



Gardner's Beacon™



CAPE ANN AND SALEM PLANTER



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The Thomas Gardner Society, Inc. would like to wish "Happy Holidays" to the readers of Gardner's Beacon™ and to the friends of the Society. The year of 2016 has been very eventful; we look forward to next year's opportunities.

We are into our second issue of the sixth volume of the Gardner's Beacon™, our newsletter. In the past couple of years, we have had two newsletter issues. Since the beginning, the average per year has been four. Along with the newsletter, we have an active website with auxiliary information provided via blog and social media. This month, too, we are publishing the third volume of The Gardner Annals (TGA).

Whereas Gardner's Beacon™ has a focus that relates to news and information, the TGA recognizes the need for structures that are amenable to print. Especially, is this so with the growing use of mobile and associated presentation models. In general, TGA articles are more technical than not. Also, longer articles dealing with perspective will be of interest.



Prior to this year, there were two TGA issues; this year, we have one that covers several subjects. We summarize those in the following sections.

Whence, again

Our research scope expanded this year as we heard from descendants of other Gardner families. We will provide a summary of these contacts on a regular basis.

One modern Gardner told us of stories from his childhood. In his adulthood, he has gathered a remarkable amount of material dealing with 17th century families. We have been delving into this. Some of his research caught the attention of the Richard III Society.

In regard to Gardner Research, we have been gathering material that has been presented over the years and decades. Our purpose is to get these documented so that we can follow up with analysis and research. The number of stories has increased tremendously. It is exciting.

Flyover country

In the prior issue, we mentioned Trails West. In particular, we are looking into New England's long arm. The middle of the country was explicitly settled prior to the Civil War

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for purposes related to abolitionism. We are studying those early families, their ancestry, and their life after the move. That includes the progeny who are still here.

But, the middle is not only of the coastal families. There were new entrants all of the time. We mention one in the next section.

The Massachusetts Magazine

Last year, we took the time to gather the Table of Contents for all of the issues of Dr. Frank's (and his sister, Lucie's) periodical. At that time, we got the titles of Dr. Frank's monographs that provided details about all for the regiments that were at the Siege of Boston. This work will continue with reviews. These articles are still cited today.

One task will be to look at all of the articles. As well, we can look at the changes in interest. For this, we have published in the current TGA the Table of Contents for Volumes I (1908) through V (1912). One author was a puzzle as there was no readily available biographical material. The following bullet is a summary about R.A. Douglas-Lithgow, M.D., LL. D. who was a noted author in England and New England.

Dr. Frank and Lucie published until 1918. We will look, as well, at the general state of the world in those years.

Robert Alexander Douglas-Lithgow, M.D. LL.D.: (1848-1917). R.A. was not a descendent of Thomas. But, he wrote *Nantucket, a History* in which he described the work of John Gardner, and his brother, in respectful terms. Also, R.A. contributed articles to Dr Frank's periodical, *The Massachusetts Magazine* (TMM). R.A. was born in Ireland. He was educated there and finished his medical training in London. R.A. completed legal training. As well as being a practitioner, R.A. perused other interests and wrote prolifically. His subjects included Shakespeare, Tennyson, and others. R.A. was also interested in archeology and anthropology. R.A. belonged to several professional societies that dealt with subject that caught his interest. In 1900, he came to the U.S. Here, he got further into research. He published the *Dictionary of American-Indian Place and Proper names in New England*. As we look at the TMM, in detail, we will gather biographical information about the authors. R.A. contributed articles to several issues of the TMM.

We are inviting contributions of articles.
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