

A-Gaffield Family  
(07-02) P.1

# GAFFIELD NEWS

Vol.8 No.3

Christmas 2000



**We wish you happy holidays and a New Year filled with expectations and success.**

**MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY MILLENNIUM YEAR**

Roger William Gaffield Reid U.E. 366 Hillcroft Street, Oshawa, Ontario L1G 2M2  
*e-mail* [r.reid@sympatico.ca](mailto:r.reid@sympatico.ca)

## Cramahe Township Book

"How Firm a Foundation" is the title of a new book covering the history of Cramahe Township and the Village of Colborne, written by Eileen Argyris. It a collection of stories about people and institutions in the area. The story of Nathaniel Gaffield is extracted from the third edition of the Gaffield book, although I'm identified as Richard Reid. There is an excellent article on the Keelers, founders of Colborne, and the man who we think brought Nathaniel into the area as a settler. It is \$40 and the ISBN is 1-55046-364-0.

## Hudson Valley Trip

Muriel and I joined a United Empire Loyalist trip touring the Hudson Valley. This journey started at Albany, New York, and continued south to see many Dutch, Huguenot and Palatine sites. Two years ago we took a similar trip through the Mohawk Valley. This time two buses and about 110 people joined the tour. On these trips you always learn something or meet someone. I met Lloyd Redick and his brother Harve, who research the Redick name. Nathaniel Gaffield's son, James, married Anna Reddick. After his death she married Abel Hubble. We discovered the two families were connected through Anna's father, Philip. Lloyd gave me the following information, some of which is shown in my father's book, "The Loyalists in Ontario." Here's the information he passed on, note the different spelling of the surname, also Catherine Redick may belong to another family, that of John Reddick.

Philip Reddick married Mrs. Reddick

Their children -

David Reddick 1790-1864

George Reddick

Thomas Reddick 1792

Philip Reddick 1793-married Mary b. 1799

John Reddick 1798-1861 m. Clara Wanamaker

Nathan Reddick 1803-1846 m. Unice Hubble,

Eunice Tice - no children

Sylvester Reddick 1805 - m. Polly Ann

Herrington 1817-1852

Polly (Mary) Reddick m. Percy Cooper

Margaret Reddick m. (1) Isaac P. Glover (2)

Essom Loveless

Catherine Reddick 1797- 1887 m. Capt. Robert Morgan

Ann Reddick m. Able Hubble of Cramahe

Abigail Reddick m. McConnell

## Mary Gale Rogers

Last September Mary Gale was in a car accident in California, She was badly shaken, but at last report was doing better. She seemed more worried about her 1988 Toyota Corolla, which turned out to be "fixable." She also reports the death Everett Swanson on December 5, 2000.

## A Champion Story

Last May, Adrienne Champion sent the following story about her husband's family.

Jay's paternal grandmother was Margaret Dexter, born in Nova Scotia, an only child. Her father was Isreal Dexter, captain of the clipper ship "Austria" whose home port was Windsor, N.S. (Jay has a painting of the ship, by the way. It is about 3' x 4')

Her mother was Maggie Dexter. Margaret lived on board the ship with her parents until 1899 when she was about 15 or 16. She had been "home schooled" by her mother to this point, but it was decided that she should go to school in Nova Scotia, and so she was sent to live with relatives when her parents left on their next voyage. The ship sailed from Mobile, Ala. for Belfast, Ireland via the Cape of Good Hope with a load of lumber. It was never heard of again! Apparently some wreckage was found in the Atlantic, but no word of Captain Dexter, his wife or crew. Jay has papers informing the shipping company of the disaster along with crew lists etc.

To get back to the story. After Margaret's parents were lost, she lived with relatives for a while, and then was sent west for her health, met Jay's grandfather, and lived happily ever after in Alberta, raising a family of 4 children. Jay's dad had no information regarding Margaret's family at all, and she seemed to have had no family background other than the above. Since starting to poke around on the Internet Jay has been in touch with a number of people, and in a roundabout way, was given the name of woman in Nova Scotia who was researching her family names, Burgess and Dexter. Jay got in touch with her, told her who he was etc., and gave her the information he had regarding his grandmother's family.

After a few messages had been exchanged, Jay got an E-mail from this woman that said "Have I got a surprise for you". Needless to say we were both dying of curiosity. The big news finally arrived last week. The

message started out with "This is your surprise! Margaret Dexter was not an only child." She was not even a Dexter, but the sixth child of George and Florence Burgess!!!

Apparently her mother died when she was about 3 years old and she was adopted by her mother's sister, Maggie Dexter and her husband Isreal. The lady Jay had been in touch with is the granddaughter of Margaret's oldest sister, and thus is a cousin of Jay's. The information she sent is all written down in her family's bible, so there is little doubt it is genuine. She also sent copies of the wills of both Maggie and Isreal that refer to Margaret as their adopted daughter, Margaret Burgess Dexter.

Jay has been beside himself with mirth ever since getting this information, as he always said that there had to be something strange about his grandmother's background as her children knew so little of her history other than the romantic story of life aboard ship and the ships loss etc. Now we know. What is strange is why the big secret. It could be said that as she was just a small child when the adoption took place maybe she didn't know, but when her parents were lost she was named executrix of their estate and both wills state categorically that she was adopted. It also raises the question of why her natural father didn't take her back after his remarriage 2 years after his first wife died. At the very least you would think that there would have been some contact with siblings over time. Jay feels sure his father didn't know any of this or he would have said. Also, he would have been devastated as he thought the sun rose and set on his mother, and in effect, she lied to her children about her parentage. As Jay's dad, Dexter, was executor of her estate we would be willing to bet she was smart enough not to have left any papers etc. behind to give her away.

All this leads to another problem. Jay is named after his dad, John Dexter Champion, the Dexter being his grandmother's maiden name (ha!), so should he now change the Dexter to Burgess? Should his father now be referred to as Burgess Champion? Where does this put them both legally? Should I plant the garden this week?

Will go for now as my husband is starving!! Hope you get a bit of a laugh over this. Take care. Adrienne

### John Henry's book.

John Henry has a few remaining copies of "The Descendants of John Mix and Unis Gaffield", but they are going quickly. While the book concentrates on the Mix family it contains much information on the Cramahe area and social conditions of the times. Contact John for info.

### A Soldier's Poem

A friend sent this poem to me. We often we forget about our service men spending Christmas far from home. This poem was written by a peacekeeping soldier stationed overseas.

'Twas the night before Christmas,  
He lived all alone,  
In a one bedroom house made of  
Plaster and stone.

I had come down the chimney  
With presents to give,  
And to see just who  
In this home did live.

I looked all about,  
A strange sight I did see;  
No tinsel, no presents,  
Not even a tree.

No stocking by mantle,  
Just boots filled with sand;  
On the wall hung pictures,  
Of far distant lands.

With medals and badges,  
Awards of all kinds,  
A sober thought  
Came through my mind.

For this house was different,  
It was dark and dreary,  
I found the home of a soldier,  
Once I could see clearly.

The soldier lay sleeping,  
Silent, alone;  
Curled up on the floor  
In this one bedroom home.

The face was so gentle,  
The room in such disorder;  
Not how I pictured  
A Canadian soldier.

Was this the hero  
Of whom I'd just read?  
Curled up on a poncho,  
The floor for a bed?

I realized the families  
That I saw this night,  
Owed their lives to these soldiers  
Who were willing to fight.

Soon round the world,  
The children would play,  
And grownups would celebrate  
A bright Christmas Day.

They all enjoyed freedom,  
Each month of the year,  
Because of the soldiers,  
Like the one lying here.

I couldn't help wonder  
How many lay alone,  
On a cold Christmas Eve  
In a land far from home.

The very thought  
Brought a tear to my eye,  
I dropped to my knees  
And started to cry.

The soldier awakened  
And I heard a rough voice,

Santa don't cry,  
This life is my choice.

I fight for freedom,  
I don't ask for more,  
My life is my God,  
My country, my corps.

The soldier rolled over  
And drifted to sleep,  
I couldn't control it,  
I continued to weep.

I kept watch for hours,  
So silent and still  
And we both shivered  
from the cold night's chill.

I didn't want to leave  
On that cold, dark, night,  
This guardian of honor  
So willing to fight.

Then the soldier rolled over,  
With a voice soft and pure,  
Whispered, Carry on Santa,  
It's Christmas Day and all is secure.

One look at my watch  
And I knew he was right.  
Merry Christmas my friend,  
And to all a good night.

### New Computer

I had some trouble transferring files from an old computer to this new one. Here is a current list for the Gaffield News. I may have dropped some names so corrections and additions are appreciated, particularly e-mail addresses. Please drop me a line.

#### Unis Gaffield/John Mix descendants

- Otto Anderson, 713 Nancy Lane, Madison, WI 53704, [oander713@aol.com](mailto:oander713@aol.com)
- Marion Belanger, 9 Rosetta St. Parry Sound, ON P2A 2X2, (705) 746-9702, [mfb@zeuter.com](mailto:mfb@zeuter.com)
- Catherine Burns, 20 Louisa St. Parry Sound, ON P2A 2V5
- Mary Burns, 20 Victoria Ave., Parry Sound, ON P2A 2C1
- Donna Dee, 795 Ashley Cres., Kingston. ON K7M 4E2, (613) 634-0454, [dee@kingston.net](mailto:dee@kingston.net)
- Madeline Fiske, 12000 Pointe aux Chenes Rd, Ocean Springs, MS, 39564-9595, [Mgmfiske@aol.com](mailto:Mgmfiske@aol.com)
- John Henry, 34 Longbow Square, Toronto, ON M1W 1L3 (416) 494-4788, [wjhenry276@aol.com](mailto:wjhenry276@aol.com)
- Fred Micks, 65 Colony Park Circle, Galveston, TX 77551 (409) 744-6130, [dfmicks@aol.com](mailto:dfmicks@aol.com)
- Joan Perry, Fond du Lac, WI, [pperry@fdldotnet.com](mailto:pperry@fdldotnet.com)

**Sarah Gaffield/Joel Halstead descendants – none found**

**James Gaffield/Anna Reddick descendants – none found**

COBORO PUBLIC LIBRARY

**Jonathan Gaffield/Mary Anne Barney descendants**

Adrienne Champion, Box 10, Site 13, RR #1, Sundre, AB T0M 1X0, champ@telusplanet.net  
 Don Gaffield, 152 Trudeau Dr., Bowmanville, ON L1C 4J3, (905) 623-0862  
 Karen Gaffield, 4 Adley Place, Kingston, ON K7K 6G8, (613) 547-6728  
 Kathy Gaffield, Rt.1, Box 1164, Fairview, MT 59221-9702  
 Lisa Gaffield, lisa.gaffield@home.com  
 Marie Gaffield, 33 Shuter St., Port Hope, ON L1A 1A7, (905) 885-5669  
 Deanna Phelps, 2216 6<sup>th</sup> Ave., South, Great Falls, MT 59405  
 Ilene Prejean, 1238 Yakima St SE, Ephrata, WA 98823-2227 (509) 754-2820  
 Gale Stein, PO Box 13, North St., Port Huron, MI 48049 (810) 985-3479, dogaler@advnet.net

**Jonathan Gaffield/Phoebe Ann Hubble descendants**

Brenda Barrett, PO Box 2272, Alpine, CA 91903, (619) 445-7992  
 Sally Culp, 840 Hillsdale Lane, Ortonville, MI 48462, red\_anchor@webtv.net  
 Barbara Dadd UE, 129 Lighthouse St., Goderich, ON N7A 2J6 (519) 524-1282 bdadd@hurontel.on.ca  
 Allan Drinkwalter, 90 Jackson Ave., Toronto, ON M8X 2J8 (416) 236-2067 71623.200@compuserve.com  
 Barbara Gaffield, 705 N. Sheldon St. Charlotte, MI 48813  
 Craig Gaffield, 18421 Doris, Livonia, MI 48152, (248) 478-5692, photo123@mail.oonline.com  
 Wesley Gaffield, PO Box 46, Six Lakes, MI 48886, (517) 365-3641  
 Marcy Ugstad Hayward, Oregon, mugstad@yahoo.com  
 Arlene Bibby Hill, 1773 Kent Rd, Kent, NY 14477, (716) 682-4351  
 Pat Holling, 36400 NE Holling Ave., La Center, WA 98629, pholling@worldaccessnet.com  
 Alice Earl Knight, 1199 Monte-Elma Rd, Elma, WA 98541-9027 (360) 482-3258  
 clknight@techline.com  
 Richard G. Knight, 230 W 107<sup>th</sup> St., Apt 1-G, New York, NY 10025 (212) 662-2712  
 Gordon Reid UE, 58 Madras Cres., Toronto, ON M1G 3L1, (416) 438-6498, j.jenkins@utoronto.ca  
 Rob Reid UE, 100 Burndale, North York, ON M2N 1S9, (416) 527-8215, rreid@osler.com  
 Roger Reid UE, 366 Hillcroft St., Oshawa,, ON L1G 2M2, (905) 404-8480, r.reid@sympatico.ca  
 William Reid UE, 95 Glen Albert, Toronto, ON M4B 1J1, (905) 285-7305, billreid@ca.fisflavors.net  
 Mary Gale Rogers, 9255-356 Magnolia Ave., Santee, CA 92071, (619) 448-7992, mgrogers99@aol.com  
 Geneva Salisbury, 21035 SE Burnside, CT., Gresham, OR 97030, (503) 667-7089, gezs@email.msn.com  
 Doris White, 11 Goathead Path, Silver City, NM 88061, t3white@zianet.com  
 Norma Whitten, 4807 S Joplin Ave., Tulsa, OK 74135-6857, nwhitten@usa.net

**Phoebe Gaffield/Nathan Hubble descendants**

Denise M. Otis, RR #1, Box 82, 118 Eugene, Towanda, IL 61776 (309) 728-2473 protis@frontiernet.net

**Oliver & Rhoda Gaffield descendants**

Helen Clarke, 7 Thornlea Rd., Colborne, ON K0K1S0, (905) 355-2042  
 Marjorie McCabe, 261 Poplar St., Oshawa, ON L1H 6P6, (905) 579-0846

**Others interested in the Gaffield family**

Sue La Berge, Castleton Public Library, Box 82, Castleton, ON K0K 1M0  
 Debbie Burr, Forest, ON (Alger family), ember@xcelco.on.ca  
 Chris Dunfield, 1580 NW Terrace Green Pl., Corvallis, OR 97330 (541) 753-5289, dunfield@peak.org  
 Joan Gaffield, 385 W Pine St., Marengo, IA 52301, gaffield5g@aol.com  
 Vickie Gaffield, PO Box 47, Bonfield, IL 60913-0047, gaff@keynet.net  
 Dick Garfield, 6019 N.E. Co. Rd. 340, High Springs, FL 32643, garf6019@yahoo.com  
 Hubbell Center, #422 - 904 Walnut St, Des Moines, IA 50309, HubbellGen@aol.com  
 Shirley Karle, 1624 Clinton Rd, Sacramento, CA 95825, (916) 927-1163, shirley.karle@ucdmc.ucdavis.edu  
 Bob McBride, RR #1, Indian River, ON K0L 2B0, (705) 295-4556, bob-mcbride@heydon.com  
 Mary McLean, Cobourg Public Library, 200 Ontario St., Cobourg, ON K9A 5P4  
 John Sinclair, 50 Dunsdale Square, Toronto, ON M1S 2L8, (416) 292-8289, jsinclair@mailcity.com

**COBOURG PUBLIC LIBRARY**