

April 1998

COGSWELL COURIER

1.

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& December. Deadlines for each issue: first day of the previous month.
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> Bernice Sonna, Editor 537 E. Thelborn Covina, CA 91722

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Membership information: (On a calendar basis from January to December.) Write to Secretary Claire Daigle, 21 Old Belchertown Road, Ware, MA 01082.

Historian Donald Cogswell 1115 Damsontown Rd., Queen Anne, MD 21657 Phone: 410-820-1360 24 Hour FAX: 410-820-1260 E-Mail address: doncogs@friend.ly.net ALL Cogswells are encouraged to submit family group sheets.



the majority of the Maritime Cosgwells were New England Planters. Hezekiah was part of this group of settlers who came here in 1760 and 1761 in over twenty vessels from Connecticut and Rhode Island to occupy the vacated Acadian lands.

On arrival to Halifax, you will probably see the City's Coat of Arms, which was designed by a Cogswell, if I remember correctly. Halifax, a city built in a day, was founded by the English in 1749, about 12 years before Hezekiah arrived. The city was used by the British to gain dominance over the French and their After a few days in Halifax, you may be ready to come to the Valley, to the Land of Evangeline. Here Hezekiah originally settled. If you leave Halifax, and come past Windsor, and Hantsport, you will see from the 101, one of my favorite views. Suddenly, you will see Minas Basin and it's tidal waters, with Grand Pre, and the whole view dominated by the mountain, "Blomindon", where the Micmac Indian god,

are also buried here in Halifax.

The dyklands you will see, were originally hand built, first by the French, and later by the English. They are still being maintained, and the land is still used. There are French drains present in the dykes, that are still in use to this day.

Continued on page 3

his Courier will contain all final information for the reunion in Halifax. Nova Scotia. I would wager the idea it will be different than previous reunions; different in a very interesting way. We will be experiencing Canadian life. And going back in time to 1761 when Hezekiah Cogswell accepted the offer to the colonist from King George II, to come north to the vacated lands of the Acadians who had been forcibly pushed off their farms. By a deed dated July 21, 1761 some lands in the township of Cornwallis was assigned to Hezekiah. "Seventeenth of sixty-three on the list, his farm was located near the Upper Dyke Bridge, known as Canard Street". (Jameson p. 117.) He became the first Cogswell to migrate from Connecticut and become our Canadian ancestor. We will be exploring this area as well as other Cogswell homelands. CFA members, Edith Hall, Mary Rockwell and myself are descendants of Hezekiah. Will

we be meeting others?

Since we are a family who enjoys having our history, are we also a family assuring that our future families will also have the opportunity to know the background of their grandparents? Great grandparents? At the present time it may seem unimportant to record those personal habits, philosophy, and general lifestyle, in some manner. How many of us have repeated the oft regrettable statement: "...if only I had asked my grandmother!" Memories, i.e., did they attend Sunday School every Sunday? What was their childhood like? Any special stories? Favorite foods? Did you visit other family members often? Pets? Superstitions? Musical? What instruments? Considered rich, poor, or middle class? How they met their spouse. Favorite sayings? Education? Of these kinds of questions there seems no end, but each yields one more interesting piece of the puzzle that becomes a part of the total picture. And you may

be surprised to learn where some of your habits and attitudes came from. What's "genetic" and what's not!

Perhaps there are some wondering when our book, The Descendants of John Cogswell will be available. Due to a practical approach, and from our "novice status", caution is being exercised in selecting a printing company.

Two personal items: as of April 1st my address will be:

527 E. Thelborn, Covina, CA 91722. Phone and fax later.

The end of December, 1998 I no longer will be the editor of the Courier. It is time for someone with fresh ideas. If anyone has knowledge of a good candidate please notify President Edna Roberds, 165 River North Dr. N.W., Atlanta, GA 30328.

Bernice Sonna



NOISE POLLUTION: NOT A NEW PROBLEM

To prevent traffic congestion, Julius Caesar banned wheeled traffic from the center of Rome during the day. The decree created intense noise pollution at night, "with wood or iron-shod cartwheels rumbling over the stone paving blocks." (The City in History, by Lewis Mumford) More than a century later, the poet Juvenal complained that noise condemned Romans to everlasting insomnia. 16th century England's London was a bustling metropolis. According to Alison Plowden, author of "Elizabethan England", the clatter and hammering from a thousand workshops, the rumble and squeak of cartwheels, the lowing of cattle being driven to market, the raucous cries of street vendors proclaiming their wares, all noises that greeted visitors.

WELCOME TO NOVA SCOTIA Continued from page 1 _

When the New England Planters arrived at the site. where the French had been deported five years previously, it is said the French wagons were still sitting there.

Drive up to Port Williams, named in 1856, although a newspaper of the day suggested, "Cogswell's Bridge", or 'Cogswell's Oaks' would have been more appropriate. If you continue toward Church Street. and west on Church Street, you will find the Church of St. John, built in 1804, site of the first church building. This area is where the original Town Plot was laid out in Hezekiah's day.

Remembers" records the Henry Cogswell- Pearly Caldwell house in Port Williams, was built in 1844.

If the weather cooperates, you could drive up to the Look-Off, beyond Canning for the view. Then on to Halls Harbor, named after the pirate, Captain Hall, to view the Bay of Fundy with it's tides. These tides are the highest tides in the world. There you can enjoy a lobster sitting on the wharf, and be sure to try the local delicacy, dulse. Sitting there, you will see a view little changed since Hezekiah first arrived. It doesn't get any better than this.

and happy visit to Halifax, and enjoy your visit to Grand Pre.



Cogswell, M.D. C.C.F.P., F.C.F.P.of Aylseford, N.S. has given us an enticing preview of good things to expect in October. Just remember, there will be even more! Editor.

The book, "The Port

I wish you all an interesting

MERICAN SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF

139 North Main St. West Hartford, CT 06107

Mission Statement

The mission of the American School for the Deaf is to provide a comprehensive program for the development of the intellect and the enhancement of the quality of life for the deaf community by serving as a multi-purpose institution furnishing educational and vocational programs for deaf children, youth, adults and their families.

"In 1815. Hartford resident Dr. Mason Fitch Cogswell appealed to his friends and associates for funds to establish the first school for deaf and hard of hearing children

in the United States. Their generous response led to the founding of the American School for the Deaf in 1817".....Winfield McChord, Jr., Executive Director

Thanks to those members whose generosity has contributed to this school. CFA also, is a contributor. The residential program is licensed by the Connecticut, and approved



by the Massachusetts, Departments of Children and Youth Services. All gifts are tax deductible.

EL NIÑO 200 YEARS AGO? 1798, HARTFORD CONNECTICUT

One of the benefits of moving your residence is finding items you didn't recall having! The following is a case in point that seemed `timely'.

Excerpts from "an extract", from a sketch of, "The hiftory of the Weather and Difeafes at Hartford in Connecticut, Winter and Spring of 1798." (And a challenge in reading colonial spelling!) Contained in a letter from Dr. Mason Fitch Cogswell to the late Dr. E.H. Smith.

Dear Sir:

Since the laft fall, the inhabitants of this place, and around it, have enjoyed a very unufual degree of health; I believe it has been the fame over the whole country, at leaft as far as I have been able to learn. The weather here has been fomewhat peculier. I will endeavor to fketch fome of the most prominent features of the feafon. December was uniformly cold, and moft of it feverely fo; January the weather foftened confiderably. and continued mild for feveral days. Most people fupposed the Indian Fummer was approaching, but instead of this, there fucceeded to thefe pleafant days a delightful fall of fnow, about a foot in depth bound down by an incruftation of hail. The middle of March brought alternate pleafant and cold weather; we were favoured by one fall of fnow fucceding another in fuch a manner as to furnish us with much more fine fleighing than ufusual in one feafon. The changes in the weather, during this period, were uncommonly great and fudden; at the fame time they were very frequent; changing in the courfe of two or

three hours, from temperate to the extremeft cold. We had no rains, and not fufficient warm weather to deftroy our fleighing until the end of March. Our ftorms, which were rain here. were fnow a little diftance above us. Within thirty miles, the fnow during the winter, had not been more than three or four inches deep, now fell to the depth of between three or four feet, and fo on, up the whole courfe of the Connecticut River. Warm weather foon fucceeded, and melted the fnow, which poured in torrents into the river. We have had no flood for almost half a century that equalled it: about forty-five years fince there was one which rather exceeded it. Part of the town eaft of Market ftreet was overflowed. Nearly a fortnight I vifited my patients in that quarter of the town in a boat, and, in many inftances, ftepped from my boat into their chamber windows. Several dwelling houfes were fwept from their foundations, and many of the out-houfes were upfet, and carried down the ftream. This freshet was earlier, by about a fortnight or three weeks, than is ufual in the fpring.

About the beginning of May the rain fell in deluges, more like the Weft-India rains than thofe common to our climate, and continued until the banks of the river were again overflowed, and the flood rofe to a height little inferior to the firft. The meadows remained covered with water fo long, that in the loweft parts every fpecies of vegetation was completely killed and there has fince iffued from thofe vallies an intolerable ftench.

Had a circumftance of this nature happened in the fall, when vegetation was on the decline, and other caufes exifting which commonly do exift at that feafon of the year, favourable to the production and propagation of contagion, I have no doubt we fhould have it in our power to boaft of as pure a yellow fever as you ever had in New York or Philadelphia.

From the very frequent and fudden changes of the weather, we might reafonably have expected that catarrhal and pneumonic complaints would have been frequent; but it was far otherwife; they were lefs prevalent than in ordinary feafons. In November and December we had feveral ftrongly marked pleurifies, which readily yeilded to the ufual remedies. Sometime in the fall the meafles broke out in a family by the water fide, which were communicated to them by a tranfient perfon; but in no inftance was it communicated from them, although the children vifited their fchool as ufual until they were taken fick.

From January to the prefent time the chicken-pox and hooping cough have been fcattered about town in a manner hardly to deferve the appellaton of an epidemic, and fo mild in their character that they feldom required the aid of a phyfician.

In the months of February and March we had feveral inflammatory cholics, which terminated in tedious bilious remittents. Thefe, with a few

EL NIÑO 200 YEARS AGO Continued from page 4

occafional rheumatfms, catarrhal afections, quinfies, glandular fwellings around the throat and ears, opthalmies, etc, etc, have conftituted the principal complaints which have prevailed for feveral months paft.



Perhaps, upon Sydenham's revolutionary plan, the feafon may soon return when a different general diathefis may require a different clafs of remedies, and this neglected catholicon may afume its former elevated rank in the materia medica. Most fincerely I am your friend,

Mason F. Cogswell

Obtained by CFA member, Dr. Donald Lewis, from the Interlibrary Loan Ref. Dept, UCLA. A timely article for 200 years later! Thanks to Nephew Donald. Editor.

PEOPLE AND PLACES

A COGSWELL WITH CHARACTER!

Carl Clifford Cogswell - born 20 Feb. 1889, Pretty Prairie, Kansas. Son of George K. Cogswell & Eliza Jane O'Leary. The following was submitted for inclusion in "The Descendants of John Cogswell".

Helen Cogswell Trostel wrote: "Carl C. Cogswell has led an interesting life of many accomplishments. An outstanding farmer and cattleman, head of the Kansas State Grange for several years, and a member of the state tax commission. He collected data for a genealogical history of the Cogswell family in 1935, intending to follow to the present all the lines included in Jameson's history of "The Cogswells in America". Due to a lack of time he generously turned over to Helen all of his material. Editor of the Kansas Rural School Journal, the following was written about him: "Your Editor, C.C. Cogswell is well known in agricultural circles, not only in Kansas but over the nation. He holds an enviable record of service in the Grange, as a leader, a speaker and a writer. For more than a quarter of a century he has

devoted much of his time to the welfare of rural Kansas and the nation. For 24 years he served as one of the principle Officers of the State Grange and a deputy Lecturer of the National Grange. For 18 years he served as Master of the State Grange and as Editor in Chief of its State publication. He served for 15 years as a member of a rural school Board in Kingman County and each of his four sons received all or part of their elementary schooling in that rural school. His loyalty to rural life and his sincere efforts to make it more enjoyable and profitable are well known throughout the state and elsewhere."

CARL'S COGS

For many years the writer (C.C.Cogswell) conducted a column under the above caption. He consistently attempted to promote thought, rather than influence it. "Cogs" are small projections upon the rim of a wheel, or plane, which, when in mesh with other cogs, transmit power from its place of origin to the place where the work is done. These "mental cogs" are

AKA "CARL'S COGS"

intended to help transmit the power of public opinion to our. seats of government, where it is much needed at this time.

Some amazingly prophetic remarks from the pen of Carl: "We have little respect for any public official who attempts to. cloud any public issue by the use of half truths in a misleading manner, and with the intent of confusing his listeners or readers."

"The attack on our rural elementary schools has all the earmarks of an organized plan to nationalize our school system."

"The goal of education is to teach us how to think, rather than what to think; to improve the ability of our minds to reason, rather than to load them with the memory and the thoughts of others."

Carl ran for elective office once. In 1932 he threw his hat in the ring unsuccessfully for state senator on the Republican ticket. In 1938 he was urged to run for Governor of Kansas, but declined the nomination. After his retirement he commuted nearly every day to his 500 acre

A COGSWELL WITH CHARACTER AKA "CARL'S COGS"

farm near Silver Lake, where he bred and trained registered horses. He enjoyed standing on the sandy loam of his farm, looking out over the rolling hills, where evidence is still visible that the

Oregon Trail passed by.

What a thrill to read about this man whom we can. claim with great pride as a "cousin".....what would he have to say concerning the moral con-

Continued from page 5 ____

dition of our world today?. It would certainly be a privilege to be able to shake his. hand! My personal "thanks" to the family member who. submitted Carl's story. Editor

more people ... FAMILY RE-UNION?

Imagine you are 91 years old. You have recently moved into a senior's residence that can be a nursing home if needed. There is a knock on your door. There stands a man who claims to be your nephew – one you never knew you had. What would you think?

That happened recently to Lucy Cogswell, a widow who elsewhere in North America would be Mrs. Brouillet. And yes, he really was her nephew. Here's the story:

In 1939, Lucy was teaching school at St. Jean, Quebec. One of her three brothers, Paul, was in the Merchant Marines, away at sea somewhere. Nobody knew exactly where. Paul had a wife, Shirley nee Balcom, and a daughter Marie, living in Nova Scotia. That year, Shirley gave birth to Paul's son, whom she named Lawrence, but unfortunately, just a month later she died. The Balcom grandparents took the children, and grandfather Balcom arranged for the baby boy to be adopted. Lawrence Cogswell became Gerald L. Heffler. although the judge forgot to register the change, which caused problems later.

Paul eventually came home, of course, to discover that his wife was dead. Whether he was ever told about his son, nobody knows. At any rate, he wanted his daughter Marie to be brought up by someone in his own family perhaps the Balcoms were too old in his eyes to raise a small girl. So he took Marie and went to Quebec to his sister Lucy. She was totally unprepared, but agreed to keep the girl, and Marie lived with her for eight years until Paul remarried. Lucy never had children of her own, and Paul had none by his second marriage, so Marie was special. When her father married again, she went to live with him, and eventually they moved to British Columbia, where Marie still lives, now married. Paul has since died.

Gerald Heffler was never kept in the dark about his origins. He knew the names of his natural parents, and his sister, but he had no contact with the Cogswell family. When he grew up he went to work for a British bank, and working in their offices in several South and Central American countries. He married in Colombia, and a son Christopher was born in Trinidad. He returned to Canada only recently.

Back in Canada Gerald began to wonder if he could get in touch with his natural family, to find out more about them. Someone gave him my name and address, and he contacted me. The first time, I couldn't help him, but some months later he wrote again. In the meantime, Lucy had moved into the senior's residence just a few doors from my house. She is



About the first of February, he came to visit her, and we both heard the story – the part he had not known. He and Christopher (his wife couldn't come) took Lucy and me and my wife out to supper, and we had a wonderful evening, even if Lucy missed the regular Tuesday night Bingo at her residence, and my wife was an hour late for another meeting. Everyone was very pleased.

A couple of weeks later, Gerald telephoned me again to thank me for getting him in touch with his aunt, and to say that his sister Marie had telephone him from British Columbia, and they had enjoyed a very pleasant conversation.

As for me, I'm pleased to meet a third cousin I didn't know I had. I'll overlook the fact that he was adopted out of the family. He's a "natural" third cousin – except, if I act as if he hadn't been adopted into the family – I was born a Goudge. Oh well, I guess I can. The Cogswell family means something pretty special to both of us.

Written by: Malcolm Cogswell, Lachute, Quebec, Canada – 1997

AND PLACES ... COLORADO SPRINGS HISTORIC DAY NURSERY

1897, a century ago, 14 women led by Alice Cogswell Bemis. (Jameson #1348) established The Colorado Springs Day Nursery Association "to assist working women in the care and. education of their children and to procure employment for such women." At that time parents depended on relatives and. friends when they needed help with child care. Many of these families came to Colorado to be treated for tuberculosis;. many were low-income families.

In 1922 the founder's daughter, Alice Bemis Taylor, a community leader and president of the nursery board, financed the first building expressly designed for the nursery and gave it to the board. No expense was spared, the original estimate of \$160,000 became a final cost of \$300,000. A beautiful English Tudor structure on E. Rio Grande St. in 1990 was named to the National Register of Historic Places. It is the official federal list of the nation's cultural resources worthy of preservation. Thanks to CFA member, Ruth Hucks of Englewood, CO for sharing this article! It will be added to the CFA archives for places named Cogswell.



THE COGSWELL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

The Weirs Times, September, 1997 Concord, N.H.

Each month the New Hampshire Historical Society features a new object-of-themonth mini-exhibitition at its Museum of New Hampshire History at Eagle Square in Concord, demonstrating the scope of the Society's collection.

September's object "Back -to-School" displayed ink wells and penwipers, rewards of merit dating from the 1800s, notebooks and copy books. Also on display was a photograph of a schoolroom in the Cogswell Elementary School, ca 1906, once located at Broadway and West Streets in Concord.

Thanks to Secretary Claire Daigle.



ANGEL GABRIEL SEARCH UPDATE - JULY 1997

Many MAHRI members are descendants of survivors of the 1635 wreck of the Bristol merchantman "Angel Gabriel". Almost every year since MAHRI was established a team, (sometimes few, sometimes many) gathers at Pemaquid Maine to search for the ship and cargo's remains.

In past summers, the teams used electronic remote sensing to search most of Pemaquid's Inner and Outer Harbors. They were able to go anywhere except the mooring areas, which are filled with mooring anchors, chain, and buoys. They found a number of modern items and a sunken barge, but not any remains from the Angel Gabriel. For two summers they tried systematically visually inspecting the areas with the great help of a team of British Army divers. Still nothing.

In June 1996 Warren Riess again led a small team of University of Maine and MAHRI volunteers to search at Pemaquid. The 1996 season marked the beginning of a new phase of the search. Moving into one of the mooring areas at Pemaquid, team members systematically searched the bottom using a hand-held metal detector. With it, they could search carefully around the steel and iron mooring systems and inspect "hits" as they found them.

The team laid search

lines, starting near the survey marker at the Colonial Pemaquid fort and moving southeast. By the end of the four-day season they had covered every square foot of a 500 by 100 foot rectangle and had found only a bread box-sized concretion.

After light x-rays failed to penetrate the mass, the Boon Island conservation students dissected the concretion to find a cannon ball. It probably was a twelve pound iron ball when new; too large for armament on the Angel Gabriel's decks. It was probably shot from or toward the fort during one of the eighteenth century battles which took place between the British colonists and French at Pemaquid.

July 1997 found four University of Maine students, supported by funds from MAHRI, continuing the systematic metal detector search. They were able to cover another 500 by 100 foot rectangle, but found nothing of interest. They are making plans to continue the search of the mooring area next summer.

Thanks to Secretary Claire for the above report. No source was given. Anyone having current information concerning this search please share with the CFA members.



From: "Excerpts From a Thesis" by Warren Curtis Riess, December 1980:

A 17th century treatise gives various structural details of an ocean-going vessel. Hypothesized, a cross section of the Angel Gabriel.

FYI

Apparently The Federation of Genealogical Societies has entered a webpage for the CFA at:

http://www.fgs.org/soc0028.htm

Also via Yahoo: Alta Vista Web Pages has several Cogswell listings. If



those CFA members who are "surfing the net" could check these out it may lead to some interesting connections being researched by our members. Especially those who have not been able to make connection with Jameson's book. Your chance to be of help, making an exciting discovery for someone who has looked hard and long for Cogswell information.

Another "Caveat":

Our Treasurer, Jack Cogswell, has received an offer for a book: "The Cogswells in America: From 1790-1998" from an Edwin C. Cogswell. The offer has all the earmarks of a work taken from census records and telephone directories.

Ellis Island . . .

An estimated 12 million newcomers were processed at Ellis Island between January 1892 and November 1954. Ellis Island passenger lists for this period are accessible on microfilm at both the National Archives and the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints' Family History Library and its associated family history centers throughout the United States. Check with the LDS Mormon Church in your area for centers closest to you.

"Genes" in Genealogy



"It is becoming increasingly apparent that a family passes on more than heirloom gifts to its new members." (Marge Peters, Librarian at the college of Dupage.)

An important part of our history...it may be THE most important part to one of our future generation. Review those death certificates that often include the cause of death as well as the length of time the deceased suffered from it. Quite often a "pattern" developes revealing a propensity or weakness for an ailment that offers the opportunity to practice prevention rather than cure.

SPNEA'S JANE NYLANDER REPORTS ...

`I have just returned from Minneapolis, where I attended the opening of SPNEA's traveling exhibition featuring objects from the collection of Bertram K. And Nina Fletcher Little at Cogswell's Grant in Essex, Mass., which began a national tour in 1996. To date, over 40,000 people have seen the Little collection in Pittsburgh, Williamstown, Mass., New York City, and Allentown, PA., and thousands more will see it in Minneapolis and at its final appearance in Norman, Oklahoma.

The traveling exhibition has enabled SPNEA to share this wonderful collection of folk art with a national audience. It will certainly spur interest in the opening of Cogswell's Grant as SPNEA's newest museum next summer.'





COGSWELL FAMILY ASSOCIATION HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA, CANADA OCTOBER 2nd to 4th, 1998

PLACE: CITADEL HALIFAX

TO RESERVE YOUR ROOM: (CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED) By letter: 1960 Brunswick St. Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 2G7 Canada By Telephone: 1-800-565-7126 By FAX: 1-902-429-6672

MENTION THE COGSWELL FAMILY REUNION FOR RESERVED ROOMS!

40 rooms are held for us until Sept. 1, 1998. No guarantee after that date.

RATES: Canadian: \$109. + 15% tax (About US \$90 tax incl'd) for 1 or 2 people. 3rd or 4th adult in same room is \$15 Canadian + tax per each.

Hotel has free parking for guests who stay at the hotel.

U.S. VISITORS CAN APPLY FOR A TAX REFUND ON ANY ITEM OVER \$50 CANADIAN. ASK FOR FORMS OR ABOUT PROCEDURES WHEN ENTERING CANADA.

Accomodations at lower rates available if requested from: Malcolm Cogswell, 397 Main Street, Lachute, Quebec, Canada J8H 1Y1 Ph.: 1-514-562-5989 (After June 13th area code: 450)

GROUP EVENTS: (Indicate how many in your party.) MEAL in restaurant once part of a Cogswell family home.(Cost to be determined). No.in party ()

> BUS TOUR to Nova Scotia Cogwell sites aprox. 60 miles from Halifax. Casserole lunch: \$6.50 Canadian. Bus fare, depending on number, approx. \$35 Canadian Number in party to attend......()

> ST. PAUL'S ANGLICAN (EPISCOPAL) CHURCH. Rev. Wm.Cogswell (Jameson #1537) was Curate in the 1840's. Group reservation will be made.

A MORE DETAILED AGENDA WITH TRAVEL INFORMATION WILL BE SENT TO THOSE WHO INDICATE THEY WILL ATTEND.

-----clip on this line-----

NAMES____ ADDRESS

NUMBER IN THIS PARTY WILL ATTEND:___

SEND TO: MALCOLM COGSWELL (PLEASE, NO LATER THAN 9/1/98) 397 MAIN ST. LACHUTE, QUEBEC, CANADA J8H 1Y1





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