



# Gardner's Beacon™



CAPE ANN AND SALEM PLANTER

Thomas Gardner Society, Inc.      Founded 2010



Volume VII -- Issue 2    -- Fall 2017

As 2017 draws to a close, we would like to extend a greeting of "Happy Holidays" to the readers of Gardner's Beacon™ and to the friends of the Society, including best wishes for a wonderful 2018. We look forward to the new year's opportunities.

We are now publishing our second issue of the seventh volume of the Gardner's Beacon™, our newsletter. In the past three 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. For instance, we have had a Facebook presence for a few years. It is our primary means of announcing activity and results. We have looked at other media, such as Pinterest. Also, there is an active emailing list.

The Society, currently, has a research focus. To date, we have had five articles published, in The Essex Genealogist. This month, we are working on the fourth volume of The Gardner Annals (TGA). Whereas Gardner's Beacon™ has a focus that relates to news and information, the TGA allows us to report our research efforts. We re-published the TEG articles in order to have them easily accessible.

From the beginning, the intent for the TGA regular publication of technical news and reports. This year, we organized Volumes I and II into a printable format which was then printed and bound with a cover. The book is available for purchase (see below). Currently, TGA Volumes III and IV are in preparation; the print will be early next year.



A couple of years ago, we started to submit answers on Quora related to questions about New England and other topics of interest to the Society. In doing so, we identify the Society's interest in the topic.

## The Massachusetts Magazine

Ever since we learned about The Massachusetts Magazine (TMM), it has been of interest. The TMM delivered quarterly issues from 1908 until 1918. Dr. Frank A. Gardner, MD was a major organizer and editor. He elicited help, and articles, from several prominent New England writers. Last year, in Volume III of the TGA, we published the Table of Contents for Volumes I through V of the

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TMM. This year, we will publish the Table of Contents of the remaining volumes. Too, we are reviewing all of the articles and will write up a review.

Dr. Frank provided a military-themed monogram for every issue of the TMM that reporting his research of the Regiments of Salem who were at the Siege of Boston. Each monogram identified the activity of the Regiment as well as provided the names of, and some information, about the officers. These monograms are still actively cited.

Dr. Frank's sister, Lucie, published articles that followed up on the work of Sidney Perley. Too, she reported minutes for several organizations that met, such as the Old Planter's Society, the Mayflower Society, and more. One intent for the TMM, we were told, was to be the voice of the Old Planters Society. We have already expressed an interest in that organization and its revival.

## The Gardner Annals

The Gardner Annals (TGA) provides a means for Gardner Research to report findings and to discuss matters related to topics of interest. Currently, we are working on Volume IV, Number 1. Topics will cover several areas of interest. One article deals with the effort to update information in an article that published in an earlier edition of The Essex Genealogist (TEG, Volume 20). We ran into the problem while doing research

for an application to a heritage society. That type of effort is a very good exercise. Upon noting the error, we contacted the Essex Society and proposed a modification which was published in TEG, Volume 34.

As well, the next issue will have more information on volumes VI through XI of TMM. That includes printing the Table of Contents. We will review some of the information related to TMM articles. One recent topic dealt with Count Rumford (see below). Another person of interest is Col. Thomas Wentworth Higginson. Thomas was born in Cambridge in 1823. He graduated from Harvard in 1841. While studying theology, he left school to support the abolitionist cause. He went back to finish divinity school and became a Unitarian minister. Later, the turmoil prior to the



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U.S. Civil War saw Thomas out west supporting the Free Staters in Kansas. As a friend of John Brown, Thomas was one of the Secret Six who were implicated in John's assault on Harper's Ferry. During the Civil War, Thomas was wounded, as a captain in the 51<sup>st</sup> Massachusetts Infantry. Then, he was colonel of the First South Carolina Volunteers, a regiment of freedmen. Thomas was first president of the Old Planters Society and was an advisory editor of The Massachusetts Magazine.

### 1<sup>st</sup> Print of The Gardner Annals and Gardner's Beacon

In October, we published the first print version of The Gardner Annals which included Volumes I and II. As well, the reader will find the first three Volumes of Gardner's Beacon.

TGA Volume I gave a timeline related to Thomas and Margaret that is partitioned into the time prior to their births, the time of their lives, and after. The first group of years help us set a context with which to look at the Great Migration to New England. The second group includes items related to the family, including events in the lives of the children. Then, we looked to find references to Thomas and Margaret in the literature. What stands out from that is the need to recognize the efforts of Rev. Hubbard to document the period.



The timeline (in an annals format) will be kept up to date and will serve as a source for subsequent research efforts. This might lead a question: why The Gardner Annals? Many research organizations provide a yearly summary of their activity. This is our report, plus we also provide results, such as articles. The intent is, at some point, to pull together a book covering this material. In the meantime, the print does allow the disparate pieces to be presented in an organized fashion.

As such, it can be a nice gift to those who are interested in Thomas Gardner, the Cape Ann effort, and early Salem. Too, we have published genealogical information. We would like to do this for every one of the children of Thomas and Margaret.

We are inviting submission of articles for Gardner's Beacon and The Gardner Annals. Contact: [jmswtk@tgsoc.org](mailto:jmswtk@tgsoc.org)

To order, please email us at [publications@TGSoc.org](mailto:publications@TGSoc.org) for instructions.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Print

We expect to issue the next printing of The Gardner Annals in late spring of 2018. This will include TGA Volumes III and IV. As well as the remaining volumes of Gardner's Beacon.

**Benjamin Thompson (Count Rumford):** (1753-1814). The Count was not a descendent of Thomas. But, he was an American-born physicist and inventor of general interest to the Society. He attended lectures, while young, at Harvard and developed an interest in science, principally the nature of heat. The Count married into wealth and obtained a rank of major in the New Hampshire Militia. On the outbreak of the American Revolutionary War, he was a loyalist and fled to New Brunswick. One of his areas of research was to measure the force of gunpowder. He published his results with the Royal Society. After spending some time in London, he went to Bavaria and worked with their military under Prince-elector Charles making a name for himself. This work resulted in Benjamin being named a Count of the Holy Roman Empire. The Count continued to work in thermodynamics and designed several furnaces. Having also found commercial success, the Count sought to distribute his wealth. He established the Royal Institution of Great Britain. He funded the Rumford medals of the Royal Society. Many illustrious names are on the list of awardees, such as Michael Faraday (1846), Louis Pasteur (1856), and Ernest Rutherford (1904). On his death in 1814, the Count left money to Harvard for the application of science to useful arts. Benjamin Peirce was involved in creating the engineering college in which there was established a Rumford Professorship. The Count was a great humanitarian. He worked to improve the condition of those in military service. However, he also helped organize efforts to help the destitute. This work was the inspiration for the Salvation Army.

### STEM:

- John Gardner (c 1620s)
- Nathaniel Bowditch (c. 1770s)
- Charles Sanders Peirce (c. 1830s)
- Frederic Ward Putnam (c. 1830s)
- Julian Lowell Coolidge (c. 1870s)
- Frank A. Gardner (c. 1880s)
- Alfred Winslow Jones (c. 1990s)