

STILLMAN FAMILY ASSOCIATION

Newsletter No. 4

January 1, 2005

Hi all,

Hope everyone had a wonderful holiday! All the best in the New Year!

Finally getting around to sending out another one.. Here are a few more tidbits that may interest you. If anyone else has any research they would like to share, please let me know and I can send it along.

1) Marriages for George Henry Stillman's children

I had gone through (again) the marriage records for many of George Henry's children when I was at the Archives in Halifax as a way of trying to prove that they were children of George and Sarah Jane (Foley) Stillman. Originally, I only had 7 children for them: Henry, Walter, Caleb, Levi, Martha, Francis, and Margaret. Donna Parker and others had listed 10 including: Rachel, Catherine, and Mary Jane, who were married prior to the 1871 Census - the first to list the names all people in each household rather than just heads of households.

a) Rachel - her marriage license to James Henry Benedict was applied for by her father, George Henry Stillman and her uncle, Harris Harding Foley in Oct 1849. This was slightly unusual as normally the groom would apply for the license. The wedding took place in Nov 1849 and a baby (James Henry Jr) was born in late July 1850. Hence, Rachel probably wasn't pregnant at the time of the marriage license application. However, there was a child, Mary, born in 1848 to Rachel, who was raised as a Benedict. Perhaps this child was the reason why Rachel's father was more involved in her marriage.

b) Henry - in the 1871 - 1901 Census he was listed with his wife, Olivia. She had been identified as Olivia Parker. Interestingly, others, including Donna Parker, noted that Henry was married to Eliza Parker. I was only able to find 1 marriage for Henry and this took place on 13 Jul 1856 to Eliza Parker. The marriage application was witnessed by W.E.M. MacCumber and Henry Benedict, Henry's brother-in-law. As there was only one marriage recorded for Henry, his wife's name was probably Eliza Olivia. In 1871, Asa Parker and his son, John lived with Henry and Eliza/Olivia. Asa's wife, Martha, who was deceased at this time, was Henry's sister.

c) Catherine - couldn't find any record of a marriage for her and Ebson/Isbond Sanford. I checked in Hants, Kings, Colchester, Cumberland, and Halifax counties.

d) Mary Jane - married to Job Harvie on Jan 21, 1860. The marriage application was submitted by the groom witnessed by an unrelated party.

e) Levi - married first to Rebecca Annie Parker on 13 Aug 1870. His marriage license application was witnessed by his brother-in-law, Job Harvie.

f) Martha - married to Asaph Parker on 12 April 1866. She died one year later. The marriage license was applied for by Asaph Parker and Henry Benedict, Martha's brother-in-law.

g) Francis - first married to Eliza (Scott) MacDonald, a widow, on 2 April 1873. The marriage license was applied for by Francis Stillman and Henry Benedict, Francis' brother-in-law.

It can be seen that (James) Henry Benedict was closely involved in the marriages of 3 of Rachel's siblings: Henry, Martha, and Francis.

3 of the children interestingly married Parkers: Henry, Levi and Martha. It would be interesting to know who closely related the Parker's were. Levi's wife's parent's were Ananias Parker and Harriett Wright. Asaph Parker's parents were John Grant Parker and Mary Patterson. Rebecca and Asaph were 2nd cousins, I just don't know how or if Eliza Parker is related to Rebecca of Asaph.

It seems clear to me that Rachel and Mary Jane were daughters of George and Sarah Jane. However, I still don't have solid proof for Catherine. Are there some records that I am missing?

2) While on a recent trip to New Brunswick, I spent a day at the Archives there. I was able to locate an 1851 Census entry for Woodstock Parish, Carleton County, New Brunswick that had eluded me before. On page 45 were the family of John Handover Stillman as follows:

John Stilman, husband, aged 49, Scotch (or rather just dittoed from an earlier entry), farmer, entered the colony (ie, New Brunswick) in 1830

Mary Stilman, wife, aged 42, Scotch (again dittoed from an earlier entry).

Silus Stilman, son, 21, native (ie, born in New Brunswick)

John Stilman, son, 19, native

Lavina Stilman, dau, 16, native

George Stilman, son, 14, native

Charles Stilman, son 9, native

James Frederick, blank, 19, labourer

3) PANB RS147 Marriage Records 1832-1888 Carleton County

MFM #F16111

Volume A

#444 John Clarke, of Woodstock Parish, married Levinia Ann Stillman, of Richmond Parish, on 23 Dec 1856.

#535 George W. Stillman married Henrietta Lawrence 25 Sep 1860, both of Richmond Parish, Carleton County.

Volume B

#552 Alexander Hall married Frances Stillman 28 Apr 1851, both of Kent Parish, Carleton County.

MFM # F16112

Volume B

#578 John H. Martin, of Woodstock Parish, married Laura A. Stillman, of Richmond Parish, on 28 Mar 1878.

4) Some of you have already seen this, but Maryellen Canfora has found a few land transactions for Cumberland County Nova Scotia where the original George Stillman resided and yet the surname was listed as Dillman. This was taken with permission from her e-mail:

Below are abstracts of deeds relating to miscellaneous Stillmans that I found at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, Utah. I believe that these deeds are fairly good proofs that the name Dillman/Dilman and Stillman/Stilman were used interchangeably, depending on who did the scribing. Pay particular attention to the Deed of Sale from Andrew Stillman to James Crane. The deed throughout refers to "Andrew Dillman," but it was signed "Andrew Stilman." This is curious in light of the fact that Andrew could not sign his name - he made an X as his mark. I kept the spellings exactly as they were on the deed; however, I included only the parts that had names, dates, descriptions of locations, etc. The deeds are much too long to write by hand, and some of the microfilms are too light to photocopy well. I have included the volume and page numbers in case anyone wants to order the full photocopy.

Source: Parrsboro, Nova Scotia Registry of Deeds, Vol. 3, 1820-1836
(FHL 0496344)

P. 66 - Deed of Sale - George Dillman to Edward Dillman

This Indenture made at Parrsborough this twenty-first day of March in year of our Lord one thousand Eight hundred and twenty-one between George Dilman and Edward Dilman of Parrsborough in Kings County.....(re) 50 acres of land in Lot #9 on the west side of the main road leading.....that was sold by Jonathan Crane in 1816. (Note: I could not read the total contents of this deed, as the writing was too light.)

P. 67 - Deed of Mortgage by Edward Dilman to James Ratchford

Recorded 1 April 1833, Lot #9 containing 250 acres. (Note: I could not read the total contents of this deed, as the writing was too light.)

P. 404 - Deed of Sale - Andrew Stillman to James N. Crane, Recorded Aug. 26, 1833
Throughout this transaction, Andrew is listed as Andrew "Dillman" yet it was signed Andrew "Stilman"

Andrew's Note: There were other land transactions mentioned, but they referred to the Grantors/Grantees solely as Stillman/Stilman.

5) Over Christmas, I have been able to transcribe the remaining New Brunswick Land transactions for Stillman's. The file I have attached is 465 K, hopefully everyone can open it. It replaces the one I had sent out with Newsletter No 3 in mid November. The new file is 61 pages.

6) This will be the last item for this Newsletter. We have another Stillman participant for DNA testing. This participant is from the John Handover Stillman line and the test results will be able to confirm if they are related to George Stillman. Results won't be available until early February.

Again, if there are any other direct male Stillman descendants who would be interested in participating, I am still willing to cover 1/2 the costs. I would be particularly interested in male descendants of Edward Stillman, Andrew Stillman, Samuel Stillman and David Stillman. Just let me know.

Andrew