A NARRATION
OF THE
CAPTIVITY
OF
JOHN FILLMORE,
AND HIS
ESCAPE
FROM THE
PIRATES.

Printed at PORTLAND, by B. Titcomb, Jun
1792.
From the Director

I’d like to use this space to recognize Chris Livesay, an important figure in MHS’s recent history, on the occasion of a very generous gift that he has just made to our collections. Chris served as President of MHS from 2009-2011, a critical period that included the completion of the renovation and expansion of the Brown Research Library.

An attorney who lives in Brunswick with his wife Susan, Chris is a collector, Renaissance man, and known for his aversion to things digital. In addition to historical interests, he travels the globe collecting butterflies. Chris’s connection to MHS came through his own collecting interests and activities. Over the past 35 years Chris has built one of the most important collections of early Maine imprints. These are publications printed in Maine prior to 1820, including sermons, orations, almanacs, and political documents. Among many other topics, Chris’ collection includes significant titles on the responsibilities and mechanics of citizenship in the formative days of our country.

Chris recently donated this important collection—more than 600 imprints—to MHS. The collection will be processed and we will let you know when it becomes available to researchers.

In the last issue, I told you that I was smitten by a snapshot from the 1960s. MHS may be leading the way in the digital age, but Chris’ donation reflects our unwavering commitment to physical things, and to early Maine history.

Thank you Chris, and to the many others who entrust their collections to MHS.

Steve Bromage
Executive Director

ABOUT THE COVER:
Title page of Narrative of the Captivity of John Fillmore, and His Escape from the Pirates, by Increase Moseley, printed in Portland by Benjamin Titcomb, 1792. Part of the E. Christopher Livesay Maine Imprint Library at MHS.

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MHS Thanks Our Donors
Working with the community to develop historical collections is one of the more wonderful aspects of a curator’s job. Nearly every day, individuals (and organizations) reach out to MHS to offer items for our collections. Museum staff members review each item carefully to determine if it fits MHS collecting interests, and to ensure that we can care for it. There is no way to anticipate the mystery and opportunity that any given item might present.

This past fall Caroline French, a collector from Dover, New Hampshire, offered MHS a fancy sewing kit—or “housewife” as they were called—that she had found at a neighborhood yard sale during her travels. Caroline warned us that parts of the silk fabric used to make the kit had rotted and that the piece was in poor condition.

But inside one of the pockets, Caroline found a folded note written in 1805 that made a strong connection to Maine and helped build confidence that, despite its condition, the sewing kit should be added to the MHS collection.

Based on the note, this sewing kit belonged to Sukey Hayward of Readfield, who was hopeful she could find a position as a teacher in a local school. Two selectmen signed the note, and offered their recommendation that Sukey “is a person of Sober life and Conversation and well qualified to keep such a school.”

A housewife is a portable sewing kit made from fabric that could roll up and be easily carried. Needles, thread, small scissors and more were carried in the kit to be close at hand when needed. Period publications, such as Godey’s Lady’s Book, offered instructions for making housewives and recommendations for how they could benefit travelers, including soldiers away from home.

This particular example is very elaborate. It originally had six panels (one is missing), was made from silk fabric, and decorated with metallic thread, glass beads, and mirrors. There are two other examples of housewives in the collection, but they are not nearly as decorative. We would like to learn more about this object and about Sukey Hayward and so our research continues. In the meantime, we are grateful to Caroline French for her generous donation.

John Mayer
Museum Curator
A large manuscript map (over six feet long) showing a nearly two-mile section of the Presumpscot River in 1840 has recently been conserved by the Northeast Document Conservation Center (NEDCC) in Andover, Massachusetts. Surveyed and drawn by Alexander Wadsworth Longfellow (1814-1901), brother of the poet Henry, this unique map was rediscovered by volunteer map cataloger Fran Pollitt during the move back into the renovated Brown Research Library building. Former AmeriCorps educational assistant Marieke Van Der Steenhoven researched the map.

The map, found rolled up and dirty, was created for an 1840s court case, O.M. Whipple versus the Cumberland Cotton Manufacturing Company. It shows textile, grist, and powder mills along the Presumpscot River as well as the course of the Cumberland & Oxford Canal. It warranted conservation for several reasons, including its association with the Longfellow Family and depiction of the local landscape.

The court case concerned the water depths and damages sustained from higher waters. Longfellow and John M. Batchelder (1811-1892) were commissioned to survey the waterway between the two mills. The map was completed in 1840 and shows the section of river between these two manufacturing facilities, from Gambo Falls to Little Falls in South Windham, Maine.

The map is one of the earliest works extant by A.W. Longfellow, who went on to work for the Northeast Boundary Commission surveying the St. John River and for the U.S. Coast Survey from Maine to Georgia.

The resulting 1844 court case created a precedent, still in use today, whereby the costs to create maps and surveys for legal actions would be born equally by all parties in the complaint.

Nicholas Noyes
Head of Library Services
Now Online:

Portland’s 1924 Tax Records

In 1923, Portland voters approved a major restructuring of city government. That included replacing an elected mayor, twenty-seven-member Board of Councilors, and nine-member Board of Aldermen with a five-member City Council and appointed City Manager. The next year, as part of this effort, the city conducted a comprehensive tax reassessment that documented and photographed every taxable property in the city. The 1924 tax records, as they are known, were bound into 131 books (numbered and arranged alphabetically by street name) and kept in the Tax Assessor’s office in City Hall. They have served as a valuable resource for homeowners, planners, and other researchers ever since.

In 2009, a team of volunteers began scanning and cataloging these records. The City of Portland, Maine Historical Society, and Portland Public Library are now collaborating on a project to make these records accessible online. The goal is to make these irreplaceable historical documents widely available to the public on Maine Memory Network while preserving the fragile original records. Each record contains the address of the property, the (1924) owner, the use of the property, an estimate of the building’s age, a description of its condition, the number of tenants and rent charged, and information about building materials and finishes. The record for most properties also includes a photograph of the building and a pencil sketch of its footprint. Some records contain additional information, noting, for example, that the owner was a war veteran or widow of a war veteran (who were taxed at a lower rate). About two thirds of the books have been scanned and are currently available online.

In a few cases, the name of a street has been changed. The historic name is listed as the primary address and the current street name is included in “Note.” In other cases, you may find a street that no longer exists—one of Portland’s “Ghost Streets.” These are streets that were eliminated by later redevelopment, including construction of the Maine Turnpike (1940s), urban renewal projects (1960s and 1970s), and construction of I-295 (1970s).

The 1924 tax records can be searched at www.mainememory.net/ptr. PDF files of each tax record can be downloaded at no charge. Reproductions of images can be ordered for a fee through MHS’s Image Services Department.

Scott Hanson
Architectural Historian with Sutherland Conservation & Consulting
Kathy Amoroso
Director of Digital Projects, MHS

THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING FUNDERS OF THIS PROJECT: DAVIS FAMILY FOUNDATION, MAINE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION, MAINE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, PORTLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY, ELEANOR KOHN FUND, SMRT, J.B. BROWN & SONS, EAST BROWN COW MANAGEMENT, INC., PORT PROPERTY MANAGEMENT, JEREMY MOSEY AND LAURA KITTLE, CRANDALL TOOTHAKER, SCOTT BENSON
A WEEK IN THE LIFE OF THE MHS EDUCATION COORDINATOR:
OCTOBER 2012

Bridget McCormick became our Education Coordinator in 2010. She is energetic, respected for her creativity, and beloved by the teachers and students. She typifies MHS staff in general: she accomplishes a great deal with limited resources. Knowing that she is constantly running and always up to something interesting, we asked Bridget to share what a typical week looks like in her world.

I check in with the Wadsworth-Longfellow House first thing every week. Since I manage the staffing of the house (and the training of our many wonderful house guides) I double-check our scheduled groups for the week to make sure we have adequate coverage for their tours. With other staff I keep a close eye on the house—to monitor its climate and condition, to make sure it hasn’t sustained storm damage, and to consider visitor experience and visitor impact on the house.

My schedule changes and evolves with the season. This October, I have been working with a team of staff members to update the holiday programming related to the Longfellow House. I researched and drafted museum labels and a text panel for a lecture hall photography show, exploring how the advent of electricity changed winter holiday experiences in Maine. I also began gathering information for the holiday interpretation of the House.

The first session of the popular museum-school partnership program Local History/Local Schools, based on our current exhibit, Wired! How Electricity Came to Maine, has commenced for the year. Over the summer I developed a curriculum and aligned the lessons, activities, and student project ideas with Maine Learning Results. I spent three mornings this week at Lyseth School in North Deering conducting pre-visit lessons for participating third grade classes. We experimented with static electricity, acted out how electrons behave in atoms and in an electric current, and got ready for the students to visit our exhibit. Their work will continue into December when the exhibits they create will be displayed in our gallery and celebrated at a formal opening and evening celebration.

MHS education programs also support academic programs at nearby colleges. Southern Maine Community College history students came to tour the house in the evening that happened to coincide with the recent 4.5-on-the-Richter Scale Maine earthquake! Later in the week, Museum Curator John Mayer and I spoke with a class from USM’s American and New England Studies Graduate Program about museums and their role in public culture.

Bridget McCormick
Education Coordinator

→ Bridget McCormick visits with walking tour guide Doug Johnson during the 2012 volunteer picnic.

← Bridget McCormick shows the S. Morgan Smith Turbine and General Electric Generator to students from Harrison Lyseth School during their visit to MHS’s museum exhibit, part of the Local History/Local Schools program.

MAINE IN THE CIVIL WAR

The state of Maine holds a special place in the history of the American Civil War. To recognize and celebrate the role of Mainers on the battlefield and on the home front, Maine Historical Society (MHS) and Maine Humanities Council (MHC) are collaborating on a major three-year project funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Local & Legendary will bring together 10 local project teams (comprised of historical organizations, libraries, and educational institutions) to explore their community’s Civil War history. A $2,000 grant to each community will support a variety of activities including digitizing historical collections, creating online exhibits on Maine Memory Network (www.mainememory.net), and hosting a series of “One Story, One Community” programs. Substantial training and resources will be provided to the participating teams. A one-day public symposium at USM’s Hannaford Hall formally kicks off the project on April 27, 2013.

The application process for the first five communities opens on January 1, 2013, with a deadline of March 1, 2013. Five additional communities will be selected in 2014.

Visit www.mainememory.net/cwgrants for program details and application materials, or contact Larissa Vigue Picard at lvpicard@mainehistory.org for more information.
We Are What We Ate
A Maine Historical Society Reading and Discussion Program

Facilitator: Larissa Vigue Picard

Join us this January through May for our fourth annual MHS reading group. This year we explore a topic that resonates across humanity, inspiring great passion and wide-ranging opinion—food! In non-fiction and fiction, we’ll examine how the food that has been envisioned, produced, sold, cooked, and eaten in the past—whether by desire, tradition, deprivation, or other forces beyond one’s control—has influenced numerous aspects of life.

In addition to a wide variety of short readings and excerpts, which will be provided as handouts to participants, books include Blood, Bones & Butter by Gabrielle Hamilton, 97 Orchard by Jane Ziegelman, Something from the Oven by Laura Shapiro, and The Emperors of Chocolate by Joel Gllenn Brenner.

Discussion dates are January 22, February 26, March 26, April 23, May 28; time is 6:30PM. Registration is required by Friday, January 11. Participation is limited and the group has traditionally filled up quickly. Fee: $20 for MHS members; $25 for non-members. (Books will not be available through the MHS store. Participants must supply these on their own.) For more information and a registration form, please visit www.mainehistory.org/programs_events. Or call Larissa at 207-774-1822 x215.

FUNDAMENTALS OF GENEALOGY:
A Half-Day Workshop

March 16, 2013, 9AM-12:30PM

Have you been doing genealogy, but need a tutorial about the best online resources? Do you want to start doing genealogy, but don’t know how and where to begin? Join us for a half-day workshop designed to provide you with multiple resources and hands-on instruction in researching your ancestry. MHS staff members Kathy Amoroso and Jamie Kingman Rice will share best practices when it comes to doing genealogy and then review a number of online resources and how to use them. Following their presentations, Jean Maguire, Library Manager for the New England Historic Genealogical Society, will take participants on an insider’s journey into AmericanAncestors.org. This online resource has more than 3,000 digitized collections and more than 135 million records covering New England, New York, and other areas of family research dating back to 1620. Jean’s portion of the workshop will offer strategies for maximizing your search experience and cover tips and techniques for navigation. This workshop will provide something for everyone—whether you are a beginner, intermediate, or longtime genealogist.

Morning refreshments provided. Registration required.
Cost: $25/MHS members; $35/non-members.
Please call 207-774-1822 to register. Space is limited to 25.

CELEBRATE THE SEASON WITH MHS!
NOVEMBER 23 – DECEMBER 31

This year’s festivities feature two exhibits, In a Whole New Light in the lecture hall, and Indoor Amusements: Games and Toys from our Collections in the Longfellow House; Museum Shoppers Day; special holiday tours of the Longfellow House; and the MHS Members Holiday Party.

FOR A COMPLETE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS VISIT WWW.MAINEHISTORY.ORG/HOLIDAYS.SHTML
As the children of a 4th-generation lighthouse keeper, it would not have seemed unusual for Carolyn, Dorothy, and Howard Jr. “Bobby” Gray to grow up at the West Quoddy Head Light Station. Their father, Howard “Bob” Gray Sr., served and lived at West Quoddy from 1934 to 1952 with his wife Sarah “Sadie” Gray and the three children.

Bob Gray was twenty-nine when he joined the Lighthouse Service at Boon Island (off of York, ME). When offered an assistant’s job at West Quoddy in 1934 he leapt at the chance. The family was lucky—the light station was located on the mainland just five miles from the village of Lubec and a few miles from the local school. That meant that the children could live at home year round. In contrast, offshore stations didn’t have schools and were often considered too dangerous for families.

The first West Quoddy lighthouse was built in 1808. The current tower, known for its red and white stripes, was built in 1857. Sperm whale oil powered the first light at the station. The station switched to lard oil in the 1860s, then to kerosene in the 1880s, and finally to electricity in 1932.

The tower is 49 feet high and its light is visible for 15 to 18 miles—an impressively visible home for three small children!

In 1939, the U.S. Coast Guard absorbed the U.S. Lighthouse Service. Gray changed uniforms but not much else. Appointed head keeper in 1940, Gray moved his family from the west to the east half of the duplex, closer to the sea and the easternmost point of the U.S.A.

Injury from a fall in 1952 accelerated his retirement at the age 49. Gray last returned to West Quoddy in 1988 to attend the ceremony marking the automation of the light. The State of Maine now owns the buildings and land. The beacon continues to operate under Coast Guard care, but without the characters of the Gray family.

LOCATION: The museum is located in the former keeper’s home, adjacent to the lighthouse, at 973 South Lubec Road, Lubec, ME 04652

VISIT: Admission to the Visitor Center and Museum is free. Memorial Day–July 4 – daily, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. July 4th to Labor Day – daily, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Labor Day to mid-October – daily, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Handicap Parking Available. Wheelchair accessible.

CONTACT: Telephone: 207-733-2180
Website: http://www.westquoddy.com
E-mail: info@westquoddy.com

ALL IMAGES FROM THE WEST QUODDY LIGHT KEEPERS ASSOCIATION, COURTESY OF PAM GRINDLE.
Library Snapshot Day

On October 17, 2012, MHS participated in Library Snapshot Day, an effort spearheaded by the American Library Association and the Maine State Library to document usage of libraries across the state. The day saw twenty-one patrons visiting the library. One patron traveled from DC to use our collections and another came from New York. Four patrons used the computers, three volunteers worked in the library, and our staff received twenty-seven research questions. Comments heard around the library that day: “the past informs the future...” and “a great hands-on resource.”

For more information about Library snapshot Day, visit www.maine.gov/msl/snapshot.


Ian Saxine, a graduate student of Northwestern, works in the Brown Library.
Ten Portland women’s groups joined forces in May 1889 to form what they believed was a unique federation: the Woman’s Literary Union. They used “literary” to mean anything “relating to universal humanity.” The clubs joined “to secure union and concert of action … on such occasions and in such matters as are of common interest.” Those common interests included self-improvement and self-education, but also stretched to civic engagement and influence.

Each club chose a focus of study: Roman history, Chaucer, Spence, Sophocles, Milton, and Shakespeare’s history plays. American history, social problems, Guizot’s *History of France*, current events, evolution, decoration of China, and Maine. The Union as a whole gathered to hear papers that members researched, wrote, and delivered. They also heard from speakers of note.

Mrs. Eunice Nichols Frye (1852-1923) provided the inspiration. She believed women needed intellectual stimulation and that the federation would help ensure that goal. Some of the charter clubs were more than a decade old when the union began. The Ladies’ History Club was organized in 1874 and the Monday Club in 1877.

In the years after the Civil War, American women, perhaps sensing an era of new opportunity, formed numerous clubs and organizations. Some were charitable, seeking to aid orphans, widows, the aged, or the poor. Others promoted temperance. Many, like those in Portland, focused on self-improvement or self-education.

The benefits, though, most likely stretched far beyond the topics they studied. In 1899, on the union’s tenth anniversary, the club historian wrote, “We pause to speak of one thing we have accomplished. We have discovered that a woman with an earnest word to say, can say it, clearly and concisely upon her feet before a large audience, and often with a sprinkling of the sterner sex, without embarrassment.” In an era before many women had careers or access to civic life, speaking comfortably and authoritatively in public was a significant accomplishment.

† The WLU held a fair in 1915 called “Groote Winkel,” Dutch for “great store,” to raise funds to build an auditorium and renovate a house on Spring Street for the group’s headquarters.

→ The WLU first used the gavel made from the old oak doorsill of the Wadsworth-Longfellow House at its inaugural meeting in the fall of 1903. The Maine Historical Society gave the gavel to the WLU in thanks for the group’s work as volunteer docents at the house.
Historian Karen Blair, in a 1980 study, concluded that women’s clubs served as a training ground for entrance into civic life. In the clubs, women learned (and loved) parliamentary procedure, public speaking, and practiced skills such as fund-raising, organization, and written presentations. They learned that like-minded groups of women could wield power. The confidence they gained helped women lead groups and move more fully into civic and public arenas.

In the early 20th century, many middle class and elite women moved away from groups like literary clubs, and became interested in what has been called “municipal housekeeping.” Denied the vote until 1920 and often excluded from professional outlets, these women formed organizations that took on problems such as clean water, immigrant education, child labor, and other social issues.

Other clubs, like the WLU, remained more “literary” and study oriented, although rarely without civic projects and concerns. In 1901, for instance, the WLU and other Portland women’s patriotic and charitable organizations helped the Maine Historical Society raise funds to operate the Wadsworth-Longfellow House as a museum and to build a permanent home for the Society.

Two of the groups—the Elizabeth Wadsworth Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Woman’s Literary Union—served as docents at the Wadsworth-Longfellow House. On August 3, 1903, MHS Librarian Nathan Goold, who supervised the docents, presented the WLU with a gavel made from an oak doorsill that had been replaced at the Wadsworth-Longfellow House.

In 1915, the WLU took on its own fund drive. George C. Frye gave the group two properties on Spring Street. They held numerous fund-raising events and built a clubhouse and a large auditorium known as Frye Hall on the site. By then the WLU boasted 800 members.

The WLU took on a number of civic activities as well. Education was among the group’s top interests. In 1894, they tried to get Abby A. Jones of the Travelers’ Club appointed to the Portland School Board for District 2. They were unsuccessful, but later members did serve on the board. In 1896, they appointed a committee to begin raising funds to provide art to public schools. Later, they lobbied for home economics classes in schools and funded scholarships for high school students.

During its first three decades, the WLU was crucial for many middle class and elite women in Portland. As women’s roles and opportunities changed, the WLU continued to operate as a literary and study group, adapting its activities and classes to changing interests and needs. In 2011, the group donated a collection of its records to the Maine Historical Society, to be housed in the building the group helped build more than a hundred years earlier.

Candace Kanes
Maine Memory Network Curator
We take this opportunity each year to acknowledge you, our contributors, for your generous support of our work and our mission. Your investment in the MHS Annual Fund assures the continued excellence of our programs, exhibitions, lectures, publications, research services, and internet resources—all the things that make MHS a unique and valuable institution. Together we raised $241,226 from 544 donors for the 2011-2012 Annual Fund and as much as in honor of Richard D’Abate and his legacy at MHS. Thank you. Together we do great things.

The following gifts represent cumulative unrestricted gifts received for the Annual Fund from 10/1/2011 through 9/30/2012.
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1 Harry Sawyer and Fred Thompson, photo by Rene Minnis

1 Noni Ames, Richard D’Abate, Priscilla Doucette, Debbie Reed

1 Steve Bromage and Jim Leamon at the 2012 Annual Meeting

1 Acclaimed Maine author Monica Wood signs copies of When We Were The Kennedys. The talk kicked off Maine Historical Society’s fall public program series.
Thank you to all Maine Historical Society members for your generosity and support. MHS values all our members; unfortunately (or fortunately) our membership base is too large to list each individual in this publication. The following members support our dynamic programming and operations through additional dues of $100 and up.

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Thank you to all Maine Historical Society members for your generosity and support. MHS values all our members; unfortunately (or fortunately) our membership base is too large to list each individual in this publication. The following members support our dynamic programming and operations through additional dues of $100 and up.

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The Richard D’Abate Endowment Fund For Scholarship and Special Programs

Richard D’Abate retired in June of 2012 to pursue his many outside interests. He served as Executive Director of MHS for more than 16 years—a significant period of growth and change for the organization. Richard is widely credited with professionalizing the organization and raising its profile to new heights. Under Richard’s leadership, MHS completed three capital campaigns, which included the restoration of the Longfellow House and the expansion of the Brown Library. The MHS operating budget tripled and its endowment doubled.

The Richard D’Abate Endowment Fund for Scholarship and Special Programs was established in his honor by the Board of Trustees and the fundraising effort was led by a committee of former trustee presidents. This endowed fund will play an important role in ensuring critical financial underwriting for scholars-in-residence, special lectures, exhibits and other educational events that will infuse our programs with unique scholarly and creative opportunities.

To date, $236,945 has been raised. Thank you for your recognition of Richard and his accomplishments through the generous support of this endowed fund.

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Debbie Reed holding up amount raised for the D’Abate Fund. Photo by Rene Minnis.
Children’s Gate

The much anticipated Children’s Gate in the Longfellow Garden was dedicated on June 2nd following the MHS Annual Meeting. Members and supporters stood with umbrellas in hand and cheered as two 3rd grade students from the Lyseth School, Fiona Trusty and Nathaniel Hanscom, snipped the thick red ribbon.

The gate was originally designed by Alexander Wadsworth Longfellow to honor his Uncle Henry’s famous affection for children. It was installed soon after the original library opened in 1907 but was removed in the 1960s in dilapidated condition. To recreate the Gate, Maine Historical Society embarked on a special fundraising campaign following the library renovation and Longfellow Garden restoration. Thank you to the following donors who made gifts in support of the Gate during this fiscal year.

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The Mad Hatter Affair: A Tribute to Richard D’Abate

On May 5, 2012, a record crowd assembled for Maine Historical Society’s Mad Hatter Affair at the Woodlands in Falmouth. The theme this year was “Hats Off to Richard D’Abate” recognizing Richard for his 16 years of service as Executive Director. The event raised $60,000 to support our public lectures and educational programs. Thank you to our Chair, Aynne Doil, for another rousing success and to our corporate sponsors listed below for their meaningful support. Mark your calendars for next year’s event scheduled for Saturday, May 4, 2013.

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Matthew D’Abate, Caroline D’Abate, Leah D’Abate, and Guilherme Zavaschi.
Bonnie D’Abate, Noni Ames, Steve Bromage, Fred Thompson, and Guests at the Mad Hatter Affair.
Photos by Rene Minnis.
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John M. Slavin and Deborah Weare Slavin

In memory of Elaine Joyce McKinney and John E. McKinney
John M. Slavin and Deborah Weare Slavin

In honor of Max Greyson Cohen on the attainment of his Bar Mitzvah
John M. Slavin and Deborah Weare Slavin

Realized Bequests and Planned Gifts

Anne R. Henry
William T. and Catherine M. Lawrence
Elizabeth E. Perkins

*deceased

These lists are meant to be comprehensive and accurate. If you are aware of an omission or other error, please accept our apologies and contact the MHS Development Office at 207-774-1822. Thank you.
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PLEASE TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE YOUR TAX-DEDUCTIBLE ANNUAL FUND GIFT BEFORE YEAR-END.

The Annual Fund is essential to our continued success. Our offerings from elementary school programs and lectures, to unique exhibits and library services, and even our Maine Memory Network all depend on the support of our members and donors like you. Your early support encourages even greater giving, helping further preserve the heritage and history of Maine. Here’s how you can support MHS quickly and securely:

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Mail your check to the address above and make your check payable to MHS Annual Fund. Call the Development Office at 207-774-1822 to pay by credit card or to make a gift of stock. Thank you in advance for recognizing the important role Maine Historical Society plays in the cultural life of our state.

CELEBRATE THE SEASON!

Local author Toni Buzzeo delights us again with Lighthouse Christmas. Inspired by a true Christmas tradition, this nostalgic story of a family enjoying the simple pleasures of the holiday is just right for reading together in front of the fire! Available in our store and online at www.mainehistorystore.com. Hardcover. $16.99.

Join us at MHS on December 15th to meet the author!