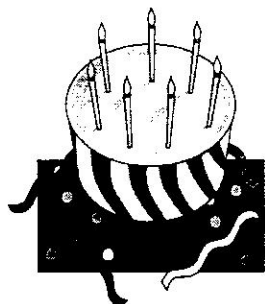

SIMSBURY

❖ Genealogical and Historical Research Library ❖

Volume 3 Issue 5

December 1996

BIRTHDAY BOOKS



Among the treasures in the Simsbury Free Library Collections are two birthday books belonging to members of the Winslow family. Birthday books kept track of the events in the lives of family and friends especially their birthdays in a small book that could be kept at one's desk. It appears to be the custom for the owners of these books to have the actual person sign their name on the date to be remembered.

Poetry is the theme of both books. *The Tennyson Birthday Book* edited by Emily Shakespear and published by Thomas Whitaker in New York, and *The Longfellow Birthday Book*, arranged by Charlotte Fiske Bates and published in 1881 by the Houghton, Mifflin Co.'s Riverside Press, use quotes from the poets to illuminate each day.

Genealogists delight in finding these sources since the entries can often provide much needed clues to a family's relationships and daily lives. Often though these personal reminders are lost so it becomes even more important to preserve those that remain. The entries from these two books are included in this issue and the original books will be on display at SGHRL through January 31st.

Continued on pp.2-3

1723 SIMSBURY LANDOWNERS LIST

Placing your ancestor in a community is not always an easy task for genealogists who depend upon vital records, censuses, land and tax records. Often research grinds to a halt when those records are not available. On a recent visit to the Simsbury Historical Society, a manuscript surfaced that sheds considerable light on the early inhabitants of Simsbury. Written in 1810 by the, then Town Clerk, Benjamin Ely, it contains the names and amounts of land granted to Simsbury inhabitants in 1723.

By 1723 many of the original settlers of Simsbury are gone and their children and grandchildren appear in the list. It is a lengthy one containing over 160 grants and will be published in its entirety in successive issues of the Newsletter. The original manuscript is in the Archival Collection of the Simsbury Historical Society and it is with the kind permission of their archivist, Mary Nason, that it appears here.

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The Jennyson Birthday Book

January	18	1888 Daniel Webster One hundreth Anniversary
April	24	John Mills Winslow Died March 23 1886 } 1811 Thomas S. Mather
May	17	Horace Winslow
July	6	Annie L. Paine
	12	William P. Winslow
	19	Lillian Winslow Smith
	23	Charlotte K.(?) Winslow
	25	Mrs. S. C. Sloane Winslow Waterloo, Indiana
	27	Eliza A. Paine
August	4	Lorenzo Winslow 1801 Died June 2nd 1884
	24	Katie E. Champlin
	26	Julia M Croft
September	3	Mrs. S. C. Sloan Winslow Waterloo, Indiana 1889
	15	Helen L. Emerson
	28	Charles Elliott Winslow M D died Nov 8th 1875
	29	Charles Pitman Croft
	30	Clark Winslow Hayes moved
October	2	Joshua Upham Winslow M.D. 1818 Died Sept 3 1887
	5	Philinda Winslow 1808
	8	Deborah B. McCann
	14	Daisy M Winslow
	20	Sade Delawan Winslow
November	5	Daniel L. Sheaver Cambridge, Mass
	19	67 years 1890 John S. Paine God is good.
December	28	Philander Winslow Dec 28 1804 Died March 18 1865
	31	William H. Emerson Cambridge

Genie Hint: Books make great hiding places for letters, documents and photographs. Always check between the pages before tossing or donating books.

The Longfellow Birthday Book			July	25	Lillian Winslow Born 1854 Died Sept 28, 1888	
January	6	Oliver Phelps Case 1868 Henry Newton		27	Eliza A. Paine	
				29	Harry L. Brown 1867	
	19	Alfred T. Case 1866	August	1	Nettie R. P. Pierson	
	21	Bessie L Stevens 1861		6	Lucy W. Pierson Parley W. Brown	
	26	O.W. Davison		7	C M Pettibone	
31	George Pettibone	19		Dora S. Appleton		
Feb.	3	H. Augusta Phelps		24	Katherine E. Champlin	
	11	Wm. Clayton Mather	26	Julia Mather Croft		
	13	William Smith Sarah A. Roberts	28	May E. Davison		
	18	Mrs. de B Randolph Keim Washington, DC June 1 1894	Sept.	7	John C. Roberts	
	March	6		Mary C. O. Pierson 1874	13	Ella E. Bottum
27		Sarah J Jewett		14	Pauline Stevens Alvord	
28		Laura E. Stevens		15	Helen L. Emerson	
				29	Chas P. Croft	
April		4	Richard B. Eno	Oct.	2	Inez F. Atkins
	15	John B. Welch 1843 Albert Z. Foster /48	3		Grace E. Atkins	
	17	J. W. Ellsworth 69	5		Philinda Winslow 1808	
	18	Frank H. Eno 1871	12		G. W. Cable 1844	
	22	John H. Appleton	13		Fanny Scott Foster	
	24	Thomas S. Mather 1829	20		Sade Delawan Winslow	
	May	6	Louis L Case 1870		23	Laura G. Danson
		18	Horace Winslow		25	Fannie Winslow Smith
22		Josie C. Jillson	27		Waldo Arnold Layman	
23		Wilson C. Wheeler	28		Cornelia H. Pattison	
			31		L. K. Woodworth 1864-1885	
June	8	Alice Newton	Nov.	3	Louise S. Cable	
	10	Frank Edwards		5	D. L. Sheaver	
	16	C. A. Jillson Hartford		10	John Bartlett 68	
	19	Jane C. Mather Charles P. Case 1870		13	Mary A. Eno	
	27	Geo. A. Conant 1856		18	S. C. Pierson 1841	
	28	Antoinette R. Phelps	19	J. S. Paine		
			24	Jessie Seward Alden		
	July	6	Annie L. Paine	Dec.	8	Decius L. Pierson 1871 Emma E. Bottum
12		W. P Winslow	14		Roderick Davison	
15		J. H. Alvord	15		Arnold Eborg	
19		Lillian Winslow Smith	17		John B. McLean	
23		Charlotte H.(?) Winslow	21		Sadie P. Clark C. J. Fox	

CAPT. JOHN HIGLEY (1648/9-1714)

*This series on
the early settlers
of Simsbury
will continue in
our next issue
with -*

John Drake

John Higley, son of **Jonathan and Katherine Brewster Higley**, was born **22 July 1649** in Frimley, Surrey, England and worked as a glove maker's apprentice. He emigrated to America in 1665 and settled in Windsor where he was indentured to John Drake, a prosperous merchant, and later his father-in-law. Higley became successful in own right importing rum from the West Indies and later, manufacturing tar, pitch and turpentine. In 1684, Higley bought the Wolcott Homestead north of present day Tarriffville and moved his family there. He soon added huge adjoining tracts of land. The area was known as Higley town for over 150 years because of the numerous Higley descendants living there.

By 1705, John Higley was the richest landowner in Simsbury with holdings of approximately 500 acres. He held many town offices, was the first Captain of the Traineband, and active in the start up of the copper mines in Turkey Hills, now East Granby. John married **Hannnah Drake** born **8 Aug 1653**, daughter of his former master, **John Drake** and **Hannah Moore Drake** on **9 Nov 1671**. **Hannah Drake Higley** died **4 August 1694**.

John Higley then married the widow, **Sarah Strong Bissell**. Sarah was the daughter of **Return** and **Sarah Strong** of Windsor. She was born **14 Mar 1665** and first married **Joseph Bissell** in Windsor **7 Jul 1687** and they had **Joseph** (21 Mar 1688) and **Benoni** (7 Dec 1689). **Capt. Higley** died at Simsbury **25 August 1714** and is buried in Hopmeadow Cemetery. His widow, **Sarah Higley** died in Windsor **27 May 1739**. John Higley left land and books to each of his surviving children.

The children of **John and Hannah Drake Higley** were:

1. **John** b. 10 Aug 1673 d. 1 Dec 1741 No known marriage
2. **Jonathan** b. 16 Feb 1675 d. May 1716 m. **Ann Barber**
3. **Hannah** b. 13 Mar 1678 d. 1678
4. **Elizabeth** b 13 Mar 1677 d 7 Dec 1743 m. **Nathaniel Bancroft**

**ARE YOU A DESCENDANT OF ANY OF THE ORIGINAL PATENTEES OR
SETTLERS OF SIMSBURY? WE WOULD LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU.**

CAPT. JOHN HIGLEY *cont.*

(Children of John and Hannah Higley)

5. **Katherine (Ketren)** b. 7 Aug 1679 m. **James Noble**
6. **Brewster** b. 1680 d. 17 Dec 1775 m. **Hester Holcomb**
7. **Hannah** b. 22 Apr 1683 d. 7 Nov 1768 m. **Joseph Trumbull**
8. **Joseph** b. abt. 1685 d. 3 May 1715 no known marriage
9. **Samuel** b. abt 1687 d. 1737 m. **Abigail ?**
10. **Mindwell** b. abt. 1689 m. 1st **Jonathan Hutchinson**; 2nd **James Teasdale**; 3rd **Nathaniel Fitch**.

Then with his second wife, **Sarah Strong Bissell**, he had the following children:

11. **Sarah** b. 1697 m. **Jonathan Loomis**
12. **Nathaniel** b. 12 Nov 1699 d. Sept 1773 m. **Abigail Filer** (Fyler)
13. **Joshua** (twin) b. 8 Sept 1701 d. 2 Apr 1702
14. **Josiah** (twin) b. 8 Sept 1701 d. 31 May 1751 m. **Dinah Gillett**
15. **Abigail** b. 4 Nov 1703 d. July 1742 m. **Peter Thorpe**
16. **Susannah** b. 1705 m. **Elisha Blackman**
17. **Issac** b. 20 July 1707 m. 1st **Sarah Porter**; 2nd **Sarah Loomis**

Librarian's note:

Recent visitors to the Library were **Lee and Jane Higley** of La Canada, California. **Lee** is a direct descendant of **Capt. John Higley** and would like to be in touch with other members of the **Higley** line. If you would like to reach **Lee**, call me for his address and telephone number.

Look for a new series in the *March Newsletter* by **Carol Laun**, *Genealogist-Curator of the Salmon Brook Historical Society* focusing on one of *Simsbury's "daughter town"* ... *Granby*



Many thanks to all our members who have made 1996 such a success by volunteering at events, donating items and continuing to support this wonderful facility.

SIMSBURY, CT MARRIAGES

** Listed in the same order as in the original book in Simsbury Town Records*

Date	Names	Age	Occupation	Birthplace
Feb 28 1853	Noah Webster Holcomb Betsey Moses	27 26	Pedler	Granby Canton
Feb 8, 1853	Sheldon Munson Phebe U. Munson			
April 3, 1853	Daniel Mc Caw Jane B. Paton	27 26	Factory Hand	Scotland Scotland
May 15 1853	Horatio Shipley Harriette A. Spring		Lawyer	
Sept. 11, 1853	Dwight Gates Elizabeth Higley	28 18	Farmer	Simsbury Simsbury
Sept. 20, 1853	Edwin Ellis Minerva A. Tuller	30 29	Farmer	Berlin Simsbury
Oct 5, 1853	Eleazar Loomis Rhoda H. Case			Simsbury
Oct 29, 1853	Wilbur F. Cowles Sarah A. Pitcher			
Nov 17 1853	Moses Ensign Esq Lucy W. Case	59 52	Farmer & Tinner	Simsbury Simsbury
Nov 23 1853	George H. Seymour Elizabeth H. Wilcox	24 20	Blacksmith	Hartford Simsbury
Dec. 29, 1853	Harvey L. Wilcox Helen Cornish	34 28	Carpenter	Simsbury
Dec. 25, 1853	Lewis E. Graves Nancy Holden	26 33	Pedlar	Williamsburg, Mass Westfield, Mass

This series is on going and will continue in a future issue.

1723 SIMSBURY LANDOWNERS LIST

“At a town meeting of the inhabitants of Simsbury regularly convened January the second 1723 the said town granted to the several persons hereafter named the quantities of land hereafter expresed.”

To Benjamin Adams, land	243 acres	Samuel Forward	90
To Joseph Adams	230 acres	John Goserd	100
To Thomas Adams	135 acres	Samuel Griswold	200
William Alderman	141	John Griffen	82
John Alderman	100	To the heirs of Thomas Griffen	144
The heirs of Josiah Alvord	190	Joshua Holcomb Junr	100
Gillet Adams	60	George Hays Junr	99
Barnet Bartlet	60	Lieut M Humphris	300
Samuel Barber	220	Samuel Humphris	235
Widow Buer & the heirs		Jonathan Humphris	187
of John Barber	120	Joseph Humphris	129
Widow Buel & the heirs		John Humphris Junr	100
of Ephraim Buel	143	John & Brewster Higley	300
Samuel Berman	120	Widow Higley's heirs	80
Samuel Buel	176	James Helyer	200
Peter Buel Senr	270	Captain Holcomb	300
Jonathan Buttolph	70	Daniel Hays	120
To the heirs of David }		William Hays	75
Buttolph excepting Jonathan }	60	John Holcomb	157
John Case Senr	300	Josiah Higley	80
Bartholomew Case	267	Andrew Hanning	78
Joshua Case	116	Lieut. Holcomb	220
John Case Junr	171	David Holcomb	100
James Cornish Junr	135	Jonathan Holcomb	300
Joseph Cornish	100	Ensign Joshua Holcomb	200
Joseph Case Senr	300	John Hill	200
Joseph Case Junr	100	Nathaniel Holcomb Jr	100
James Case	142	Deacon Nathaniel Holcomb	200
Jonathan Case	100	Robert Hoskins Senr	300
Samuel Clark	80	Robert Hoskins Junr	100
John Cook	40		
Capt. Richard Case	300		
James Cornish Senr	250		
The heirs of Thomas			
Humphris	150		
Hannah Cornish	40		
Daniel Case	120		
John Drake	150		
William Eno	240		
Nicholas Evens	69		
Edmun Edmunds	50		

To be continued in the next issue

HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO YOU AND YOUR FAMILY

**FROM THE SIMSBURY GENEALOGICAL & HISTORICAL
RESEARCH LIBRARY**

******* SPECIAL HOLIDAY HOURS *******

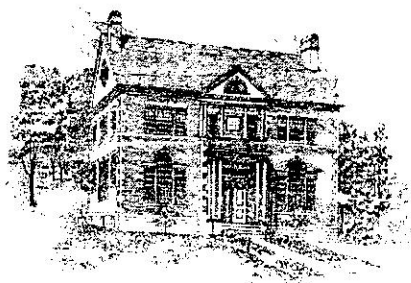
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