



**The PILGRIM WILLIAM WHITE  
SOCIETY NEWS  
Est. 2013**

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**Pat Nichols, Editor**

**GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE**

Dear Pilgrim William White Society Members,

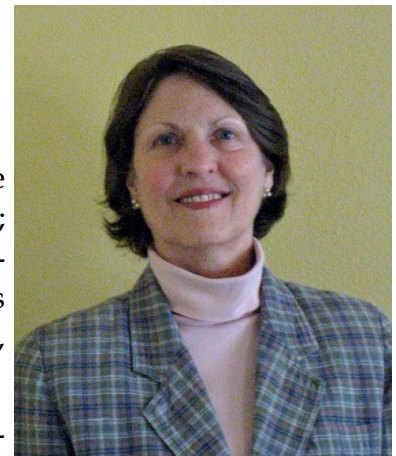
The Pilgrim William White Society has hit the 100 members mark! We had to drop some of our members because of non-payment of dues; however, we've gained enough new members to place us at 100 members. I want to take this opportunity to WELCOME our new members and to THANK our dedicated members for making this a growing, thriving organization.

Since the January 2016 newsletter was published, the Board of Directors voted to use the "family picture" --the black and white silhouette of the pilgrim man (representing William White), woman holding a baby (representing Susanna holding Peregrine), and a pilgrim boy (representing Resolved) that is used on our flag, newsletter, and on the 2015-2017 Directory --as the symbol or logo for The Pilgrim William White Society. So our membership certificates now have this family logo on them instead of the ship we used previously. Member Jane Hurt from Kansas is the first member to have a certificate with the new logo.

The Board of Directors also voted to enter the Family Society Partnership with the General Society of Mayflower Descendants with a yearly donation of \$250. This newly adopted policy by GSMD is as follows:

"For a donation of \$250 from the Family Society to GSMD annually toward marketing costs, with \$100 of each donation going to the Silver Books Research, a Family Society would receive the following:

1. Become part of GSMD public relations and marketing efforts;
2. Have a link on GSMD's website bto a Family Society website;
3. Designate a meeting time during the GSMD meeting schedule at Congress;
4. To communicate and market news of Family Societies in GSMD Quarterly;
5. Any contribution in excess of \$1,000 annually may be designated for additional research on its ancestor;



**Governor Prairie Counce**

**In this issue**

<b>Governor's Message</b>	<b>1, 2</b>
<b>Thanksgiving Program</b>	
<b>Editor's Note</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Publishing a Family Story</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>NYC Cousins Dinner, New Members</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Letter for Anna Forrest</b>	<b>6-8</b>
<b>Food for Thought</b>	<b>9-13</b>
<b>Eileen Patch's Ancestral Trails</b>	<b>14-15</b>
<b>Thoughts on William</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Looking Back</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Treasurer's Report</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Audit Report</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Legal Disclaimer, Officers</b>	<b>20</b>

6. Upon GSMD membership, GSMD would forward information to pursue Family Society membership;
7. Upon Family Society membership, Family Societies would forward the website link to pursue GSMD membership;
8. If such reciprocities outlined above are followed, Family Societies may display a GSMD symbol, furnished by GSMD on their website and promotional materials.”

David Grinnell (on behalf of the Financial Review Committee) has submitted a report that is found elsewhere in this newsletter. The report contains an investment suggestion that the Board is now considering. Our thanks to David for performing the 2015 financial review.

Some of our members have asked for insignia and logo items such as caps, shirts, etc. The Board created an Insignia Committee and Carol Young agreed to Chair the committee. Mary Meeks is a member of the committee. If you would like to serve on the committee, please contact Prarie at [prariec@me.com](mailto:prariec@me.com). Carol has been talking with Hamilton Jewelers about creating a small piece of insignia that could be used as a charm, pendant for a necklace, or lapel pin. By the next newsletter, we should have something to show you. Our thanks to Carol and Mary for working this project for us.

A published family history is so very valuable to descendants. We appreciate Jim Fowler sharing with us the information he obtained from the class he attended at the Maryland Historical Society. I hope you find it as useful as I have.

Lineage Research Committee member Donna Crosby contacted a researcher in the UK (Anna Forrest) regarding a new effort in researching William and Susanna White. Anna Forrest's reply to Donna is printed in this newsletter. I have to tell you that after reading her reply, I felt very depressed and hopeless in the quest to find out more information about our William and Susanna. My hope was restored; however, when I read Donna Crosby's own article. There are so many questions and paths of research. We must always keep thinking, and looking, and digging for a new clue. I'm not ever giving up and I hope you feel the same way.

Until the next newsletter in July, have a fun spring and summer.

*Prarie*



Spring at the Dallas Arboretum

Picture courtesy of Prarie Counce

### Editors Notes:

I wish to apologize to our **Cousin Judy Yankoviak**. She wrote a critique of the Thanksgiving Pilgrim programming and I overlooked it when I put the Winter issue together. She feels the article is no longer timely to include in this issue. Judy, I am deeply sorry and hope you will consider contributing an article for a future issue.

This issue was fun to put together. The articles submitted focused on the possible origins of William and Susanna and on connections to the Vassals.. I am always intrigued by what I receive. Send me an article whenever the urge strikes, you don't need to wait for a request from me!

**Cousin Carol Young** attended a dinner that is held each year in New York City for Mayflower descendants. I did not know there was such an event. Maybe we can add it to our calendars and all attend next year! See page 5.

**Harper and Kirksey Smith**, grandchildren of deputy governor Alan Smith, loved their Thanksgiving gifts from the Pilgrim William White Society. They both enjoy learning about their heritage and the role their family played in founding the Plymouth Colony. Harper is in sixth grade. He is a voracious reader, takes Taekwondo, and enjoys shooting sports and anything involving water. Kirksey is a fourth grader who loves dogs and anything outdoors. She is a dancer and singer who loves to perform. Like the rest of their family (deputy governors excepted), Harper and Kirksey are rabid Clemson football fans. The recent Ken Burns *American Experience* documentary and National Geographic's *Saints and Sinners* prompted a renewed interest in the Pilgrim story for both Harper and Kirksey. They especially enjoyed seeing their ancestor, Susannah White, portrayed in *Saints and Sinners*.



*Saints and Sinners*

*National Geographic Channel*

*Fall 2015*

## How to Publish Your Family Story by James Fowler

The Maryland Mayflower Society and the Maryland Society of the Sons of the American Revolution sponsored “A Genealogy Workshop—How to Publish Your Family Story” at the Maryland Historical Society in Baltimore Jan. 16, 2016.

The major objective of the workshop, conducted by James B. Battles, governor of the Maryland Mayflower Society, and Timothy D. Mallory, deputy governor, was “to provide background on self-publishing and on-demand printing of genealogy books.” Both presenters have published a number of family history books. Battles pointed out that while “self-publishing has been around a long time, print on-demand has given a major boost to self-publishing by drastically reducing the cost and other barriers related to traditional printing.” There are numerous self-publishing vendors to choose from including Archway Publishing, createspace, outskirts press, dog ear publishing and Lulu.com. Both Battles and Mallory use Lulu.com. In addition to either a desktop or laptop computer, a flatbed scanner is a necessity says Battles. “You will also need a word processing program and scanning and photo editing software,” he notes, adding that genealogy software is helpful.

“Establish boundaries at the outset,” he suggests. “Decide where to begin and where to end—how far back you want to go and how many generations you want to cover. You also must determine if you have the information to tell the story and if not determine if you can get it.”

When choosing a book size “there are really only two choices,” according to Battles. “Most books are 6 x 9-inches, but consider 8.5 x 11-inches if you are using lots of pictures.”

Mallory explains that there are two standard genealogical formats:

1. Discordancy format (registry styles) begins with an ancestor and moves forward. The first paragraph contains all vital statics for the main person. Tell the person’s story as completely as possible.
2. Ancestor table (Ahnentafel) begins at or near present and traces direct lines back to the earliest known ancestor. He cites the “Guide to Genealogical Writing,” just published by The New England Historic and Genealogical Society, as a most useful tool.

Mallory emphasizes the importance of providing documentation of all important information for records of birth, marriage, death and other life facts of each individual. He recommends doing a complete reference list for each ancestor at the end of their section. For a copy of the Battles/Mallory Microsoft Office PowerPoint presentation, “How to Publish Your Family Story,” email [mayflower383@verizon.net](mailto:mayflower383@verizon.net). It will be emailed to you as an attachment.

*Jim*





On March 9th, The Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of New York hosted its annual Cousins Dinner on West 51st Street. Each dinner table represented one of the Pilgrim ancestors. It was a very festive affair with lovely pink and white floral arrangements and pink balloons. Unfortunately, I was the only William White descendant present whereas the Brewster clan had 4 tables!



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good news is that even with fewer descendants, our Pilgrim William White Society is thriving! I hope many of you will be able to attend this gala event in 2017. It was great fun!

Cousin *Carol Young*



## Welcome Our New Members

Jane Ellen Groves Riddell Hurt

Descends from Peregrine

Victoria Stillman Withers

Descends from Resolved

Allison Austin Withers

Descends from Resolved

Cathy Marie Gilbert Shay

Descends from Peregrine

Charles Rice Bourland, Jr

Descends from Resolved

Aida Campbell New Friend member Aida is a martial arts instructor

The PWWS Executive Committee voted to pursue additional information on the ancestry of William and Susanna White. Donna Crosby was asked to contact a British researcher and the following is her response.

**From Anna Forrest in the UK**

Hello Donna & Ed

Margaret Edwards got in contact with me to see if I could help you with research on William White of the Mayflower.

I have had a long look at William White for you using all the confirmed facts known about him and I have found that he is a very difficult person to research and as a result of this there has been, and still is, a lot of misleading 'facts' printed about him.

To begin with, the Leiden marriage has been found to be erroneous and therefore William and his wife are not related to the Fuller family. There could of course have been another William White in Leiden that we don't know about, or else the Mayflower William White may have joined the voyage from England. If he did join from England then his life and that of his wife and son appear to be quite inconspicuous in that no records appear in the available archives commemorating any baptism or marriage, or any event which may relate him to the Mayflower and its other passengers.

The only true facts that we have are that William and his wife Susanna sailed on the Mayflower in 1620 with son Resolved and two servants, William Holbeck and Edward Thompson. Susanna gave birth to Peregrine while the Mayflower was anchored off Cape Cod. William died the first winter and his wife Susanna remarried Edward Winslow a few months later.

The fact that there are other people by the name of White living in Jamestown means nothing. Until actual contemporary documents show a definite connection then everything else is supposition.

I'd just like to say that usually when tracing very early genealogies one should be aware of some areas where difficulties and errors are found.

For example:-

Accepting undocumented pedigrees as truth.

Separating fact from fiction.

Unverified or incorrect pedigree links.

False information.

Also, you should be especially careful in the following cases:

Genealogies back to Adam!!!

Ancestry of Colonial American Families.

Fabricated lineages.

Lineages through illegitimacy.

Most claims to British royal and noble lines in America are unfounded and unsupported by evidence. If you have a connection to royalty through a colonial North American immigrant ancestor, you should always look carefully at the documentation for that connection. Any pedigree that goes beyond 1620 (Mayflower) must always be considered with caution. Through personal experience I have studied hundreds of early pedigrees over the years and I have seen very few where each connection on the pedigree can be justified by evidence from contemporary documents. I am of course talking about the English College of Arms Herald's Visitations pedigrees recorded between the early 16th and the late 17th century, which at first sight appear to be an ideal source of information for the medieval genealogist, but they must be used with great care, and confirmed from contemporary records wherever possible. In my opinion it is rarely possible to categorically verify historically a connected British or European pedigree earlier than the date mentioned above. Every pedigree I have seen which attempts to go beyond this date are based on questionable tradition, or at worst, plain fabrication. Generally these pedigrees offer no evidence as to the origin of the information, or they refer to extremely vague sources.

Inevitably, on every single line of your genealogy, you will run out of records sooner or later and most genealogists' lines end long before the records run out. When you reach an end-of-line, you just might want to do a double check to see if it corresponds with some end-of-record situation and proceed carefully and realistically. Beware of developing the bad genealogists disease of 'tunnel vision' and get so caught up trying to latch onto royalty, nobility, landed gentry etc etc because you have a similar name in your family tree that you become careless in the research of your true family history.

So to summarize, I think that William White most likely originated in England, but with no other concrete personal information about him and the obvious commonality of his first name and surname, the meagre facts available do nothing to single him out from the obvious countless William White's in England at that time and therefore thwart any further exploration.

Another way is using DNA, but this again is fraught with overwhelming problems. Proving descent from William White through an indisputable validated Y-Chromosome or mitochondrial DNA pedigree for 400 years to the present day is a substantial undertaking, as the academics who recently worked on our King Richard III will confirm, and they had Richard III's

skeleton!!! In the case of William White, even if you had access to his skeleton and unequivocally proved your descent, to be able to make any further retrospective compatible DNA matches from William White back into history I would say is nigh on impossible. To do this you would have to have all Y-Chromosome and mi-

tochondrial DNA from all the skeletons of Williams's possible ancestor's to make a match, and because we don't know who his ancestors were anyway this brings us back to where we started.

As I mentioned earlier I am very familiar with the sometimes ceaseless human desire to prove a connection with an ancient royal pedigree, or even more ludicrously, Jesus or even Adam and Eve, and this desire can drive people into convincing themselves to believe obvious flawed, and quite frankly, laughable research just to show off to their friends. Some amateur genealogists follow the flawed research of other amateur genealogists like sheep and they all copy and paste ad infinitum without confirmation, till, what was a preposterous family tree to begin with becomes 'accepted' fact. But I'm pleased to say that respected academics worldwide have wrestled with the Mayflower pedigrees for a very, very, long time and as far as William White and his family are concerned they can find no further valid evidence about them, and that is where the academics have quite logically drawn a line under the subject for the present. It is possible that sometime in the future, maybe, just maybe, someone, somewhere might uncover a piece of information in a long lost archive about William White to help in making a connection, but I think that day is a long way off and probably will never dawn. So, although it is hard to accept, there comes a time when one has to be satisfied with the considerable achievement of having a thoroughly researched incontrovertible pedigree back to 1620 and be strong enough to let it stand proud.

#### **Editor's Note:**

Here the letter ends. This response got Donna's brain going and on the following pages are some thoughts and questions she is sharing with us to start us thinking about some of our ancestral interconnections.





# Food for Thought

## Who are William and Susanna?

By



Donna Hillis Crosby

The General Society of Mayflower Descendants research on the passengers has been outstanding over the years, but the controversy over the actual identity of both of our ancestors remains shrouded in mystery.

The William White Silver Book, Volume 13, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, pages 1-4 clearly states the problems associated with the history of William White and Susanna. This book published in 2002, meaning that the age of DNA and the introduction of the wonders of the World Wide Web, were practically non-existent at the time of its publication. Perhaps it is time to ignite the possibilities that just might provide more answers.

First however, some of the rules must be understood:

1. With my own contacts in England over the years, I have come to realize that most folks in England cannot trace their own lineages beyond 1860. This means for us who had immigrants here in early colonial times (Jamestown = 1607), and using 30 years as a generation, our American history can be traced back about 9 generations earlier than the earliest records for any lay-person in England and 5 more generations for folks alive today. Fifteen generations is a lot of missing data!!
2. The reasons that I have found for records to be kept on individuals in England (the UK), were for inheritance and succession. The only folks in England in earlier times (pre 1860), who stood to inherit anything stood in a line somewhere to inherit a title or the throne. Thus only the DIRECT descendants of the Plantagenet and Norman Kings had records for their lines of descent and in the times of the Puritan/Pilgrim/Separatists who were fleeing England and Kings who lopped off the heads of their wives among other normal behaviors!
3. Most of the Dukes, Lords, and titled folks in the UK today are not at all interested in taking any DNA test... for a whole lot of good reasons... (See items 1 and 2). We know that in the times of all man, lines go extinct, and of course this is still true today. In the tumultuous times during the changes of the royal rulers from the Plantagenets to the Tudors, folks in the UK attempted to develop their own pedigree in the hopes of being granted a title by being the heir in a direct line to a royal family. Thus, many of the titled aristocracy have a cloud of mystery surrounding their existence.
4. There is a statistic that is proven many times over and most of us have found this to be true in our own studies of our lineages outside the Mayflower and Jamestown lines: If you had AN ancestor in ANY colony by 1720, then you WILL be related to 75% of all OTHER people who had AN ancestor in ANY Colony by 1720. Now, for those of us who had most of our ancestors in just two colonies 100 to 113 years before 1720, that percentage grows arithmetically.
5. ALL family oral histories have merit. ALL can be found to have some validity...it is just the details that are mixed, mashed and created to *fit*. It is up to us to untie the story and find the right pieces to tie together!

When John White and I began our research into his Mayflower line, he fit item five to a tee. He is a Mayflower descendant...it is just that it was NOT William White. As with my Grandfather, he stated with power and might that he was NOT Scots-Irish but from 'a famous and historic ENGLISH family'. He spent the rest of his life searching for his father's surname line finding ONLY Scots-Irish. It was his own mother who was the descendant of the Mayflower, Jamestown, and as suggested by Frederick Lewis Weis, a probable Plantagenet descendant. So never discard ANY family story. It is most likely true, in some form!

John uncovered old bibles and preacher's books in various states of age and fragility, lying in rare books collections across America. As we may have read, these bibles are said to have data written in the margins (a drawing of the Mayflower, and names of family members, etc.) which could open more doors for additional study. While the bibles were studied for age, the notations within the books have not been catalogued.

Throughout my studies of many Colonial lineages in both Virginia and Massachusetts, I found numerous connections between the people in both early colonies. These connections provide many avenues for continued study and research of the William and Susanna White lineages.

First, we know that the passengers who boarded the Mayflower believed they were destined to go to Virginia Colony north of Jamestown (with the Pilgrims on the Speedwell, who knows what the intent of those passengers was).

Using that premise, I decided to see who actually was already in Virginia before Plymouth Colony was founded by the Pilgrims. I found at least 11 individuals with the White surname, some were already living in Jamestown when the Mayflower left England in 1620.

Secondly, there was a **Robert Jackson** living in Jamestown, having arrived there in 1607. A logical question would be: Who was this man; could this be the **Robert Jackson** to whom Edward Winslow wrote his letter? If not, was this Robert Jackson a son or a nephew of the Robert Jackson to whom Edward Winslow wrote his letter? We know from Winslow's own words, that he was somehow related to William White...how?? Why then are we finding proof records in Jamestown Virginia for these same names? What is the connection, if any? One of the most profound results of any study is in ruling OUT individuals.

Raising still more questions, a Virginia resident **Nicholas Ware** married **Judith Vassall's** sister Anne, who was from Massachusetts. We know that William Vassall's brother Samuel was the overseer of the Virginia Company of London and was living in Barbados. We know that William Vassall died on the waters near Barbados, and we know that Susanna was the mother and mother-in-law of Resolved and Judith Vassall, respectively. We know that there was a **Major John Weir** in Jamestown in these early times and we know Nicholas Ware (c1627 co. Kent, England-1663 Rappahannock Co., Virginia) m. Anne Vassall (c1629 England-Aft 1663 in Virginia or Barbados). Anne was the daughter of William Vassall and Anne King, early settlers of Scituate in the Plymouth Colony and later Barbados. At age 21, Nicholas Ware received passage to Virginia from Rev. **George White** who paid his passage. In exchange **George White** received a headright in Lower Norfolk Co., Virginia in 1648, the year that Nicholas arrived. In that same year William Vassall and his family moved to Barbados where Nicholas and Anne may have married in 1650 but certainly by 1655 when both are mentioned in William Vassall's will. Nicholas Ware and Anna returned to Virginia after their marriage. Why? In order to be with family members living there? White's? Who is this George White and what was his relationship to the Vassalls and William White? Are any of these names in any of those old bibles?

We also know that **Peter Ware** is mentioned in the will of John Hache dated 23 Mar 1628, "To my uncle Peeter Ware 5 pounds." Members of this Hache family are connected to Rev. John Lothrop and his congregation, the majority of whom settled in Scituate in the Plymouth Colony. Rev. Lothrop is found in the will of John Hache which states, "Alsoe I doe giue vnto Mr. Lotropp late mynister of Eggerton forty shillings."

We do not know when or where William White was born; is there any significant data in those old books that might show that William White may have been joining family here in the New World and in Jamestown? We do know that these White's in Virginia were from London. A William White died there in 1624, and was a linen draper in London. William White, the Mayflower passenger, with a five year old child and a pregnant young wife, I would think would need family support. Was this family support already there in Virginia. And if this is possible, were Susannah's family also in Virginia as well? Maybe we can finally find the name of her family!

We know that there were the following **Fullers** in Jamestown: John, Michael, Thomas, and Rev. Thomas Fuller. Rev. Thomas Fuller was associated with an Edward Brewster in Jamestown in these early times. As all were Separatists/Puritans/Pilgrims, were they part of the same allied lines in England?

**Samuel Fuller** (the brother of Edward) married three known times, Alice Glascock, Agnes Carpenter and Bridgett Lee according to his Silver book. He had a child by Agnes, and then three children by Bridgett: a child that died at 2, Mercy and Samuel. If you analyze the ages of this Samuel, Sr. at the births of his four known children he was 35 when his first unknown child was born, and 38, 47 and 49 when his remaining three children were born. This is strange. Most folks have their children much earlier.

This scenario would allow for Samuel Fuller to have an additional earlier marriage before his marriage to Agnes (her 2nd marriage). Samuel could have had a child at a younger age. We do not know the birth date and year of Susanna (nee?) White, but suggesting that she could have been 17 (or younger) when Resolved was born, that would place her birth year at or after 1598. Samuel Fuller, Sr. was born in 1580 making it possible for Samuel Fuller, Sr. to be the father of Susanna (nee?) White.

Additionally, Edward Winslow wrote to his Uncle Jackson in 1623 and indicated that he had written to William White's father in 1621 and after the death of William, also in 1621. He mentioned Susanna as a 'daughter' of this man. In those days the word daughter-in-law was not used so Edward Winslow was telling William's father that his grandchildren and their mother were doing well.

The GSMD apparently has this letter; the questions would be: where was this letter found, in Holland or in England? IF neither, then was this Robert Jackson living in Jamestown the actual recipient? IF he were living in England, Winslow could have visited him personally. We know that this Uncle Robert Jackson was not living in Massachusetts, so the question is to find out where this letter was sent...to Holland or to Virginia? The next question would be; did he die there or did he also move to America with the other Separatist/Puritan/Pilgrims?

Another very interesting connection was **Daniel Gookin**. He brought his niece and her husband William Warren (a direct descendant of the Plantagenet and Norman Kings of England, and the Kings of Scotland) to Virginia. After his death his son Daniel Gookin II moved to Massachusetts and worked closely with Edward Winslow and other notables there and he remained there. What was their connection and were their families known to each other in earlier times? I believe so. I wanted to see if any names written in those bibles or books, just may have been other Puritan surnames that we see so closely connected to each other in both the Plymouth and Jamestown Colonies in these very early times.

We know that both of Edward and Susanna (White)'s surviving children, as well as Edward Winslow's brother, married into the Plantagenet lines, it certainly appears that Edward Winslow had some ties to these same families. I would be looking for a Foliot name as well.

In colonial times, naming conventions were observed rather consistently. Sometimes, one can learn a great deal by listening to the history the parents left to us in names of their children. In general, the children were named following this pattern:

1st son = the baby's father's father

1<sup>st</sup> daughter = the baby's mother's mother

2<sup>nd</sup> son = the baby's mother's father

2<sup>nd</sup> daughter = the baby's father's mother

3<sup>rd</sup> son = the baby's father

3<sup>rd</sup> daughter = the baby's mother

4<sup>th</sup> son = the baby's father's brother

4<sup>th</sup> daughter = the baby's mother's sister

Resolved's children's names were William, John, Samuel, Resolved, Anna, Elizabeth, Josiah and Susannah. We can readily identify the names William, Resolved, Anna and Susanna as the parents of Resolved and Judith. Then who were the people named John, Samuel, Elizabeth and Josiah in their lives? Both Resolved and Judith's fathers were named William, then was William White's father named John? Was Susanna's father named Samuel? Where does Josiah fit? It would be useful if we can ever find a set of grandparents with the name Elizabeth.

Peregrine's children were named Daniel, Jonathan, Peregrine, Sarah, Sylvanus, Mercy. We can readily identify the names Peregrine and Sarah, but again, who were namesakes of these other children? Did Resolved and Peregrine thus leave us clues as to the names of the parents and grandparents that we have yet to identify? Perhaps. Alternatively, Edward Winslow was the only father either one of those boys ever knew, could his family names have been used for their children? We know that Josiah and John were brothers of Edward Winslow.

I know that the books had been evaluated for their age but I did not ever find that a thorough study of the content of the notes and messages left by the Pilgrims and their descendants, has ever been photographed, identified, or cataloged. I am most interested in any findings that someone may have identified and would be happy to conduct research on any notes or names that might assist us in discovering more historical data.

There were deep connections with the Puritan Vassal and Ware families, and with the Pilgrim White and Winslow family. Additional research on the White families in both colonies is necessary if for no other reason than to rule them out.

We know that any markings in these old bibles are primary documentation; a thorough and investigative study by the GSMD with support from our Pilgrim William White Society may open more doors. Perhaps linkage to the unknown family of Susanna would be found. Every old book ever written on Susanna White, states that she was a Fuller...could this be another case where the oral history IS correct but the details are wrong? Could Susanna be a daughter or sister of these Fuller's in Jamestown and with a man named Robert Jackson?

Currently, with current documentation and knowledge, we just cannot say no.

*Donna Hillis Crosby*

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Who were they?

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Where were they born?

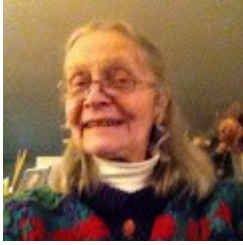
?

Who were their parents?

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## From Plymouth to Johnson City, New York

By Eileen Patch

A few issues ago a member called our attention to an e-book by Dorothy Carpenter about William Vassall, father of Resolved White's first wife, Judith Vassall. I read it with great interest because I had for some time wished to learn more about the Vassall family. I read an interesting snippet about Judith in a book I have on Lloyd family genealogy.<sup>1</sup>

In fact it was in this Lloyd genealogy that I discovered my link to William and Susanna White through Resolved. Until I read the Carpenter book, all I knew of the Vassall family was what the Lloyd book had, namely that Resolved White, born in Leyden in 1614, married Judith Vassall 6 April 1640 and died between 1690 and 1694, "one of three last survivors of the original Mayflower band."

It had only a few facts about Judith and her family: Judith (Vassall) White was born in England in 1619. She was "the daughter of William Vassall and granddaughter of John Vassall, who fitted out two ships for England and commanded them against the Spanish Armada. He was "later elected Alderman of London and called the 'Gallant Alderman.' The Vassall family had extensive properties in England, Barbados and Plymouth Plantation."

But the statement that intrigued me most came next: "It has been said that Judith Vassall, who like her father was of independent spirit, arose in a meeting at Scituate and rebuked the men there for their persecution of the Quakers, and in so doing was the first woman to address a New England assembly or court."

The Carpenter book surely shows how her father was "of independent spirit" but I have not found any corroboration for Judith speaking at a Scituate meeting. I like to think it is true. It makes me proud to have an ancestor with some backbone in standing up for justice for others.

Judith bore eight children and was buried at Marshfield, MA on 3 April 1670, only a week after the burial of her fourth son, Resolved, Jr., age 22. She left sons ages 28, 26, 24 and 15. Her daughters were 20, 17 and 13.

In contrast to the expansive long-distance moves of the Vassalls, the next ten generations in my line of Resolved and Judith's descendants made only short-distance moves. Their daughter Anna White was born in Scituate and married John Hayward in Concord, MA where they both died. Their daughter Judith Hayward, born in Concord, married Philip Goss (born in Roxbury, MA) in Concord but they both died in Brookfield, MA. Their daughter Thankful Goss was born in Brookfield, MA where she married Lt. John White (born in Concord) but they both died in Chester, MA.

Scituate to Concord to Brookfield to Chester had distances of 51, 66, and 57 miles between them respectively. Chester is only nine miles north of Blandford, MA where Thankful and John's son John White (who served as a doctor in the Revolutionary War) married Sarah Carnahan in 1760. John and Sarah's daughter, Sarah White married Blandford native James Lloyd. Those two generations, the Whites and Lloyds all died in Blandford. James and Sarah Lloyd's son James Jarvis Lloyd, however, married Sophronia Robinson (born in Blandford) in Bradford County, PA in 1817 after both families had migrated the distance of 236 miles.

The Lloyd book says that "James Lloyd and Sophronia had ten children...Robinsons with James Jarvis Lloyd of Blandford and the Barnes family...moved to Bradford Co., PA. They each staked out farms in the forest



and developed homes...we find most of the descendants of James Lloyd remaining in that vicinity.”<sup>2</sup> Three of their sons went to California, but my line descends from their daughter Clarissa A. Lloyd, who married Jesse Barnes a country doctor from another family who had moved with Lloyds and Robinsons from the Blandford area. The Barnes’s lived and raised their children in the farmhouse his father built. One of those children was my grandfather Ernest J. Barnes, who married Mertie Robinson from the same Blandford family as Ernest’s grandmother.

My mother Blanche Barnes went to work 30 miles across the state border in Johnson City, NY, where she met and married my father. My husband and I still live in the Johnson City area where we were both born.

So, in spite of the Vassall family’s precedence in moving long distances, my particular ancestors were conservative in that respect.

1. Lloyds of Blandford, Massachusetts and some of their Descendants by Bess Lloyd Miles, published by Edwards Brothers, Inc. Ann Arbor, Michigan, 1938; p. 65.

2. Ibid. p. 13.

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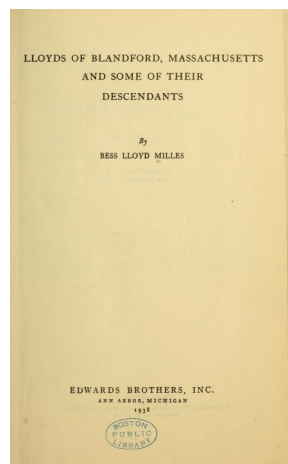
**nah White**

1. Lloyds of Blandford, Massachusetts and some of their Descendants by Bess Lloyd Miles, published by Edwards Brothers, Inc. Ann Arbor, Michigan, 1938; p. 65.

2. Ibid. p. 13.

*Eileen Patch*

**Let's Not Forget Susan-**



# Thoughts on William

By



Barbara Williams, Historian, PWWS

Our great, etc. grandfather is such a mystery. One known fact is that he was indeed on the "Mayflower"!!

The name, William White, is very common in England. There were two in Leiden, but both were accounted for after the "Speedwell" left for Southampton. There are two divisions of ideas. One, he was from England and stayed there until the "Mayflower" sailed down the Thames to Southampton. Two, he left England for Holland and came on the "Speedwell".

"Newcomers in an old city

The American Pilgrims in Leiden 1609-1620" by Joke Kardux and Eduard van de Bilt 2007  
on p. 74 believes the following:

Passenger List Mayflower 1621

Pilgrims from Leiden

White, William

White, Ann (Suzanna)

White, Resolved born in Leiden

Some records show that he was born in 1580, and some 1591. Let us just say that our great, etc. grandfather was a man of mystery who gave us two marvelous children through whom we descend!

Making the perilous journey across the Atlantic, he survived to view the land of the Pilgrims and begin a new beginning with his wife and children. A victim of the sickness, William left behind his wife with Resolved (5) and a very young baby (Peregrine). What were his thoughts? At age 41, his life was full of promise. His body had to be hastily buried at night to avoid Native American knowledge of the dying newcomers. The children would not remember his face, nor the sound of his voice. Suzanna became the link between the father and the children to keep his spirit alive. Now, we as his descendants, are still keeping his spirit alive as members of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants and the Pilgrim William White Society. He, a man of mystery, is smiling in heaven and shaking his head. How can it be that I am loved to this day by so many people? I am not forgotten and never will be!!

Thank you, great, etc. grandfather, for showing the courage to come to this great land. We honor your bones that are still in Plymouth on the hill facing the harbor. Your spirit mingles with ours in remembrance!



## LOOKING BACK by D Alan Smith

In the last installment we began the discussion of William Vassall, the father-in-law of Resolved White. The Bay Colony from its Puritan inception was designed to become the dreamed-for Puritan Commonwealth. It was to be “the city set high on a hill” as in John Winthrop’s sermon even while the fleet was still en route to the New World. This new colony was open to anyone wishing to worship God as dictated by the Puritan civil and religious leaders; otherwise, there was exile or even death. Baptists, Quakers, Anglicans all found that there was to be no freedom of worship. The only path to becoming a “free man” or voting citizen of the community in the Bay Colony or in Plymouth was to be a member of the local congregation. If one was not a member in good standing in the congregation, then becoming a free man was impossible. Therefore, a non-free man was limited in exercising many rights. Church membership was the key to thriving and in some cases existing at all in this New World.

Into this situation William Vassall came with his reservations about Englishmen not having their historic rights in old England. William had come alone on the first fleet with Winthrop and was one of the assistants to the governor. He returned to England and eventually he came back with his family. During his absence the pattern of exclusions and limitations became the governmental system of the colony. He moved to Plymouth perhaps hoping that the Plymouth colony without the religious hegemony would be more open to the outsider who could be Baptist, Quaker or Anglican. At least an Anglican could pray and receive Holy Communion. After all, English men and women in England were members of the church praying and receiving Communion together. In fact, the problem of worship in England was the Puritans and the Radicals like the Pilgrims who did NOT attend Church and did NOT receive Communion. In this strange new world, one had to be voted into membership and be allowed to receive Communion. Even wealthy men could be limited in their rights. In England wealth and land ensured the status of the wealthy landowner. In New England there was no such guarantee. This entire structure struck William as just wrong. The King was imprisoning or fining people for not worshipping in their parish. The New England colonies had structures against all including loyal Anglicans who disagreed with their theology or religious practice. William and a group of dissents began to agitate against this practice of exclusion and limitation of the rights of the free born Englishman. However, there is an added complication for William. His daughter Judith has married the stepson of one of the wealthiest and most powerful persons in the Plymouth Colony. William was also one of the wealthiest men in the colonies but not one of the most powerful. These families should have been natural allies; yet, Edward Winslow and William became bitter opponents.

In the next issue, we will examine how their opposition to each other helped create some of our earliest American writings.

*D. Alan Smith*

Deputy Governor

## Financial Review Report

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15 February 2016

To the Board of Directors The Pilgrim William White Society

We have reviewed the financial transactions of the The Pilgrim William White Society for the year ending December 31, 2015.

All disbursements appear to be appropriate and meet the 501(c)(3) charitable and educational purposes of the Societies tax exempt status.

We have also reviewed The Pilgrim William White Society Treasurer's Report for the year ending December 31, 2015. The Report appears to present the result of operations fairly and accurately in all material respects.

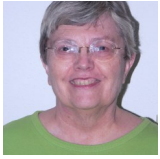
We did notice, however, that the interest rate on the Wells Fargo Business Market Rate Savings account is .05% per year, that is .0005. We recommend opening an investment account that will produce better interest rates. We have enclosed a list of current interest rates and APR's from EverBank, a Federally insured financial institution. Depending on the anticipated need of the cash currently in the Business Market Rate Savings account, certificates of deposit are currently earning 1.65% with a 5 year term; 1.5% with a 4 year term; 1.26% with a 3 year term; 1.17% with a 2 year term. Additional infusions of cash from the checking account could be invested in shorter term certificates of deposit as illustrated on the attached Rate Sheet. If there is an interest in opening an account at EverBank, we can help set up the account as we have done with several other non-profit organizations.

Sincerely,



David L Grinnell, Chair Finance Committee

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Please send articles to the editor at her email or postal address. Pictures should be in jpeg format. People and places should be identified so that a caption can accompany the photo. Articles are due on the first of the month of publication, but are gladly accepted at other times.

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accuracy of any information contained  
in the articles from individuals.

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