# **SIMSBURY**

# Genealogical and Historical Research Library Volume 7 Issue 1 Spring 2000

# Francis Barnard of Simsbury (1719-1789)

His Seven Sons Fought in the Revolutionary War

Although not one of the very earliest families of Simsbury, that of Francis Barnard extends back over two and a half centuries in town, and few families anywhere can claim the distinction of having as many participants in the American Revolutionary War as this family can.

Francis Barnard was born in September 1719, the youngest child of Joseph Barnard and Abigail Griswold of Windsor. In 1740 he married Lucretia Pinney (1722-1805), daughter of Nathaniel Pinney III and Elizabeth Carrier. Francis moved to Simsbury from Windsor at an unknown date, but apparently before 1743, when the birth of his first daughter was recorded in the Simsbury town records. The family eventually occupied a house built in 1760 in the part of Bloomfield that was then a part of Simsbury.

Francis Barnard's paternal great-grandfather was another Francis Barnard (ca. 1617-1698), who came to Massachusetts from England in 1634 with his kinsman John Barnard. They removed from New Towne (now Cambridge) to Hartford, Connecticut in 1636, very probably in company with most of the congregation of the First Church of Christ (Centre Congregation) under the leadership of Thomas Hooker and Samuel Stone. This elder Francis married Hannah Meruell on August 15, 1644 and earlier may have been married to a Mary Watson, who died about 1642. Some genealogists name Mary as the mother of Joseph Barnard, who was the grandfather of Francis of Simsbury. In 1659 Francis moved up the Connecticut River with Hannah, his six children and his brother John to become one of the original settlers of Hadley, and still later, Deerfield, Massachusetts.

These years were the settlement and fledgling years for the towns along the Connecticut River. They were also the years when relations with the local Indians began to deteriorate. This trend culminated in "King Philip's War," 1675-1677, "Philip" being Metacomet (Metacom or

About the Author

Dr. Walther M. Barnard is a direct descendant of Francis Barnard of Deerfield and a native of Windsor, Connecticut. He graduated co-valedictorian from Windsor High School (1955), and earned the B.S. degree in geology from Trinity College (1959), the A.M. in geology from Dartmouth College (1959), and the Ph.D. in mineralogy from the Pennsylvania State University (1965). He joined the teaching faculty of the State University of New York College at Fredonia in 1964, was promoted to full professor in 1970, and served as chairman of the Department of Geosciences from 1986 to 1997. He wrote this article from material selected from the book that he compiled, *The Deerfield Barnards: Descendancy of Francis Barnard (ca.1617-1698), A Genealogical Study (Version of 20 May 1999)*. This 504-page book is in SGHRL's collection.

Pometacom), the not-so-friendly son of Massasoit, the friendly sachem associated with the Pilgrims at Plymouth. Two of Francis' sons — John and Joseph — met untimely deaths in conflicts with the Indians. John died in 1675 at the Battle of Bloody Brook and Joseph died in 1695 at the Massacre at Indian Bridge. John died without issue, but Joseph had already sired a multitude of children, including Joseph Jr., the progenitor of most of the Barnards of ancient Windsor, Connecticut and father of Francis of Simsbury.

Joseph Barnard Sr. was possibly born in 1641 (Sheldon, 2:65) to Francis and Mary Watson, or in 1650 to Francis and Hannah Meruell. The latter date is consistent with his death in 1695 at "45 years," which is inscribed on his tombstone, the oldest in Deerfield's old burying ground. In 1674/75, Joseph Sr. married Sarah Strong, born in 1656 at Windsor to John Strong II and Abigail Ford. Joseph resided for some time at Northampton and removed to Deerfield, probably after being married.

Joseph Barnard Jr., the father of Francis of Simsbury, was born in June 1681 at Deerfield, Massachusetts. On October 4, 1705, he married Abigail Griswold (1685-1747), the daughter of Edward Griswold and Abigail Williams, then living in Westfield, Massachusetts. Just when Joseph Jr. and Abigail emigrated to Windsor is not presently known. Assorted listings give them six to nine children; Abigail's will, dated December 5, 1747, names seven. Historian Henry R. Stiles refers to Joseph as "Sgt." (Stiles, 2: 58), probably the "Lieu. Joseph" that died July 12, 1736.

As mentioned before, Francis Barnard of Simsbury was born in Windsor to Joseph and Abigail Barnard and moved to Simsbury probably after he married Lucretia Pinney. He was a member in full of the First Church of Christ (Congregational) in Simsbury at the time of the ordination of Rev. Samuel Stebbins on December 9, 1777 and Lucretia was admitted to full communion on November 10, 1782. (Duncan, 12, 15.)

Thirteen children — seven sons and six daughters — were born to Francis and Lucretia. All seven sons served in the American Revolutionary War; citations of that service are discussed collectively hereafter. Their house at 174 Duncaster Road is one of the historic houses listed in *From Wintonbury to Bloomfield*. (264) For many years a sign in front of it read: "From this house went forth seven sons to fight in the American Revolution." The house, in poor condition, was razed in 1989 and the lot was made into a mini park. The Wintonbury Historical Society placed a bronze plaque there naming the seven sons.

The first of these, Francis Jr., was born about 1740/41, notwithstanding the date (with interrogation mark) "25 April 1764 (?)" in the town records (Bates, 192) and obviously inconsistent with other documentation. Simsbury Soldiers in the War of the Revolution (42) says that he was born in Simsbury April 25, 1740 and died March 18, 1828. His house at 68 Adams Road, also listed in the Bloomfield history as one of the historic houses (264), was built about 1770 and is still in good condition and occupied. Francis was thrice married, first to Elizabeth Phelps, then to Chloe Mills, and finally to Diodema Brown. (Commemorative, 1308) Many of his descendants are interred at St. Andrew's and Mountain View Cemeteries in Bloomfield.

Lucretia Barnard was born November 11, 1743 according to the Simsbury town records (Bates, 192), and *The History and Genealogies of Ancient Windsor, Connecticut* gives her dates as November

11, 1743 - October 26, 1775. (Stiles, 2: 59, 612) She married Abraham Pinney and was the mother of Grove, Abraham, Israel, Asaph, Lucretia, Rhoda, Elisha and Elijah Pinney.

Lydia Barnard was born February 23, 1746. (Bates, 192; Stiles, 2: 59) She married (1) Martin Moses and (2) Moses Wing. (Strong, 445)

Irena/Irane/Irana was born October 23, 1747. (Bates, 192; Stiles, 2:59) On May 17, 1767 she married Aaron Willcocks [Wilcoxson] (Bates, 217), who was born in Simsbury. The family over time became Wilcox. Sons Aaron, Frederick and Riverious migrated to New York State.

Samuel Barnard (March 9, 1749 - August 8, 1815) married his cousin, Roxana Barnard, daughter of Capt. Edward Barnard and Mabel Pinney. (Simsbury, 44) Samuel was born, raised and died in that part of Simsbury later to become Bloomfield and many of his fourteen children and their descendants remained in the general area. Among the present-day descendants of his son James Harvey Barnard are the living members of the families of Walter M. Barnard, late of Windsor, and of Leroy Barnard, late of East Hartford. Other descendants are George Robert Barnard of Salem, Connecticut, and Sylvia Barnard and Aileen Barnard Tobin, all of the Wilson area of Windsor. Leon Hayden Barnard and Norman Milton Barnard, both of Bloomfield, are descended from Milton Barnard, another of Samuel's sons.

Francis and Lucretia had a set of twin sons, Aaron and Moses, born December 12, 1750. (Bates, 192; Stiles, 2: 59) Aaron married Lucy Phelps of Simsbury, daughter of Charles Phelps and Hannah Cook on June 27, 1770 and had four children. The eldest, Adonijah, migrated to Oneida County, New York, where some of his descendants still live. Aaron later married a Mary Brown and fathered another five children, the last of whom, Jehiel, was born in New York.

Moses married his cousin Hannah Barnard, another daughter of Capt. Edward Barnard and Mabel Pinney, in 1766. He moved his family in 1789 to what is now Whitesboro, New York. He died in 1811 and Hannah died at 102 years of age in 1848. Their great-granddaughter Olivia Langdon married Samuel Langhorne Clemens, better known by his pen name "Mark Twain."

David Barnard, apparently born in 1747 or 1752, also emigrated to New York State in 1794, where he died in Madison County in 1808.

Francis and Lucretia also had a set of twin daughters, Elisabeth/Elizabeth and Sarah, born in 1755. Elizabeth married Daniel Phelps on November 25, 1778 (Stiles, 2: 576), and Sarah married Patashall Wakefield.

Ebenezer Barnard was born on September 12, 1757. (Bates, 192; Stiles, 2: 59) He married Mary Phelps. He died March 17, 1829 and he is interred along with several descendants in St. Andrew's Cemetery in Bloomfield.

Of Francis and Lucretia Barnard's last two children, Elihu (born May 28, 1762) and Caroline Matilda (born April 1765) (Bates, 192; Stiles, 2: 59) little is known other than that Elihu married Isabell Adams in 1782. (Simsbury, 42; Duncan, 33)

## Service in the Revolutionary War

The evidence and citations for service in the Revolutionary War by the seven sons of Francis Barnard are treated collectively here.

Aaron Barnard is credited with three days of service; he is included in the "List of the Men who marched from the Connecticut Towns 'for the Relief of Boston in the Lexington Alarm,' April, 1775." (Adjutants-General, 21; Simsbury, 40)

The record for **David Barnard** in *Record of Service of Connecticut Men in...War of the Revolution* states the he served in 1776 as a sergeant in Capt. Eell's Company in the Third Battalion, Wadsworth's Brigade, under the command of Colonel Sage. This brigade reinforced General Washington at New York and served in New York City and on Long Island. It was caught in retreat from New York City on September 15 and suffered some loss. It was engaged at the Battle of White Plains on October 28. Its enlistment time expired on December 25, 1776. (Adjutants-General, 398, 402)

Ebenezer Barnard was a private in Capt. Abraham Sedgwick's (Second) Company, Sixth Battalion, Wadsworth Brigade. (Adjutants-General, 413) This battalion was "raised in June, '76, to reinforce Washington in N. Y. Stationed at the Flatbush Pass on Long Island, Aug. 26, and engaged in the battle of following day; narrowly escaped capture. In retreat from New York, and engaged at White Plains, Oct. 28. It was in New Jersey at the time of the battle of Trenton, but not with the troops on that occasion. Time expired Dec. 25, '76." (Adjutants-General, 411)

Elihu Barnard enlisted July 1, 1780 and was discharged in December 1780; he served in the Fifth Regiment of the "Connecticut Line" in Capt. St. John's Company under the command of Col. Philip Bradley. (Adjutants-General, 203; Simsbury, 42.)

Documents held by the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution that record the lineage of Mrs. Tirzah Birge Rood and Mrs. Martha Birge Doerr list these women as descended from **Francis Barnard Jr.** and note that "he commanded a company, 1775, in the eighteenth Connecticut regiment, around New York...[also, he] was captain of a company from Symsbury raised for the campaign around New York, 1775." His citation in *Simsbury Soldiers in the War of the Revolution* (43) is "Committee Regarding Officer's Pay, 1783-1784: Francis Barnard Commutation (State)."

Moses Barnard served with Windsor men under Capt. David Barber in the Eighth Company (or Train Band) in the First Regiment of Militia, according to one source. (Adjutants-General, 623) Another says that he was in the Connecticut Militia 1775-1779 under General Spencer. (Simsbury, 44) General Spencer commanded the Second Regiment of Connecticut Continental Troops in 1775. A synopsis of its service that year says that the "Regiment [was] raised on the first call for troops by the Legislature April-May, 1775. Recruited mainly in present Middlesex Co., and eastern part of the Colony. Marching by companies to the camps around Boston, it took post at Roxbury and served during the siege until expiration of term of service Dec., 1775. Detachments of officers and men engaged at the battle of Bunker Hill, June 17, and in Arnold's Quebec Expedition, Sept.-Dec., 1775. Adopted as

Continental in July. The regiment was re-organized for service in 1776, under Col. Wyllys." (Adjutants-General, 45.)

Samuel Barnard is listed as probably serving in 1775 at the Lexington Alarm (Simsbury, 44-5) and he is definitely listed as being in the Eighth Company in the First Regiment of Militia, along with his brother Moses. (Adjutants-General, 623) He also served in Capt. Lemuel Roberts' Company, Eighteenth Regiment of the Militia at New York in 1776. Arriving there on August 24, he deserted with two other men on September 7. (Adjutants-General, 472) Before judging Samuel's desertion too adversely, the situation should be considered carefully. During the Revolutionary War, desertion was commonplace because food, clothing, footwear and ammunition were often in short supply. Also, his commanding officer Capt. Roberts, a Simsbury man, received his discharge, and probably left for home, the same day. Samuel Barnard may not have felt obliged to stay in the absence of the commander he enlisted to serve. There appears to be no record of any military discipline for his desertion.

By Walther M. Barnard

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#### **Granby History for Sale**

A Tempest in a Small Town: The Myth and Reality of Country Life, Granby, Connecticut, 1680-1940, written by Mark Williams and published by the Salmon Brook Historical Society, is now for sale at SGHRL.

Mr. Williams' book won the 1997 Homer D. Babbidge Jr. Award given by the Association for the Study of Connecticut History (ASCH). When reviewing the book for the ASCH journal Connecticut History (Fall 1999), Bruce P. Stark concluded that "A Tempest in a Small Town is truly an impressive work. One can agree or disagree with [Williams'] interpretation of events and the motives of individuals, but his mastery of the subject cannot be questioned. Anyone contemplating the writing of town history must carefully read this book."

The 559-page, hard bound volume is \$25.00. Please drop in to purchase a copy.

### SGHRL UPDATE SA

The Board of Trustees is pleased to welcome Jean Perreault, who has agreed to substitute for our librarian Stephen Simon whenever he takes vacation days. Her first day behind the librarian's desk was Saturday, April 28.

A graduate of Vermont College with an A.A. degree and the University of Connecticut with a B.G.S. degree, Mrs. Perreault is a professional genealogist and has been doing research in this field for over twenty-five years. She is an accredited researcher for the History and Genealogy Unit of the Connecticut State Library and is presently the membership chairperson for the Connecticut Professional Genealogists Council. She also is active in the Connecticut Society of Genealogists, Inc., and the Edson Genealogical Association and is a volunteer researcher for SGHRL. At the McLean Home in Simsbury, Mrs. Perreault is cataloging archived materials, a project that has become the foundation for the writing of a chronology of Senator George McLean's life.

Once again the Abigail Phelps Chapter, National Society Daughters of the Revolution has made a generous donation toward the purchase of books and materials for the library. Librarian Simon is in the process of developing a list of what the collection needs. We greatly appreciate the DAR's continuing assistance to the library.

We also want to thank Celia Ann Roberts for a donation in memory of our long time trustee, the late Arnold Storrs. Last fall Miss Roberts brought her genealogy class from the Simsbury Public Library on a field trip to SGHRL.

Nancy Doane, Executive Director of the Godfrey Memorial Library in Middletown, was well received by the audience at our Spring Program. The Godfrey Library is likely to see many of them doing research there in the future. Also, watch for an article by Ms. Doane in a coming issue of the SGHRL newsletter.

Library patrons recently have been hearing workmen on the flat portion of the roof. They have been doing repairs and preventative maintenance under the supervision of trustee Richard Schoenhardt, AIA. Mr. Schoenhardt will soon have them install guards on the peaked roof to prevent snow and ice from falling on people coming in and out of the front entrance.

Jean Bishop, registrar for the Abigail Phelps Chapter NSDAR, and Robert McComb, historian for Old St. Andrew's Church, deserve many thanks for serving as consultants to the editor during the preparation of this issue of the SGHRL newsletter.

# Query:

Seeking parentage and place of birth for Warren Andrews (b. 22 Aug. 1788) and Anson Andrews (b. 12 Aug. 1791). Warren married Theodocia Andrews (b. 12 Aug. 1791). She was the daughter of Charles and Theodosha Andrews of Simsbury. Warren served in the War of 1812 in Israel P. Case's Company. Case was also a Simsbury resident before relocation with the Scioto Company in Franklin and Delaware Counties, Ohio.

Please write: Alvin L. Andrews, 3210 N. Lombard Street, Portland, Oregon 97217.

## SIMSBURY MARRIAGES

| Date<br>Sept. 21, 1862 | Name<br>Michael Campbell<br>Mary Ann Murphy | <b>Age</b><br>21<br>20 | Occupation<br>Farmer | Birthplace<br>Ireland<br>Ireland |
|------------------------|---|------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Sept. 29, 1862         | James McClelland<br>Frances A. Post         | 30<br>19               | Laborer              | Ireland<br>Trenton, N. Jersey    |
| Oct. 22, 1862          | Judah G. Hayes<br>Elvira A. Bennett         | 53<br>44               | Laborer              | Granby<br>Southwick              |
| Nov. 2, 1862           | Luke Hope<br>Julia Logan                    | 22<br>23               | Laborer              | New York<br>Ireland              |
| Nov. 23, 1862          | Michael Wall<br>Susan Boardman              | 28<br>25               | Laborer              | Ireland<br>Ireland               |
| Nov. 28, 1862          | Alexander Campbell<br>Martha Dennison       | 34<br>27               | Laborer              | Scotland<br>Ireland              |
| Nov. 27, 1862          | Jarvis P. Harrington<br>Cornelia L. Tuller  | 30<br>27               | Merchant             | Simsbury<br>Simsbury             |
| Nov. 26, 1862          | James H. Sanford<br>Emeline S. Bartlett     | 23<br>19               | Farmer               | Simsbury<br>East Windsor         |
| Dec. 31, 1862          | John Brodie<br>Agnes Walker Sims            | 24<br>24               | Laborer              | Scotland<br>Scotland             |
| Jan. 1, 1863           | Watson E. Spelman<br>Mary E. Clark          | 34<br>20               | Farmer               | Granville<br>Windsor             |
| Nov. 27, 1862          | Dighton Jones<br>Mary Gates                 |                        |                      | Simby.                           |
| Apr. 2, 1863           | John H. Armitage<br>Louisa M. Knowles       | 24<br>22               | Laborer              | England<br>England               |
| Apr. 27, 1863          | Archibald McBrayn<br>Amelia E. Field        | 21<br>23               | Laborer              | Scotland<br>England              |
| May 20, 1863           | Rufus E. Hitchcock<br>Louisa St. John       | 26<br>22               | Farmer               | Chittendon, Vt<br>Simsbury       |
| May 9, 1863            | Moses Neal<br>Eleanor Ledsom                | 42<br>48               | Laborer              | England<br>Ireland               |
| May 16, 1863           | William T. Winslow<br>Jane Boone            | 21<br>21               | Laborer              | Ireland<br>Ireland               |
| Jul. 21, 1863          | Ralph H. Ensign<br>Susan M. Toy             | 28<br>25               | Manufacturer         | Simsbury<br>England              |

This continuing series on Simsbury's early marriage records has been copied by Stephen E. Simon from microfilmed records at the Connecticut State Library.

#### Some Recent Acquisitions

#### Books

Connecticut, Rhode Island Atlas & Gazetteer
Evidence by Elizabeth Shown Mills
The Hulce/Hulse Families in America, 3 vols., by Lynn C. Harper (donated by the author)
McLucas: The Ancestors and Descendants of Abraham McLucas, Waterboro, Maine
compiled by Mariwood McLucas Ward (donated by Charle Smith)
New England to Jowa: Abstracts of the Purdy-Haskins-Berry Families by Shoron K. Jeline

New England to Iowa: Abstracts of the Purdy-Haskins-Berry Families by Sharon K. Jelinek Pension List of 1820 [U.S. War Department]

Weights, Money and Other Measures by Celia R. Chapman

#### Compact Disks

New York 1870 Census Index Pennsylvania 1870 Census Index

#### Microfilm

1850 New York, Chautauqua County

SGHRL wants to thank Ruth Duncan, Margaret Lindauer, Jean Perreault, Bette Shaw, Stephen Simon and Fred Stingle for the periodicals that they have donated recently. We also thank Lois Comstock for her collection of articles on the George Denison House.







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