

# EVERGREEN LOG

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE SOCIETY OF MAYFLOWER DESCENDANTS IN WASHINGTON STATE

VOLUME 30 Issue 2 – Summer 2017

www.WashingtonMayflower.org

"Of Plymouth Plantation"

## William Bradford's Stolen Manuscript

By Samuel Eliot Morison

#### **Governor William Bradford**

William Bradford (bap 19 Mar 1590-9 May 1657, age 67), the author of this History, was born at Austerfield, Yorkshire, in the early spring of 1590. He was the third child and only son of William Bradford, a yeoman farmer of the parish, and Alice Hanson, daughter of the village shopkeeper. His father died when William was only a year old, his mother married again, and his grandfather and uncles then took him in hand to be trained as a farmer. At the age of twelve he became a constant reader of the Bible—the Geneva version that he generally quotes—and when still a lad he was so (Continued on page 5)

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#### MARK YOUR CALENDARS!! Sunday, July 16, 2017.



## Summer Picnic

Come meet with your cousins. 11:30 am, Sunday July 16 at the covered picnic shelter Kelsey Creek Farm Park, Bellevue WA. Entrance and parking is **FREE**. Youth under 12 years age eat free. Meet and greet and have a photo opportunity with a colonial re-enactor.

Kelsey Creek Park is centrally located near freeways and offers covered picnic shelter, modern restrooms, paved walkways, farm animals for viewing and petting, toddlers play area and wide open fields and walking trails.

**Reservations are due Saturday, July 8.** Details, see Page 10. Reservation form on Page 11. []

### Governor's Message



Spring is finally here! I love seeing and hearing the first robin, seeing the first daffodils, and the warm sun shining down on us.

It was so nice to see such a good turn-out for the Annual Meeting. I would like to thank you all for electing me as your governor for the next two years. I feel we have a very strong board who will be working for you to hopefully better the Society. If you have any questions please send me an email and I will answer you as soon as possible. <a href="mailto:governor@washingtonmayflower.org">governor@washingtonmayflower.org</a>

Our Summer picnic is July 16, 2017 at Kelsey Creek Park in Bellevue, Washington. Details are in this Spring Newsletter. Hope to see you all there and enjoy the fun picnic we always have. There are tables but you might want to bring your own lawn chairs, blankets, etc. Weather should be nice but be prepared for anything. We have a very nice shelter to keep us dry if it does rain.

September 8-10 is Triennial Congress in Plymouth, Mass. We as a society can have 11 delegates. This is where we elect the new Governor General and Officers. There are tours also you may attend. The list is in your *The Mayflower Quarterly Magazine*. It's a fun time to walk the streets our ancestors walked 397 years ago. I get goose bumps still when I walk where I know they did. So please if you plan on attending, let us know so we can get the paperwork done. You must register to attend.

Looking forward to serving you and hope to see each and every one of you at the meetings to come.

Respectfully yours,

Governor Judith Arnold []



New Members

Congratulations on tracing your family's history to a 1620 passenger of the ship Mayflower, emigrants from England and Holland, Signers of America's first self governance agreement (the Mayflower Compact) and present at America's first Thanksgiving!

Name	Ancestor (gen#)	WA#
Cameron T. White	John Howland (12)	1751
Diana M. Thompson	Richard Warren (12)	1752
V. Beth Brownfield	Wm Brewster (13)	1753
Lauri E. Schweyen	John Alden (11)	1754
Matthew C Binsfield	Edward Doty (12)	1755
Ronald G Cushman	Stephen Hopkins(13)	1756
Loren T Kohler	Francis Cooke (12)	1757
Donna P Phillips	William Bradford(12	1758
Willam S Sturgeon	John Alden (11)	1759
	Cameron T. White Diana M. Thompson V. Beth Brownfield Lauri E. Schweyen Matthew C Binsfield Ronald G Cushman Loren T Kohler Donna P Phillips	Cameron T. White Diana M. Thompson V. Beth Brownfield Lauri E. Schweyen Matthew C Binsfield Ronald G Cushman Loren T Kohler Donna P Phillips John Howland (12) Richard Warren (12) Wm Brewster (13) John Alden (11) Edward Doty (12) Stephen Hopkins(13) Francis Cooke (12) William Bradford(12)

#### Supplemental Applications Approved

**Member Name** Ancestor () Robert Thompson George Soule (10) Isaac Allerton (11)

#### Junior Members Welcomed

Junior members annually receive a birthday card through their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday. A great gift for newborns and juniors in-state or out-of-state. Send changes in mailing addresses for Juniors and request for Juniors' application forms to this email address:

AsstHistorian-Jrs@WashingtonMayflower.org

The Washington State Society is pleased to welcome the following new Juniors. Their sponsors are William Sturgeon and Shirley Stirling.

Of passenger John Alden: Samantha Sturgeon Of passenger Richard Warren: Darby Knapp

Moira Donnelly Liam Donnelly

#### Happenings — Neighbor States

Members near the border of Idaho or Oregon may want to contact these websites, or persons, for info on their meetings. Oregon websites:

- http://www.mayflower-or.com/
- www.mthoodmayflower.com

#### Idaho website:

http://www.idahomayflowersociety.org/

#### Washington Society **Board Members**

Governor Judy Arnold, Governor@WashingtonMayflower.org **Deputy Governor,** Jocelyn Paulson

Deputygovernor@WasingtonMayflower.org

Recording Secretary, Marilynn Sabo

RecordingSecretary@WashingtonMayflower.org

Corresponding Secretary, Tim Rogers,

CorrespondingSec@WashingtonMayflower.org

Correspondence, questions, address changes, phone changes. Treasurer, Margaret Spangler,

Treasurer@WashingtonMayflower.org

Historian. Jerri McCov. Historian@WashingtonMavflower.org Assistant Historian—Juniors, Bruce Harrington

Assistanthistorian-jrs@WashingtonMayflower.org

Elder, Carol Jean Gaffney Elder@WashingtonMayflower.org Captain, Jeffry Doughty Captain@WashingtonMayflower.org

#### **Assistants:**

Sandra Fisher, Lakewood Steve Arnold, Yakima Dorothy Hull, University Place Cheryl Eastwood, Redmond Kathleen Quickstad, Sammamish Luanne Green, Lakewood David Raese, Mukilteo Jane Ritchey, Kitsap County Lynn Pittier, Burien

#### **General Society Officers**

Member at Large, and Deputy Governor General (DGG), Steve Arnold Assistant General (AG), Judy Arnold

Immediate Past Governor, Guy Moellendorf

The Board member's email addresses are also listed on our web site. Select the "Officers" tab and then click on their "Office Title" to open an email to them. Website:

www.WashingtonMayflower.org

Want to invite a potential member? Send an email message with a link to our brochure. The link (may need copy, then paste): www.washingtonmayflower.org/pdf/2015brochure.pdf





#### Evergreen Log

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> Assistants Catherine Roberti Steve Arnold -

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ADDRESS & LIFE CHANGES - Notify the Corresponding Secretary (19025 Grannis RD, Bothell, WA 98012-6948) of changes to members' address, phone numbers, email and births or deaths.

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#### 105th Annual Meeting and Luncheon

**April 2, 2017** Tacoma Yacht Club, Tacoma, Washington

The luncheon began at 11:45 am with a social time. Programs were placed at each table setting. Displays at the back of the room included

Social Time began at 11:45 am with 104 members, guests and junior members registered. In the room Guy Moellendorf provided a display of member names active in "Mayflower Passenger Family Societies" and "Other Heritage Society." Plymouth Scenic Pictorial books were offered for sale. New is that the grounds of the Tacoma Yacht Club had been raised one story for new development, which changed the second floor to be the first floor, and the former first floor a basement area. This also eliminated the stairway at the building entrance. Several members had difficulty finding the entry road when their GPS had not been updated to show the new street entry that opened a year earlier.

At 12:20 pm, the meeting was called to order by Governor Guy Moellendorf.

Elder Mavis Ratcliff gave the Invocation and Corresponding Secretary Genie Parrott led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Governor Moellendorf welcomed attendees, introduced former governors and retiring officers and board of assistants for 2015-2017. He then led the Ancestor Roll Call.

Historian Jerri McCoy and Corresponding Secretary Genie Parrott welcomed new members, Kathleen Hylkema, Sharon McConville, Carolyn Pasquier, Colleen Peck, E. "Pat" Stone and Diana Thompson.

Assistant Historian Ann Shipley welcomed junior member Alysa Tompkins with an attendance certificate.

At 12:45 a break for lunch was taken.

About 1:45 pm, Deputy Governor Jocelyn Paulson introduced our speaker, Captain Ken Lazarus of the Lady Washington, Washington State's only tall ship.

The Lady Washington is a replica of the original Lady Washington, named after Martha Washington. The replica was launched in 1989, on the 200th anniversary of the launch of the original Lady Washington.

The Lady Washington is comparable in size to our Mayflower. The Lady Washington has two masts; the Mayflower had three.

The Lady Washington took three years to build, at a cost of \$2.2 million, with extensive donations of time and materials. Her current replacement cost would be \$5.5 - \$7 million. It is difficult to find timbers of this size and length (made of Douglas

The *Lady Washington* has been featured in the Pirates of the Caribbean movies. In the movies a ship's wheel is shown; however, the real Lady Washington has a 600 lb. tiller.

The Lady Washington is based out of The Grays Harbor Historical Seaport, whose mission is to teach young people about boats, ships and maritime history.

Captain Lazarus also sails the Hawaiian Chieftain, a Hawaiian built shallow beaching boat, based in Sacramento, CA.

The Lady Washington is in Puget Sound during the summer, and is available for charters and weddings. Google Lady Washington for more information.

Governor Moellendorf thanked our speaker and reminded attendees about the Mayflower Congress in Plymouth in September. Also, the Summer Picnic will be Sunday, July 16, at Kelsey Creek Park in Bellevue. (Information will be in the next newsletter.)

The Governor then introduced the slate of officers proposed by the Nominating Committee for the two-year term of April 2017 through the Annual Meeting of 2019 (probably in March). They are:

Officers:

Governor: Judith A. Arnold, Yakima

Deputy Governor: Jocelyn Paulson, Bonney Lake Recording Secretary: Marilynn Sabo, Tacoma Corresponding Secretary: Tim Rogers, Bothell

Treasurer: Margaret Spangler, Tacoma Historian: Jerri McCoy, Olympia

Assistant Historian/Juniors: Bruce Harrington, Seattle

Elder: Carol Jean Gaffney, Seattle Captain: Jeffry Doughty, Bothell

Assistants:

David Raese, Mukilteo Cheryl Eastwood, Redmond Sandra Fisher, Lakewood Lvnn Pittier, Burien

Kathleen Quickstad, Sammamish



Our Historian, Jerri McCov (far right) welcomed six new members: Left to right, Diana Thompson, E. Pat Stone, Colleen Peck, Kathleen Hylkema, Sharon McConville, and Carolyn Pasquier.



A new Board of Officers and Assistants were elected for the two-year term of Annual Meeting 2017 to Annual Meeting 2019. They are, I to r, Immediate Past Governor Guy Moellendorf, Assistant Jane Ritchey, Deputy Governor Jocelyn Paulson, Assistant Cheryl Eastwood, Assistant Dorothy Hull (also our sponsor at Tacoma Yacht Club), Historian Jerri McCoy, Elder Carol Jean Gaffney, Governor Judy Arnold, Assistants David Raese and Luanne Green, Treasurer Margaret Spangler, Recording Secretary Marilynn Sabo, Captain: Jeffry Doughty, and Assistant Historian-Jrs. Bruce Harrington. Welcome aboard!

(Luncheon, from page 3)

Dorothy Hull, University Place Steve Arnold, Yakima Jane Ritchey, Kitsap County It was asked if there were any other nominations, and hearing none, it was moved, seconded and passed by voice vote to elect the proposed slate of officers and assistants. Their term began at the close of the meeting.

Deputy Governor Jocelyn Paulson and GSMD Ex-officio DGG Steve Arnold thanked Governor Moellendorf for his service and presented him with a bouquet of roses. A Past Governor medal was ordered, but did not arrive on time, and will be presented at a later date.

Deputy Governor Jocelyn Paulson presented a certificate of appreciation to our speaker Captain Lazarus. Elder Mavis Ratcliff gave the Benediction. Photos were taken of new officers and assistants.

Photographs were taken by Chris Paulson and Judy Arnold.

Respectfully submitted, Marilynn Sabo, Recording Secretary...[]



Captain Ken Lazarus of the ship Lady Washington gave an entertaining and informative story of experiences on Washington State's only tall ship.

#### Board Action June 10, 2017 Fee for Life Membership Raised

After much discussion, the Board approved raising the Life Membership fees. A change was adopted to the Bylaws at the 2016 Compact meeting eliminating the purchase of Life Memberships to anyone under 35, and who had not been a Society member for one year. However, the Board of Assistants can change the Standing Rules, which lists these fees. The new fees approved June 10, 2017, are listed below and will be published in the next yearbook. If questions, contact our Treasurer, Margaret Spangler, as shown on page 2.

Ages 36 to 45: \$880, Ages 46 to 55: \$680, and over age 65 years: \$320. [] Ages 56 to 65: \$500,

moved by the Word as to join a group of Puritans who met for prayer and discussion at the house of William Brewster in the nearby village of Scrooby. When this group, inspired by the Rev. Richard Clyfton, organized itself as a separate Congregational church in 1606, Bradford joined it despite "the wrath of his uncles" and the "scoff of his neighbors."

From that date until his death half a century later, Bradford's life revolved around that of this church or congregation, first in Scrooby, next in the Low Countries and finally in New England. In his own words one may read of their escape to the Netherlands, their short sojourn at Amsterdam, and long one at Leyden, under a remarkable pastor, the Rev. John Robinson. Bradford, upon coming of age in 1611, received an inheritance from his parents, which apparently he expended in some sort of mercantile venture; but he saved enough to buy a house in Leyden, where he followed the trade of weaver. Largely through his own efforts he learned Dutch and a certain amount of Latin and Hebrew, and acquired a wide knowledge of general literature and a fair-sized library, which he brought with him to the New World.

In 1617 when the preparations began for the removal of this band of brothers to America, Bradford was twenty-seven years old; but his ability had evidently so impressed the elders of the congregation that he was chosen one of the committee to make the practical arrangements. He sailed in the Mayflower with his first wife, Dorothy May, whom he had married at Amsterdam in 1613. They had one son, John (1617-1676) who had no children. He took part in the boat expedition that explored Cape Cod, including the one that scudded into Plymouth Bay before a snowstorm and landed, traditionally on Plymouth Rock, on 11 December 1620. On returning to the Mayflower at Cape Cod (now Provincetown) Harbor, he learned that his "dearest consort, accidentally falling overboard, was drowned in the harbor." His failure to mention this in the History is consistent with his modest reticence about his own role of leadership in the colony; but it may be that he suspected (as do we) that Dorothy Bradford took her own life, after gazing for six weeks at the barren sand dunes of Cape Cod. For we have it from other tenderhearted women who came to New England among the pioneers, that their hearts grew faint and sick when they first beheld that wild-looking northern land, so different from the green and cultivated England they had left. Three years later, when a former member of the Leyden church, the widow Alice (Carpenter) Southworth, came out to Plymouth with her two small boys, Bradford married her and she bore him three children, William, Mercy (no children)

In May 1621, after the death of Governor John Carver,



William Bradford's birth place. Austerfield, England, UK

William Bradford, just turned thirty-one, was unanimously chosen to that office, "the difficulties whereof were such that, if he had not been a person of more than ordinary piety, wisdom and courage, he must have sunk under them." And he was re-elected to the same office no less than thirty times, for a total term of 33 *years—every year from* 1622. In other words, he was Governor of Plymouth Colony continuously from 1627 to 1656 inclusive, excepting for five years when he "by importunity gat off," according to Governor Winthrop; and in those years he was chosen an assistant to Governor Winslow or Governor Prence.

#### **Principal Leader**

So, from 1621to his death in May 1657, Bradford was the principal leader of the Pilgrim Fathers. William Brewster, who had had a university education, was elder of the church; Edward Winslow, more a man of the world than Bradford, did the Pilgrims' diplomatic business; Myles Standish provided the power to their politics. But Bradford, who never left New England after he had once landed there, was the man who made the major decisions. He exercised more plenary authority than any governor of an English colony in his day, with the possible exception of Sir William Berkelev in Virginia.

If Bradford had been moved by love of power or ambition for wealth, he had an opportunity in 1630 when the Warwick Patent from the Council for New England was made out in his name. He might then, had he wished, have become the sole lord and proprietor of Plymouth Colony; like Lord Baltimore in Maryland. Instead, he promptly shared his proprietary right with the "Old Corners," as the Pilgrim Fathers were called in their own day; and in 1640 he persuaded the "Old Corners" to surrender the patent to the whole body of Freemen. He was one of the small group known as the Undertakers, who were given by the Freeman a monopoly of offshore fishing and fur trading in order to pay off their debt to the merchant adventurers who financed the Mayflower's voyage. It is true that we have never heard the Adventurers' side of the story, except in their own letters that Bradford incorporated in his History; but even on their showing they treated the Pilgrims much as a loan shark treats a man in financial difficulties; the more beaver and other commodities they sent to England, the more the debt grew. Finally it was paid off in 1648 after Bradford, Alden, Standish, Winslow and Prence had sold houses and large parcels of land to make up the balance.

Thereafter, Bradford continued the Indian trade on his own account, through trading posts on Buzzard's Bay and the Kennebec. At his death at the age of sixty-seven on 9 May 1657 he owned a house in Plymouth valued only at £55, an orchard and several parcels of land at Plymouth; a "great beer bowle" and two smaller ones, six leather chairs, three "carved chairs," a "great chair," and a court cupboard, ten and a half pairs of sheets, a large quantity of table linen, about five dozen pewter dishes and vessels, a red Turkey grogram suit of clothes, a red waistcoat and a "sad colored" suit, a "stuff suit with silver buttons," an "old violet colored cloak" and "two hats—a black one and a colored one."

"He was a person for study as well as action," records Cotton Mather; and this may be seen not only by his literary skill, but by the fact that he had at his death a library of about 400 volumes, including John Speed's Prospect of the Most Famous Part of the World, Peter Martyr's de Orbe Novo, Jean Bodin's de Republica, Pierre de la Primaudaye's French Academy, and "divers Dutch books."

It is a pity that the Governor did not continue his History through 1650, for we would like to have known his opinion of Father Gabriel Druillettes, a Jesuit from Canada who visited him at the end of the year in order to come to some arrangement about the Abnaki Indians on the Kennebec. The Governor (whom Druillettes calls "Jehan Brentford") received him with courtesy and invited him to

(Continued from page 5)

dine, taking care to serve a fish dinner because it was Friday, although Puritans made rather a point of not eating fish on Fridays.

In his later years the Governor wrote out three "Dialogues" between "Ancient Men" of Plymouth, explaining to "Young Men born in New England" the principles of their religion and their church organization. He wrote a good deal of indifferent verse, some of which is appealing from its very simplicity and sincerity:

From my years young in days of youth,
God did make known to me his truth,
And called me from my native place
For to enjoy the means of grace.
In wilderness he did me guide,
And in strange lands for me provide.
In fears and wants, through weal and woe,
A Pilgrim passed I to and fro.

In his later years the Governor felt that the glory had departed from Plymouth; the town declining in numbers, population dispersed, young people indifferent to religion and heedless of their fathers' sacrifices, luxury coming in with prosperity, Indians growing insolent.

Unfortunately we have no contemporary biographical sketch of Bradford; not even a portrait or description of his person. But it will not be difficult for anyone to infer his character from this History; as fair a permanent monument as any man could wish.

#### Manuscript Described

The book in which Bradford's History is written is a vellum-bound volume, measuring 11.5" x 7.75", containing about 270 leaves, most of which Bradford numbered himself, very inaccurately. He skipped from 79 to 91, occasionally he left a number out; he went back to the 100s when he was in the 200s, and so forth. Mostly he writes on the obverse only, but sometimes on the reverse. His numbers, such as they are, I have placed in the text enclosed in vertical rules at the beginning of each folio, to facilitate reference to the original, the facsimile, or to other editions. Bradford, as he states in Appendix I, started to write in 1630, finished through Chapter x that year, did the rest "in pieces" until 1646, and added a few items as late as 1650.

The first folios, unnumbered, are occupied by Bradford's Hebrew exercises,8 in the middle of which comes this statement which, judging from the ink and handwriting, was written by Bradford in 1650:

"Though I am grown aged, yet I have had a longing desire to see with my own eves something of that most ancient language and holy tongue in which the Law and Oracles of God were writ, and in which God and Angels spoke to the holy patriarchs of old time; and what names were given to things from the Creation. And though I cannot attain to much herein, yet I am refreshed to have seen some glimpse hereof, as Moses saw the land of Canaan afar off. My aim and desire is to see how the words and phrases lie in the holy text, and to discern somewhat of the same, for my own content."

#### **Manuscript Loans**

According to a manuscript note by his great-grandson Samuel Bradford, recorded on one of the flyleaves on 20 March 1705, the manuscript book descended first to the Governor's eldest son, Major William Bradford, then to his son Major John Bradford, and then to his son Samuel. In the meantime Nathaniel Morton, the old Governor's nephew, later Secretary of the Colony of New Plymouth, had used the manuscript in writing his *New Englands Memoriall* (Cambridge 1669), the first published history of a New England colony. A large part of Morton is a mere paraphrase of Bradford. Not content with this, however, and (by his own confession) somewhat spurred by fellow Plymotheans who thought he had not done well by Uncle William, the pious Nathaniel faithfully copied into the Plymouth church records most of the Bradford History through Chapter ix of the First Book, together with extracts from the rest.

Increase Mather had already borrowed the manuscript as a source for his own history of the Indian wars. Before he got around to returning it, Increase Mather lost his house by fire on 27 November **1676**. Fortunately the History was not involved, and the manuscript does not show any sign of having been

## **SOCIETY EVENTS**Mark your calendar!

Tentative Schedule of Meetings: Time and Place to be Announced

#### 2017

**July 16, Sunday, Summer Picnic** Kelsey Creek Park, Bellevue

Sept 9-11, Congress, Plymouth, MA October 29, Sunday, Compact Day

#### 2018

\*\*\*March 18, Sunday, Annual Meeting
Tacoma Yacht Club

July 17, Sunday, Summer Picnic Bellevue

November, Sunday, Compact Day

#### 2019

March , Sunday, Annual Meeting July , Sunday, Summer Picnic November, Sunday, Compact Meeting

\*\* Change from the previous newsletter.

#### Other Heritage Happenings

-June 15-18th, Foss Waterway, Tacoma, "Festival of Sail." board the tall ships including the *Lady Washington*, similar in size and sail to ship *Mayflower* of 1620. http://festofsailtacoma.com/

-July 28-30, Enumclaw, WA, Northwest Scottish Highland Games and Clan Gathering, <a href="http://www.sshga.org/nwLinks/gamesFestivals.htm">http://www.sshga.org/nwLinks/gamesFestivals.htm</a>

-August 10-13, George Washington Inn, Port Angeles, WA. Northwest Colonial Fesival. It promotes our Colonial History and the path leading up to 1775. Colonial village, re-enactors, make connections to DAR, SAR.

https://colonialfestival.wordpress.com/press/

subjected to undue heat.

Increase Mather's son Cotton used the manuscript in his account of the Plymouth Colony in the *Magnalia Christi Americana*, completed before the end of the century and printed at London in **1702**. A William Hubbard used it in his *History of New England*, finished before 1683 but not printed until 1815. And, at some time between 1705 and 1728, Judge Samuel Sewall, author of a famous Diary, borrowed the manuscript; for what purpose we know not.

We do know that the book was in Sewall's possession in 1728, from a note in the manuscript

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itself made by the next borrower, the Rev. Thomas Prince, minister of the Old South Church in Boston. One of the first collectors of Americana, Prince began to accumulate books when he was in Harvard College; and by 1718, when he became colleague minister of the Old South Church, his library was so large that he fitted up the "steeple room" of the meeting house as "The New England Library." A few years later Prince decided to write a New England history of his own. The one document he needed for the Plymouth Colony was the Bradford History. He called on Major John Bradford at Plymouth in 1728 and apparently offered to buy it. According to Prince's own note in the manuscript itself, the Major said "he would never part with the property, but would lend it to me and desired me to get it"of Judge Sewall, which he promptly did. Prince then jotted down, on a flyleaf of the manuscript: "I write down this that Major Bradford and his heirs may be known to be the right owners." Yet Prince's own New England Library book label is pasted on the same page! Major Bradford, according to another note by Prince, consented that the manuscript be deposited in the New England Library on condition that "he might have the perusal of it while he lived," and the Major's son Samuel regarded himself as the owner. But Prince undoubtedly regarded the loan as one of that indefinite sort which librarians and bibliophiles are apt to convert into complete ownership.

Thomas Prince made good use of the Bradford History in his Chronological History of New England (Boston 1736), and the manuscript bears much evidence of his earnest perusal Not only did the reverend borrower make notes of his own on blank pages; he went right through the text underlining passages that he deemed important, even in some instances correcting the Governor's spelling. And when Prince died in 1758, he left the manuscript, together with his entire New England Library, to the Old South Church.

Governor Thomas Hutchinson used the Bradford manuscript in the second volume of his History of Massachusetts Bay (Boston 1767). But after the War of Independence had been fought and won, the manuscript was no longer to be found in the New England Library. What had become of it? Naturally the finger of suspicion pointed to Governor Hutchinson. He was a Tory. He went to England in 1774. The book was not on the shelf in 1780. Very suspicious!

#### **Manuscript Vanishes 1780**

But there are other circumstances to be considered. Within a year of the Governor's departure for England, a British army was being besieged by that of the United Colonies in Boston. The Old South Meeting House, which still stands at the corner of Washington and Milk Streets, was used by the British garrison as a riding school. After the siege was raised, Thomas Prince's valuable library in the tower was found to be somewhat dilapidated, and the Bradford manuscript was not the only book that had disappeared. Fortunately the Bradford text through Chapter ix had been copied into the Plymouth church records, and that version was published by Alexander Young in *Chronicles of the Pilgrim Fathers*, **1841**. But the entire Book II of the History had never been copied, and every New England historian and antiquarian bewailed the loss.

Enough has been said here to show that the contention of a recent writer, George F. Willison, that the Pilgrim story (or "saga" as he calls it) "was wholly the creation of the nineteenth century," is nonsense. All the essential parts of the Pilgrim story had been in print since 1669; the Mayflower Compact since 1622. Captain John Smith in his General History of 1624, and all eighteenth-century historians of the English colonies, mention the Plymouth Colony in its right place and give it the proper emphasis.

The centenary of the Mayflower's voyage was celebrated at Plymouth in 1720, and Forefathers' Day was annually celebrated on the wrong date to be sure—from 1769. The term *Pilgrim* Fathers was first applied exclusively to the May flower passengers in the celebration of but it was Bradford himself who called himself and his companions Pilgrims. Naturally, as the shadow of American history lengthened, Americans became more and more interested in their origins, and more and more eager to obtain the full story of the Pilgrim colony.

#### Trail to London

They did not have long to wait after Young's publication of Book I. In 1844 Samuel Wilberforce, Bishop of Oxford, known to his contemporaries as "Soapy Sam," published an exceedingly dull work, A History of the Protestant Episcopal Church in America, by Samuel, Lord Bishop of Oxford. Therein, in Chapter iii, he makes an unmistakable quotation from the Bradford History, with a revealing footnote: "Fulham MS. History." (Fulham Palace was the residence of the Bishop of London.) Four years later the Rev. James S. M. Anderson published a three-volume *History of the* Colonial Church. He not only used the manuscript but distinctly stated that Governor Bradford wrote it.

The following year, 1849, Wilberforce's History was reprinted in New York. That same year, Joseph Hunter, Vice President of the Society of Antiquaries in London, who was interested in the history of the Pilgrim Fathers, published in London a pamphlet on their origin without making any reference to the manuscript, despite the fact that he lived within a stone's throw of Fulham Palace, where it reposed. One can excuse an Englishman for not running down every clue to Bradford; but it passes one's comprehension how American scholars remained completely oblivious of these clues for eleven years.

For it was only in **1855** that John T. Thornton of Boston,

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when browsing in Burnharn's Antique Bookstore on Cornhill, noted the reference in Wilberforce. He at once brought the book to the Rev. John S. Barry, who was writing a History of Massachusetts, with the important passage marked. Barry called the matter to the attention of Charles Deane, who at that time was editing the publications of the Massachusetts Historical Society.

#### **Longhand Copy 1856**

Deane promptly wrote to Joseph Hunter, begging him to look up the manuscript and get it copied. The Bishop amiably lent the manuscript to Hunter, who found "a gentleman who would undertake to ... execute it in a scholar-like and business-like manner." This gentleman, whose name has not been preserved, made a remarkably accurate transcript, for which he received the modest compensation of £40. This longhand copy has been the basis of every text of Bradford published before 1912. Charles Deane, adding numerous scholarly and interesting footnotes, sent the longhand copy to the printer and it was published as Volume III of the Fourth Series of the Collections of the Massachusetts Historical Society in 1856. The same year, Little, Brown & Company published an edition for the public from the same plates. This full publication of the Bradford History was a literary sensation.

#### **How Did Manuscript Get to London?**

The question at once arose, how did the manuscript get into the Bishop of London's library in Fulham Palace? Neither the Bishop nor anyone else knew. The manuscript had never been catalogued. Wilberforce had been the first Bishop to notice its existence. On Prince's New England Library bookplate someone had written: "It now belongs to the Bishop of London's Library," but nobody could, or at least admitted he could, recognize the handwriting. One theory is that Governor Hutchinson suffered pangs of conscience after purloining the manuscript from the Old South and, not wishing to return it to ungrateful rebels, presented it to the then Bishop of London. But there is no evidence of this in Hutchinson's writings or in the Fulham archives; a meticulously honest gentleman, Hutchinson left Boston several years after he had used the manuscript for his History of Massachusetts Bay and there is every reason to believe that he would have returned the manuscript to the New England Library before his departure.

Much more probable it is that some British officer or soldier, straying into the steeple room of the Old South before or after his morning ride in 1775-6, decided to exercise the military prerogative once called by its proper name of looting; but now—at least when performed by Americans-known by the euphemism of souvenircollecting. There is also reason to believe that the Bradford History was not the only bit of literary loot that this unknown thief carried off. A portion of one of the Governor's Letter-Books, which had also been deposited in the New England Library, was recovered shortly after 1783 at Halifax, whither the British garrison went after evacuating Boston. The Letter-Book was promptly returned to Massachusetts. Two other manuscript books from the Prince Library, the one a dictionary of authors and the other a commonplace book, both compiled by Thomas Prince's brother Nathan, also turned up at the Fulham Palace library; and there could be no mistake about their source, as each bore the New England Library book label.

It seems very probable, therefore, that these four manuscript books were taken as loot during the war; that the Letter-Book was mislaid or left behind at Halifax, and that the other three, possibly sold

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4 is well knowne unto f godly, and judicious; how ever since f first breaking out of flighte of f gospell amour Honourable nation of England (which was first of nations, whom f Lord adorned ther with after f große darkness of spospery which had covered there with after f große darkness of spospery which had covered coverfixed for striction world what warrs a oppositions ever lince satan hath raised, maintained, and continued against the

Governor William Bradford's handwriting.

for a song to an ignorant bookseller in London, were picked up by a man of some intelligence—perhaps a Bishop of London—and deposited in the Fulham Palace library.

#### Manuscript Return Request 1860

There was no doubt whatsoever that the manuscript entitled "Of Plymouth Plantation" was the long-missing Bradford History. Under the circumstances, it would seem that the return of this volume to New England would have been a normal and proper act of restitution. As precedent, the Emperor Napoleon's will, made at St. Helena and therefore deposited in the Archbishop of Canterbury's probate records, had already been returned to France by the British government. An Englishman, the Rev. John Waddington, proposed as early as 1855 that the Bradford manuscript be returned to New England. But to accomplish that required many petitions, much diplomacy, and the exercise of legal ingenuity, spread over a period of some forty years.

Robert C. Winthrop, president of the Massachusetts Historical Society, made a formal proposal to that end in 1860, with the added suggestion that the Prince of Wales as a good-will gesture might bring the manuscript with him on his visit to America that year. But the future Edward VII was not afforded the opportunity to peruse the original History of the Pilgrims on his voyage. In 1867 a parallel act of courtesy was performed by the Philadelphia Library in returning to the Public Records Office in London some official manuscripts of the reign of James I which had been presented to them by Charles Hamilton Cox, and later recognized as having been abstracted from government archives by an English historian. Justin Winsor, at that time head of the Boston Public Library and as such responsible for the Prince collection, deemed this a good occasion to strike again for the Bradford History, especially since John Lothrop Motley was about to sail for England as the American Ambassador. Motley saw the then Bishop of London, who said he was perfectly willing to return the manuscript but that an Act of Parliament would be necessary; it was thought that such an act could more easily be obtained at some other time since Mr. Disraeli was then in power, and neither he nor his Tory followers liked Americans; there would be a far better chance with Mr. Gladstone and the Liberals. Although the "G.O.M." succeeded "Dizzy" in 1869, Motley had accomplished nothing when he was unceremoniously recalled by President Grant in November 1870.

Every one of these attempts ran afoul of ecclesiastical red tape

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and official stuffiness. It was said that the Bishop of London had no right to return the manuscript, that either the Queen's permission or an Act of Parliament would be required. There seemed to be a deep-rooted reluctance to do anything about it.

In **1881** Benjamin Scott, Chamberlain of the City of London, proposed that Bradford's History be returned as palpable evidence of English sympathy on the occasion of the assassination of President Garfield. He pointed out the precedent of Napoleon's will, but nothing came of his suggestion.

In the final and successful effort it was the Honorable George Frisbie Hoar, United States Senator from Massachusetts, who took the initiative. In the introduction to the Commonwealth edition, he relates how he reached the conviction, after reading the printed edition through, that the manuscript was "the most precious on earth," with the possible exception of those of the Four Gospels. He describes his voyage to England in 1896, his difficulty in even getting a look at the manuscript, his interview at Fulham with the then Bishop of London, Frederick Temple; the Bishop's astonishment that Americans "cared anything about it," the Bishop's willingness to return it, yet caution that he must consult the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Queen. For, he said, "We should not do such a thing behind her Majesty's back." One wishes that the late Max Beerbohm might have done a cartoon of the Lord Bishop of London slipping the manuscript to the United States Senator behind Queen Victoria's back. But progress had been made; the Bishop promised to support Senator Hoar if he made a formal application.

Upon returning home, Senator Hoar persuaded the American Antiquarian Society, the Pilgrim Society of Plymouth, and the New England Society of New York, to make a joint application, dated 21 December 1896. The letter was signed, among others, by Edward Everett Hale, Samuel A. Green, Charles Francis Adams, Bishop William Lawrence, President Charles ,W. Eliot of Harvard, Arthur Lord, Joseph H. Choate, J. Pierpont Morgan and Governor Roger Wolcott. Senator Hoar then persuaded the Secretary of State, Richard Olney, to instruct the American Ambassador to the Court of St. James's, Thomas F. Bayard, to put his shoulder to the wheel; and he did.

Circumstances favored this effort. Anglo-American relations, after the nasty flare-up of the Venezuela episode, had resumed their normal course of friendly family bickering. Throughout that unpleasantness, Mr. Bayard had kept his head, and won golden opinions in England. Bishop Temple had been elevated to the Archiepiscopal See of Canterbury, and Mandell Creighton, an historian who had many friends in America (and an LL.D. from Harvard), was now Bishop of London.

Bishop Creighton, on being approached by Mr. Bayard, appealed to the Prime Minister for an opinion. Lord Salisbury waived responsibility and told the Bishop that he must decide. Apparently one obstacle all along had been the conviction of certain ecclesiastical officials in the Diocese of London that the list of Mayflower passengers in an appendix to the History constituted a valuable section of vital records by virtue of which Mayflower descendants might put in a claim to property in England and embarrass the Bishop if he lost the volume. In rebuttal it was pointed out that Bradford's list was no official record, that it had nothing to do with the Diocese, that the names had all been printed in the edition of 1856 and in John H. Doyle's facsimile of the manuscript in 1896. Even so the ecclesiastical lawyers could only be placated by the fiction that the manuscript was a mere ship's log with a list of passengers attached. For at this point it occurred to some genius at legal prevarication that if the

#### **Statue Commissioned**

For the 400th Anniversary of the Landing of the *Mayflower*, the GSMD has commissioned a bronze statue of Governor William Bradford to be located at the Society's Winslow house, Plymouth MA, and to be completed by year 2020.

### Famous Quotes from Of Plymouth Plantation

- Thus out of small beginnings greater things have been produced by His hand that made all things of nothing, and gives being to all things that are; and, as one small candle may light a thousand, so the light here kindled hath shone unto many, yea in some sort to our whole nation.
- They knew they were pilgrims.
- So they committed themselves to the will of God and resolved to proceed.
- Our fathers were Englishmen which came over this great ocean, and were ready to perish in this wilderness.
- The loss of...honest and industrious men's lives cannot be valued at any price.

Source: Wikimidia Foundation, en.wikiquote.org

History were called by the idiotic title "The Log of the Mayflower," the ecclesiastical lawyers might consent to let it go.

The Chancellor of the Diocese, on Bishop Creighton's order, now summoned a Consistory Court which met in St. Paul's Cathedral on 25 March 1897, under the presidency of the Right Worshipful Thomas Hutchinson Tristram LL.D., Q.C. That fixed it. The decree of this court, copied in a neat clerical hand on the first two leaves of the manuscript, describes it as "A certain book known as and entitled 'The Log of the Mayflower,' containing an account as narrated by Captain William Bradford, who was one of the Company of Englishmen who left England in April 1620 in the ship known as 'The Mayflower.' And, whereas, the American Ambassador has prayed that the Honorable Court would deliver to him said manuscript book" on undertaking to use every means in his power "for the safe transmission of the said book to the United States of America, and to secure deposit and custody in the Pilgrim Hall at New Plymouth, or in such other place as may be selected the President and Senate of the said United States," the Court decrees:

- 1. That the manuscript shall be delivered to Ambassador Bayard on his undertaking that he will "with all due care and diligence" deliver it to the Governor of Massachusetts "at his official office in the State House in the City of Boston";
- 2. That the book will "with all convenient speed" be finally deposited either in the Massachusetts Archives or in the Library of the Historical Society as the Governor shall determine;
- 3. That the Governors of Massachusetts for all time will be officially responsible for the safe custody of it, no matter where deposited, and for the performance of the following conditions: (a) All persons shall have access to it under reasonable regulations; (b) All persons desirous of searching it to establish a pedigree be permitted to search the same under suitable safeguards;
- (c) Certified copies of any entries on marriages, births or deaths be furnished;
- (d) Upon delivery of it to the Governor of Massachusetts, the

(Continued on page 10)
SUMMER 2017

9 | EVERGREEN LOG

#### Summer Picnic at Bellevue's Kelsey Creek Farm Park

Just a short distance from I-405, this gem of a park feels like an isolated, country woods experience. One might get the impression of time travel as you move from the modern day reality of the parking lot to the rural, pastoral feel of the early 1900's (when the farm was built).

Two historic barns sit prominently on the crest of a hill, overlooking the shallow valleys to each side. Farm animals are out in the pastures or yards daily. Come by and see them!

In the summer, the sounds of songbirds mix with the babbling of Kelsey Creek, creating a relaxing background rhythm.

A 0.9 mile gravel trail loops around the farm, pastures and open spaces is ideal for jogging, walking, or bicycling. The trail loops along the edge of a bowl-shaped wetland and grass meadows. Map see web pages.

Walkways are paved with easy access ramps.

When visiting, all dogs and other pets must be on a leash at all times. Out of respect to the farm animals' health and wellbeing, all pets are strictly prohibited from the area surrounding the barns (the barnyard).

By 11:30 am, meet at the covered picnic shelter, next to parking lot. Greet and have a photo opportunity with a colonial re-enactor.

At noon, lunch will be served, catered by Famous Dave's BBQ. For the menu, see the reservation page. About 12:45 we cover announcements, welcome new members.

Map and photos at these websites:

http://parkstrails.myparksandrecreation.com/ParksTrails/UserFiles/ file/bellevue\_park\_info/kelsey/

kelsey\_creek\_farm\_rental\_flyer\_2014.pdf

and:

http://parkstrails.myparksandrecreation.com/Details.aspx?pid=23



Parking and Picnic Shelter Kelsev Creek Farm Park, Bellevue



(Continued from page 9)

Governor shall transmit to the Registrar of the Court a certificate of the delivery of the same by Mr. Bayard and that he accept the same, subject to the conditions, and terms here named. The Bishop of London confirmed this decree of his Consistorial Court on 12 April 1897.

The confusion of language in this decree is extraordinary. The Ambassador has requested that the manuscript be deposited in Pilgrim Hall at "New Plymouth" (a name obsolete since 1691), or at a place selected by the President and Senate of the United States. But it is delivered to him to hand over to the Governor of Massachusetts, for deposit in one of two places other than Pilgrim Hall, Plymouth, bypassing the President and Senate of the United States. Claims of the New England Library, from which it was stolen, and of the Bradford family, to which Prince stated it still belonged while in his custody, were not even considered. Finally, the manuscript is called "The Log of the Mayflower," of which Governor Bradford apparently is assumed to have been the skipper. An amazing misnomer, considering that there is no log of the Mayflower contained in the manuscript; that the name of that famous vessel is never even mentioned in it; that the name of her master, Christopher Jones, is clearly stated; and that the account of her voyage occupies only a part of one chapter out of 36!

Massachusetts was glad enough to receive the manuscript, by whatever name; but this imbecile title, "The Log of the Mayflower," has never been shaken off. Newspapers of the time blossomed out with headlines, "MAYFLOWER'S LOG RETURNED"; and to this day many visitors to the State House ask to see the "Log of the Mayflower," and school children are apt to be disappointed because no log of wood from the structure of the ship is in evidence.

#### **Manuscript Returned 1897**

Ambassador Bayard, a Democrat, knew after the election of William McKinley to the Presidency that his term was up. Accordingly he sent in his resignation and returned to the United States in the spring of 1897, carrying the precious manuscript with him. On the morning of 26 May 1897, a Joint Convention of both houses of the Great and General Court was held in the Representatives' Chamber of the State House in Boston. His Excellency Governor Roger Wolcott, His Honor Lieutenant Governor Winthrop Murray Crane, the Honorable Council of the Common-wealth, the Honorable Thomas F. Bayard, late Ambassador of the United States at the Court of St. James's, the Honorable George F. Hoar, Senator from Massachusetts in

#### **2017 Summer Picnic Reservation Form**

#### **Return This Coupon With Payment**

Please make checks payable to the Washington Mayflower Society.

Reservations must reach Treasurer Margaret Spangler by Saturday, July 8.

Mail to: Margaret Spangler, 1837 North Skyline Drive, Tacoma WA 98406-1930. Phone 253-752-2230.

Email: treasurer@washingtonmayflower.org

Please send a 2017 Membership Directory, available in	ո July.				
TOTAL RESERVATIONS TOTAL AMOUNT E	ENCLOSED \$				
Member's Primary Ancestor			Juniors	coper Desi Youth	<b>ignation</b> Youth
Print Your Name	🗅	Wember	Wember		
Street Address State Zin Code	\$20			Age 12-18 \$10	Under Age 12 FREE
City State Zip Code Guest					
Guest	🗆				
Additional Guests are listed on back.	New Telephone #				
Address above is New.  New E	E-Mail address				Jo
CONTRIDER DESCRIPTION OF THE PARTY OF THE PA	Summer ] Sunday, July Evered Picnic Shelter at Ke 410 130th Pl. SE, E Meet 11:30 a.m. —	16, 2017 elsey Creek Fa Bellevue, WA	rm Park		

**Program:** 11:30 am. meet at picnic shelter, Lunch at Noon. Meet and greet and have a photo opportunity with a colonial re-enactor.

Lunch will be catered by Famous Dave's BBQ. A Picnic Buffet: two ribs, country roasted chicken, corn bread muffin, brown (Wilbur) baked beans, potato salad, bottled water and cookies. Meal prices, per person: Adult \$20 Children age 12 -18, \$10, under age 12 FREE. After the meeting, visit and explore the park on your own.

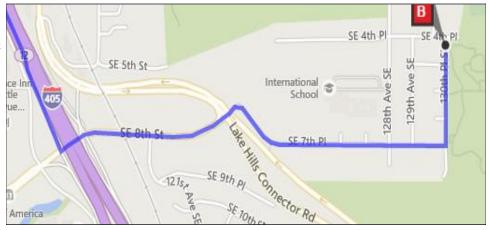
<u>Directions</u>: From I-405 in Bellevue, take the SE 8th Street exit (#12). Turn east onto SE 8th St.

GTON STAT

Cross the Lake Hills Connector Road into residential area. Turn left onto 130th Pl SE, go 0.2 miles, arrive at park entrance on right, "B on map".

If parking lot is full, unload, then park your vehicle in the residential neighborhood where signs permit.

Address: 410 130th Pl. SE, Bellevue





#### **EVERGREEN LOG**

### Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Washington

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**Return Service Requested** 

US First Class Postage

(Continued from page 10)

the Congress of the United States, and invited guests, entered the Chamber. The decree of the Consistorial Court was read. The Honorable George P. Lawrence, President of the Senate, introduced Senator Hoar, who made a lengthy oration describing the manuscript and his efforts to procure its return. He made an eloquent tribute to Queen Victoria, declared that there was nothing like the Bradford History "in human annals since the Story of Bethlehem," and concluded with a promise that "Massachusetts will preserve it until the time shall come that her children are unworthy of it; and that time shall come,—never!" Ambassador Bayard presented the book to Governor Wolcott, who, in the graceful manner of which he was a master, alluded to the achievements of the Pilgrim Fathers, and pledged the faith of the Commonwealth that the History of Ply mouth Plantation would forever be guarded in accordance with the terms of the decree. He ventured the prophecy that "for countless years to come . . . these mute pages shall eloquently speak of high resolve, great suffering and heroic endurance made possible by an absolute faith in the overruling providence of Almighty God."

#### **History Editions**

Complete editions of Bradford's History were printed in 1856 (online at Google Books), 1896, 1897, 1908 and 1912. However the best is the 1952 edited by Samuel Eliot Morison. The 1952 edition has numerous reprints. Morison rearranged the text into history order as the events occurred, retained all of Bradford's words and added useful footnotes and Introduction.

Edited by Guy Moellendorf from *Of Plymouth Plantation*, 1620-1647, by William Bradford. A New Edition, The complete Text, with Notes and an Introduction by Samuel Eliot Morison, 1987. Images from Wikipedia Foundation on "William Bradford."

Mark Your Calendar

# Summer Picnic

Sunday, July 16, 2017 RSVP by: Saturday, July 8, 2017

Picnic shelter at Kelsey Creek Park, Bellevue Event details, see page 10.

Come join in!