



The Allerton Family Journal

The Newsletter of the Pilgrim Isaac Allerton Society

Editor: Lisa H. Pennington

Governor's Message:

Dear Allerton Cousins,

With Thanksgiving upon us, my thoughts turn to our Allerton family in the fall of 1621, in particular to the children, Bartholomew, about 9; Remember, about 7 and little Mary, aged about 5. Did they wonder what there was to be thankful for? In the past year these children had experienced untold difficulties and hardships. I can't imagine what their life was like after their mother's death in December 1620.

I sometimes parallel it with my father's childhood, after the death of his mother when he was seven, with two younger sisters. A father who could not properly take care of them and who was busy in the community, often doing for themselves and depending on other women for anything resembling a mother's care.

The children of Plymouth may not have been remarkable in their time, but for us, looking back at their lives, their strength and courage were extraordinary. And despite their difficulties, I'm sure they were counting their many blessings that first year. This Thanksgiving we must be sure to remember these extraordinary children by relating their story to the children in our families.

Warmest Thanksgiving wishes to you and yours,

Susan E. Roser

Susan E. Roser,



Have a very Happy Thanksgiving, Mayflower Descendants!
Let us remember with gratitude all the sacrifices of our ancestors in coming to this blessed land.

We are seeking volunteers to contribute their Allerton genealogical lines so we can see where your ancestors have traveled since 1620.

Judy Elfring has submitted not one, but two Allerton lines through separate sons of Thomas and Mary Allerton Cushman.

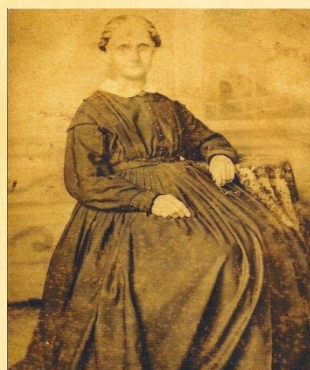
Lisa Pennington's line originates with Remember Allerton and goes all the way to Texas.

Please send your line to Lisa at Lpennington@bakerlaw.com.

Ancestor pictures are also encouraged and welcome!

"People will not look forward to posterity, who never look backward to their ancestors."

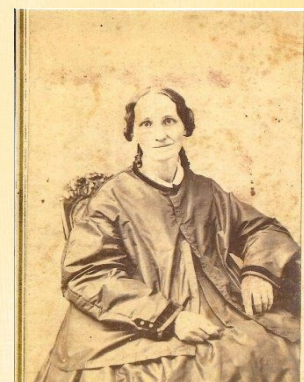
— Edmund Burke



Lucy Morse Wilkins

My Allerton Line: From Massachusetts to the South

By: Lisa Pennington



Mary Eliza Wilkins Forsyth

The Allerton lines of descent are some of the most interesting because our Isaac Allerton, lived in so many places, and his four adult children married and raised families in four different locations. Here is my line:

Remember Allerton, b.c. 1614 in Leiden, and died between 12 Sept. 1652 (birth of last child) and 22 Oct. 1656 (remarriage to Eunice Cole) in Marblehead, MA. She was the eldest daughter of **Isaac Allerton** and **Mary Norris**. Remember was about 6 years old when she came on the *Mayflower*. In the early 1630s, her father became a founder of Marblehead, Massachusetts, where he established the fishing industry. He was friends with Samuel Maverick, who was an early immigrant and owned Noddles Island, near Boston. Samuel introduced his father, Rev. John Maverick, and his brother Moses Maverick, to the Allertons. Sometime before May, 1635, Remember married Moses Maverick, who was also a founder of Marblehead. Isaac transferred all of his Marblehead warehouses, fishing stages and other property to "his son-in-law Moses Maverick" on May 6, 1635, when Isaac was ordered to leave there because of political disputes with Boston, and possibly because of his friendship with Samuel Maverick who was an enemy of the Puritans in Boston. Moses became a magistrate, merchant and landowner in Marblehead, and together, he and Remember had six daughters and one son. Remember died when she was about 36-40 years old. She is buried on Burial Hill in Marblehead, but her gravestone has been lost.

Elizabeth Maverick was born 30 Sept. 1649 in Marblehead and died 29 Nov. 1698 in Boston. She first married Nathaniel Grafton, a merchant, who died in Barbados. They had three daughters. She next married Thomas Skinner, a Boston baker, and they had five children, but only Abigail Skinner survived. Thomas Skinner (1644-1690) died and left the bakery to Elizabeth who worked hard to support her family. She received a Boston license to "sell victuals out of doors" to expand the bakery. She and her sisters also had to sue their step-mother because she refused to give them their inheritance from their father. Years later, they finally won their case, but only one of Remember's children lived long enough to enjoy it. Elizabeth did not.

Abigail Skinner was born about 1685 in Boston, and probably grew up working in the bakery until her mother died when she was 13. She went to live with an older half-sister who had married a Boston doctor. She married Ebenzer Ager when she was 18 and had a son, but her husband soon died. She married, second, Nathaniel Coney, (1677-1742), a tailor, whose brother was the famous silversmith John Coney, who employed Paul Revere's father as an apprentice. Nathaniel was also a widower with eight children, and he and Abigail had nine more children, for a total of 18! Nathaniel and Abigail eventually owned a tavern in Stoughton, and it's probable that Abigail used her skills from the bakery to cook for their guests. She died 27 Sept. 1736 in Stoughton, MA. at about 51 years. Interestingly, her descendants have a recipe for "Tea Cakes" which they say descends from her, and possibly from her fore-mothers!

Mary Coney was born 17 March 1719 in Haverhill, MA and died 16 Nov 1795 in Attleboro, MA. She married Samuel Pettee (1714-1752) of Dedham, MA in 1738 when she was 19. They had four children. Sadly, she buried her husband, son and father-in-law in the same week in 1752 because they had all died from an epidemic. She remarried Capt. John Stearns, a widower with ten children, and they had two more children between them. During the Revolutionary War, he was commissioned as a Captain in the Continental Army, but he was too old to fight. He supported the cause by loaning the government 2,000 pounds, a considerable sum in 1776, and taking Continental money, which was worthless, in return. After the war, at a Thanksgiving family gathering, he burned the Continental money before them all, saying "There's the money, the best investment of any I have spent for you." They both lived until they were almost 80 and were able to enjoy their grandchildren.

"Mr. Isaac Allerton hath given leave to all other creditors to be fully discharged before he receives anything of his particular debts to himself, desiring rather to lose all than other men should lose any."
— *Hearing on Estate of Godbert Godbertson, 2 December 1633*

Mary Pettee was born 26 Feb 1742 in Dedham, MA. She married Thomas Fisher (1734-1781) when she was only 16, in 1758. They had seven children and moved to nearby Sharon, MA. When the Revolution came, Thomas Fisher was one of the first involved in the fight at Lexington and Concord. He served in Capt. Ebenezer Tisdale's Co. for 22 days at the Lexington alarm in April 1775. He later served in Capt. Theophilus Wilder's Co., Col. (Dike's) Regiment. He died at the end of the war on 16 Jan. 1781 in Sharon, MA. Mary lived to be 83 and died 27 April 1825 in Sharon, MA.

Lucy Fisher was born 10 Nov 1765 in Sharon, MA and died there on 12 Feb 1849. She grew up during the Revolutionary War, and married Capt. John Morse (1768-1850) there when she was 26. They had five children, two of whom would leave Massachusetts forever and move to the South. Although she had no idea of the implications, it would mean that her own grandchildren would fight each other in the Civil War. She and John would own a farm in Sharon and live there all their lives.

Lucy Alice Morse was born 5 Aug. 1793 in Sharon, MA and would die in 1882 in Mobile, Alabama. She married Josiah Wilkins (1786-1846), from Marlborough, MA, in 1814, and they moved to Boston where he was "involved in Commerce", according to the census. They had three children in Boston, and Lucy brought along her younger sister Julia to help her. In the 1820s, the city of Mobile recruited New Englanders to move to the old French city to improve their prospects. Josiah Wilkins sailed there in 1822, and couldn't send for his family until 1825! Letters from Lucy and her sister Julia to her parents record that the children didn't recognize their father when they saw him. Josiah became a probate judge, and they had six more children in Mobile. Three died young, probably from yellow fever, which came every summer. Sister Julia married Amasa Turner, also a Massachusetts immigrant, who later captained a regiment at the Battle of San Jacinto in Texas in 1836. Sadly, their two sons and a son-in-law, all were to die in the Civil War, leaving only a baby granddaughter to carry on their line.

Mary Eliza Wilkins was born 9 July 1826 in Mobile, AL. She grew up in Mobile and married Richard Forsyth (1815-1884), a Virginia native, and a builder. They had eight children, and her mother Lucy lived with them after Josiah Wilkin's death. Mary Eliza was pregnant and had small children during the Siege of Mobile during the Civil War, when Union barges blocked the port and bombed the city. Somehow they survived. In 1871, they moved to Birmingham, which was then a new city in need of builders and buildings. Richard died there in 1884, and Mary Eliza continued to live there near her daughters. She lived until 4 Aug. 1899, but sadly, buried all but three of her children before her death at 73. Only two of her children have living descendants today.

Lucy Ann Forsyth was born 2 Oct 1846 in Mobile, AL. and died when she was only 23 in Pascagoula, MS. She married Rev. Andrew McClure Jones (1834-1890), a Civil War veteran, in 1866. Andrew was a Methodist minister and was required, as part of his vocation, to move every two years to a new congregation in Alabama. Lucy's letters to her family are beautiful and describe trips down the Mississippi and other details of everyday life. Lucy and Andrew had two children, a boy and a girl. Three weeks after giving birth to her daughter, Lucy died of dysentery on 30 Oct. 1869. She is buried in Mobile at the Magnolia Cemetery. After her death, Andrew returned to Mobile with his newborn and his three-year old son so that Lucy's mother and grandmother could take care of them. Three years after Lucy's death, Andrew married her sister Fannie Forsyth, but they had no children. Fannie helped raise her sister's children until she died in 1892.

Neely Forsyth Jones was born 10 Nov 1867 in Jackson, AL and died in Knoxville, TN on 19 June 1933. He followed the profession of his father and became a Methodist, then a Baptist minister. He met and married a minister's daughter, May Haislip (1873-1960), on a visit to Texas in 1894. They spent their life working for different congregations in Kentucky, Ohio, Indiana and Tennessee. They had seven children, six of whom had children of their own.

Cornelia Lavonia Jones was born 19 March 1896 in Henderson, TX and died in Campbellsville, KY on 4 Jan. 1946 at the age of 49. She won a college scholarship in a "Declamation" contest and became a teacher before she married Paul H. Sanders (1895-1949) in 1920. Paul and Cornelia owned and operated movie theaters in Campbellsville, KY during the classic age of movies in the 1920s and 1930s. They worked six days a week at the theater in addition to raising four daughters.

Paula Jones Sanders was born 11 Dec. 1935 in Campbellsville, KY and died in Ft. Worth, TX on 4 Nov. 2013. Her mother died when she was ten, and her father when she was 12. She went to live with a beloved aunt who was also the genealogist of the family. Although she didn't know about the Mayflower connection, she provided the first evidence which allowed me to find the Allertons and many more ancestors. Paula met John W. Pennington (1930-1992), a returning Korean War veteran, at the University of Tennessee. They married in 1958, moved to Texas and had three daughters, including me!

"Our history begins before we are born. We represent the influences of our past, and our ancestors live in us."

— James Nasmyth

From Massachusetts to Maine in 400 years My Two Allerton Lines:

By Judy Elfring

I became interested in family history when we moved to Yarmouth, Maine in 1959 from Bayside, Queens, NY. My paternal Grandmother, Abbie Mitchell Creech Read had been born in the neighboring town of Freeport – before L.L. Beans. In the 1950's my paternal Grandfather, Carleton Allen Read had asked his older daughter, Dorothy May Read Chase to start researching the family. After I moved to Maine she kept me well informed of her findings.

I joined the Mayflower Society in 1973, on work that my Grandmother Read's cousin Marion Mitchell of California had done to join the Mayflower Society. Marion provided us with much information on the Mitchell line.

In 1976, the Shurtleff genealogy (1912) was reprinted with corrections, updates and deletions. Dorothy Chase told her Brother, my Father, Lawrence Mitchell Read to buy a set. Upon receipt he promptly gave it to me. By this time I had started pedigree charts, there were lots of empty spaces. I started checking the Shurtleffs and soon discovered that Susan Shurtleff married Josiah Cushman – son of Elkanah Cushman and his 2nd wife Martha Cooke (a descendant of Francis Cooke and Stephen Hopkins). Elkanah was the son of Mary Allerton and Thomas Cushman. No one had checked the Shurtleff spouses before even though my Grandfather Carleton Read had owned the 1912 set for many years. He had made a list of one line of descent from William Shurtleff, but there are two. The names sounded familiar, so I checked other charts and found that my Grandmother Read was a descendant of Isaac Cushman – another son of Mary Allerton and Thomas Cushman, and a brother of Elkanah Cushman. These two lines rejoined at my Father. Here are my two Allerton lines:

Isaac Allerton m. Mary Norris

Mary Allerton m. Thomas Cushman

Isaac Cushman m. Rebecca Harlow

Ichabed Cushman m. Patience Holmes

Patience Cushman m. Caleb Sturtevant - he is a Hopkins and Cooke descendant

Sarah (Sturtevant) Whitman m. Jacob Mitchell - he is a Chilton descendant

Josiah Whitman Mitchell m. Sarah Angier – they both died in Freeport, ME

Josiah Angier Mitchell m. Susan Rachel Kelsey – he was a sea Captain and Mark Twain wrote about him after his ship burned in the Pacific

Sarah Abbie Mitchell m. George Freeman Creech

Abbie Mitchell Creech m. Carleton Allen Read

Lawrence Mitchell Read m. Dorothy Leona MacDonald - my parents

Isaac Allerton m. Mary Norris

Mary Allerton m. Thomas Cushman

Elkanah Cushman – Martha Cooke she a Cooke and Hopkins descendant

Josiah Cushman m. Susanna Shurtleff

Susanna Cushman m. Benjamin Shurtleff

Benjamin Shurtleff m. Lucy Allen

Lucy Allen Shurtleff m. Andrew Read

Carleton Allen Read m. Abbie Mitchell Creech

Lawrence Mitchell Read m. Dorothy Leona MacDonald – my parents

My Mother – Dorothy MacDonald is a Henry Samson and Richard Warren descendant.

I descend through all four grandparents.!

"Thus out of small beginnings greater things have been produced...."

—William Bradford

Old Allerton Farm for sale in Kingston, Massachusetts

17 Spring Street in Kingston, Massachusetts is more than an ordinary house and a yard. In 1627, Isaac Allerton and his family drew lots and obtained this land on the Jones River. The view below of this land probably looks very much like it did then. The natural spring and the “Old Cow Pond” is still on the left behind the trees. This gentle slope led to the marsh where Isaac and the family tied up a shallop for their trips to Plymouth for Sunday church.

They stayed on this land during the summer, where they farmed and raised their cattle. They spent the winter in Plymouth. Isaac had to sell this land in 1646 to pay off the Undertaker debt to the London investors. A few years later, he appears to have acquired it again for his daughter Mary and her husband Thomas Cushman. They raised their ten children here until Mary died in 1699. Their son sold it in 1716. In 1972, Plimouth Plantation found and excavated the houses of Isaac and his son-in-law Thomas.

This land and a house built in 1972 are for sale again. The property is about 1 1/2 acres and can be found on any of the real estate sites. If any Allerton descendants live in the area, it might be worth a look!



An Authentic Allerton Family Recipe? “Tea Cakes”

From Ruby Reyes Flowers

A few years ago, Ruby Reyes Flowers, a Remember Allerton descendant, and one of our members, shared some old family recipes which had been passed down in her family, particularly in her Wilkins Mayflower line. The oldest recipe was a recipe for “Tea Cakes”, which resemble little sugar cookies. Myrtle Wilkins, also a descendant, said that this recipe had been passed down in the Wilkins family from mother to daughter for seven generations.”

If true, this recipe originated with Abigail Skinner Coney, the great-granddaughter of Isaac Allerton through her mother Elizabeth Maverick and her grandmother Remember Allerton. Abigail was born about 1685 in Boston, the daughter of Thomas Skinner, a baker, and Elizabeth Maverick. Thomas died young, and Elizabeth had to continue with the bakery, while Abigail and the other children helped. When Abigail married, she and her husband operated a tavern, so she probably continued to make these tea cakes for her guests.

For more detail on this line of women, see page two of this newsletter.. Abigail was the granddaughter of Remember Allerton, and one wonders if this recipe wasn't passed down, mother to daughter, from the Allerton women,. Mary Norris Allerton may have used it, as would Remember and Mary Allerton! The recipe is typical of English recipes of the time, and it doesn't contain much sugar, which is consistent with the expense of this ingredient. Changes may have been made over the centuries in order to adapt them to modern times, but it is fascinating to actually taste something that our ancestors may have prepared and enjoyed.

Little cakes would have been made on special occasions, so I hope you try them — and think back on all our Allerton women who worked so hard for their families!

Tea Cakes

1 cup butter
1 cup sugar
1 egg
1 teaspoon vanilla
1/4 cup buttermilk
1 teaspoon soda
1 tablespoon baking soda
Flour

Dissolve soda and baking powder in buttermilk. Combine ingredients and add enough flour to make a soft dough. Roll out dough on a floured surface and cut with a cookie cutter. Bake in a medium oven (about 350 degrees)



Thanksgiving Pilgrim Quiz: Food of the Pilgrims

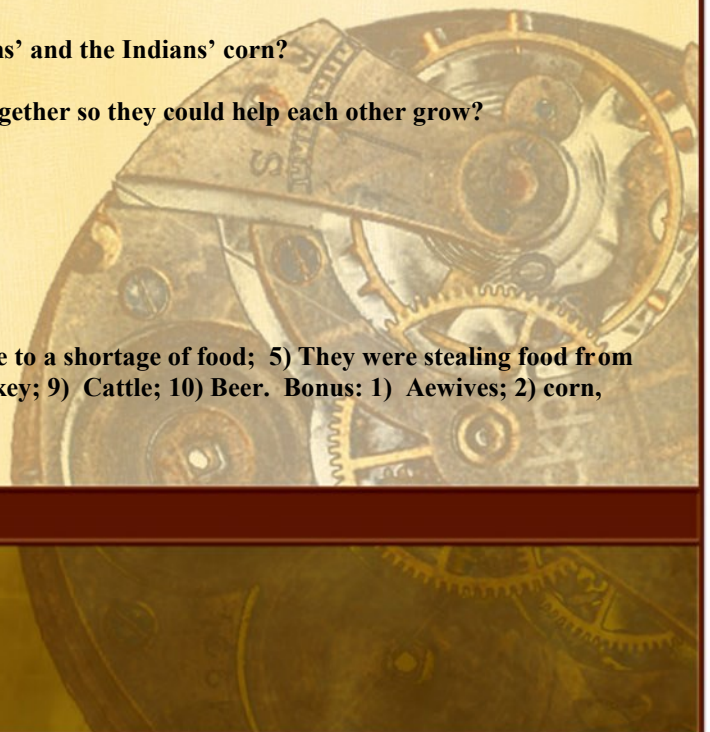
While you're waiting for your turkey to cook, here is a Pilgrim Quiz to test your family members on how well they actually know their Pilgrims!

- 1) What did Squanto help the Pilgrims grow?
- 2) What food did the Indians bring to the First Thanksgiving?
- 3) The Pilgrims got scurvy because they didn't have _____.
- 4) When the Anne and the Little James arrived in 1621 and 1623, William Bradford had to impose _____.
- 5) Why were the Indians planning to slaughter the nearby colonists at Wessagussett?
- 6) The Wampanoags thought Edward Winslow saved King Massasoit's life because Edward gave him _____.
- 7) An old New England rhyme from 1630 goes as follows: _____ in the morning, _____ at Noon; If we didn't have _____, we'd all be undone." (Same word for all blanks).
- 8) What did Benjamin Franklin suggest should be America's national bird?
- 9) In 1624, the London investors sent the Pilgrims _____, which helped them to grow healthier and wealthier.
- 10) What did the Pilgrims prefer to drink instead of water from the Town Brook?

BONUS:

- 1) What was the name of the little fish used to fertilize the Pilgrims' and the Indians' corn?
- 2) What three plants (The Three Sisters") did the Indians plant together so they could help each other grow?

Answers: 1) corn; 2) 19 deer; 3) citrus/vitamin C; 4) rationing due to a shortage of food; 5) They were stealing food from the Indians; 6) Chicken soup; 7) Pumpkin or pompon; 8) The turkey; 9) Cattle; 10) Beer. Bonus: 1) Aewives; 2) corn, beans and squash.



We regret to report that two of our Charter Members, have passed away.

Vincent W. Richardson, father of Susan Rosers, passed away April 12, 2015 in Ontario, Canada. He was 86. Vincent was an Allerton descendant through Mary Allerton.

Paula Sanders Pennington, mother of Lisa Pennington, passed away Nov. 4, 2013 in Fort Worth, Texas. She was 77. Paula is descended from Remember Allerton.

Please remember to pay your dues of \$10 a year. Please mail them to Judy Needham, 9 River Drive, Yarmouth, MA 02664-3139.

