

GEORGE & SARAH STILLMAN
FAMILY ASSOCIATION
Newsletter no. 7
October 3, 2005

Here we with autumn upon us. You should note that I have clarified the name of the newsletter to more accurately reflect the scope of the contents. The purpose of this change was to avoid confusion with other unrelated Stillman lines in North America.

Maryellen and I spent a week in Salt Lake City in July gathering records. Going through the material has been very slow, however, a few items of interest are being attached. There are many more to come.

1) Parrsboro Land Records

I now have paper copies of all the land records involving Stillmans/Stilmans and Dillmans. These have all been transcribed, many by Maryellen. They make for interesting reading and are attached in a separate file due to their length. If I am missing any, please point them out and I can add them if the transcriptions are sent to me.

As with the New Brunswick land records, the Parrsboro land records are headed up with a summary and some notes. I have kept the spellings as they were in the original. Any notes inserted by me in the body of the land record is enclosed in [square brackets]. They are ordered by date of transaction, not when they were registered as this date sometimes differed by several years.

2) Florida Edition, Makers of America, vol. IV.

Makers of America is a who's who of people in public life in the United States. There is a different edition for each state. In the Florida edition, there is a biography of a grandson of John Handover Stillman, ie, John Edgar Stillman. This was published in 1911. It is very interesting to read the opening paragraphs which discuss some of the stories of the origins of the Stillman family as retained by John Handover's descendants. Two items in particular are that this line believed that the Stillman's were of German descent and that they arrived in Canada from Germany via Pennsylvania. Again, this copy is attached as a separate file. The microfilm number at the Family History Library is 1,000,158 (page 480 was intentionally left blank and is not shown).

3) Eastport Maine Family Records.

As Edward Stillman, son of George and Sarah was noted as being born in Eastport, Maine, I have investigated the records there. (Edward was baptized on June 8, 1788) Eastport Maine is at the very tip of a peninsula that almost touches Campbello Island, which is in Canada. Eastport would be on a direct sea route from Philadelphia to Parrsboro. In the 1790's, negotiations were still taking place with the Indians (one of the negotiators from Massachussetts was coincidentally named George Stillman - page 484, Eastport and Passamaquoddy, A Collection of Historical and Biographical Sketches by William Henry Kilby, published in 1888). Eastport was only sparsely settled until the 1810's and 1820's. So in 1788, there wouldn't have been much there except a sheltered area during storms.

However, I did find some records on the Henwood family in Eastport, specifically, Robert Nelson Henwood, the son of Robert Henwood and Ann Stillman (daughter of George and Sarah) for whom there has been little information. The Eastport Maine Family Records lists his family, their birth dates, occasionally death dates, as well as those of his son's family. This was located at the Family History Library on microfilm 859054. This page was scanned and is attached separately.

4) Vital Statistics from New Brunswick Newspapers from 1784 (Vol 1) to 1896 (Vol 102)

These records yielded some very important information not found elsewhere. In particular, the death date for Samuel Stillman was given as well as that of his daughter-in-law, Rhoda (wife of his son, Wilson). The records pertaining to "Stillman/Stilman" are extracted and follow:

In the 15 October 1877 Daily Telegraph Newspaper, Samuel Stillman is listed as being on the roll of aged people living in Richmond South, Carleton County taken by John Wills. Samuel is listed as being 77. (Vital Statistics from New Brunswick Newspapers, page 87, # 1299) This would make Samuel born in 1800, the same year as his baptism.

In the 29 March 1879 Carleton Sentinel of Woodstock, the following was noted: "died South Richmond, 22nd March, of paralysis, Samuel Stillman, aged 82, left relatives." (Vital Statistics from New Brunswick Newspapers, page 19, # 333) This would make Samuel born circa 1797.

In the 2 April 1879 Daily Telegraph Newspaper of Saint John, contained the following: "died South Richmond, 22nd ult., of paralysis, Samuel Stillman, aged 82". (Vital Statistics from New Brunswick Newspapers, page 146, # 2038) This would make Samuel born circa 1797.

In the 24 October 1882 Daily Telegraph of Saint John noted: "died at Debec, 16th inst., Rhoda A. Stilman, w/o Wilson Stilman, left husband, 3 children". (Vital Statistics from New Brunswick Newspapers, #4140). (Wilson was the son of Samuel Stillman and Mary Casey).

In the 31 May 1884 Daily Telegraph of Saint John, the following was noted: "married Amherst, N.S., 28th ult., by Rev. D.A. Steele, John Stillman, Point de Bute and Margaret Gould." (Vital Statistics from New Brunswick Newspapers, Vol 61, #1216) (John was the son of David Stillman and Sarah Briggs.)

In the 30 December 1887 Daily Telegraph of Saint John, it was noted: "marriage at Amherst, N.S., 24th Dec., by Rev. D. A. Steele, Edward Lank and Sarah Stillman, both of Springhill". (Vital Statistics from New Brunswick Newspapers, Vol 67, #3224.) (NOTE: the groom's name appears to be incorrect as in the PANS MFM# 16530, p. 17, no 232, it notes that Sarah Anna Stillman married Ellsworth Richard Lantz on 24 December 1887.) (Further NOTE: It is interesting that Andrew Stillman's granddaughter was married by the same minister who married David Stillman's son, John).

In the 31 December 1892 Daily Times of Moncton, it was noted that: "married at Lynn, Mass, Dec 25th by Rev. S. W. Staples, Albert J. Stillman, formerly of Moncton and Miss Bessie Alden of Lynn.". (Vital Statistics from New Brunswick Newspapers, Vol 83, #1941). (Albert was the son of John Stillman and Sarah Throop, and the grandson of David Stillman and Sarah Briggs).

In the 1 November 1894 Chignecto Post of Sackville, New Brunswick, it was noted: "married 14th inst., at residence of bride's father, by Rev. W.H. Edyvean, Cape Tormentine, Willard Stillman, Cape Tormentine and Hannah A. Pipes, of Northport, Cumberland County, N.S.". (Vital Statistics from New Brunswick Newspapers, vol. 94, #2333). (Willard was the son of Nancy Stillman and the grandson of David Stillman and Sarah Briggs.)

It was noted in the 9 January 1896 St. Croix Courier of St. Stephen, New Brunswick, that: "Bay Road - Miss Edna Stillman of West Peru, Maine returned home Monday of last week after a visit of two months at the home of Mrs. John H. Maxwell." (Vital Statistics from New Brunswick Newspapers, Vol. 102, #2095) (I believe that this notation refers to Olive Edna Stillman, daughter of Hiram Stillman and Olive Conant, granddaughter of Samuel Stillman and Mary Casey.)

5) Marriage Records

Maryellen and I were able to copy several Nova Scotia marriage records for the Stillman family. The first two that I have scanned are for Mary Etta Stillman and the other for Maude Stillman. They are attached in separate files.

6) DNA for David Thomas Stillman

A DNA sample from a direct male descendant of David Stillman, who died July 07, 1888, New Brunswick has been tested. To date, the sample is a perfect match for the other Stillman samples at low and medium resolutions (ie, 12 and 25 markers). The results of the higher resolution (37 marker) test are still pending so more details will be available later. The current results allow us to conclude that David Thomas Stillman does indeed belong in the family of George and Sarah Stillman of Parrsboro, Nova Scotia.