According to the calendar spring is here; yet the snow storms continue. Regardless, mud season will arrive soon. It reminds me of the quote attributed to Mark Twain: "If you don't like the weather in New England now, just wait a few minutes."

GSV’s fall membership meeting will be held on October 28, 2017, at the Williamstown Masonic Lodge. We are currently looking for speakers. Sometimes there are speakers of local interest, that may not be on GSV Board’s radar. If you have any suggestions let me know at stevens@vermontel.net. Look for updates on speakers, the luncheon and directions in the next Newsletter.

The latest issue of Vermont Genealogy Spring 2016 [21: 1] should have arrived in GSV members’ mailboxes by the time you read this message.

Don’t forget that NERGC 2017: Using the Tools of Today & Tomorrow to Understand the Past will be held at the MassMutual Center in Springfield, Massachusetts, on April 26-29, 2017. The conference is supported by GSV and 22 other genealogical societies. Wednesday will be filled with special tracks and events. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday will be the featured days of the conference with many presentations, a large exhibit hall with 72 vendors including GSV. Our sponsored speaker is Vermont Genealogy editor Michael F. Dwyer, FASG. His talk is entitled: *Half-truths and Lies: Why Records Are Wrong* will be on Saturday at 4:45 p.m. Attendance at each of the past six conferences has exceeded 700, with 720 attending the 2005 Portland, Maine conference, 745 in Hartford, Connecticut in 2007, 739 in Manchester, New Hampshire in 2009, and 830 in Springfield, Massachusetts in 2011. The 2015 conference in Providence, Rhode Island had just under 1,000 attendees, speakers, and exhibitors on hand. To make any conference run smoothly volunteers are needed. If you would like to volunteer please contact Pat Stano-Carpenter at pstacar@gmail.com. Remember this will help GSV meet our required on-site commitment. Also please let me know as well if you want your volunteer time to go to GSV.

See you in Springfield at NERGC 2017.

Jonathan W. Stevens, President
Vermont Vital Records Card Index Error

There are two cards for the marriage of George E. Taplin and Nellie A. Minard (see below). The first page shows the images of the groom cards submitted by the Town Clerk of Topsham. The first states that the couple was married on 28 August 1913. The second says 26 December 1917. Which one is correct?

The next two items are from the Topsham town records (see bottom of the page). Again, a record appears to support each of these two marriages; the first purportedly took place in Topsham, the second in So. Ryegate. Same minister; two different dates. What's a researcher to do?

The answer is to search newspapers for a record of the event (see opposite page). There is an article in The Barre Daily Times, documenting the marriage on 28 August 1913. I could find no such corroboration for the 1917 event, and am not sure why that record exists. I am quite sure the same minister did not marry them twice on two dates 4 years apart. I can only conclude that the submission of the minister's marriages was somehow misinterpreted by the town clerk and entered (erroneously) into town books in 1917. The entry immediately before the 1917 record for this couple, by the way, is one for Nellie’s half-brother Charles J. Fiske. He was married to Beatrice M. French by the same minister at Groton on 19 October 1917.

Robert M. Murphy
NEW MEMBERS

Lynea D’Angelo
2817 Fairway View Dr.
Valrico, FL 33596
email: lyneadangelo@gmail.com
researching: Fields, Farr, Throop

Joyce Hall Newman
8213 Brandon Drive
Millersville, MD 21108
email: jcnm1@yahoo.com
researching: Crown, Hood, Weed, Jones (of Topsham)

Denise Cross
53 Village Court
Berlin, MA 01503
email: crossd4@gmail.com
researching: Todriff/Tordiff, Fletcher, Packard, Whitney, Brown

Priscilla Partridge
400 Oak Hollow Lane
Watsonville, CA 95076
email: kajimom2012@gmail.com
researching: Croker, Brown, Darling, Colby, Davis

Donna Fostveit
512 NW 7 Ave.
Waseca, MN 56093
email: fostveitd@aol.com
researching: John Cummins b. 1814 in VT

Deborah Plimmer
P. O. Box 213
Center Sandwich, NH 03227
email: ballafayle@hotmail.com
researching: Johndroe

DEATHS.

Washington, D.C. — Merlin W. Packard, 86, a librarian who specialized in Byzantine studies at Dumbarton Oaks research library and museum in Washington from 1965 until his retirement around 1990, died Oct. 18, 2015 at an assisted-living home in the District. The cause was complications from dementia, said a niece, Hope Olmstead.

Mr. Packard was born in Portland, Maine. He sang in the choir at St. Paul’s Episcopal church in Northwest Washington.

Source: www.washingtonpost.com

Editor’s Note: Mr. Packard was a life member of GSV, and we have just learned of his passing. Even though this notice is late, we thought it was still important to include in the Newsletter.


The Bennington Banner, issue 20 Aug. 1891 (Supplement), p. 5.
The Armada Hotel, Spanish Point, Co Clare, Ireland will host Kellys, Kelleys, O’Kellys and Ó Ceallaighs at their 12th biennial gathering

The weekend’s programme will include:

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Number 13

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by Scott Andrew Bartley

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The Transcribed Vital Records From the Following Books of Springfield Town Records:

Simon Stevens Marriage Records [marriages, 1767-1790]
Births & Deaths, Vol. 3 [births and deaths, 1730-1854]
Town Acts, Vol. 1 [births, marriages, and deaths 1757-1812]
Town Acts, Vol. 2 [births, marriages, and deaths 1790-1820]
Town Acts, Vol. 3 [marriages 1817-1843]
Births & Deaths, Vol. 4 [births and deaths, 1764-1870]
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Mary M. Tedesco
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*Vermont Families in 1791, Vol. 1* is out of print.

*Vermont Families in 1791, Vol. 2.* Scott A. Bartley, ed., 1997, 304 pp., hardbound. Item No. GSV 5; $27.00 members, $30.00 non-members. This second volume covers 107 families, has improved formatting and more complete information on the third generation of early Vermonters.

*Vital Records of Putney, Vermont to the Year 1900.* Compiled and edited by Ken Stevens, 1992, 406 pp. Item No. GSV 2; $27.00 members, $30.00 non-members. This is a complete compilation from all primary sources available in the town. This is augmented by the ministerial records of the pastors who served as early as 1776. *out of print.***

*Vital Records of Rockingham, Vermont and the Records of the First Church of Rockingham.* Reprinted from the 1902 and 1908 first editions, newly indexed by Christopher T. Norris and Scott A. Bartley, 323 pp., hardbound. Item No. GSV 3; $27.00 members, $30.00 non-members. Reprinted from the first editions of 1908 and 1902, this is an important source of one of Vermont’s oldest towns. The town records extend to 1845 and church records from 1773 to 1839. New to this edition is an index of nearly 1,000 names. *out of print.*

*Georgia, Vermont Vital Records.* Peter S. Mallet, ed., 1995, hardbound. Item No. GSV 4; $27.00 members, $30.00 non-members. This volume presents all births, baptisms, marriages, deaths and burials recorded in the town. All the civil records (Continued on page 7)

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*Page 6  Genealogical Society of Vermont  March 2017*
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http://www.genealogyvermont.org/

News, articles and comments for the
newsletter should be mailed to:

Jonathan W. Stevens, President
P.O. Box 14,
Randolph, VT 05060-0014
stevens@vermontel.net

Newsletter deadlines are:
Jan. 15 — March issue
April 15 — June issue
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Oct. 15 — December issue

Vermont Genealogy, the GSV Journal
contact information:
Michael F. Dwyer, FASG, Editor
389 Orchard Hill,
Pittsford, VT 05763
michaelftdwyer@comcast.net

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were transcribed as well as the records from the Georgia Plains Baptist Church, Congregational Church, and Methodist Church of Georgia and North Fairfax.

Windsor County, Vermont Probate Index, 1778-1899. Scott Andrew Bartley and
Marjorie-J. Bartley, compilers, 2000, 560 pp., hardbound. Item No. GSV 6; $45.00
members, $50.00 nonmembers. This is a comprehensive index of all files in the
Windsor County Probate Court Districts —Windsor and Hartford. The records cover
the period from the earliest 1778 records through the end of the nineteenth century,
more than 20,000 probate files. The files are indexed by the name of the major party
in the case, place of residence, probate district, type of record, year, and probate rec

Index to Branches & Twigs, 1972—1995. Robert M. Murphy, ed. 2000, 572 pp.,
hardbound. Item No. GSV 7; $58.50 members, $65.00 nonmembers. This is the every
name index to GSV’s Branches & Twigs, published for 24 years in 96 issues. The
180,000 entries include every genealogically important name mentioned in every issue.
Separate sections of this work list the coverage of each Apple Orchard install
ment, and provide a full author and title index to book reviews. Branches & Twigs
included large quantities of information of interest to family historians.

Wheeler, 2000, 416 pp., hardbound. Item No. GSV 8; $44.55 members, 49.50
nonmembers. This book is a comprehensive transcription of census and vital records for
Sudbury, plus carefully compiled genealogies of families. This book is among the
very best genealogical resources about a Vermont town. This is a cooperative publica
between GSV and Picton Press.

bound. Item No. GSV 11; $9.00 members, $10.00 nonmembers. (Mail orders should add $1.50 for postage and handling, not the $3.50 normally charged.) This is a new
edition of A Bibliography for Vermont Genealogy was released in April 2005. It in
cludes more listings than the first edition, most published since 2000. It is keyed to
Scott Andrew Bartley’s Genealogies Found in Vermont Histories (Vol. 10, No. 1 of
Vermont Genealogy, also designated GSV publication number 10.).

Index to the History and Map of Danby, Vermont, Compiled by Joann H. Nichols.
(1998), softbound, Item No. D1; $3.50, plus $1.50 shipping for the first copy and
$1.00 for each additional copy. An index to John C. Williams, History and Map of
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