family like the family of Thomas Banes. Some other genealogist advanced the theory, which gained some credence, that Jabez was the child of Martha (Bagel) Olmsted, the discarded wife of Thomas Olmsted, of Hartford, who married Obadiah Wood and reared a fine family of children. This child was born tn 1686. The sex of the child is unknown; there is no evidence whatever that it lived to grow up. This child was born in wedlock and probably would have held the Olmsted name even though the mother was divorced, but a thorough search of wills, administrations, deeds, etc., in both the Olmsted and Wood families does not show any evidence of the child or any evidence of any Jabez Olmsted and the same is true of the Court records.

Jabez and Thankful (Barnes) Olmsted named a daughter Martha but Thankful had a sister Martha Barnes who married Thomas Gilbert. She also named a daughter Prudence after her sister Prudence.

The only other fact that could be construed by any stretch of fancy into circumstantial evidence of such a connection, is the record of the sale of a tract of land in Ware, Mass., June 27, 1733, by Jabez Olmsted to Obadiah Wood of Hartford, presumably the son of Obadiah and Martha (Bigelow-Olmsted) Wood but the deed was given for a liberal consideration and nothing contained therein implies any relationship, so we dismiss this theory as not worthy of serious consideration.

In our branch of the family is found a tradition of Rhode Island ancestry but the Olmsted name has not been discovered amongst the early settlers of Rhode Island. Emery Olmsted, son of Timothy, was living at an advanced age in Greensboro, Vt., in 1873.

He gave us the tradition that Jabez was the son of " Moses" Olmsted who was an emigrant to Hartford before 1700. No evidence of such a man has been found. Traditions are unreliable but they usually have a considerable foundation in fact, even though the details are not strictly accurate and it may be that the father of Jabez was an emigrant even though his name may not have been Moses. Jabez named a son Moses, however, and the name has come down to us through that branch of the family. It is quite possible that Jabez himself may have been the emigrant from England not long before his appearance in Deerfield, Mass., in 1709. The almost complete difference in given names in the early generations of this family and the families of James and Richard may be taken as an indication of different ancestry. Jabez, Israel and Jedediah are confined exclusively to this line and Jeremiah appears very rarely in the other lines at a much later date. Joseph is common to all the Olmsted families, while Timothy and Simeon apper at about the same period in the Jabez and James lines. A very probable ancestry for Capt. Jabez Olmsted is found in "Waters Genealogical Gleanings in England," published in the N. E. Hist.-Gen. Register, Vol. 41, p. 173.

" Will of John Hawes, the elder, of St. Lawrence, in the County of Essex yoeman, dated Aug. 7, 1613, proved Oct. 12, 1613. Son, John and Elizabeth, his daughter; kinsman John Anthony; Charles Anthony the younger, a sister's son; Martha Anthony, youngest daughter of said sister; Frances, the eldest daughter of sister Alice Anthony; John Olmsted, son of Richard Olmsted and daughter Elizabeth; Israel Olmsted, their second son; Jedediah Olmsted, their third son, and Elizabeth Olmsted, their daughter; daughter, Elizabeth, wife of Richard Olmsted, clerk; wife, Elizabeth Hawes."—(From Commissary Court, Essex, Herts, 1613.)

This Rev. Richard Olmsted who married Elizabeth Hawes, daughter of John Hawes and Elizabeth Gold, was at one time Rector of Arwarton County, Suffolk. He was Chaplain to Lord Loftus in Ireland in 1630 and later Rector of Dunnington, near Framingham, about ninety miles from London. In Dunnington Rectory is painted the Olmsted coat of arms.

Rev. Richard Olmsted was a Military Chaplain. The military spirit has been very strongly developed in this family from Capt. Jabez down to the latest generations. Capt. Jabez Olmsted named his eldest son Jeremiah, and Jeremiah had a son named Jedediah and a daughter Elizabeth. Capt. Jabez's second son was Israel and these names have been handed down from one generation to another. This sequence of names, while no proof in itself, is strong presumptive evidence of a connection, as all genealogists know, and at some future time the connecting links may be found to establish this theory.

# VITAL RECORDS OF BROOKFIELD

In the last issue we commense a series of articles on selected portions of the Vital Records of Brookfield, with marriages and deaths of Capt. Jabez's descendants named OLMSTED. In this issue, we continue with surnames other than OLMSTED. The numbers refers to the number of the individual in the GOFA, and were assigned by the editor [COH]. We ask readers to review the assignments.

#### **BIRTHS/BAPTISMS**

	Surname <b>BROWN</b> p	. 52, 52						
	Anna	9081	d. of Timothy & Thankful	(9070)		4/23/1730		
	Ephraim	9083	s. of Timothy & Thankful	(9070)		2/1/1734-35		
	Mabel	9082	d. of Timothy & Thankful (9070)	()	1/28/17			
	Ruth	9085	d. of Timothy & Thankful (9070)		12/26/1			
	Silanc	9084	d. of Timothy & Thankful (9070)		10/19/1			
	Timothy	9086	s. of Timothy & Thankful	(9070)	10/19/1	4/16/1742		
	1	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,		() () ()				
Surname HAMILTON/HAMMILTON pp. 112-116								
	Doley	9153	d. of Nathan & Abigail	(9093)		10/1/1783		
	Ester	9151	d. of Nathan & Abigail	(9093)		10/21/1779		
	Nabby	9146	d. of Nathan & Abigail	(9093)		1/7/1776		
	Nathan	9148	s. of Nathan & Abigail	(9093)		1/15/1774		
	Serepta	9155	d. of Nathan & Abigail	(9093)		11/23/1790		
	Simeon	9152	s. of Nathan & Abigail	(9093)		11/15/1782		
	Tilly	9154	s. of Nathan & Abigail	(9093)		3/24/1785		
	Thurza	9150	d. of Nathan & Abigail	(9093)		9/4/1777		
			-					
	Surname WATSON/	WATTSON						
	Daniel		s. of Daniel & Anna			4/16/1777(?)		
	Cynthia	9159*	d. of Thankful	(9097) wid.	bap.	6/1792		
	Lucinda	9160*	d. of Thankful	(9097) wid.	bap.	6/1792		
	Royal		s. of Daniel & Anna			7/7/1772		
	Sarah	9157	d. of Daniel & Thankful	(9097)		4/15/1762		
	Timothy	9158	s. of Daniel		bap.	1/8/1764		
Surname WATTSON p. 230								
	Sarah	9157	d. of Daniel & Thankfull	(9097)		4/15/17[66 ?]		
	Timothy	9158	s. of Daniel & Thankfull	((9067)		1/4/1764		
	1	, 100		(() () () ()		1, 1, 1, 0 1		
	MARRIAGES							
	Surname <b>BROWN</b> p	. 280						
	Silance	9084	to Jonah Hamelton**			6/28/1733		
	Timothy	9086	to Kasiah Gross**			4/18/1744		
	1 1110 411 j	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,				., 10, 1, 11		
	Surname MARSH p.							
	Rachel, of Ware		to Silas Adams, in Ware			3/7/1763		
	Surname McMITCH							
	Thankful	9097	to Daniel Wattson**			8/13/1761		
	Surname WATSON							
	Daniel		to Anna Saterly			3/15/1770		

\* Here we have an error, not the only one, in GOFA. BVR's says that Cynthia and Lucinda were the children of Thankful Watson, widow. That may be correct, but that Thankful was not (9097), the daughter of Israel Olmsted. The BVR says that Thankful Watson, wife of Daniel, died on January 2 (or 22), 1766, and that Daniel was remarried to Anne

(Continued on page 6)

#### (Continued from page 5)

Saterley, 3/15/76. HWB also states this. Therefore, Cynthia (9159) and Lucinda (9160) are must be the daughters of some other Thankful WATSON, and are not descendants of Capt. Jabez. For a final bit of proof, Hardwick VRs shows the death of Lucinda WATSON, "of the Gore", on Oct. 2, 1804, age 16 y, 11 m, 1 w, 4 d, which gives her a birthdate of Oct. 22, 1787, which is 21 years after the death of her "mother"

\*\* Intention not recorded

#### DEATHS

Surname <b>BARNS</b> p. 460 Mary Thomas		w. of Thomas, mother of Thankfu father of Thankful		2/4/1718-19 4/23/1734
Surname <b>HAMILTON</b> Abigail	o. 494 9093	w. of Nathan		2/5/1833 or 38
Surname WATSON p. 5 Sarah Thankfull	44 9157 9097	d. of Daniel and Thankful 9097 w. of Daniel	2 yr.10 mo 2 d 27 yr	17/1/1765 1/2 (or 22) 1766

From "History of West Brookfield, Massachusetts", by J. H. Temple, 1887. (HWB)

#### Daniel Wattson m. (1) Aug 13, 1761, Thankful (OMSTED) McMitchell (9097) of Brookfield (2) May 15, 1770 Alma Saterly of Brookfield.

	Children:	
Sarah	(9157)	4/15/176_
Timothy	(9158)	1/4/177_
Sally		1/28/177_
Royal		7/7/177_
Samuel		11/10/177_
William		10/26/17
Daniel		4/16/17

Abigail (9078) d. of Jabez OLMSTED, m. 1/1/1771 Nathan HAMILTON, Jr.

# QUERIES

Paula (Olmstead) Wittstruck, 1305 W. Glass Avenue, Spokane, WA 99205-2746, asks: Do we know anything about Jeremiah (s/o Capt. Jabez & Thankful BARNES) O.'s wife, Elizabeth LITTEN and her family?

I (COH) can give an answer, and invite comments and other answers. I do not believe that LITTEN was her surname. In all my searches through Massachusetts Vital Records, Mass Soldiers, DAR records, etc, I have never run across that surname in New England that early. On the other hand, I went to the Brookfield Town Clerk's office a few years ago, and copied the original record. It is very poor quality, so I can not include it in the Newsletter. But it was definitely spelled LITTEN. I think it must have been a name that SOUNDED like LITTEN. Perhaps LEIGHTEN, LYTON, or even LITTLE. Marlene Mymryk, asks the following. Gideon Olmstead, b. abt. 1768 Mass., d. May 14, 1837 Hull Quebec. married Esther (Ester) ANDREWS (ANDRUS) Feb. 4, 1788, West Stockbridge, Mass. Son Zenus was born April 7, 1791, Hebron, Washington Co. New York, son Abraham, b. Dec. 3, 1796 Onondaga, New York. In 1802 Wolford Census in Canada then to Hull Quebec 1804. They had 12 children; Sarah, Zenus, Abram, Henry, Jabez, Gideon, Esther, Nancy, Daniel, David, two died young. I am looking for the parents of both Gideon and Esther. Where are their birth records? Does anyone have information on any of their children and descendants?

Marleen also sent a newspaper clipping, dated May 26.1961, from the Ottawa Clarion, concerning OLMSTEAD Park which was opened in the City View area of Ottawa. This Park was to remember Abraham OLMSTEAD who first owned the land. It said he was a UEL, moved to Hull from (Continued on page 8) What a lot of good news I have to share since I last wrote you. Most exciting of all, but only to us, was that Bill and I became first- time grandparents. Grandson #1 was born in May and grandson #2 in June. We are enjoying this new occupation in life!

My next best news, which will be of interest to you, is that you finally twisted my arm hard enough that we now have a computer. Our wonderful, intelligent sonin-law got us all set up and is ever so patiently teaching me to use it. I am not mechanically minded so feel like a dummy most of the time and am often mad and frustrated at the darned thing. I have figured out email and am already busy pestering many of you genealogy pals. My address is

#### bddolleman@wa.freei.net

and I love getting messages so please do write. One thing that really fascinates me is how much great genealogical information is available on the Internet. I was sharing with some of you that on my very first night of "surfing the web" I found brand new details on Jemima Olmstead, daughter of Jeremiah and Sarah (Ferguson) of Granville/Ft. Ann. Bill and I were just in Washington County, N.Y. in May and made a special trip, miles out of our way to Ft. Ann. We were looking for any clue at all about Jeremiah's family. Well, the library was closed, no cemetery caretaker was to be found, the clerk / historian was not at home, and so we left empty- handed. It amazed me to think that a computer beginner like me, with no idea as to what I was even doing or how I got there, could find on my first attempt something that I didn't find on all our trips to N.Y.! It makes me wonder what other treasures are still to be found.

In spite of our failure in Ft. Ann we actually did make some good progress in Washington County. In the April newsletter I told you about Mr. Craig's (Hebron historian) hand drawn map of the 1794 Cooper Patent. Well, this time we found the old Caleb Green home and Bill coaxed me to knock on the door, which was a very brave thing for me to do. We were welcomed by the Green descendant who still lives there and had a wonderful visit. She is very interested in both her family and local history. We were allowed to hold and inspect the framed original Cooper Patent as well as the 1794 Cooper/ Green indenture, witnessed by Gideon Olmsted and Jabez Olmsted Junior. Most exciting of all was her offer to have copies made for us in town the next day, which she did. I've asked Carlton to print the Cooper Patent once again so you can see the differences between the original and Mr. Craig's hand drawn version which was in the last issue. Notice the omission of William Bullis.

Now, you might wonder what could possibly be so interesting about signatures, but I hope to show that they can be a source of valuable information. Keep in mind that witnesses needed to be of legal age and that a junior in a signature was usually dropped after the death of senior. From this it would be logical to assume that Jabez Jr. of 1794 was at least 21 and his father was still alive. Since Jabez Jr. and Job's signatures on the 1792 Lowing Petition do not appear to be their own, but possibly were their father's as all were in the same handwriting, they may not vet have been 21. We do know that Job was born in 1779 according to Bible records. This would put the birth year of Jabez Jr. around 1773 in order for him to be a minor in 1792, but 21 by 1794. It adds further evidence to the argument that I presented to you in the October 1998 newsletter that neither 9088 Jabez Sr. (wife Miriam Husse) nor Jabez Jr. died in the Revolutionary War. It also leads me to believe that Jabez Sr. did not have a son Jabez Jr. born in 1760 as the "Red Book" proclaims, but rather one born around 1773. First- born sons were often named after a grandfather. Since Jabez Sr. and Miriam were married in 1758 it would not be likely that they had a junior by 1760. As you can see, this is a lot of reasoning to squeeze out of a couple of signatures, but is worth considering

Also while at the Washington County Courthouse and Archives I copied more land records for Aaron Olmstead (probable son of Jabez Sr. and Miriam), Jane Olmstead of Ft. Ann, and Anna Olmstead and her probable daughter, Meribah Day. In addition there were probate papers for Luther Day with Anna Day (later Olmstead) as administrator in 1813. I was also able to finish transcribing our Olmsteads from the Washington County 1825-1865 N.Y. State Census.

Currently I have nearly completed my research on the Aaron Olmstead line, including his son Aaron Jr. and hope to share it with you soon. My number one priority this past year has been to concentrate on the James Olmstead family and Anna Warren Day Olmstead line of Oakland County, Michigan with the intention of proving the connection between the two families. There has been much confusion about Anna and the identity of her Olmstead husband. Bill Samland has been a great help to me with this project and we are making progress. If any of you Anna W. D. Olmstead descendants out there have a single document verifying the name of her husband or father of her children (obit, Bible record, death v.r., etc.) please let us know. We appreciate all the help we can get

Editor's note: We regret that we are not able to include the copy of the original COOPER Parent that Doreen mentioned, as the copy was so faint that the lettering can not be read when it was imported into the Newsletter. If any subscriber wishes to see it, we will be glad to send a copy. Send requests to Carl Hommel, address on first page.

#### (Continued from page 6)

Pennsylvania about 1780.

Who is this Abraham to whom the article refers? Does anyone know who is wife was? children? I have researched the Ottawa area because of my OLMSTEAD line. The only Abraham (Abram) I have come across is my gr.gr.gr. grandfather and the date for him is too early (1780). Perhaps someone can identify him.

Marleen also asks if anyone knows how to access these Olmstead archives she keeps reading about that are associated with the OFA?

Lorna Gerten, C/O Melodie Larkin, 687 Edgar Ave, Beaumont, California, 92223, Email; sent a query.

Richard Francis OLMSTEAD was from the New York area (Ithaca); he had one sister Carolyn and

one cousin Paul who also had the OLMSTEAD name. Richard was the son of Bernard Bruce OLMSTEAD . He died abt. 1932. Another is David Nelson OLMSTEAD , b 1 Jul., 1815 at Green Woods, Luzerne Co, PA. He was married abt 1835 to Sarah SCOTT , b. 1821; children are: Mary Jane, b. 1836/40; Eunice, b. 1842, Stephen, b. 1844; David, b. 1846; and Samuel, b. 1850. And the last one is Millie OLMSTEAD, b. Nov 5, 1796, NY, d. aft. 1874, prob. Stoughton, WI; married Peter KELLOGG, b. 16 Dec., 1801, prob. Rome, Oneida Co, NY, d. 30 Aug, 1867, Hudson twp, Douglas Co, MN, bur. Kinkead Cemetery, Alexandria, MN. Peter was the son of Joseph KELLOGGand Maraba NICKOLS

Doreen Dolleman, 5570 S. Langston Road, Seattle, WA 98178; said that she found a wonderful detailed biographical review of Capt. Laurel OLMSTED of Binghamton, NY. His parents were Lorenzo B. OLMSTED and Lucy Tailor CHARTFORD, Washington, Co., NY. His paternal (Continued on page 10)

# OLMSTEAD ARRIVALS IN ONTARIO, CANADA

# *The following article was contributed by Joe Barber.*

In 1953 Raymond Miles Gorssline, a great grandson of Sarah Olmstead and her second husband Nicholas Sparks wrote the following story about the journey of Sarah Olmstead and her family from the Mohawk Valley to Ontario.

The Mohawk Valley extending from Albany, NY in the east to Syracuse in the west, through which flows the Mohawk River, was the main route for trade and movement of settlers from the seaboard states, to the land of opportunity and adventure farther west. During the Revolutionary War (1775-83) this valley was the scene of fierce gorilla warfare, between the Continentals and those who remained loyal to George III. Villages were burned, crops destroyed, the country side laid waste, and inhabitants driven from their homes, and often murdered by the marauding Indians of both sides.

It was in this district that Gideon Olmstead (1768-1837) and his wife Esther Andrews (1770-1841) lived. Some of their children including Sarah were born there. Their ancestors had come from Wales to America several years before. The name Olmstead (Holmstead, Olmsted) is a local English name of Scandinavian origin, meaning "a place on an island in a river".

In 1792 Simcoe, Lieut. Governor of Upper Canada

believing there were many former subjects of the King, still living in New York and other states, who would welcome an opportunity to emigrate and settle in Upper Canada, particularly since they were not being too well treated in their old homes, issued a proclamation inviting those who wished to come and settle, offering free grants of land of 200 acres to the head of each family.

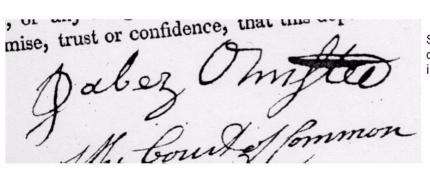
As a result many families decided to emigrate. Among them being the Burritts, Hurds and Olmsteads who all came to the Rideau River country and settled near what is now the village of Burritts Rapids. (Elizabeth Sparks, sister of Nicholas Sparks who was husband of Sarah Olmstead married Edmund Hurd). This was in 1795, one year before Philemon Wright first came to the Chaudière.

It should be interesting to follow the pioneers, during their journey from the Mohawk Valley. They went by flat bottomed boats up the Mohawk River to Fort Stanwicx (Rome, NY), there by portage over the height of land to the headwaters of the Black River, and down that river via Watertown, NY to Sackets Harbour, at the eastern end of Lake Ontario, then by Durham boat skirting the shore, through the Thousand Islands to Brockville, Ont. This was a journey of several weeks, during which the pioneers, slept under the stars, cooked by camp fires, and often walked long distances along narrow trails, carrying their few belongings. There were other well used routes coming out at Oswego, Ogdensburg or Cornwall.

p.d

May 1792, Pawlet, Vermont William Lowing Petition

October 1794, Hebron, N.Y. witnesses to William Cooper and Caleb Green land indenture



September 1817, Hebron, N.Y. deponent in Aaron Olmstead insolvency court record

January 1819, Hebron, N.Y. assignee of Aaron Olmstead in insolvency court case (Continued from page 8)

At Brockville they drew their lots in the back concessions, and the emigrants proceed North through the unbroken forest. There were no roads, merely blazed trails along which they walked and transported their household goods on an ox cart, driving a cow or two up the trail.

Gideon Olmstead and his wife Esther came in this way, with their family of small children. Sarah was 8 years old. The family settled on lot 19, concession 1, along the Rideau River front, just east of the present village of Burritts Rapids. There were two brother of Gideon, namely Richard and Jabez and a sister Elizabeth who came at the same time. Another brother Job came a few years later.

Gideon lived on lot 19 for 9 years and must have been a successful farmer, for by 1804 he was able to purchase 300 acres of good land in Hull Township, along the present Aylmer Road, just west of the Chaudiere Golf Club. He remained here until his death

#### (Continued from page 8)

grandfather was George OLMSTED of Hanover, NH. Lorenzo was born in 1805, Bradford, VT. Does anybody know who George Olmsted descended from?. Does he belong to the Capt. Jabez line? She has more information on this family if any one is interested.

Evelyn BAKER, 13549 West Lake Road, West Springfield,

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