LP FILE INFORMATION

LP#: 2507 **BOROUGH:** SI **BLOCK:** 138 **LOT:** 166

SITE NAME: GEORGE WILLIAM and ANNA CURTIS HOUSE

SITE ADDRESS: 234 BARD AVE.

AKA(s): No aka

Date Calendared: _____

Date Heard: _____

Date Designated: _____

Other Actions: _____ Date: _____

Special Info: _____

POLITICAL REPRESENTATIVE INFORMATION

POLITICAL REP. INFO	REPRESENTATIVE NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE/FAX
Assembly District # 61	MATTHEW TITONE	853 FOREST AVE. STATEN IS, NY 10310	(718) 442-9932
House of Representatives District # 13	MICHAEL GRIMM	265 NEW DORP LANE 2nd FL. SI, NY 10306	(718) 351-1062 980-0768
Senate District # 23	DIANE SAVINO	36 RICHMOND TERRACE STE 112 SI, NY 10301	(718) 727-9406 727-9426
City Council District # 49	DEBORAH ROSE	130 STUYVESANT PL. 6TH FL. SI, NY 10301	(718) 556-7370 556-7389
Community Board District # 01	LETITIA REMAURO	1 EDGEWATER PLAZA RM. 217 SI, NY 10305	(718) 981-6900 720-1345

NOTES

Additional Political Reps:

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

GEORGE WILLIAM AND ANNA CURTIS HOUSE

234 BARD AVENUE, STATEN ISLAND
BLOCK 138 / LOT 166
BUILT: C. 1859
ARCHITECT: NOT DETERMINED
ORIGINAL OWNER: GEORGE WILLIAM AND ANNA CURTIS
STYLE: TRANSITIONAL ITALIANATE STYLE WITH GREEK REVIVAL STYLE ELEMENTS
PREVIOUS ACTIONS: HEARD SEPTEMBER 13, 1966
SIGNIFICANT ALTERATIONS: METAL SIDING REMOVED C. 1999

This house is apparently one of only two surviving houses from an enclave of homes occupied by prominent abolitionists in Livingston in the pre-Civil War period (the other is the already designated Samuel McKenzie Elliott House at 69 Delafield Place).

It was the residence of the noted literary figure and abolitionist George William Curtis (1824-92) and his wife the former Anna Gould Shaw. Anna Curtis's father, the prominent businessman and abolitionist Francis George Shaw, erected the house for the Curtises c. 1859. Her brother, Robert Gould Shaw, was killed in 1863 while leading the first African-American regiment to see service in the war in an attack on Fort Sumter.

This frame house was designed in a transitional Italianate-style with some Greek Revival elements; notable architectural elements include cross-gabled roof, Greek Revival entry with side lights and columned porch. The house remains a largely intact example of early suburban architecture on Staten Island.

Curtis was editor of *Putnam's Magazine* and later of various Harper Brothers publications including *Harper's Weekly, Harper's Magazine, and Harper's Bazaar.* A famous lecturer and writer, his speeches and essays in favor of Abolition and in support of Union cause were vastly influential. He was also a strong supporter of Women's Suffrage and Civil Service Reform and was president of the National Civil Service Reform League, 1881-92. This house was a gathering place for leading figures in the arts, politics, and social reform movements of the period.

GOAT on the Web - NYC Dept. of City Planning

Function 1: Geographic Information by Address

Address Number (if any): 234

Street Name / Place Name: bard ave

Select Borough: Staten Island

Show Political Information?

Submit Query

Geographic Information for 234 BARD AVENUE in STATEN IS

Report Error | View Help

Geographic Information:

Orientation:	Address is on the right when facing from WALNUT STREET to HENDERSON AVENUE.		
Zip Code:	10310	**Community District**	501
2000 Census Tract:	97	**X / Y Coordinates:**	954440 / 172037
2000 Census Block:	1012	**Low House Number:**	204
1990 Census Tract:	97	**High House Number:**	242
Dynamic Block:	201	**Segment ID / Length:**	0013735 / 357
LION Face Code:	560	**Street Code:**	1739001010
LION Sequence Number:	00080	**Preferred LGC:**	01
Low End Cross Streets:		**High End Cross Streets:**	
554200 WALNUT STREET		532600 HENDERSON AVENUE	

City Service Information:

Police Borough Command:	7	**Sanitation District / Section:**	501 / 012
Police Precinct:	120	**Sanitation Subsection:**	2D
Fire Division:	8	**Regular Sanitation Pick-Up:**	TF
Fire Battalion:	22	**Recycling Sanitation Pick-Up:**	ET
Fire Company:	E 156	**DOT Street Light Area:**	5
Health Area:	0300	**School District:**	31
Health Center District:	51	**CD Eligibility:**	Ineligible

Political Information:

Congressional District:	13	**Senatorial District:**	23
Civil Court District:	1	**City Council District:**	49
Assembly District:	61	**Election District:**	42

Buildings

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NYC Department of Buildings

Property Profile Overview

234 BARD AVENUE — **STATEN ISLAND 10310** — **BIN# 5003544**

BARD AVENUE 234 - 234

Health Area	: 300	**Tax Block**	: 138
Census Tract	: 97	**Tax Lot**	: 166
Community Board	: 501	**Condo**	: NO
Buildings on Lot	: 2	**Vacant**	: NO

View DCP Addresses... Browse Block

View Zoning Documents | View Challenge Results | View Certificates of Occupancy

Cross Street(s):	WALNUT STREET, HENDERSON AVENUE		
DOB Special Place Name:			
DOB Building Remarks:			
Landmark Status:	C - CALENDARED	**Special Status:**	N/A
Local Law:	NO	**Loft Law:**	NO
SRO Restricted:	NO	**TA Restricted:**	NO
UB Restricted:	NO		
Little 'E' Restricted:	N/A	**Grandfathered Sign:**	NO
Legal Adult Use:	NO	**City Owned:**	NO
Additional BINs for Building:	NONE		

Special District: NONE

This property is not located in an area that may be affected by Tidal Wetlands, Freshwater Wetlands, or Coastal Erosion Hazard Area. Click here for more information

Department of Finance Building Classification: B3-2 FAMILY DWELLING

Please Note: The Department of Finance's building classification information shows a building's tax status, which may not be the same as the legal use of the structure. To determine the legal use of a structure, research the records of the Department of Buildings.

	Total	Open
Complaints	0	0
Violations-DOB	0	0
Violations-ECB (DOB)	0	0
Jobs/Filings	0	
ARA / LAA Jobs	0	
Total Jobs	0	
Actions	8	

OR Enter Action Type:
OR Select from List:
Select...
AND Show Actions

Elevator Records
Electrical Applications
Permits In-Process / Issued
Illuminated Signs Annual Permits
Plumbing Inspections
Open Plumbing Jobs / Work Types
Facades
Marquee Annual Permits
Boiler Records
DEP Boiler Information
Crane Information
After Hours Variance Permits

If you have any questions please review these Frequently Asked Questions, the Glossary, or call the 311 Citizen Service Center by dialing 311 or (212) NEW YORK outside of New York City.

Gale Harris (LPC)

From: Gale Harris (LPC)
Sent: Monday, December 22, 2014 11:27 AM
To: 'CDellatte@StatenIslandMuseum.org'
Subject: request for appointment

Hi Cara,
I have been assigned to prepare a draft designation report for the George W. Curtis house on Bard Avenue and would like to set up an appointment to look at the Curtis papers. I am in town Monday and Tuesday this week, then back in New York next week.
Hope you have a splendid Xmas,
Gale Harris
Landmarks Preservationist 2
New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission
Office 212-669-7805; Mobile 347-752-7611

Gale Harris (LPC)

From: cara dellatte via Dropbox <no-reply@dropbox.com>
Sent: Friday, January 09, 2015 10:43 AM
To: Gale Harris (LPC)
Subject: cara dellatte shared "Images for Lorraine Danischewski" with you

Cara used Dropbox to share some files with you!

Click here to view Images for Lorraine Danischewski.

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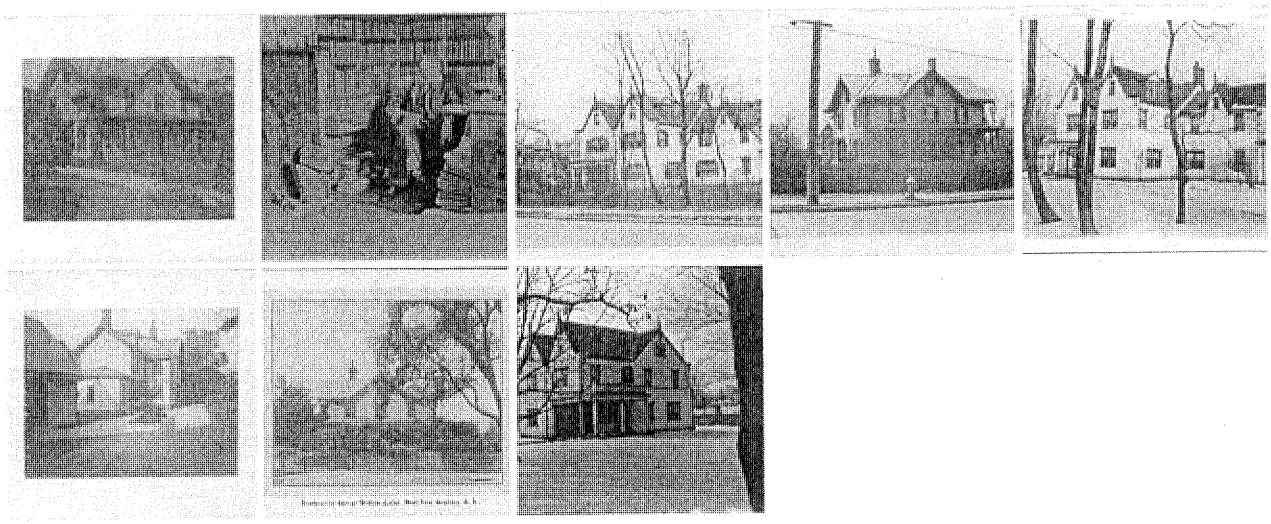
Sign in

Images for Lorraine Danischewski



Gale Harris (LPC)

From: Susan Halpert via RT <houghref@help.hmdc.harvard.edu>
Sent: Friday, January 23, 2015 10:35 AM
To: Gale Harris (LPC)
Subject: [hmdc.harvard.edu #192074] George William Curtis Collection
Attachments: KIC Image 1.jpg; KIC Image 2.jpg; KIC Image.jpg

<See all of this ticket: https://help.hmdc.harvard.edu/Ticket/Display.html?id=192074 >

Dear Ms. Harris,

I am attaching scans of ta clipping and a photograph from George William Curtis's scrapbook (our MS Am 1124.8) for your reference. There is no charge for these scans, but please fill in and submit the photoduplication form at https://hcl.harvard.edu:8001/forms/requests/houghton_photo.cfm citing RT # 192074 as your "existing request." If you find that you need a high-resolution image for publication, please let me know so I can arrange for one to be made by Imaging Services.

I hope this is helpful.

Susan Halpert
Reference Librarian

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Blue-Eyed Child of Fortune

The Civil War Letters of Colonel Robert Gould Shaw

Edited by Russell Duncan
Foreword by William S. McFeely

The man who led America's vanguard black regiment

Reviews

"Splendid . . . Important . . . Superb . . . Deserves a place on every Civil War bookshelf . . . Shaw emerges more vividly in this book than he did in the film *Glory*."
—*New York Times Book Review*

"A fine and conscientious work."
—*Boston Globe*

Page count: 480 pp.
Illustrated
Trim size: 6.125 x 9.25

Google Preview

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Description

On the Boston Common stands one of the great Civil War memorials, a magnificent bronze sculpture by Augustus Saint-Gaudens. It depicts the black soldiers of the Fifty-fourth Massachusetts Infantry marching alongside their young white commander, Colonel Robert Gould Shaw. When the philosopher William James dedicated the memorial in May 1897, he stirred the assembled crowd with these words: "There they march, warm-blooded champions of a better day for man. There on horseback among them, in the very habit as he lived, sits the blue-eyed child of fortune."

In this book Shaw speaks for himself with equal eloquence through nearly two hundred letters he wrote to his family and friends during the Civil War. The portrait that emerges is of a man more divided and complex--though no less heroic--than the Shaw depicted in the celebrated film *Glory*. The pampered son of wealthy Boston abolitionists, Shaw was no abolitionist himself, but he was among the first patriots to respond to Lincoln's call for troops after the attack on Fort Sumter. After Cedar Mountain and Antietam, Shaw knew the carnage of war firsthand. Describing nightfall on the Antietam battlefield, he wrote, "the crickets chirped, and the frogs croaked, just as if nothing unusual had happened all day long, and presently the stars came out bright, and we lay down among the dead, and slept soundly until daylight. There were twenty dead bodies within a rod of me."

When Federal war aims shifted from an emphasis on restoring the Union to the higher goal of emancipation for four million slaves, Shaw's mother pressured her son into accepting the command of the North's vanguard black regiment, the Fifty-fourth Massachusetts. A paternalist who never fully reconciled his own prejudices about black inferiority, Shaw assumed the command with great reluctance. Yet, as he trained his recruits in Readville, Massachusetts, during the early months of 1963, he came to respect their pluck and dedication. "There is not the least doubt," he wrote his mother, "that we shall leave the state, with as good a regiment, as any that has marched."

Despite such expressions of confidence, Shaw in fact continued to worry about how well his troops would perform under fire. The ultimate test came in South Carolina in July 1863, when the Fifty-fourth led a brave but ill-fated charge on Fort Wagner, at the approach to Charleston Harbor. As Shaw waved his sword and urged his men forward, an enemy bullet felled him on the fort's parapet. A few hours later the Confederates dumped his body into a mass grave with the bodies of twenty of his men. Although the assault was a failure from a military standpoint, it proved the proposition to which Shaw had reluctantly dedicated himself when he took command of the Fifty-fourth: that black soldiers could indeed be fighting men. By year's end, sixty new black regiments were being organized.

A previous selection of Shaw's correspondence was privately published by his family in 1864. For this volume, Russell Duncan has restored many passages omitted from the earlier edition and has provided detailed explanatory notes to the letters. In addition he has written a lengthy biographical essay that places the young colonel and his regiment in historical context.

Russell Duncan is a professor of history in the English Institute at the University of Copenhagen, Denmark. He is the author of several books, including *First Person Past: American Autobiographies*, *Freedom's Shore: Tunis Campbell and the Georgia Freedmen* (Georgia), and *Entrepreneur for Equality: Governor Rufus Bullock, Commerce, and Race in Post-Civil War Georgia* (Georgia).

Author	Martin, George Whitney.
Title	**CCB : the life and century of Charles C. Burlingham, New York's first citizen, 1858-1959 / George Martin.**
Imprint	New York : Hill and Wang, c2005.

Location	Call No.	Status	Message
Mid-Manhattan Non-Fiction Fifth Floor	B Burlingham M	AVAILABLE	---

DETAILS

Description	xi, 690 p., [16] p. of plates : ill., ports ; 24 cm.
Bibliography	Includes bibliographical references (p. [666]-674) and index.
Subject	Burlingham, Charles C. (Charles Culp), 1858-1959. Politicians -- New York (State) -- New York -- Biography. Social reformers -- New York (State) -- New York -- Biography. Lawyers -- New York (State) -- New York -- Biography. New York (N.Y.) -- Biography. New York (N.Y.) -- Politics and government -- 1898-1951. New York (N.Y.) -- Social conditions.
Added Title	C C B Life and century of Charles C. Burlingham, New York's first citizen, 1858-1959
LCCN	2004054088
Other Standard Identifier	9780809073177
ISBN	080907317X
Branch Call Number	B Burlingham M

Title: Seeking the one great remedy : Francis George Shaw and nineteenth-century reform
Attribution: Lorien Foote.
Author: Foote, Lorien, 1969-
Published: Athens : Ohio University Press, 2003.
Description: xi, 224 p. : ill., ports. ; 24 cm.
Language: English
Notes: Includes bibliographical references (p. 207-216) and index.
Subject: Shaw, Francis George, -- 1809-1882.;
Shaw family.;
Abolitionists -- United States -- Biography.;
Social reformers -- United States -- Biography.;
Feminists -- United States -- Biography.;
Businessmen -- New England -- Biography.;
Antislavery movements -- United States -- History -- 19th century.;
Social movements -- United States -- History -- 19th century.;
Reconstruction -- Social aspects.;
United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865 -- African Americans.
Identifier: ISBN 0821414992 (acid-free paper); ISBN 9780821414996
Creation Date: 2003
HOLLIS Number: 009213272
Permalink: http://id.lib.harvard.edu/aleph/009213272/catalog
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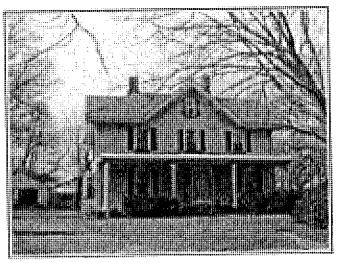
HISTORIC DISTRICTS COUNCIL

HEARD BUT NOT DESIGNATED

George William Curtis House



Address: 234 Bard Avenue Staten Island, NY 10310

Built: 1853

LPC Action: The LPC held a hearing for the George William Curtis House in 1966

This mid-eighteenth century Victorian featured six fireplaces, high dentil details below the roof line, six over six, double hung large picture windows, and stately columns that hold the tongue and grooved ceiling above the wrap-a-round porch. On the right hand of the house in the rear of there is a small enclosed porch. Today the original carriage house remains at a slight distance from the "new" garage but is no longer a part of the property. Recently the family that lived in the George William Curtis House wanted to restore to its former grandeur. With the help of Historic Restorations, a residential restoration company based in Lancaster P.A., they have done so and have replaced much of its former detailing.

Historic Restorations: http://www.historic-restorations.com/index.html

To Support Contact: Council Member Deborah Rose

The Advocate for New York City's Historic Neighborhoods
232 East 11th Street New York NY 10003
tel: **212-614-9107** fax: 212-614-9127 email: hdc@hdc.org
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Collections: Art Collection

Paintings

> Back to all Paintings

Anna Gould Shaw

A1960.19.1

An oil on canvas potrait painting by American artist William Page (1811 - 1855) of Anna Gould Shaw (1836 - 1923) when she was 12 or 13 years old. Shaw was the sister of Robert Gould Shaw (1837 - 1863), the famed Colonel of the all-black 54th Massachussets Infantry Regiment during the Civil War. In 1855, she married George William Curtis (1824 - 1892), a well known writer, abolitionist, and public speaker who was the Editor of *Harper's Weekly*. The couple resided on Staten Island.

One of the most original of the late romantic painters was William Page, who has been called an "American Titian" because of his interest in Venetian art. He prefered warm and muted tones from a mid point in the scale of light to dark. Anna Gould Shaw's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Francis G. Shaw, were close friends and patrons of Page when they resided on Staten Island.

Artist: William Page (1811 - 1885)

Title: *Anna Gould Shaw*

Medium: Oil on canvas

Dates: c. 1848

Dimensions: 16.5 in. x 16.5 in.

Culture: American

Accession Number: A1960.19.1

Credit: Museum Purchase, 1960

Tags: 19th century, american, anna gould shaw, canvas, curtis, george curtis, oil, page, painting, portrait, staten island, william page

Overview

Art Collection

- Paintings
- Works on Paper
- Clothing and Textiles
- Sculpture
- Photography
- Antiquities
- Decorative Arts
- African Art
- Art of the Americas
- Asian Art
- Pacific Island Art

Natural Science Collection

History Archives & Library

Rates & Reproductions

Browse Collections by Tags

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> 16th century	> 17th century
> 18th century	> 19th century
> 20th century	> 21st century
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> acrylic	> adeline wigand
> adler	> africa
> african	> albert barbelle
> alcohol	

> alexander the great

> alfred mcnamara

> allegory

> allen tucker

> allori

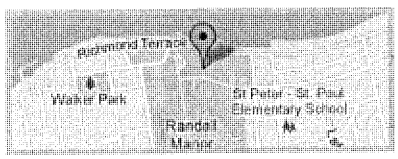
> alps

Locations

Staten Island Museum
75 Stuyvesant Place
Staten Island, New York 10301

Staten Island Museum History Center
1000 Richmond Terrace
Snug Harbor Campus, Building H
Staten Island, New York 10301

Staten Island Museum History Archives & Library
1000 Richmond Terrace
Snug Harbor Campus, Building H
Staten Island, New York 10301



View Map & Directions

Hours & Admissions

Monday - Friday 11am - 5pm
Saturday 10am - 5pm
Sunday 12pm - 5pm

The Museum is closed on National Holidays: on New Year's Day, Memorial Day, 4th of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas Day.

Recommended Admission:
Adults: $5.00
Students and Seniors: $3.00
Children under 12 and Members: FREE
Sneak Peek Tuesdays Free admission 12-2pm

The Staten Island Museum's public spaces are wheel -chair accessible. Companions or aides of persons with disabilities are admitted free of charge.

For further information on accessibility for adult audiences, contact us via email or call the receptionist at 718.727.1135.

History Center Hours:
Tuesday - Saturday: 1pm - 4pm
Sunday and Monday Closed
Admission FREE

History Archives & Library Research Hours:
Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays
from 10am to 4pm by appointment only.
Call 718.727.1135 x122
or email to schedule an appointment.

Contact Us

Call: 718.727.1135

Email Us

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Ferry Rider's Guide
Download our Ferry Rider's Guide for your trip. It is an an illuminating publication revolving around the Staten Island Ferry and a history that spans over four centuries. Available for download as a PDF.

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Site Design

NYCPLANNING

Geographic Online Address Translator

Welcome to the Geographic Online Address Translator (GOAT)!

GOAT allows you to enter a New York City geographic location, such as an address, intersection, street segment, street stretch, block and lot or BIN, and returns back related geographic information, such as cross streets, side of street, tax block and lot (AKA Parcel –ID), five-digit ZIP code, census tract and block, police precinct, community district and city council district.

Information on the functions can be found in the GOAT User Guide.

Display Street and Property Level Information by Address

Select a Borough: Staten Island | Address Number: 234 | Street or Place Name: BARD AVENUE | Submit

Hide Search Options

☐ Roadbed Specific Information
☑ TPAD

◉ Address Range List
○ Complete BIN List
○ Display Both

Normalize Input Street Name as:
◉ Input Street Name
○ Primary Street Name
○ Principal Street Name
○ Preferred Street Name

Geographic Information for 234 BARD AVENUE in STATEN IS

Related Resources | Send Feedback

Orientation:
Address is on the right when facing from WALNUT STREET to HENDERSON AVENUE

X,Y Coordinate:	954440 , 172038	**From Node:**	0009418
Community District:	Staten Island 01	**From X,Y Coordinate:**	954403 , 172285
ZIP Code:	10310	**To Node:**	0009408
LION Face Code:	0560	**To X,Y Coordinate:**	954460 , 171933
LION Sequence Number:	00080	**Coincident Segment Count:**	1
Street Code B10SC:	51739001010	**Segment ID /Length:**	0013735 / 356
Alley/Cross Street Flag:	No Split/Change	**Segment Type:**	Undivided
Traffic Direction:	A	**Feature Type:**	Street
2010 Census Tract:	97	**Roadway Type:**	Street
2010 Census Block:	3019	**Right of Way Type:**	
Atomic Polygon:	201	**Physical ID:**	0062938
2000 Census Tract:	97	**Generic ID:**	0055077
2000 Census Block:	1012	**Bike Lane:**	
CD Eligibility:	Not CD Eligible	**Special Address:**	
DCP Preferred B7SC / Street Name:	51739001 / BARD AVENUE		
Low House Number:	204	**High House Number:**	242
Low End Cross Street(s):		**High End Cross Street(s):**	

B7SC	Street Name
55420001	WALNUT STREET
50011401	RICHARD A CARABBA WAY

B7SC	Street Name
53260001	HENDERSON AVENUE

City Service Information

Police Borough Command:	Staten Island	**Sanitation District/Section:**	501 / 012
Police Precinct:	120	**Sanitation Subsection:**	2D
Fire Division:	8	**Regular Sanitation Pickup:**	TF
Fire Battalion:	22	**Recycling Sanitation Pickup:**	EF

Fire Company:	Engine 156	**DOT Street Light Area:**	5
Health Area:	03.00	**School District:**	31
Health Center District:	51	**DSNY Snow Priority:**	Primary
Neighborhood Tabulation Area:	SI22 / West New Brighton-New Brighton-St. George		

Political Information

City Council District:	49	**Municipal Court District:**	1
Assembly District:	61	**Election District:**	12
Congressional District:	11	**State Senate District:**	23
BOE Preferred B7SC/Street Name:	51739001 / BARD AVENUE		

Property Level Information for 234 BARD AVENUE in STATEN IS

Tax Block:	138	**RPAD SCC:**	7
Tax Lot:	166	**RPAD Building Class:**	B3
BBL:	5001380166	**RPAD Interior Lot:**	Not Interior Lot
Block Faces:	1	**RPAD Irreg. Shaped Lot:**	Not Irregular Lot
Sanborn Boro/Vol/Page:	5/01 /079	**RPAD Condo Number:**	N/A
X,Y Coordinate:	0954328 , 0171982	**RPAD Co-op Number:**	N/A
Structures:	2	**Condo Lot:**	Non-Condo
Vacant Lot:	Not Vacant	**Tax Map/Section/Volume:**	5 / 01 / 04
Low BBL of Condo:	N/A	**High BBL of Condo:**	N/A
BIN:	5003544	**BIN Status:**	No activity
TPAD BIN:		**TPAD BIN Status:**	No activity
Corner Code:	NO	**TPAD Conflict Flag:**	1
Business Improvement District:			

Address Range List (Number of Addresses: 2)

Type:	Low Address#:	High Address#:	Street Name	BIN:	TPAD BIN Status
	234	234	BARD AVENUE	5003544	No activity
	234 GARAGE	234 GARAGE	BARD AVENUE	5136466	No activity

'Type' Field
Blank Space = Ordinary Address Range

Related Resources Go

Back to Top

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I. Population.

CENSUS of the Inhabitants living in the *Second Election District in the Town* of *Castleton* in the County of *Richmond*, N. Y., on the first day of June, 1865.

This Enumeration was made by me, on the *Seventeenth* day of June, 1865. *Abm W. Boyce* Enumerator.

(2.)

Line	1 Dwelling No.	2 Of what material built	3 Value	4 Family No.	5 Name	6 Age	7 Sex	9 Relation to head of family	10 Birthplace	11	12	13	14	15	16 Profession, trade or occupation	17 Usual place of employment	18 Native	19 Naturalized	20 Alien
1					Patk Hart	16	M		Ireland					1					
2	61	Wood	2000	57	Rosa E Rainford	31	F	Mother	N.Y	4	1		1						
3					Geo W Rainford	8	M	Son	"										
4					John C Rainford	7	"	"	Richd										
5					Cath Rainford	5	F	Daug	"										
6					Rosa Rainford	2	"	"	"										
7					Cath Caffey	26	"		Ireland					1	Laundress				
8					Jane Maxwell	34	"		"		1		1		Cook				
9					Fanny Percival	29	"		"					1	Chambermaid				
10					Annie Wallace	25	"		"					1	Nurse				
11					Kate Keefe	26	"		"					1	Waitress				
12					John Tansey	40	M		"					1	Gardener				1
13					Peter Lawdon	21	"		"					1	Coachman			1	
14	62	"	12000	58	F. G. Shaw	56	"		Mass						Mer	N.Y	1		
15					S. B. Shaw	49	F	Wife	"	5	1	1							
16					S. S. Lowell	21	"	Daug	"		1		1						
17					E. Shaw	20	"	"	"					1					
18					Annie Ayre	37	"		Eng					1	Cook				
19					Eliza Masterson	21	"		Ireland					1	Waitress				
20					Cath Mulleville	29	"		"					1	Chambermaid				
21					Frances Moran	26	"		"					1	Nurse				
22					Mary Calley	36	"	Mother	"		1		1		Laundress				
23					John Calley	7	M	Son	N.Y										
24	63	"	12000	59	Geo W Curtis	41	M		R.I.						Author	N.Y	1		
25					Anna S Curtis	29	F	Wife	Mass	3	1	1							
26					F. G. Curtis	7	M	Son	Richd										
27					E. B. Curtis	4	F	Daughter	"										
28					Sarah S. Curtis	2	"	"	"										
29					Martha Price	29	"		Ireland					1	Nurse				
30					Eliza Flood	19	"		"					1	Waitress				
31					Celia Scott	36	"		"					1	Cook				
32	64	"	1800	60	Chas Moase	65	M		Eng						None				1
33					Lydia S. Moase	60	F	Wife	"	5	1	1			Teacher				
34					Miriam Moase	31	"	Daughter	"					1	"				
35					Larinea Moase	23	"	"	"					1	"				
36	65	"	5000	61	John B. Staples	45	M		Conn						Lawyer	N.Y	1		
37					S. B. Staples	40	F	Wife	N.Y	3	1	1							
38					Cornelia Staples	30	"	Daught	"					1					
39					Markham Staples	16	M	Son	N.Y					1					
40					J. B. Staples Jr	12	"	"	Richd										
41					Julius Schonow	50	"		Denmark					1	Laborer				1
42					Bridget Cahille	16	F		Ireland					1	Chambermaid				
43					Ellen Haloran	25	"		Ger					1	Cook				
44	66	"	2000	62	Cath Baud	86	"	Mother	W. Indies	14	1		1						
45					Caroline Baud	50	"	Daughter	N.Y					1					

I. Population.

CENSUS of the Inhabitants living in the *Second Election District in the Town* of *Castleton* in the County of *Richmond*, N. Y., on the first day of June, 1865.

This Enumeration was made by me, on the *Seventeenth* day of June, 1865. *Abm W. Boyce* Enumerator.

(3.)

Line	1 Dwelling No.	2 Of what material built	3 Value	4 Family No.	5 Name	6 Age	7 Sex	9 Relation to head of family	10 Birthplace	11	12	13	14	15	16 Profession, trade or occupation	17 Usual place of employment	18 Native	19 Naturalized	20 Alien	26
1					Louis Sands	30	M	G. Son	N.Y					1			1			1
2					Arthur Sands	27	"	"	"					1			1			
3					Thos Lyon	28	"		Ireland					1	Coachman				1	
4					Bridget Keating	25	F		"					1	Cook					
5					Isabella Steel	35	"		"					1	House Maid					
6	67	Wood	6000	63	Sydney H. Gay	52	M		Mass						Editor	N.Y	1			
7					Elizth Gay	45	F	Wife	Pa	4	1	1								
8					Sarah McGay	13	"	Daugh	Richd											
9					Martin Gay	11	M	Son	"											
10					Mary C. Gay	2	F	Daug	"											
11					Mary Murphy	25	"		Ireland					1	Chambermaid					
12					Kate Flood	20	"		"					1	Cook					
13	68	"	1000	64	Rich Cravin	40	M		"						Gardener			1		
14					Mary Cravin	31	F	Wife	"	1	1	1								
15					Frank Cravin	6	M	Son	Richd											
16	69	"	500	65	John Gannon	52	M		Ireland						Contractor			1		
17					Ann Gannon	41	F	Wife	"	10	1	1								
18					Ellen Gannon	18	"	Daug	Richd					1						
19					Mary A. Gannon	16	"	Daugh	"					1						
20					John Gannon	13	M	Son	"											
21					Patk Gannon	11	"	Son	"											
22					Wm Gannon	6	"	"	"											
23					Cath Gannon	2	F	Daug	"											
24				66	John Wilson	36	M		Sweden						Sailor				1	
25					Martha Wilson	36	F	Wife	D.C.	1	1	1								
26				67	Wm Butler	36	M		Ger						Coachman				1	
27					Mary Butler	25	F	Wife	"	2	1	1								
28					Bertha Butler	4	"	Daug	N.J.											
29					Emma Butler	2	"	"	"											
30	70	"	200	68	John Carr	33	M		Ireland						Gardener			1		
31					Mary Carr	33	F	Wife	"	4	1	1								
32					Cath Carr	5	"	Daug	Richd											
33					Mary Carr	3	"	"	"											
34					Mary Carr	2	"	"	"											
35					Joseph Carr	3/12	M	Son	"											
36				69	Thos Haly	32	"		Ireland						Bar Tender				1	
37					Mary Haly	30	F	Wife	"	4	1	1								
38					John Haly	6	M	Son	Richd											
39					Sarah Haly	4½	F	Daug	"											
40					Mary Haly	2½	"	"	"											
41					Letitia Haly	3/12	"	"	"											
42	71	"	200	70	Dennis Creighton	60	M		Ireland						Laborer			1		
43					Hannah Creighton	60	F	Wife	"	9	1	1								
44					Cath Creighton	17	"	Daug	"					1						
45				71	Cane Keenan	35	M								Coachman				1	

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I. Population. CENSUS of the Inhabitants living in the Third Election District of Castleton in the County of Richmond, N. Y., on the first day of June, 1875.

This Enumeration was made by me, on the Twenty first day of June, 1875. Michael [illegible] Enumerator.

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Line	Dwelling no.	Material	Value	Family no.	Name	Age	Sex	Relation	Birthplace	Occupation	Where employed
1	269	Frame		360	Brian Smith	65	m		Ireland	Gardener	
2					Mary Smith	3[illegible]	f	wife	Ireland		
3					Marguerite Smith	6	f	daugr	Richmond		
4	270	Frame	[illegible]	361	Francis Geo. Shaw	65	m		Boston Mass	ex Merchant	
5					Sarah B. Shaw	57	f	wife	Boston Mass		
6					[illegible] Lowell	32	f	daugr	" "		
7					Carlotta R. Lowell	10	f	Grand daugr	Richmond		
8					Mary Ann [illegible]	40	f	Servant	Ireland	Cook	
9					Catherine [illegible]	22	f	Servt	Ireland	Chambermaid	
10					Catharine [illegible]	15	f	Servt	Richmond County	Waitress	
11	271	Frame	[illegible]	362	Mary A. Vanzandt	46	f		Kings County		
12					Marie Louise Vanzandt	20	f	daugr	New York		
13					Ferdinand Vanzandt	16	m	Son	Kings County		
14					Charles B. Vanzandt	14	m	Son	Kings Co. N.Y.		
15					Gordon [illegible]	24	m	Boarder	Denmark	Clerk in Bank	
16					Anne Riley	3[illegible]	f	Servant	Ireland	Cook	
17					Dennis Kane	16	m	Servant	Richmond	waiter	
18	272	Frame	[illegible]	363	Wm R. Wymple	32	m		New York	Life Insurance and Real Estate agent	
19					Mary E. Wymple	37	f	wife	Richmond		
20					Wm G. Wymple	15	m	Son	" "		
21					Marie Wymple	7	f	daugr	" "		
22					Grace Wymple	5	m	Son	" "		
23					Ernest Wymple	[illegible]	m	Son	" "		
24					Mary Baker	25	f	Servt	Ireland	Waitress	
25					Johanna Nowlan	19	f	Servt	Ulster County	Cook	
26	273	Frame	[illegible]	364	Davison Brown	29	m		New York	merchant	N. Y. City
27					[illegible] Brown	36	f	wife	England		
28					Davison Brown	[illegible]	m	Son	Richmond		
29					Mary [illegible]	34	f	Servt	Ireland	Cook	
30					Lizzie Mullins	30	f	Servt	" "	Chambermaid	
31					Annie Mullins	24	f	Servt	" "	Waitress	
32	274	Frame	[illegible]	365	Charles A. Meigs	58	m		Queens Co.	National Bank examiner	
33					Julia A. Meigs	56	f	wife	New York		
34					Julia Pool	37	f	daugr	" "		
35					Susan Corliss	35	f	" "	" "		
36					Benjamin F. Corliss	40	m	Son in law	[illegible]		
37					Benard Corliss	22	m	G Son	New York	Real Estate Agent	City N. Y.
38					Louise Meigs	19	f	daugr	Kings Co.		
39					Kate Meigs	15	f	daugr	Kings "		
40					Austin Pool	7	m	Grandson	Richmond		
41					Margaret [illegible]	8	f	Servt	" "	Waitress	
42					Mary [illegible]	30	f	Servt	Philadelphia	Cook	
43					Hannah Moore	32	f	Servt	England	Chambermaid	
44											
45											

I. Population. CENSUS of the Inhabitants living in the Third Election District of Castleton in the County of Richmond, N. Y., on the first day of June, 1875.

This Enumeration was made by me, on the Twenty second day of June, 1875. Michael [illegible] Enumerator.

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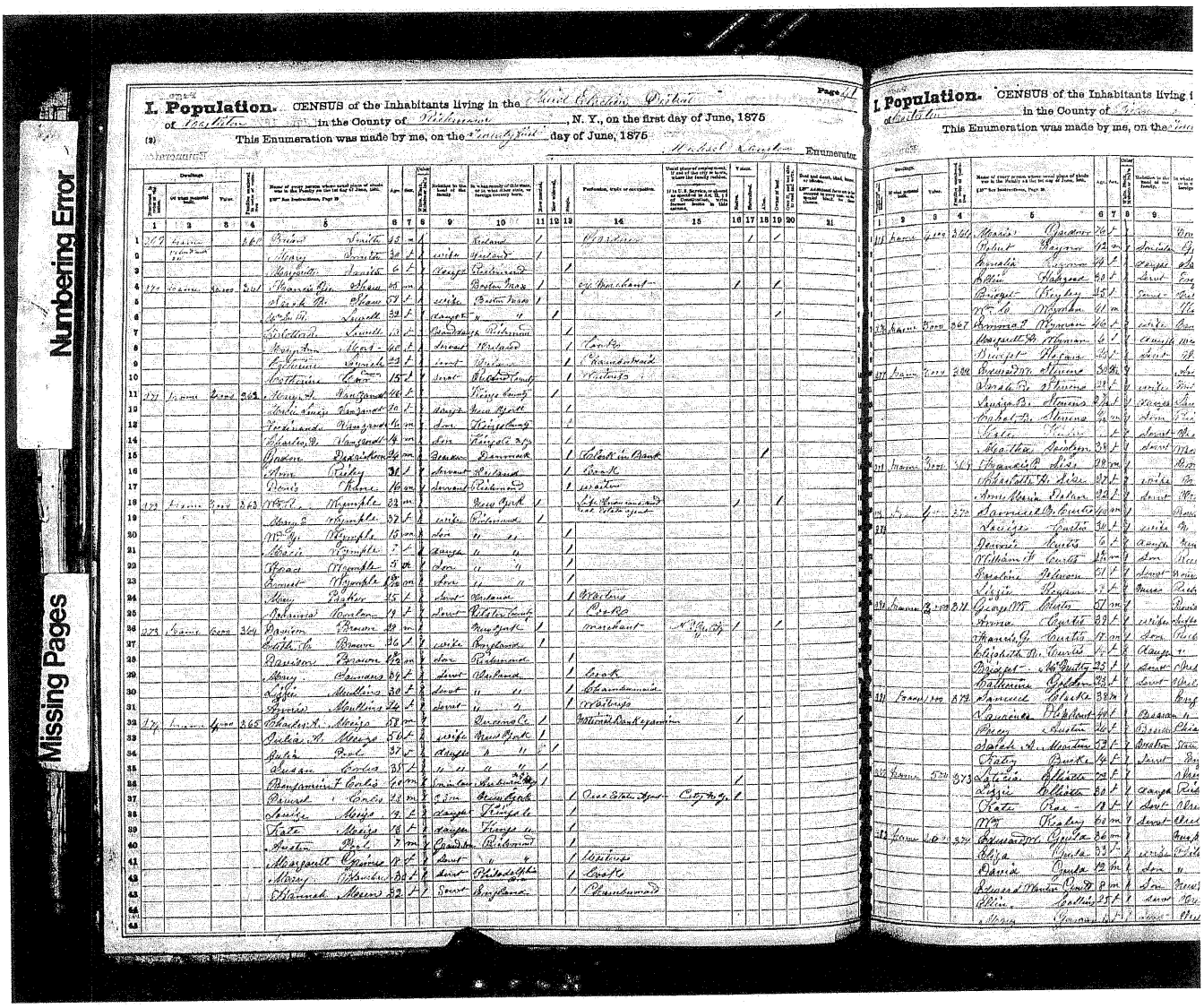
Line	Dwelling no.	Material	Value	Family no.	Name	Age	Sex	Relation	Birthplace	Occupation	Where employed
1	275	Frame	[illegible]	366	Maria Gardner	76	f		[illegible] Mass		
2					Robert Raymer	42	m	Son in law	Germany	Broker	New York
3					Amelia Raymer	4	f	daugr	Salem Mass		
4					Ellen Halgood	50	f	Servt	England	Cook	
5					Bridget Kinley	25	f	Servt	Ireland	waitress	
6					Wm [illegible] Warden	41	m		Kings	Tea Merchant	N. Y. City
7	276	Frame	3000	367	Emma E. Wyman	46	f	wife	[illegible]		
8					Margaret H. Wyman	6	f	daugr	[illegible]		
9					Bridget Hogan	[illegible]	f	Servt	Ireland	Cook	
10	277	Frame	[illegible]	368	Edward W. Stevens	30	m		[illegible]		
11					Sarah B. Stevens	2[illegible]	f	wife	[illegible]		
12					Louisa B. Stevens	[illegible]	f	daugr	[illegible]		
13					Cabot B. Stevens	[illegible]	m	Son	Richmond		
14					Kate [illegible]		f	Servt	Ireland	Waitress	
15					Agatha Swidgen	38	f	Servt	Wellington	Cook	
16	278	Frame	[illegible]	369	Francis P. Lee	38	m		Boston Mass		
17					Charlotte H. Lee	27	f	wife	N. Y.		
18					Ann Maria Dolan	32	f	Servt	Ireland	Waitress	
19	279	[illegible]	[illegible]	370	Samuel B. Curtis	48	m		Providence R.I.	Cashier in Custom House	New York City
20					Louise Curtis	38	f	wife	N. Y.		
21					Jennie Curtis	6	f	daugr	New York		
22					William H. Curtis	[illegible]	m	Son	Richmond		
23					Caroline Johnson	51	f	Servt	[illegible]	Cook	
24					Lizzie Hogan	[illegible]	f	Nurse	Richmond	Nurse Girl	
25	280	Frame	[illegible]	371	Geo. Wm Curtis	51	m		Providence R.I.	Author	
26					Anna Curtis	5[illegible]	f	wife	Suffolk Co Mass		
27					Francis G. Curtis	17	m	Son	Richmond		
28					Elizabeth B. Curtis	[illegible]	f	daugr	" "		
29					Bridget McNulty	25	f	Servt	Ireland	Waitress	
30					Catherine Golden	23	f	Servt	Ireland	Cook	
31	281	Frame	1500	372	Samuel Clarke	38	m		England	in Direct Cable Office	N. Y. City
32					Laurence [illegible]	40	f	Boarder	" "		
33					Percy Austin	26	f	Boarder	Chicago Ill.		
34					Sarah A. Merton	52	f	[illegible]	State of Georgia	House Keeper	
35					Katy Burke	14	f	Servt	England	Waitress	
36	282	Frame	500	373	Letecia Elliott	72	f		Ireland		
37					Lizzie Elliott	30	f	daugr	Richmond		
38					Kate Rose	18	f	Servt	Ireland	waitress	
39					Wm Kealey	61	m	Servt	Ireland	Gardener	
40	283	Frame	[illegible]	374	Edward W. Gould	36	m		Newport R.I.	Broker in Stock	N. Y. City
41					Eliza Gould	33	f	wife	Philadelphia		
42					David Gould	12	m	Son	" "		
43					Edward Winthrop Gould	8	m	Son	Newport R.I.		
44					Ellen Collins	25	f	Servt	Ireland	Cook	
45					Mary [illegible]	[illegible]	f	Servt	Ireland	Waitress	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I. Population. CENSUS of the Inhabitants living in the *Second Election District - in the Town* of *Castleton* in the County of *Richmond*, N. Y., on the first day of June, 1865.

This Enumeration was made by me, on the *Seventeenth* day of June, 1865. *Abm W. Boyce* Enumerator

(2.)

Line	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1					Patk Hart	16	M			Ireland					1					
2	61	Wood	2000	57	Rosa E. Rainsford	31	F		Mother	N. Y	4	1		1						
3					Geo D. Rainsford	8	M		Son	"										
4					John C. Rainsford	7	"		"	Richd										
5					Cath Rainsford	5	F		Daug	"										
6					Rosa Rainsford	2	"		"	"										
7					Cath Gaffey	26	"			Ireland					1	Laundress				
8					Jane Maxwell	36	"			"		1		1		Cook				
9					Fanny Percival	29	"			"					1	Chambermaid				
10					Annie Wallace	25	"			"					1	Nurse				
11					Kate Keefe	26	"			"					1	Waitress				
12					John Tansey	40	M			"					1	Gardener				1
13					Peter Sawdon	21	"			"					1	Coachman			1	
14	62	"	12000	58	H. G. Shaw	56	"			Mass						Mer	N. Y	1		
15					S. B. Shaw	49	F		Wife	"	5	1	1							
16					Sel Lowell	21	"		Daug	"		1		1						
17					E. Shaw	20	"		"	"					1					
18					Annie Nye	37	"			Eng					1	Cook				
19					Eliza Masterson	21	"			Ireland					1	Waitress				
20					Kath Mulleville	29	"			"					1	Chambermaid				
21					Frances Moran	26	"			"					1	Nurse				
22					Mary Calley	36	"		Mother	"		1		1		Laundress				
23					John Calley	7	M		Son	N. Y										
24	63	"	12000	59	Geo W. Curtis	41	M			R. I.						Author	N. Y	1		
25					Anna S. Curtis	29	F		Wife	Mass	3	1	1							
26					F. G. Curtis	7	M		Son	Richd										
27					E. B. Curtis	5	F		Daughter	"										
28					Sarah S. Curtis	2	"		"	"										
29					Martha Price	29	"			Ireland					1	Nurse				
30					Eliza Floods	19	"			"					1	Waitress				
31					Celia Scott	36	"			"					1	Cook				
32	64	"	1800	60	Chas Moase	63	M			Eng						None				1
33					Lydia S. Moase	60	F		Wife	"	5	1	1			Teacher				
34					Miriam Moase	31	"		Daughter	"					1	"				
35					Larinas Moase	23	"		"	"					1	"				
36	65	"	5000	61	John B. Staples	45	M			Conn						Lawyer	N. Y	1		
37					S. B. Staples	40	F		Wife	N. Y	3	1	1							
38					Cornelia Staples	30	"		Daught	"					1					
39					Markham Staples	16	M		Son	N. Y					1					
40					J. B. Staples Jr	12	"		"	Richd										
41					Julius Schoman	50	"			Denmark					1	Laborer				1
42					Bridget Cahill	16	F			Ireland					1	Chambermaid				
43					Ellen Hatorin	25	"			Ger					1	Cook				
44	66	"	2000	62	Cath Bard	86	"		Mother	W. Indies	14	1		1						
45					Caroline Bard	50	"		Daughter	N. Y					1					

I. Population. CENSUS of the Inhabitants living in the *Second Election District* of *Castleton* in the County of *Richmond*

This Enumeration was made by me, on the *Seventeenth*

Line	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1					Louis Sands	30	M		B. Son	N. Y		
2					Arthur Sands	27	"		"	"		
3					Thos Lyon	28	"			Ireland		
4					Bridget Keating	25	F			"		
5					Isabella Steele	35	"			"		
6	67	Wood	6000	63	Sydney H. Gay	50	M			Mass		
7					Elizth Gay	45	F		Wife	Pa	4	1
8					Sarah L. Gay	13	"		Daught	Richd		
9					Martin Gay	11	M		Son	"		
10					Mary O. Gay	3	F		Daug	"		
11					Mary Murphy	25	"			Ireland		
12					Kate Wood	20	"			"		
13	68	"	1200	64	Richd Cravan	40	M			"		
14					Mary Cravan	31	F		Wife	"	1	1
15					Patrick Cravan	6	M		Son	Richd		
16	69	"	600	65	John Gannon	52	M			Ireland		
17					Ann Gannon	41	F		Wife	"	11	1
18					Ellen Gannon	18	"		Daug	Richd		
19					Mary A. Gannon	16	"		Daught	"		
20					John Gannon	13	M		Son	"		
21					Patk Gannon	11	"		Son	"		
22					Wm Gannon	6	"		"	"		
23					Cath Gannon	2	F		Daug	"		
24				66	John Wilson	36	M			Sweden		
25					Martha Wilson	36	F		Wife	D. C.	1	
26				67	Wm Butler	36	M			Ger		
27					Mary Butler	25	F		Wife	"	2	
28					Bertha Butler	4	"		Daug	N. J.		
29					Emma Butler	2	"		"	"		
30	70	"	200	68	John Carr	33	M			Ireland		
31					Mary Carr	33	F		Wife	"	4	
32					Cath Carr	5	"		Daug	Richd		
33					Mary Carr	3	"		"	"		
34					Mary Carr	2	"		"	"		
35					Joseph Carr	8/12	M		Son	"		
36				69	Thos Healy	32	"			Ireland		
37					Mary Healy	30	F		Wife	"	4	
38					John Healy	6	M		Son	Richd		
39					Sarah Healy	4½	F		Daug	"		
40					Mary Healy	2½	"		"	"		
41					Letitia Healy	3/12	"		"	"		
42	71	"	200	70	Dennis Creighton	60	M			Ireland		
43					Hannah Creighton	60	F		Wife	"	9	
44					Bath Creighton	17	"		Daug	"		
45				71	Edwd Kennan	35	M			"		

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SCHEDULE I.—Free Inhabitants in Roxbury **in the County of** Norfolk **State of** Massachusetts **enumerated by me, on the** third **day of** September **1850.** Jos N. Brewer **Ass't Marshal.** 180

Dwelling-houses numbered in the order of visitation.	Families numbered in the order of visitation.	The Name of every Person whose usual place of abode on the first day of June, 1850, was in this family.	Description: Age.	Sex.	Color, white, black, or mulatto.	Profession, Occupation, or Trade of each Male Person over 15 years of age.	Value of Real Estate owned.	Place of Birth. Naming the State, Territory, or Country.	Married within the year.	Attended School within the year.	Persons over 20 y'rs of age who cannot read & write.	Whether deaf and dumb, blind, insane, idiotic, pauper, or convict.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
		Mary Crossgraves	27	f				Ireland				
	2924	William A. "	20	m				"	—			
		Bridget "	18	f				"	—			
	2925	Martin Morris	30	m		Laborer		"				
		Bridget "	28	f				"				
		William "	2	m				Massachusetts				
2178	2926	George Leighton	33	m		Clerk		"				
		Elizabeth "	25	f				"				
		Jane Fay	22	f				Ireland				
2179	2927	William Stickney	29	m		Laborer		Massachusetts				
		Lucy "	27	f				New Hampshire				
		Frank "	1	m				Massachusetts				
		Fanny Cass	64	f				"				
		Maria "	25	f				"				
		Francis "	29	m		Merchant	3500	New Hampshire				
		Valentine "	23	m		none		"				
		Moses "	57	m				"				
2180	2928	George R. Russell	50	m		Merchant	20,000	Rhode Island				
		Sarah P. "	39	f				Massachusetts				
		Elizabeth "	13	f				"		1		
		Henry S. "	12	m				"		1		
		Anna "	10	f				"		1		
		Emily "	7	f				"		1		
		Marion "	3	f				"				
		Robert S. "	1/12	m				"				
		John Geddys	26	m		Gardener		Scotland				
		Jonathan Jones	22	m		Laborer		New Hampshire				
		Ellen Stimson	24	f				Nova Scotia				
		Ellen Welch	20	f				"				
		Nancy George	25	f				New Hampshire				
		Bridget Canada	20	f				Ireland				
2181	2929	F. G. Shaw	41	m		Merchant	22,000	Massachusetts				
		Sarah B "	36	f				"				
		Anna "	14	f				"				
		Robert "	12	m				"				
		Susanna "	11	f				"				
		Josephine "	7	f				"				
		Ellen "	5	f				"				
		Peter O'Carroll	25	m		Servant		Ireland				
		Honora "	23	f				"				
		Bridget Devine	22	f				"				
		Marianne Durham	14	f				"				

17 M
25 F

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Page No. 127

SCHEDULE 1.—Free Inhabitants in the Township of Castleton **in the County of** Richmond **State of** New York **enumerated by me, on the** 18 **day of** June **1860.** M. A. Mathis **Ass't Marshal.**

Post Office Port Richmond

Dwelling-houses—numbered in the order of visitation.	Families numbered in the order of visitation.	The name of every person whose usual place of abode on the first day of June, 1860, was in this family.	Description: Age.	Description: Sex.	Description: Color, White, black, or mulatto.	Profession, Occupation, or Trade of each person, male and female, over 15 years of age.	Value of Estate Owned: Value of Real Estate.	Value of Estate Owned: Value of Personal Estate.	Place of Birth, Naming the State, Territory, or Country.	Married within the year.	Attended School within the year.	Persons over 20 y'rs of age who cannot read & write.	Whether deaf and dumb, blind, insane, idiotic, pauper, or convict.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
858	912	George W. Curtis	36	M	✓	Author		100	Rhode Island				
		Anna "	24	F	✓				Mass.				
		Francis G. "	2	M					N. York				
		Margaret Gleason	27	F	✓	Cook ✓			Ireland				
		Mary McCarroll	27	F	✓	Waitress ✓			"				
		Teressa Divine	18	F	✓	Nurse ✓			Mass.				
859	913	Eleazer Peet	60	M	✓	Merchant ✓	40000	4000	Connecticut				
		Maria "	32	F					N. York				
		Mary "	17	F					" "		1		
		William E. "	16	M					" "		1		
		Charles F. "	13	M					" "		1		
		Lena "	5	F					" "				
		Ellen Schulley	21	F	✓	Waitress ✓			Ireland			1	
		Mary "	24	F	✓	Cook ✓			"				
		Johannah Simmerman	18	F	✓	House Maid ✓			Hanover				
860	914	Leonard Goddard	30	M		Lawyer ✓		500	N. York				
		Adelaid "	24	F					" "				
		Ely "	5	M					" "				
		Mant "	4	M					" "				
		Charles Gassaux	60	M	✓	Coachman ✓			France				
		Fenly Sidel	20	F		Servant ✓			N. York				
861	915	George Young	32	M	✓	Carriage Maker ✓	400	2000	England				
		Mary A. "	32	F	✓				"				
		Mary "	6	F					N. York		1		
		George "	10/12	M					" "				
		James "	21	M	✓	Carriage Maker ✓			England				
	916	Arthur Bell	33	M	✓	Carriage Trimmer ✓		250	"				
		Mary A. "	30	F	✓				"				
862	917	Catharine Dennis	27	F	✓				Ireland				
		James "	34	M	✓	Laborer ✓		200	"				
		Mary "	6	F					N. York				
		John "	3	M					" "				
		Eliza "	2	F					" "				
		James "	1/12	M					" "				
863	918	William Vigelius	28	M	✓	Tobacconist ✓		400	Bavaria	1			
		Clara "	27	F					N. York	1			
		Horous Galpin	72	M		Unitarian Clergyman ✓			" "				
		Ellen "	19	F					" "				
		Howard "	24	M	✓	Clerk ✓			Georgia				
		Mary McCarty	20	F	✓	Servant ✓			Ireland			1	

No. white males, 19 No. colored males, ___ No. foreign born, ___ No. blind, ___ No. idiotic, ___ No. convicts, ___

No. white females, 21 No. colored females, ___ No. deaf and dumb, ___ No. insane, ___ No. paupers, ___

40400 7400

40 34

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SCHEDULE 1.—Free Inhabitants in the Township of Castleton **in the County of** Richmond **State of** New York **enumerated by me, on the** 31 **day of** June **1860.** M A Mathys **Ass't Marshal.**

Post Office Port Richmond

	Dwelling-houses numbered in the order of visitation.	Families numbered in the order of visitation.	The name of every person whose usual place of abode on the first day of June, 1860, was in this family.	Description: Age.	Sex.	Color, white, black, or mulatto.	Profession, Occupation, or Trade of each person, male and female, over 15 years of age.	Value of Estate Owned: Value of Real Estate.	Value of Personal Estate.	Place of Birth, Naming the State, Territory, or Country.	Married within the year.	Attended School within the year.	Persons over 20 y'rs of age who cannot read & write.	Whether deaf and dumb, blind, insane, idiotic, pauper, or convict.
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1	1042	1102	John C Hendrixson	49	M	/	Merchant ✓	500,000	500,000	Ohio				
2			Jane L "	38	F					N York				
3			Robert S "	27	M		Merchant ✓			" "				
4			Charlot "	17	F					" "		1		
5			Elizabeth "	15	F					" "		1		
6			Mary "	13	F					" "		1		
7			John C "	12	M					" "		1		
8			Charles "	10	M					" "		1		
9			Maria "	5	F					" "		1		
10			Louisa "	4	F	/				France				
11			Harond "	3	M					N York				
12			Edith "	1	F					" "				
13			Maria Kelly	35	F	/	Nurse ✓			Ireland			1	
14			Eliza Roddy	23	F	/	Chm Maid ✓			"				
15			Catharine Flanigan	21	F	/	Waitress ✓			"				
16			Mary Clark	26	F	/	Laundress ✓			"				
17			Julia Dackmond	28	F	/	Cook ✓			"				
18			Lavenia Felfer	30	F	/	Seamstress ✓			Germany				
19			James Cosyth	55	M	/	Coachman ✓			Ireland				
20			Charles Waters	38	M	/	Gen Servant ✓			France				
21			Benjamin Webber	31	M	/	1st Gardener			England				
22			William Reed	19	M	/	2nd do			Scotland				
23	1043	1103	Francis G. Shaw	50	M	/	Merchant ✓	80000	5000	Mass tts				
24			Sarah B "	44	F	/				"				
25			Robert G "	22	M	/	Merchant ✓			"				
26			Josephine "	16	F	/				"		1		
27			Susan "	21	F	/				"		1		
28			Ellen "	15	F	/				"		1		
29			Catharine Dervine	40	F	/	Cook ✓			Ireland				
30			Bridget Divine	29	F	/	Chm Maid ✓			"				
31			Hannah Ryne	25	F	/	do do ✓			"				
32			Alice Haily	23	F	/	Laundress ✓			"				
33			Bridget Kenedy	22	F	/	Waitress ✓			"				
34	1044	1104	Thomas Hogan	50	M	/	Laborer ✓	2000	300	"				
35			Ellen "	30	F	/				"				
36			George "	7	M					N York		1		
37			Mary "	3	F					" "				
38			Thomas B "	2/12	M					" "				
39			Michael Healy	22	M	/	Laborer ✓			Ireland				
40	1045	1105	William C Pearce	33	M	/	Metal Worker ✓	7500	150	Maryland				
			No. white males, 16 No. colored males, ___ No. foreign born, ___ No. blind, ___					589500	505450	No. idiotic, ___				No. convicts, ___
			No. white females, 24 No. colored females, ___ No. deaf and dumb, ___ No. insane, ___							No. paupers, ___				

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NOTE—Inquiries numbered 7, 16, and 17 are not to be asked in respect to infants. Inquiries numbered 11, 12, 15, 16, 17, 19, and 20 are to be answered (if at all) merely by an affirmative mark, as /.

SCHEDULE 1.—Inhabitants in The Town of Castleton, in the County of Richmond, State of New York, enumerated by me on the 5th day of September, 1870.

Post Office: Tompkinsville S.I. N.Y. Geo. Watkins Ass't Marshal.

Dwelling-houses, numbered in the order of visitation.	Families, numbered in the order of visitation.	The name of every person whose place of abode on the first day of June, 1870, was in this family.	Description: Age at last birthday. If under 1 year, state months.	Sex—Males (M.), Females (F.)	Color—White (W.), Black (B.), Mulatto (M.), Chinese (C.), Indian (I.)	Profession, Occupation, or Trade of each person, male or female.	Value of Real Estate.	Value of Personal Estate.	Place of Birth, naming State or Territory of U. S.; or the Country, if of foreign birth.	Parentage: Father of foreign birth.	Parentage: Mother of foreign birth.	If born within the year, state month (Jan., Feb., &c.)	If married within the year, state month (Jan., Feb., &c.)	Education: Attended school within the year.	Education: Cannot read.	Education: Cannot write.	Whether deaf and dumb, blind, insane, or idiotic.	Constitutional Relations: Male Citizens of U.S. of 21 years of age and upwards.	Constitutional Relations: Male Citizens of U.S., of 21 years of age and upwards, whose right to vote is denied or abridged on other grounds than rebellion or other crime.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
225	1638	Winslow Robt B.	34	M	W	Merchant & Shipping	5000	20000	New York									/	
		— Sarah S.	31	F	W	Keeping house			Massachusetts										
		— Robt Chas	7	M	W	at Home			New York										
		— Sarah	5	F	W	at Home			New York										
		— Edith	3	F	W	at Home			New York										
		Sterling John	25	M	B	Coachman			Virginia									/	
		Mairs Catherine	31	F	W	Nurse			Massachusetts	/	/								
		Lacey Margaret	40	F	W	Domestic Servant			Ireland	/	/								
		Crook M. Ellen	22	F	W	Domestic Servant			Ireland	/	/								
		Hyhon Ellen	18	F	W	Domestic Servant			Ireland	/	/								
224	1639	Curtis Geo. Wm	46	M	W	Dep. Collector of Customs	10000	10000	Rhode Island									/	
		— Anna S.	36	F	W	Keeping House			Massachusetts										
		— Francis G.	13	M	W	at Home			New York										
		— Sarah B.	7	F	W	at Home			New York										
		— Elizabeth G.	9	F	W	at Home			New York										
249	1635	Van Rand Chas. O.	49	M	W	Wine Merchant	20000	10000	New York									/	
		— Mary A.	36	F	W	Keeping house			New York										
		— Laura A.	16	F	W	at home			New York										
		— Minnie	15	F	W	at Home			New York										
		— Fred. S.	12	M	W	at home			New York										
		— Chas A.	10	M	W	at Home			New York										
		Conley Mary	16	F	W	Domestic Servant			Ireland	/	/								
248	1636	Peltier Alex's	57	M	W	Manufacturer of Sandpaper	25000	15000	Prussia	/	/							/	
		— Magdalena	47	F	W	Keeping house			Prussia	/	/								
		— Louisa	22	F	W	at Home			New York	/	/								
		— Louis	21	M	W	Clerk in Office			New York	/	/							/	
		— Jos. W.	20	M	W	Clerk in Office			New York	/	/								
		— Francis	13	M	W	attending School			New York	/	/			/					
		— William	11	M	W	attending School			New York	/	/			/					
		Hatzfeld Peter	86	F	W	at Home			Prussia	/	/								
		Leary Timothy	30	M	W	Coachman			Ireland	/	/							/	
		Cohen Bridget	32	F	W	Domestic Servant			Ireland	/	/								
		Hatzfeld Catherine	67	F	W	Nurse			Prussia	/	/								
249	1637	Proudfit Alexander	58	M	W	Merchant (Shipping)	25000	25000	New York										
		— Maria	46	F	W	Keeping House			New York										
		— James	21	M	W	Clerk in Office			New York									/	
		— Susan	20	F	W	at Home			New York										
		— John	15	M	W	attending School			New York					/					
		Clary John	36	M	W	Coachman			Ireland	/	/							/	
		Scott Sabina	36	F	W	Domestic Servant			Ireland	/	/								

No. of dwellings, ____ No. of white females, ____ No. of males, foreign born, ____
" " families, ____ " " colored males, ____ " " females, " " ____
" " white males, ____ " " " females, ____ " " blind, ____
No. of insane, ____

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Inquiries numbered 7, 16, and 17 are not to be asked in respect to infants. Inquiries numbered 11, 12, 15, 16, 17, 19, and 20 are to be answered (if at all) merely by an affirmative mark, as /.

SCHEDULE 1.—Inhabitants in Dist. Union of Castleton, in the County of Richmond, State of New York, enumerated by me on the 2nd day of August, 1870.

Post Office: Port Richmond S. I. N. Y.

R. Lee Waters, Ass't Marshal.

Dwelling-houses, numbered in the order of visitation.	Families, numbered in the order of visitation.	The name of every person whose place of abode on the first day of June, 1870, was in this family.	DESCRIPTION. Age at last birthday. If under 1 year, give months in fractions.	Sex.	Color—White (W.), Black (B.), Mulatto (M.), Chinese (C.), Indian (I.)	Profession, Occupation, or Trade of each person, male or female.	VALUE OF REAL ESTATE OWNED. Value of Real Estate.	Value of Personal Estate.	Place of Birth, naming State or Territory of U. S.; or the Country, if of foreign birth.	PARENTAGE. Father of foreign birth.	Mother of foreign birth.	If born within the year, state month.	If married within the year, state month.	EDUCATION. Attended school within the year.	Cannot read.	Cannot write.	Whether deaf and dumb, blind, insane, or idiotic.	CONSTITUTIONAL RELATIONS. Male Citizens of U. S. of 21 years and upwards.	Male Citizens of U. S. of 21 years and upwards, whose right to vote is denied or abridged on other grounds than rebellion or crime.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
		Brien Sarah	38	F	W	Domestic Servant			New York										
		Clara	31	F	W	Domestic Servant			New York										
1169	1548	Smith Henry	41	M	W	Farmer	50000	50000	Maine									/	
		Allen H.	35	F	W	Keeping House	30000		Maine										
		Ella	8	F	W	attending School			New York						/				
		H. Henry	5	M	W	at home			New York										
1170	1549	Burke William	48	M	W	Coachman	1500	1000	Ireland									/	
		Ann	45	F	W	Keeping House			Ireland	/	/								
		Jane	21	F	W	Domestic Servant			Ireland	/	/								
		J. William	17	M	W	Gardener			New York	/	/								
		J. Ann	13	F	W	attending School			New York	/	/				/				
		Dorothy	11	M	W	at home			New York	/	/								
1171	1550	Griffin Martin	30	M	W	Boatman	1500		Ireland	/	/							/	
		Abbie	27	F	W	Keeping House			Ireland	/	/								
		Abbie	2	F	W	at home			New York	/	/								
		William H.	3	M	W	at home			New York	/	/								
		Mary E.	5	M	W	attending School			New York	/	/				/				
1172	1551	Jellyne Clarence	40	M	W	Peddler	15000	10000	New Jersey	/	/							/	
		Harriett	37	F	W	Keeping House			New York										
		Gertrude	20	F	W	at home			New York										
		Matilda	17	F	W	attending School			New York						/				
		Fanny	15	F	W	attending School			New York						/				
1173	1552	Mordjoni Simon	45	M	W	Coachman	2000		Ireland	/	/							/	
		Mary	33	F	W	Keeping House			Ireland	/	/								
		Selin	12	M	W	attending School			New York	/	/				/				
		Hannah	8	F	W	attending School			New York	/	/				/				
		H. Mary	5	F	W	at home			New York	/	/								
		Dennis	3	M	W	at home			New York	/	/								
		Thomas	1	M	W	at home			New York	/	/								
1174	1553	Shaw Francis G.	60	M	W	Retired Banker			Massachusetts									/	
		Sarah B.	54	F	W	at home			Massachusetts										
		Wood Minnie	22	F	W	Domestic Servant			Ireland	/	/								
		Mahrle Catherine	36	F	W	Domestic Servant			Ireland	/	/								
		Gleason Catherine	34	F	W	Domestic Servant			Ireland	/	/								
		Swaton Patrick	35	M	W	Farm Hand			Ireland	/	/								
1175	1554	Brands Caroline	60	F	W	at home			New York										
		Stolt Isabel	45	F	W	Domestic Servant			Ireland	/	/								
		Morton Sarah	13	F	W	Domestic Servant			New York	/	/								
		Hunts Belle	18	F	W	at home			New York	/	/								
		Whitts Jennie	19	F	W	at home			New York	/	/								

No. of dwellings, _____ No. of white females, _____ No. of males, foreign born, _____

" " families, _____ " " colored males, _____ " " females, " " _____

" " white males, _____ " " " females, _____ " " blind, _____

No. of insane, _____

Author	St. George's Church (New York, N.Y.)
Title	**"C.C.B." as we knew him; Charles Culp Burlingham, August 31, 1858-June 6, 1959.**
Imprint	[New York, 1959]

Location	Call No.	Status	Message
Schwarzman Building - Main Reading Room 315	C-12 9764 no. 1-5	AVAILABLE	USE IN LIBRARY

DETAILS

Description	[32] p. ports. 18 cm.
Subject	Burlingham, Charles C. (Charles Culp), 1858-1959.
Call No.	C-12 9764
Research Call Number	C-12 9764

7—224.

TWELFTH CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES.

B

SCHEDULE No. 1.—POPULATION.

State New York
County Richmond
Township or other division of county City of New York
Name of Institution
Name of incorporated city, town, or village, within the above-named division, Richmond Borough
Supervisor's District No. 2
Enumeration District No. 55
Sheet No. 2
Ward of city, 1
Enumerated by me on the 12th day of June, 1900, Samuel C Hale Enumerator.

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LOCATION.	NAME	RELATION.	PERSONAL DESCRIPTION.	NATIVITY.	CITIZENSHIP.	OCCUPATION, TRADE, OR PROFESSION	EDUCATION.	FARM OR HOME.
Street, Avenue, Road, etc.	Number of dwelling house in order of visitation.	Number of family in order of visitation.	Name of each person whose place of abode on June 1, 1900, was in this family. Enter surname first, then the given name and middle initial, if any. Include every person living on June 1, 1900. Omit children born after June 1, 1900.	Relationship of each person to the head of the family.	Color or race. Sex. Age at last birthday. Married, widowed, divorced, or single. Number of years married. Mother of how many children. Number of these children living.	Place of birth of each person and parents of each person enumerated. If born in the United States, give the State or Territory. If of foreign birth, give the country only. Place of birth of this person. Place of birth of Father of this person. Place of birth of Mother of this person.	Year of immigration to the United States. Number of years in the United States. Naturalization.	Occupation. Months not employed during the census year.	Can read. Can write. Can speak English.	Owned or rented. Owned free or mortgaged. Number of farm schedule.
1	2	3	4	5	6 7 8 9 10 11 12	13 14 15	16 17 18	19 20	21 22 23 24	25 26 27 28
Bard Ave	22 22		McGuire Bridget	Servant	W F 24 S	Ireland Ireland Ireland	1895	Cook	0	yes yes yes
			Sweetman Frances	Servant	W F 23 S	Ireland Ireland Ireland	1900	Laundress	0	yes yes yes
			Elcas Hannah	Servant	W F 23 S	Ireland Ireland Ireland	1893 7	Waitress	0	yes yes yes
			Connolly Johnny	Servant	W F 20 S	Ireland Ireland Ireland	1898	Waiter	0	yes yes yes
			Salter Ethel	Servant	W F 18 S	Ireland Ireland Ireland	1898 2	Maid	0	yes yes yes
			Sigsbee Nellie	Servant	W F 23 S	New York Ireland Ireland		Nurse	0	yes yes yes
	23 23		Arnold A. F. C.	Governess	W F 42 S	England England England	1898 10	Governess	0	yes yes yes
			Curtis Geo. W.	Head	W M 44 M 16	Mass Mass Mass				yes yes yes 0 7 4
			Curtis Elizabeth	Daughter	W F 14 S	New York Rhode Island Mass				yes yes yes
			Sherwood Elizabeth	Servant	W F 39 S	New York Ireland Ireland		Servant	0	yes yes yes
			McCarthy Julia	Servant	W F 30 S	England Ireland Ireland	1887 3	Servant	0	yes yes yes
			Degree Margaret	Servant	W F 18 S	England England England	1898 2	Servant	0	yes yes yes
	24 24		Gould C. W.	Head	W M 34 M 11	New York Rhode Island Conn		Broker	0	yes yes yes 0 7 4
			Gould Harriet	Wife	W F 34 M 11 2 2	New Jersey Mass Mass				yes yes yes
			Gould Vernet	Daughter	W F 9 S	New York New York New Jersey		at school	3	x x x
			Gould Edward	Son	W M 7 S	New York New York New Jersey				x x x
			Andreen Alice	Servant	W F 24 S	Sweden Sweden Sweden	1898	Servant	0	yes yes yes
			Higgins Jamfred	Servant	W F 22 S	Ireland Ireland Ireland	1898 4	Servant	0	yes yes yes
			Higgins Johanna	Servant	W F 19 S	Ireland Ireland Ireland	1899 1	Servant	0	yes yes yes
	25 25		Gould Dwight	Father	W M 70 M 19	New York Rhode Island Conn		Broker	0	yes yes yes 0 7 11
			Gould Caroline	Wife	W F 60 M 13 2 2	New York New York New York				yes yes yes
			Gould David Jr	Son	W M 27 S	New York New York New York		at school	10	yes yes yes
			Gould Camden	Daughter	W F 18 S	New York New York New York		at school	2	yes yes yes
			Hicks Edith	Brother's Wife	W F 29 Wd 5 5	New York England England				yes yes yes
			Gibbs Anna	Servant	W F 27 S	Ireland Ireland Ireland	1894 6	Servant	0	yes yes yes
			McCarthy Ellen	Servant	W F 26 S	Ireland Ireland Ireland	1898 1	Servant	0	yes yes yes
			Foster Mary	Servant	W F 29 S	France France France	1897 2	Nurse	0	yes yes yes
			Donovan William	Coachman	W M 28 S	Ireland Ireland Ireland	1881 Yes	Coachman	0	yes yes yes
	26 26		Sparks Steve A	Head	W M 30 M 1	England England England	1890 10 Yes	Book Keeper	0	yes yes yes R H
			Sparks Anna	Wife	W F 26 M 1 0 0	England England England	1892 7			yes yes yes
			Carlson Jennie	Servant	W F 20 S	Norway Norway Norway	1898 2	Servant	0	yes yes yes
			Sharp John	Brother in Law	W M 22 S	England England England	1898 5 Yes	Clerk	0	yes yes yes
			Stoddard Lawrence	Uncle	W M 50 M 3	New York New York New York		Banker Min.	0	yes yes yes R H
	27 27		Stoddard Lawrence Jr	Head	W M 20 M 3 1 1	New York New York New York				yes yes yes
			Stoddard Mary	Wife	W F 19 M 3 1 1	New York New York New York				x x x
			Stoddard Lawrence 3rd	Son	W M 2 S	New York New York New York				yes yes yes
			Andreen Andrea	Servant	W F 25 S	Sweden Sweden Sweden	1898	Servant	0	yes yes yes
			Smith Anna	Servant	W F 32 S	Ireland Ireland New York	1897 2	Waitress	0	yes yes yes
			Mooney Jane	Servant	W F 47 Wd 1 0	New York New York New York		Servant	0	yes yes yes
	28 28		Kaufmann Emil	Head	W M 41 M 15	New York Germany Germany		Office Manager	0	yes yes yes R 4
			Kaufman Adelia	Wife	W F 38 M 15 4 4	New York Vermont Vermont				yes yes yes
			Kaufman Marcel	Daughter	W F 16 S	New York New York New York		at school	9	yes yes yes
			Kaufman Hallie	Daughter	W F 14 S	New York New York New York		at school	9	yes yes yes
			Kaufman Arthur	Son	W M 9 S	New York New York New York		at school	7	yes yes yes
			Kaufman Herbert	Son	W M 6 S	New York New York New York				x x x
			Devlin Kate	Servant	W F 26 S	Ireland Ireland Ireland	1898 12	Servant	0	yes yes yes
	29 29		Robinson H. D.	Head	W M 60 M 35	New York New York New York				yes yes yes 0 7 4
			Robinson Julia	Wife	W F 42 M 35 2 2	New York Liverpool New York				yes yes yes
			McGuire Mary	Servant	W F 26 S	Ireland Ireland Ireland	1898	Servant	0	yes yes yes
			Duffy Kathleen	Servant	W F 25 S	Ireland Ireland Ireland	1898 4	Cook	0	yes yes yes
			Ford Bridget	Servant	W F 25 S	Ireland Ireland Ireland	1898 5	Servant	0	yes yes yes

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Enumeration of the Inhabitants of Block No. X, Election District No. 8, Ward No. 1, City or Village New York
Town X, Assembly District No. 1, County Richmond, State of New York, June 1, 1915.
Name of Institution X. Enumerator Edward Monahan

Line	Street	House No.	Name	Relation	Color	Sex	Age	Nativity	Years in U.S.	Citizenship	Occupation	Class
1	Bard av	400	Voorhis Percival L	son	W	M	22	us		cit	Receiving Clerk	W
2	"	"	" Mary J	Daughter	"	F	17	"		"	School	X
3	"	"	" Edward E	Son	"	M	14	"			"	X
4	"	"	" Elizabeth	Daughter	"	F	11	"			"	X
5	"	"	" John	son	"	M	6	"		"	No Occupation	X
6	"	"	Reed Annie	Servant	B	F	25	"		"	General Housework	W
7	Bard av	410	Benjamin Claude T	Head	W	M	42	us		cit	School Teacher	W
8	"	"	" Emma	wife	"	F	38	"		"	Housework	X
9	"	"	" Cordelia	Daughter	"	"	14	"		"	School	X
10	"	"	" La Baron	Son	"	M	12	"			"	X
11	"	"	Fisher Emma	Servant	"	F	17	Germany	1	alien	General Housework	W
12	Bard av	no number	Robinson Julia A	Head	"	F	78	England	73	cit	Housework	X
13	"	"	Smith Laura M	Sister	"	"	80	England	73	alien	No Occupation	X
14	"	"	Larsen Ellen	Servant	"	"	49	Norway	20	"	Cook	W
15	Bard av	467	Prinn Herman E	Head	"	M	67	Germany	42	cit	No Occupation	X
16	"	"	Lamont Albert	son-in-law	"	"	29	us		"	Dentist	W
17	"	"	" Magdalena	Daughter	"	F	26	"		"	Housework	X
18	"	"	Westermann Elizabeth	Mother-in-law	"	F	77	Germany	53	"	No Occupation	X
19	"	"	Reinatz Vera	servant	"	"	19	Poland Aust	3	alien	General Housework	W
20	Bard av	532	Daley George W	Head	"	M	39	us		cit	Editor	W
21	"	"	" Marion P	wife	"	F	39	"		"	Housework	X
22	"	"	" Alice F	Daughter	"	"	19	"		"	No Occupation	X
23	"	"	" Helen R	"	"	"	17	"		"	School	X
24	"	"	" Marion	"	"	"	[illegible]	"			"	X
25	Bard av	490	Loeffler Oscar	Head	"	M	48	us		cit	Druggist	Emp
26	"	"	" Lillian	wife	"	F	41	"		"	Housework	X
27	"	"	" Helen	Daughter	"	"	9	"		"	School	X
28	"	"	" Frederick	son	"	M	6	"				X
29	Prospect av	no number	Daniels Hudson	Head	"	M	40	us		cit	Book Keeper	W
30	"	"	" Augusta	Sister	"	F	58	"		"	Housework	X
31	"	"	" Catherine	"	"	"	54	"		"	"	X
32	Bard av	264	DeBost William L	Head	"	M	45	us		cit	Real Estate Broker	Emp
33	"	"	" Clarine	wife	"	F	43	"		"	Housework	X
34	"	"	" Clarice	Daughter	"	"	16	"		"	School	X
35	"	"	" Camila	"	"	"	12	"		"	"	X
36	"	"	Johnson Hjalmar	Chauffeur	"	M	28	Sweden	5	alien	Chauffeur	W
37	"	"	Gundow Mary	servant	"	F	33	us		cit	Nurse	W
38	"	"	Keenan Mary	"	"	"	22	Ireland	4	alien	Cook	W
39	"	"	Geraghty Catherine	"	"	"	21	"	4	"	Waitress	W
40	Bard av	256	Gould David	Head	W	M	50	us		cit	Stock Broker	O.O.
41	"	"	" Laura	wife	"	F	48	"		"	Housework	X
42	"	"	" David	son	"	M	26	"		"	Salesman	W
43	"	"	" Beatrice	Daughter	"	F	24	"		"	No Occupation	X
44	"	"	Hicks Edith	Mother-in-law	"	"	76	"		"	"	X
45	"	"	Ferguson Eliza	Servant	"	"	61	Canada Eng	30	alien	Nurse	W
46	"	"	Collins Catherine	"	"	"	24	Ireland	1	"	Waitress	W
47	"	"	Murry Catherine	"	"	"	46	"		cit	Cook	W
48	Bard av	734	Curtis Anna S	Head	"	F	79	us		"	Housework	X
49	"	"	Holtzappel Marion	Boarder	"	"	58	"		"	No Occupation	X
50	"	"	Staffe Mary	servant	"	"	57	Ireland	30	alien	Laundress	W

Enumeration of the Inhabitants of Block No. X, Election District No. 8, Ward ... County Richmond
Town X, Assembly District No. 1. Name of Institution X.

Line	Street	House No.	Name	Relation	Color	Sex	Age	Nativity
1	Bard av	234	Buckley Katherine	servant	W	F	28	us
2	Ward av	219	Guerrera Frank	Head	W	M	37	us
3	"	"	" Frances	wife	"	F	21	"
4	"	"	" Frank	son	"	M	3	"
5	"	"	" Marita	Daughter	"	F	2	"
6	"	"	Kennedy Hannah	servant	W	F	45	Ireland
7	"	"	Liddle Anna	"	"	"	28	Austria
8	Ward av	211	Voorhis William L	Head	"	M	54	us
9	"	"	" Edile W	wife	"	F	51	"
10	"	"	McFadden Winifred	Servant	"	"	19	Ireland
11	Bard av	146	King Edward B	Head	"	M	57	us
12	"	"	" Lucy K	wife	"	F	57	"
13	"	"	" Lucy B	Daughter	"	"	22	"
14	"	"	" Brockwell	son	"	M	20	"
15	"	"	O'Brien Anna	servant	"	F	21	Ireland
16	"	"	Goggins Maria	"	"	"	21	"
17	"	"	Carson Lena	"	"	"	26	us
18	Bard av	128	Beard Frank S	Head	W	M	55	us
19	"	"	" Frances	wife	"	F	55	"
20	"	"	Lucy Josephine	servant	"	"	40	Ireland
21	"	"	McGuire Bridget	"	"	"	38	Ireland
22	Bard av	no number	Bonner Reginald	Head	"	M	42	us
23	"	"	" Effie	wife	"	F	41	"
24	"	"	Lekefer Ernest	Brother-in-law	"	M	59	Germany
25	"	"	" Constance	Sister	"	F	43	us
26	"	"	" Edward	Nephew	"	M	16	"
27	"	"	Fowler Mary	Servant	"	F	49	Ireland
28	"	"	McKenna Margaret	"	"	"	45	us
29	"	"	McGuire Frances	"	"	"	18	"
30	Bard av	no number	Boyd Mary	Head	"	F	75	Ireland
31	"	"	" Lyons	son	"	M	45	us
32	"	"	McGann Thomas	servant	"	M	65	Ireland
33	"	"	Gorf Maria	"	"	F	65	us
34	"	"	Petersen Elise	"	"	"	33	Sweden
35	Bard av	107	Keynard George T	Head	W	M	48	us
36	"	"	" Mary L	wife	"	F	44	"
37	"	"	" George T	son	"	M	11	"
38	"	"	Richardson Mary	Servant	"	F	35	"
39	Bard av	91	Bryan William	Head	"	M	55	us
40	"	"	" Mary	wife	"	F	40	"
41	"	"	McCarthy Mary	servant	"	"	26	Ireland
42	"	"	" Hannah	"	"	"	27	"
43	"	"	Holm Albert	"	"	M	40	Sweden
44	Bard av	87	Schlesinger Benjamin	Head	W	M	52	us
45	"	"	" Kathryn	wife	"	F	46	"
46	"	"	" Walter	son	"	M	21	"
47	"	"	Hymann Johanna	servant	"	F	66	Germany
48	Bard av	77	Walser Frederick	Head	"	M	40	us
49	"	"	" Adelaide	wife	"	F	34	"
50	"	"	" Eleanor	Daughter	"	F	7	"

The University of Minnesota. The Calendar for the year 1880-81. By the University. Minneapolis. 1881. 8vo. pp. 112.

Report of an Examination of the Upper Columbia River and the territory in its vicinity, in September and October, 1881. By Lieut. Thomas W. Symons, chief engineer of the department of the Columbia. Washington: Government Printing Office. 1882. 8vo. pp. 133+.

In Memoriam. A discourse preached in Harvard Church, Brookline, Sunday, May 21, 1882. By Rev. Reuen Thomas. Brookline, Mass.: Privately printed. 1882. 8vo. pp. 22.

The Dover, Great Falls and Rochester Directory for 1882-83. No. 17. Containing General Directories, &c. Compiled and published by Dean Dudley & Co. 1882. 8vo. pp. 240.

In Memoriam. Samuel Orr, born at Newtownards, Ireland, October 11th, 1810. Died at Evansville, Indiana, February 8th, 1882, aged 72 years. Faithful in the discharge of every duty, a citizen devoted to the advancement of the best interest of the community in which he lived. An exemplary husband and father, a consistent christian and an honest man. He died sincerely mourned, having passed forty eventful years in the midst of a people who loved and honored him. 8vo. pp. 50.

1832—1882. Semi-Centennial week at Wabash College, June, 1882. Crawfordsville, Indiana: Review Book and Job Printers. 1882. 8vo. pp. 151.

Proceedings of the Long Island Historical Society at the nineteenth annual meeting, held May 9, 1882, with the report of the directors and a list of the members. Brooklyn, N. Y.: Printed for the Society. 1882. 8vo. pp. 52.

DEATHS.

Plumer, William, died at West Newton, Pa., Sept. 22, 1882. He was born at West Newton, April 29, 1800, and with the exception of a few years spent in Illinois and Ohio, lived all his life there. He was a man of rare intelligence and exemplary piety, and was a ruling elder of the Presbyterian church for nearly fifty years. He married in 1822 Miss Sarah J. Robinson, who died in 1870. He married second, in 1877, Mrs. Amelia Maginnis, who survives. By his first wife he was the father of twelve children, of whom seven are living. Four took up arms in defence of their country, three of whom sleep in soldiers' graves.

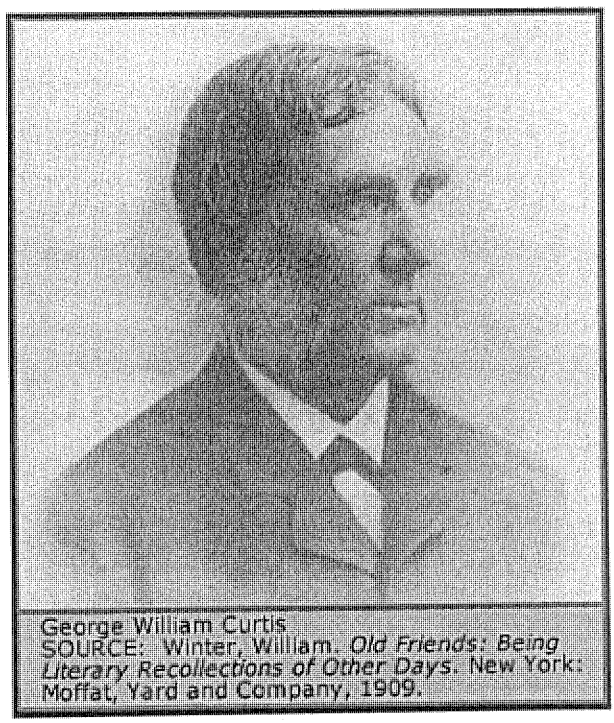
Shaw, Francis George, died at his home in West Brighton, Staten Island, N. Y., November 7, 1882, aged 73. He was the eldest child of the Hon. Robert G. and Mrs. Elizabeth (Willard) Shaw, and was born at Boston, Mass., October 23, 1809. He studied a year or two at Harvard College, but left before graduating. He subsequently became a partner in business with his father, under the firm of Robert G. Shaw & Co. He retired in 1840 with ample means. In 1849 he removed to Staten Island. He had the respect and trust of all who knew him. He translated "Consuelo" and "The Countess of Rudolstadt," by George Sand; also Zschokke's "History of Switzerland." He wrote a memoir of his father for the second volume of "Memorial Biographies." He married Miss Sarah Blake Sturgis, by whom he had five children. Col. Robert G., his only son, was killed at Fort Wagner, July 18, 1863; Anne, his oldest daughter, is the wife of George William Curtis, LL.D.; Susanna is the wife of Robert B. Minturn; Josephine is the widow of Brig. Gen. Charles R. Lowell (*ante*, xix. 81, 90), and Ellen is the wife of Francis C. Barlow.

Torrey, Rufus Campbell, died in Claiborne, Ala., Sept. 23, 1882, aged 69. He graduated at Harv. College in 1833. He was author of a "History of Fitchburg," Mass., published in 1836, and reprinted in 1865.

Worcester, Hon. Samuel T., died at Nashua, N. H., Dec. 6, 1882, aged 78. He was a son of Jesse and Sarah (Parker) Worcester, was born in Hollis, N. H., Aug. 30, 1804, and graduated at Harvard College in 1830. He studied law, and in 1835 settled at Norwalk, Ohio. He was elected district judge of the 10th Ohio district, October, 1859, and while holding that office was elected a representative to congress in 1861. He removed to Nashua in 1867, where he resided till his death. He was the author of a "History of Hollis" and other works.

Search >> Curtis, George William (1824-1892)

Lecturer, Novelist, Essayist, Journalist, Editor, Travel Writer.



George William Curtis
SOURCE: Winter, William. *Old Friends: Being Literary Recollections of Other Days*. New York: Moffat, Yard and Company, 1909.

More images...

Travel writer, journalist, and orator George William Curtis was influenced by important men of American letters and by his extensive travels. Curtis was born in Rhode Island and educated in Massachusetts along with his older brother James, an influential figure in his life. When Curtis was a teenager, the family moved to New York City where he began a clerkship. Due to his growing interest in the Transcendentalist Movement, Curtis, along with his brother, resided for two years in the utopian community at Brook Farm. William Winter claims that Curtis already had the "Brook Farm ideal" in mind when he arrived there: "the ideal of a social existence regulated by absolute justice and adorned by absolute beauty" (*Old Friends* 228-30). It was at Brook Farm that Curtis met, learned from, and was influenced by the notable residents and visitors of the place, including Nathaniel Hawthorne, Charles Anderson Dana, Margaret Fuller, George Ripley, Theodore Parker, and Ralph Waldo Emerson, who was to become a strong influence on his thinking.

Curtis eventually left Brook Farm and began a period of travel that took him through Europe, Egypt, and Syria. Accounts of these trips were published in the *New York Tribune*. Curtis later reworked these impressions into travelogues *Nile Notes of a Howadji* (1851) and *The Howadji in Syria* (1852). He also went on to publish *Lotus-Eating* (1852) and the satirical *Potiphar Papers* (1853) which focuses on New York life and society inspired by Washington Irving's *Salmagundi*. Again inspired by Irving, Curtis would later publish the anti-consumerist *Prue and I* (1857). He also published a novel *Trumps* in *Harper's*, and wrote over 2500 articles in 38 years of work. His writings sold well and were critically recognized (Winter *Old Friends* 264-266).

During the 1850s, Curtis worked as a critic and travel writer for the *Tribune*, an editor for the critically acclaimed *Putnam's Magazine* (after its bankruptcy in 1856 Curtis assumed and eventually paid the debt), and a columnist for *Harper's Monthly* ("Easy Chair") and *Harper's Weekly* ("Lounger"). Curtis was named editor of the latter magazine in 1863 (Haynes 57, 70, 78).

Perhaps inspired by Emerson or the lighter frivolity of the addresses of Artemus Ward and Mark Twain, Curtis became known as an orator. His speeches, such as "The Duty of the American Scholar to Politics and the Times" (1856), dealt with civic responsibility and abolitionism. His friend William Winter revealed that "while Curtis spoke, the hearts of that multitude were first lured and entranced by the golden tones of his delicious voice, and then were shaken, as with a whirlwind, by the righteous fervor of his magnificent enthusiasm" (*Old Friends* 241-243). During the war years, Curtis continued to write patriotic editorials and to give nationalist speeches. One of his most memorable talks was "Political Infidelity" in which he argued that "Any system, any policy, any institution, which may not be debated will overthrow us if we do not overthrow it" (qtd. in G. Hellman).

In the postwar years he became involved in politics, agitating for the rights of women, civil service reform, and the campaign of Grover Cleveland. Curtis became chancellor of the University of the State of New York where he again emphasized the importance of an informed and educated citizenry. He also delivered orations commemorating statesmen and literary figures like President Garfield and William Cullen Bryant. His address on Robert Lowell in 1892 was the end of a long career.

In addition to American literary giants like Emerson, Longfellow, and Lowell, Curtis counted among his acquaintances several members of the crowd at Pfaff's: Bayard Taylor, Richard and Elizabeth Stoddard, Edmund Clarence Stedman, Fitz-James O'Brien, Fitz Hugh Ludlow, and Theodore Winthrop (*Old Friends*177). Curtis was a member of Taylor's poetic group along with Richard Henry Stoddard, Elizabeth Barstow Stoddard, Edmund Clarence Stedman, George Henry Boker, Fitz-James O'Brien, Christopher P. Cranch, and Fitz Hugh Ludlow (177). Ferris Greenslet notes that Curtis also befriended Pfaff's visitor Thomas Bailey Aldrich and that

between the two men "there grew up a pleasant acquaintance which later ripened into friendship" (38). William Dean Howells also held Curtis in high esteem. He remembers visiting Pfaff's but shying away from Curtis whose work "I knew so much by heart, and whom I adored, [...] I may not have had the courage, or I may have heard he was out of town" (Howells, "First Impressions" 65).

While delivering Curtis's eulogy, William Winter described him as bearing "the manner of a natural aristocrat--a manner that is born, not made; a manner that is never found except in persons who are self-centered without being selfish; who are intrinsically noble, simple, and true" (*Old Friends* 224). In his memoirs, Winter devotes an entire chapter of *Old Friends* to Curtis and states that "It is not because he was a friend of mine that I try to assist in commemoration of him; it is because he was a great person. The career of Curtis was rounded and complete. The splendid structure of his character stands before the world like a monument of gold. Not to express homage for a public benefactor is to fail in self-respect" (225). Curtis's story is that of "a man of genius whose pure life and splendid powers were devoted to the ministry of beauty and to the self- sacrificing service of mankind" (227).

[view works by this person]

References & Biographical Resources

Aldrich, Thomas Bailey, Mrs. (Lillian Woodman Aldrich). *Crowding Memories*. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin, 1920. [more about this work]

Clemens, Aldrich, Curtis, and Howells were among the speakers at the "Authors' Reading" done by the friends of Longfellow for the Longfellow Memorial Fund (256). At this event, Curtis read from the "Potiphar Papers" (258). [pages: 256,258]

Allen, Gay Wilson. *The Solitary Singer: A Critical Biography of Walt Whitman*. New York: MacMillan, 1955. [more about this work]

Allen reprints a September 30, 1865, letter from Curtis to Willaim O'Connor that responds to O'Connor's request for "advice and aid" in seeking a publisher for a draft of his essay *The Good Gray Poet*. Curtis was the editor of Harper's and wrote to O'Connor:

"The task you undertake is not easy, as you know. The public sympathy will be the Secretary for removing a man who will be considered an obscene author and a free lover.

But your hearty vindication of free letters will not be less welcome to all liberal men.

"Personally I do not know Whitman and while his Leaves of Grass impressed me less than it impressed many better men than I, I have never heard anything of him but what was noble nor believed anything byt what was honorable.

"That a man should be expelled from office and held up to public contumely, because of an honest book which no candid mind can truly regard as hurtful to public morality, *is* an offense which demands exposure and censure."

According to Allen, "Curtis offered to do what he could 'to redress the wrong' that O'Connor had undertaken to right" (361-362). [pages: 361-362]

Benson, Eugene. "New York Journalists - George William Curtis." *The Galaxy*. Mar. 1869: 327-332. [more about this work]
[pages: 327-332]

Clare, Ada. "Thoughts and Things No. I." *New York Saturday Press*. 22 Oct. 1859: 2. [more about this work]
Clare discusses G.W. Curtis' *Trumps* and discusses how it has increasingly interested the reading audience and claims that it is on par with English serial stories (2). [pages: 2]

Conant, S. S. "George William Curtis." *Appletons' Journal*. 13 Sep. 1873: 321-322. [more about this work]
[pages: 321-322, 321(ill.)]

Congdon, Charles T. *Reminiscences of a Journalist*. Boston: James R. Osgood, 1880. [more about this work]
[pages: 280]

Derby, J.C. *Fifty Years among Authors, Books and Publishers*. New York: G. W. Carleton and Co., 1884. [more about this work]
Derby recalls that Curtis returned from his "Eastern travels" thirty-five years before his writing, and, that upon his return, he brought a manuscript that discussed his travels to Harper & Brothers for publication. Col. John Harper looked over his manuscript briefly and told Curtis' "We will publish your book, and you may bring us all the manuscripts on Syria you choose, if written as well as this" (683). The books that followed were: "Nile Notes on the Howadji," "Howadji in Syria," and Lotus-Eating," illustrated by John F. Kensett. The last book appears to have been well received by the London press (683-684).

Derby and Curtis met "when he was connected with a publishing house whose disastrous failure soon terminated his career as a book publisher;" the firm accrued great debts, which Curtis was not obligated to pay, "but he considered himself morally responsible for the debts, and did pay every dollar from the proceeds of the earnings of his pen and eloquent lectures which became so popular

throughout the whole country" (684).

In 1854, Curtis was a contributor to *Putnam's Monthly* and was also on the magazine's editorial staff. His contributions were "a series of satirical sketches on fashionable society, which obtained great popularity and were afterwards published in a volume under their title, 'The Potiphar Papers'" (684).

Derby writes that "In 1856, Mr. Curtis entered the political arena, not as an office-seeker or an office-holder, for he has never been either, but a steady friend of all that is pure in politics" (684).

According to Derby, at the time of his writing, "Mr. Curtis has been, for more than a quarter of a century, the editor of *Harper's Weekly*, which under his guidance has become not only an influential factor in politics, but emphatically what it claims to be -- a journal of civilization" (685). Derby also notes that aside from being an "author, journalist, and statesman" he is also a "lecturer and orator, and in my opinion, the most eloquent and graceful since the voices of Phillips and Sumner have been forever silenced" (685).

Curtis was one of the writers gathered at the complimentary fruit and flower festival held for distinguished authors by New York publishers at the Crystal Palace in 1855 (35).

Derby quotes Curtis in the "Editor's Easy Chair" of *Harper's* about James Harper's fatal accident (96). Curtis is also quoted discussing Fletcher Harper after his death (101). Derby quotes Curtis's "Easy Chair" column about Fletcher Harper on p.105. He is also quoted discussing the division of labor among the Harper brothers on p.107.

During the early days of the Civil War, Curtis was appointed the political editor of *Harper's Weekly*, a position he "continues to hold with commanding ability" at the time of Derby's writing (104-105).

Derby quotes some lines written by Curtis that are incsribed over the fireplace of the Harper's private office in Franklin Square, which he feels "express, in the most felicitous manner, the traditional spirit of the [Harper publishing] house:

"My flame expires; but let true hands pass on
An unextinguished torch from sire to son" (109).

Derby describes Curtis as a "graceful orator" in his discussion of the memory of William Cullen Bryant. Part of Curtis's "commemorative address" at the Academy of Music, for the New York Historical Society, December 30, 1883 is quoted on p.171-172.

Derby notes that Curtis's "celebrated" "Potiphar Papers" were first submissions to Putnam's *Monthly Magazine* (314).

Curtis's recollections of James Fields and his bookstore are reprinted by Derby p.627-629.

Derby reprints the following excerpt from an article contributed to the Century Magazine by S.S. Conant, executive editor of *Harper's Weekly*:

"His devotion to journalism and political affairs has prevented Mr. Curtis from pursuing authorship as a profession, if we are to regard authorship as the writing of books; but although he has put forth no new volume since the publication of 'Trumps,' the readres of the 'Easy Chair' in *Harper's Magazine*, and on 'Manners upon the Road,' in *Harper's Bazaar*, with recognize in him the most charming essayist of the day. The delicate, graceful humor of these papers, the purity of style, the wide range of culture and observation which they indicate, but which is never obtrusive, give them a distinctive character of their own. The 'Easy Chair' is the first part of the magazine to which the reader turns. The author of 'Trumps,' 'The Potiphar Papers,' and 'Prue and I,' could hardly have failed as a novelist, had he chosen to pursue the path of literature; but we will not regret his choice, for while we have many novelists, where shall we look for another name like his in the field of American journalism?" (685). [pages: 35,96,101,104-105,107,109,163,171,314,627,683-685]

"George William Curtis." *The Living Age*. 24 Sep. 1853: 801-806. [more about this work]

[pages: 801-806]

Greenslet, Ferris. *The Life of Thomas Bailey Aldrich*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1908. 303 p. [more about this work]

Greenslet describes Curtis's friendship with Thomas Bailey Aldrich (38).

Aldrich discusses Curtis' irreplacability in New York (in relation to his "Easy Chair" column) in a letter to Stedman, Oct. 8, 1891, from Boston (171). [pages: 38,171]

Guarneri, Carl J. *The Utopian Alternative: Fourierism in Nineteenth-Century America*. Cornell, NY: Cornell University Press, 1994. [more about this work]

[pages: 58,400-401]

Haynes, John Edward. *Pseudonyms of Authors: Including Anonyms and Initialisms*. New York, 1882. [more about this work]

This text identifies the following pseudonyms: Lounger (57), Old Bacheldor (70), Potiphar (78). [pages: 57, 70, 78]

Hellman, George S. "George William Curtis." *Dictionary of American Biography*. Base Set. American Council of Learned Societies, 1928-1936. Reproduced in *Biography Resource Center*. Farmington Hills, Mich.: Thomson

Gale, 2006. http://www.galenet.com/servlet/BioRC. [more about this work]
This biographical entry discusses Curtis' career as a journalist, travel writer, and orator.

Hemstreet, Charles. *Literary New York: Its Landmarks and Associations*. New York: G.P. Putnam, 1903. [more about this work]
Hemstreet mentions that the offices of *Harper's Magazine*, "where George W. Curtis established his Easy Chair in which he was enthroned so long," are located down Frankfort Street, in Franklin Square. Hemstreet also mentions that Howells has taken over Curtis' old position at the magazine (235). [pages: 235]

Howells, William Dean. "First Impressions of Literary New York." *Harper's New Monthly Magazine*. Jun. 1895: 62-74. [more about this work]
Howells mentions his adoration of Curtis and muses over why he didn't see him when he visited New York (65). [pages: 65]

Howells, William Dean. "George William Curtis." *The North American Review*. Jul. 1868: 104-117. [more about this work]
[pages: 104-117]

Howland, Harold. "Charles Frederick Briggs." *Dictionary of American Biography*. Base Set. American Council of Learned Societies, 1928-1936. Reproduced in *Biography Resource Center*. Farmington Hills, Mich.: Thomson Gale, 2006. http://www.galenet.com/servlet/BioRC. [more about this work]
Curtis edited *Putnam's Magazine* with Briggs and Parke Godwin in 1853.

Leland, Charles Godfrey. *Memoirs*. New York: D. Appleton & Co., 1893. [more about this work]
[pages: 239]

"Literary Intelligence." *Saturday Press*. 13 Nov. 1858: 2. [more about this work]
A note reports that George W. Curtis, Esq. is rumored to be writing about the history of the Hudson River (2). [pages: 2]

"Literary Items." *Saturday Press*. 23 Oct. 1858: 3. [more about this work]
The section "The Magazines and Their Contents" lists Curtis's "The Millenial Club" as appearing in the November issue of the *Knickerbocker Magazine*. A note on *Harper's Magazine* lists George W. Curtis among the "principal contributors" (3). [pages: 3]

Lukens, Henry Clay. "American Literary Comedians." *Harper's New Monthly Magazine*. Apr. 1890: 783-797. [more about this work]
[pages: 795]

Miller, Tice L. *Bohemians and Critics: American Theatre Criticism in the Nineteenth Century*. Metuchen, NJ: The Scarecrow Press, 1981. [more about this work]

Edward Wilkins' ability to combine "society gossip and theatrical chit-chat in an amusing style" was reminiscent of Curtis's contributions to *Harper's* (Miller 48).

In defense of Edwin Forrest's artistic abilities, Edwin G. P. Wilkins grouped together Curtis, William Stuart, Adam Badeau, and William Hurlburt as a "clique" of dramatic "'critics' who rarely have pluck enough to judge for themselves" (Miller 65).

Curtis was one of many writers who sought "refuge in the past" in order to escape the "chaos caused by the war and a rapidly changing American society" (Miller 82). [pages: 48, 65, 82, 126]

Odell, George C.D. *Annals of the New York Stage: Volume VIII (1865-1870)*. New York:Columbia University Press, 1936. [more about this work]

Curtis spoke as part of the lecture series at the Reformed Dutch Church between 21st Street between 5th and 6th Ave. during 1865-66 season. His March 21, 1866 lecture was titled "The Good Fight" (92). Curtis gave same lecture for the Westbury Educational association two days later in Jamaica, Queens (126). Curtis also gave this lecture on Staten Island December 29, 1865; Odell states that Curtis is a "noted resident" of Staten Island (127).

Curtis was the Westbury Lecture Room lecturer March 18, 1867, "his talk enlarging on Conservatism." On Dec. 26, 1866, he lectured at the Old Dutch Church, Tompkinsville, Staten Island (266). Odell mentions that the "silvery eloquence" of Curtis was heard Dec. 18, 1868, at Cooper Institute on Political Morality (514).

Curtis also gave a lecture about Charles Dickens January 28, 1869, at Lyric Hall. Odell expresses a desire to have been at the event (515). Curtis Spoke at the Pavilion Hotel, New Brighton, Feb. 18, 1869, on Political Morality (557). He lectured October 26, 1869, at the Church of the Reformation in Brooklyn with a "silvery discourse" on American Literature (676).

Odell reports that "George William Curtis gave 1870 a dignified start" Jan. 7 with a lecture on Staten Island on American Literature given at the Unitarian Church in New Brighton (692). Odell again remarks that Curtis is "silver tongued." Curtis gave a lecture on "Our National Folly - the Civil Service" on February 17 (postponed from the 15th), 1870, at the Baptist Church, Port Richmond, Staten Island, which was attended by 80 people. His next lecture on April 18th in this venue brought an audience of 100 and was on Thackeray. Odell states that this lecture "was so fitting for his own style and taste that one might have expected a

crowded hall" (693). [pages: 92,126, 127,266,514, 515,557,676,692,693]

Odell, George Clinton. *Annals of the New York Stage: Volume VI (1850-1857)*. New York: Columbia University Press, 1931. [more about this work]

Odell mentions that the "then hihgly popular *Potiphar Papers* of George William Curtis" were dramatized and titled *Our Best Society* at Burton's (290).

Curtis lectured in Brooklyn during the 1854-1855 season at the Brooklyn Institute - the title and subject of his lecture is unknown(420). He also lectured at the Institute during the 1855-1856 season. [pages: 290,420,507]

Odell, George Clinton. *Annals of the New York Stage: Volume VII (1857-1865)*. New York: Columbia University Press, 1931. [more about this work]

Gave a lecture as part of the lecture series at the Institute in Brooklyn in the 1857-1858 season. Curtis returned to this venue in the 1858-1859 season. His Nov. 30, 1859, lecture was entitled *Democracy and Education*. Curtis also lectured during 1859-1860 season.

Curtis is listed as one of the few critics who "did justice to the drama" in reviewing Augustin Daly's *Deborah*. Curtis' review appears in the March 7, 1863, issue of *Harper's Weekly* (Odell reprints the text). Odell also reprints Curtis' review of J.S. Clarke's acting. [pages: 103,196,299, 485,638]

"Our Authors and Authorship - Melville and Curtis." *Putnam's Monthly Magazine*. Apr. 1857: 384-394. [more about this work]

[pages: 384-394]

Starr, Louis Morris. *Bohemian Brigade; Civil War Newsmen in Action*. New York: Knopf, 1954. 367 p. [more about this work]

Starr writes that Curtis, editor of *Harper's Weekly*, suggested privately during the attacks on the *Tribune* by the *Herald* "that Gay issue 'an edict that the existance of the Herald shall never be recognized in or by the Tribune in any way.'" He also proposed that Gay "let the worthy old Scot [Hudson] lie and rave as much as he likes...There are some animals that...cannot be touched or fought, for even if you hit and kill them they make you smell dreadfully" (235). [pages: 235]

"The Household Book of Poetry." *Saturday Press*. 27 Nov. 1858: 2. [more about this work]

The review of Dana's *The Household Book of Poetry* discusses Curtis's inclusion in the volume and cites one of his more "peculiar" contributions (2). [pages: 2]

"The Young Men of the New York Press." *The Independent*. 7 Jun. 1866: 4. [more about this work]

"It is a striking fact that the number of young men prominently connected with the New York press as writers is greater now than at any former period... the chief editorial work in these journals is done by men between the years of twenty-five and forty" (4).

"George William Curtis, the editorial writer of *Harper's Weekly*, is not the youngest of young men; but we trust the years will be many before he shall grow old" (4).
[pages: 4]

Thomas, Lately. *Delmonico's: A Century of Splendor.* Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1967. [more about this work]
Curtis is mentioned in relation to the New York Historical Society. [pages: 153]

Wilson, James Grant and John Fiske, eds. *Appletons' Cyclopaedia of American Biography, Volume I, Aaron-Crandall.* New York: D. Appleton & Co., 1888. [more about this work]
Appleton lists Curtis as a chief contributor to his publication.

Wilson, James Grant and John Fiske, eds. *Appletons' Cyclopaedia of American Biography, Volume II, Crane-Grimshaw.* New York: D. Appleton & Co., 1888. [more about this work]
Appleton noted that Curtis served as New York's delegate to the National REpublican convetion betwene the years of 1860-1864. [pages: 35(ill.)]

Winter, William. *George William Curtis. A Eulogy; Delivered before the People of Staten Island, at the Castleton, St. George, February 24, 1893.* New York: Macmillan and Co, 1893. [more about this work]

Winter, William. *Old Friends; Being Literary Recollections of Other Days.* New York: Moffat, Yard and Company, 1909. 407 p. [more about this work]
Curtis, "a man of letters" was born in Providence, RI ("Our American Venice"),in 1824. Winter notes that Curtis was born almost two months before the death of Byron and that he was eight when Goethe and Sir Walter Scott died. Winter mentions that Curtis's life and sensibilities have often been described by his early experiences at Brook Farm, in Roxbury, from 1840-1844, but Winter argues that Curtis already had the "Brook Farm ideal" in mind when he arrived there: "the ideal of a social existance regulated by absolute justice and adorned by absolute beauty." It was at Brook Farm that Curtis met, learned from, and was influenced by the notable residents and visitors of the place, including Hawthorne, Emerson, Charles Anderson Dana, Margaret Fuller, George Ripley, and Theodore Parker. After his early experiences at Brook Farm, Curtis traveled to "the Orient," "and found inspiration and theme in subjects that were novel because their scene was both august and remote. Curtis appears to have made an exhaustive tour of the "Orient," and Winter notes that while Curtis was an

"American humorist,"he did not endeavor to be comic...he was not the humorist who grins among the sculptures of Westminster Abbey"; Curtis's humor and appreciation of things appears to have been, according to Winter, more contemplative and respectful (228-230).

Winter quotes Curtis to best describe "the spirit in which he rambled": "Great persons and events that notch time in passing, do so because Nature gave them such an excessive and exaggerated impulse that wherever they touch they leave their mark; and that intense humanity secures human sympathy beyond the most beautiful balance, which, indeed, the angels love and we are beginning to appreciate" (231).

Winter applauds Curtis for his ability to incorporate and appreciate both the past and present in his work, as well as the sense of insight that comes through in Curtis's writing. While Curtis did write some poetry, Winter claims that "to the poetic laurel he made no pretension," and cites some of Curtis's patriotic poetry ("A Rhyme of Rhode Island and the Times"-1863) as an example of his verse. According to Winter, "Poetry..was not his natural vocation," but he "was a man of deep poetic sensiblity." Winter cites Curtis's "Prue and I" and "Lotus-Eating" as examples of Curtis's poetic nature being demonstrated in his writing (231-234). Winter also cites some of Curtis's verse as part of his discussion of the "poetical feeling that existed in New England about 1855" and the politics of the region and the time; responses to the Fugitive Slave Law, "Uncle Tom's Cabin," and other events leading to the Civil War (236-240).

Winter mentions that early in his writing career, Washington Irving made the following remark to Curtis: "You young fellows are not so lucky as I was, for when I began to write there were only a few of us" (81).

Curtis was a member of Bayard Taylor's poetic group (177).

Winter met Curtis at Longfellow's home when Winter was a young poet. Longfellow also introduced the two men. Winter describes Curtis during their first meeting as "a young man, lithe, slender, faultlessly apparelled, very handsome, who rose at my approach, turning upon me a countenance that beamed with kindness, and a smile that was a welcome from the heart...He had the manner of a natural artistocrat--a manner that is born, not made; a manner that is never found except in persons who are self-centered without being selfish; who are intrinsically noble, simple, and true." Winter remarks that the two men were friends from that moment until the end of Curtis' life (224).

Winter devotes an entire chapter to Curtis and states that "It is not because he was a friend of mine that I try to assist in commemoration of him; it is because he was a great person. The career of Curtis was rounded and complete. The splendid structure of his character stands before the world like a monument of gold. Not to express homage for a

public benefactor is to fail in self-respect" (225). Of Curtis, Winter claims, "It is the story of a man of genius whose pure life and splendid powers were devoted to the ministry of beauty and to the self- sacrificing service of mankind" (227).

Winter discusses Curtis' oratorical career, particulary during "that conflict, of Right against Wrong, [into which] Curtis threw himself, with all his soul." Winter's reference is to "the poetcial feeling in New England around 1855" that he claims occured in response to the political and social events that led up to and included the Civil War (240-241).

Curtis' literary career began in 1846, at the age of twenty-two (264). Curtis "made his mark" on the growing American literary tradition with his "observations" from his "Oriental travels." His satirical "Potiphar Papers" the romantic "Prue and I" published in "Putnam's Magazine" in 1852 and 1854, respectively, helped to cement his reputation. "He assumed the Easy Chair of 'Harper's Magazine,' in 1854...and he occupied it until the last." Curtis also wrote his novel "Trumps" in "Harper's." With the exception of a short break in 1873, Curtis wrote steadily for the Easy Chair for thirty-eight years and produced twenty-five hundred of these articles, as well as other publications (264-266)

Winter states that Curtis' speaking career began in 1851, with a talk titled "Contemporary Artists of Europe" given for the New York National Academy of Design. Winter states that "in 1853 he had formally adopted the Platform as a vocation; and it continued to be a part of his vocation for the next twenty years. He was everywhere popular in the lyceum, and he now brought into the more turbulent field of politics the dignity of the scholar, the refinement and grace of a gentleman, and all the varied equipments of the zealous and accomplished advocate, the caustic satirist, and the impassioned champion of the rights of man" (241).

Winter remebers first seeing Curtis speak on politics, "making an appeal for Fremont," at a convention in Fritchburg. Curtis followed Greeley on the bill of speakers. Winter states that neither Curtis nor Greeley were "worldly-wise; neither was versed in political duplicty." Winter states that "while Curtis spoke, the hearts of that multitude were first lured and entranced by the golden tones of his delicious voice, and then were shaken, as with a whirlwind, by the righteous fervor of his magnificent enthusiasm." Winter claims that while Curtis may have lacked in style in his prose," "but in the felicty of speech Curtis was supreme above all other men of his generation. (Winter notes that he is specifically referring to Curtis' speaking career from 1860-1890)" (241-243).

Winter notes that Curtis stopped doing regular speaking engagements in 1873, but never completely gave up oratory (242). According to Winter, "Oratory as it existed in America in the previous epoch has no living representative. Curtis was the last orator of the school of Everett, Sumner, and Wendell Phillips." Winter continues wiht a discussion of

Curtis' oratorical influences and the models on which he based his speeches (243-245). Winter then discusses how the oratorical schools of Curtis' time no longer exist. "The oratory of a later day is characterized by colloquialism, familiarity, and comic anecdote. Curtis maintained the dignity of the old order. Some of my readers, perhaps, may remember the charm of his manner,--how subtle it was, yet seemingly how simple; how completely it convinced and satisfied; how it clarified intelligence; how it enobled feeling. One secret of it, no doubt, was its perfect sincerity. Noble himself, and speaking only for right, and truth, and beauty, he addressed nobility in others. That consideration would maintain the moral and the genial authority of his eloquence. The total effect of it, however, was attributable to his exquisite, inexplicable art" (247-248).

Winter discusses Curtis' talent at oratory in depth, as well as his careers in business and writing. Business seems to have left Curtis in debt, but he was a prolific writer; "The shackle that business imposed upon him was the shackle of drudgery. He was compelled to write profusely and without pause." Winter refers to a break-down Curtis had in October, 1873, which left him unable to write and work. Aldrich filled in for Curtis at "Harper's" until Curtis recovered; Winter maintains, however, that Curtis worked non-stop for over forty years (254).

Winter claims that "Curtis was controlled less by his imagination than by his moral sense. He had ideals, but they were were based on reason" (260-261).

Winter reprints a "threnody" he wrote a few days after Curtis died (August 31, 1892) (270-274).

Winter also notes that while Taylor, Stoddard, Stedman, Boker, Curtis, Ludlow, and the names of have been "comingled wtih those of Clapp's Bohemian associates," they "were not only not affiliated with that coterie but were distinct from it, and, in some instances, were inimical to it" (295).

Winter reprints a letter Curtis wrote him dated March 29, 1882, from Staten Island, that discusses Longfellow's death. After describing the funeral and other matters, Curtis writes: "I do not forget that it was at Longfellow's we met, and our mutual regard has the benediction of his gracious memory. The fathers are departing. I saw Emerson stand by the coffin and look at the dead face. But, in his broken state, the dead looked happier than the living" (347-348).

Winter notes that Curtis is one of the young "wandering mistrels" mentioned in Wallack's "Memories of Fifty Years": "You come upon him very pleasantly, in the society of that brilliant actor, and you hear their youthful voices blended" (267). [pages: 81,177,224-245, 242(.ill), 247-274,295,302,347-348,267,370]

Wolle, Francis. *Fitz-James O'Brien: A Literary Bohemian of the Eighteen-Fifties*. Boulder, Col.; University of Colorado, 1944. 309 p. [more about this work]

Wolle mentions him as a clever young man in the New York group. [pages: 34, 103, 143, 184]

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Page No. 226

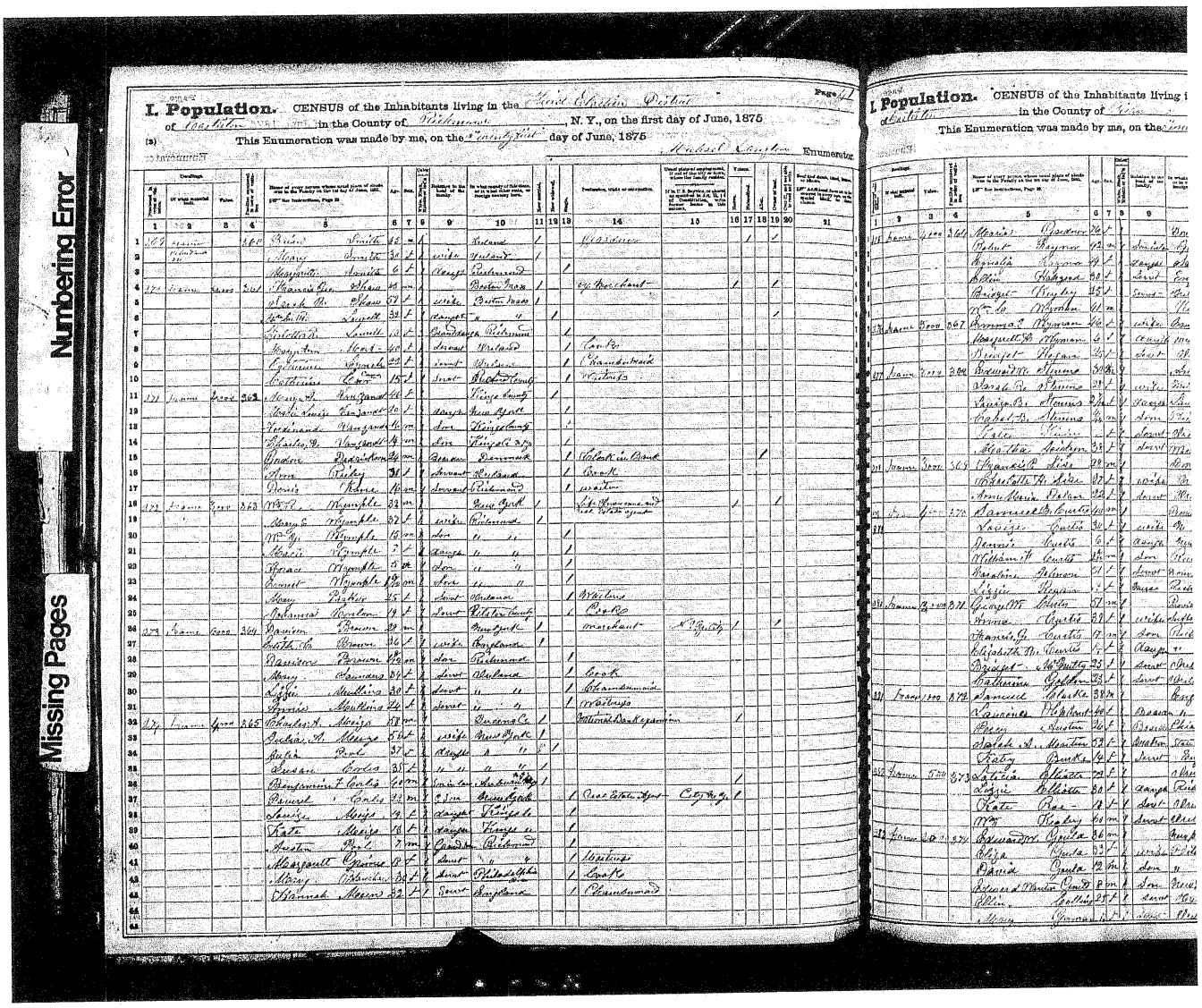
☞ Inquiries numbered 7, 16, and 17 are not to be asked in respect to infants. Inquiries numbered 11, 12, 15, 16, 17, 19, and 20 are to be answered (if at all) merely by an affirmative mark, as /.

SCHEDULE 1.—Inhabitants in The Town of Castleton, in the County of Richmond, State of New York, enumerated by me on the 5th day of September, 1870.

Post Office: Tompkinsville S.I. N.Y. A. Geo. Wales Ass't Marshal.

Dwelling-houses, numbered in the order of visitation.	Families, numbered in the order of visitation.	The name of every person whose place of abode on the first day of June, 1870, was in this family.	Description: Age at last birthday. If under 1 year, state months.	Sex—Males (M.), Females (F.)	Color—White (W.), Black (B.), Mulatto (M.), Chinese (C.), Indian (I.)	Profession, Occupation, or Trade of each person, male or female.	Value of Real Estate owned.	Value of Personal Estate.	Place of Birth, naming State or Territory of U. S.; or the Country, if of foreign birth.	Parentage: Father of foreign birth.	Mother of foreign birth.	If born within the year, state month (Jan., Feb., &c.)	If married within the year, state month (Jan., Feb., &c.)	Education: Attended school within the year.	Cannot read.	Cannot write.	Whether deaf and dumb, blind, insane, or idiotic.	Constitutional Relations: Male Citizens of U. S. of 21 years of age and upwards.	Male Citizens of U. S. of 21 years of age and upwards, whose right to vote is denied or abridged on other grounds than rebellion or other crime.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1205	1633	Mathew Rd. B.	36	M	W	Merchant Shipping	30000	20000	New York									/	
		— Sarah S.	31	F	W	Keeping house			Massachusetts										
		— Robt Shaw	7	M	W	at Home			New York										
		— Sarah	5	F	W	at Home			New York										
		— Edith	3	F	W	at Home			New York										
		Sterling John	25	M	B	Coachman			Virginia									/	
		Masini Catherine	31	F	W	Nurse			Massachusetts	/	/								
		Lacey Margaret	40	F	W	Domestic Servant			Ireland	/	/								
		Crook M. Ellen	22	F	W	Domestic Servant			Ireland	/	/								
		Mahon Ellen	18	F	W	Domestic Servant			Ireland	/	/								
1206	1634	Curtis Geo. Wm	46	M	W	Supervisor of Public Schools	10000	10000	Rhode Island									/	
		— Anna S.	34	F	W	Keeping House			Massachusetts										
		— Francis G.	13	M	W	at Home			New York										
		— Sarah S.	7	F	W	at Home			New York										
		— Elizabeth B.	9	F	W	at Home			New York										
1207	1635	VanZandt Chas. O.	49	M	W	Wine Merchant	20000	10000	New York									/	
		— Mary A.	36	F	W	Keeping house			New York										
		— Laura A.	16	F	W	at home			New York										
		— Minnie B.	15	F	W	at Home			New York										
		— Fred B.	12	M	W	at home			New York										
		— Chas. A.	10	M	W	at Home			New York										
		Conley Mary	16	F	W	Domestic Servant			Ireland	/	/								
1208	1636	Pfeiffer Alois	57	M	W	Manufacturer of Combs	25000	15000	Prussia	/	/							/	
		— Magdalena	47	F	W	Keeping house			Prussia	/	/								
		— Louisa	22	F	W	at Home			New York	/	/								
		— Louis	21	M	W	Clerk in Office			New York	/	/							/	
		— Geo. W.	20	M	W	Clerk in Office			New York	/	/								
		— Frank	13	M	W	attending School			New York	/	/			/					
		— William	11	M	W	attending School			New York	/	/			/					
		Hatefeld Carrie	86	F	W	at Home			Prussia	/	/								
		Leary Timothy	30	M	W	Coachman			Ireland	/	/							/	
		Cohen Bridget	32	F	W	Domestic Servant			Ireland	/	/								
		Hatefeld Catherine	67	F	W	Nurse			Prussia	/	/								
1209	1637	Proudfit Alexander	58	M	W	Merchant Shipping	25000	25000	New York										
		— Maria	46	F	W	Keeping house			New York										
		— James	21	M	W	Clerk in Office			New York									/	
		— Susan	20	F	W	at Home			New York										
		— John	15	M	W	attending School			New York					/					
		Casey John	36	M	W	Coachman			Ireland	/	/							/	
		Scott Sabina	30	F	W	Domestic Servant			Ireland	/	/								

No. of dwellings, ____ No. of white females, ____ No. of males, foreign born, ____
" " families, ____ " " colored males, ____ " " females, " " ____
" " white males, ____ " " " females, ____ " " blind, ____
No. of insane, ____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B. (7–290.)

Page No. 2.
Supervisor's Dist. No. 2
Enumeration Dist. No. 199

Note A.—The Census Year begins June 1, 1879, and ends May 31, 1880.
Note B.—All persons will be included in the Enumeration who were living on the 1st day of June, 1880. No others will. Children BORN SINCE June 1, 1880, will be OMITTED. Members of Families who have DIED SINCE June 1, 1880, will be INCLUDED.
Note C.—Questions Nos. 13, 14, 22 and 23 are not to be asked in respect to persons under 10 years of age.

SCHEDULE I.—Inhabitants in West New Brighton S.I., in the County of Richmond, State of New York enumerated by me on the 1st & 2nd day of June, 1880.

Charles M Bauer Enumerator.

In Office.		Dwelling Houses numbered in order of visitation.	Families numbered in order of visitation.	The Name of each Person whose place of abode, on the 1st day of June, 1880, was in this family.	Personal Description. Color, White, Black, Mulatto, Chinese, Indian.	Sex. Male, M; Female, F.	Age at last birthday. If under 1 year, give months in fraction, thus: 6/12.	Relationship of each person to the head of this family—whether wife, son, daughter, servant, boarder, or other.	If born within the Census year, give the month.	Civil Condition. Single, S; Married, M; Widowed, W; Divorced, D.	Married during Census year.	Occupation, Profession, or Trade of each person, male or female.	Number of months this person has been unemployed during the Census year.	Health. To the person for the day of the Enumerator's visit sick or temporarily disabled, so as to be unable to attend to ordinary business or duties. If so, what is the sickness or disability? Blind, Deaf and Dumb, Idiotic, Insane, Maimed, Crippled, Bedridden, or otherwise disabled.	Education. Attended school within the Census year. Cannot read. Cannot write.	Nativity. Place of Birth of this person, naming State or Territory of United States, or the Country, if of Foreign birth.	Place of Birth of the Father of this person, naming State or Territory of United States, or the Country, if of Foreign birth.	Place of Birth of the Mother of this person, naming State or Territory of United States, or the Country, if of Foreign birth.
Name of Street.	House Number.																	
1	2			3	4	5	6	7		9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
1				Brown Julia	W	F	43	Servant						Servant											Germany		
2				Cognacle Mary	W	F	44	Servant						Servant											Switzerland	Switzerland	Switzerland
3				Montpere Mary	W	F	24	Servant						Servant											Ireland	Ireland	Ireland
4				Murrill Josephine	W	F	21	Servant						Servant											New York		
5		11	11	Devine Richard	W	M	27							Coachman	7										Ireland	Ireland	Ireland
6				Annie	W	F	25	Wife						Keeping House											Ireland	Ireland	Ireland
7				William J	W	M	7/12	Son																	New York	Ireland	Ireland
8		12	12	Dunbrow Sarah E	W	F	55							Keeping House											New York	New York	New York
9				Walter	W	M	26	Son						Clerk in Store											New York	New York	New York
10				Alfred F	W	M	23	Son						Clerk in Store											New York	New York	New York
11				Allen John	W	M	66	Son in Law						Clerk in Store	3										New York	Ireland	Ireland
12				Augustia F	W	F	27	Daughter																	New York	N Y	N Y
13				John A	W	M	8	Grandson																	New York	N Y	N Y
14				Elizabeth O	W	F	4	Gran daughter																	New York	N Y	N Y
15				Anthony Louise	W	F	23	Servant						Servant											New York	Ireland	Ireland
16				Robinson Ella	W	F	22	Servant						Servant											New York	Ireland	Ireland
17				Johnson Michael	W	M	22	Servant						Coachman											New York	Ireland	Ireland
18		13	13	Custil George W	W	M	56							Mother											Rhod Island	Mass	R.I.
19				Anna S	W	F	44	Wife						Keeping House											Massachusetts	Mass	Mass
20				Francis G	W	M	22	Son						Attending College											New York	R.I.	Mass
21				Elizabeth B	W	F	19	Daughter						" "											New York	R.I	Mass
22				Carol Margaret	W	F	16	Servant						Servant											Ireland	Ireland	Ireland
23				Hogan Mary	W	F	26	Servant						Servant											Ireland	Ireland	Ireland
24				McAuley Bridget	W	F	29	Servant						Servant											Ireland	Ireland	Ireland
25		14	14	Hendrickson John L	W	M	66							Merchant											Ohio	England	N Y
26				Jane C	W	F	58	Wife						Keeping House											New York	Italy	Mass
27				Charlotte	W	F	23	Daughter																	New York	Ohio	N Y
28				Elizabeth	W	F	30	"																	New York	Ohio	N Y
29				Mary W	W	F	29	"																	New York	Ohio	N Y
30				Lewis O	W	M	26	Son						Merchant											France	Ohio	N Y
31				Harold G	W	M	22	Son																	New York	Ohio	N Y
32				Ernest F	W	M	20	Son						At College											New York	Ohio	N Y
33				Norman	W	M	18	Son						" "											New York	Ohio	N Y
34				Ellen G	W	F	16	Daughter																	New York	Ohio	N Y
35				Gaffigan Patrick	W	M	34	Servant						Servant											Ireland	Ireland	Ireland
36				Gordan Maggie	W	F	16	Servant						"											Ireland	Ireland	Ireland
37				Seals Annie	W	F	30	Servant						"											Ireland	Ireland	Ireland
38				Drury Lizzie	W	F	21	Servant						"											Ireland	Ireland	Ireland
39				Mcnerney Mary	W	F	21	Servant						"											New York	Ireland	Ireland
40				" Sadie	W	F	23	Servant						"											New York	Ireland	Ireland
41				Grandy Sarah	W	F	20	Servant						"											New York	Ireland	Ireland
42				Wolff Edward	W	M	24	Servant						Coachman											New York	Ireland	Ireland
43		15	15	Johnson Rossiter	W	M	38							Editor											New York	Conn	Conn
44				Helen R	W	F	37	Wife						Keeping House											New York	Vermont	Mass
45				Eleanor E	W	F	7	Daughter																	Massachusetts	N Y	N Y
46				Evelyn	W	F	1	Daughter																	New Jersey	N Y	N Y
47				Burke Ann	W	F	65	Servant						Servant											Ireland	Ireland	Ireland
48		16	16	Richards Benjamin	W	M	40							Real Estate Agent											New York	N J	N J
49				Eliza F	W	F	41	Wife						Keeping House											New York	N Y	Delaware
50				Guy	W	M	14	Son						Attending School											New York	N Y	N Y

Note D.—In making entries in columns 9, 10, 11, 12, 16 to 21, an affirmative mark only will be used—thus /, except in the case of divorced persons, column 11, when the letter "D" is to be used.
Note E.—Question No. 12 will only be asked in cases where an affirmative answer has been given either to question 10 or to question 11.
Note F.—Question No. 14 will only be asked in cases when a qualified occupation has been reported in column 13.
Note G.—In column 7 an abbreviation for the name of the month may be used, as Jan., Apr., Dec.

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The Chautauquan - ...
File Edit View Favorites Tools Help
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It failed like its Boston predecessor, the *Pioneer*. In 1855 it was republished by Dix, Edwards, and Company, and afterwards by Miller and Curtis, of which Mr. Francis G. Shaw, Curtis' father-in-law, was special partner. The good firm also failed with an insolvency of some $10,000, which Mr. Curtis considered his moral obligation to reimburse to his father-in-law. Although it took him some sixteen years (working laboriously both in the lecture and literary field) he succeeded in paying the debt,—the success of which crowns him as a man of noble character and most zealous motives.

His experience well fitted him for the "Easy Chair" and the series of editorial articles entitled "The Lounger," which he continued to write for *Harper's Weekly*. At this time he also entered with renewed vigor into the lecture field, but whether it was open to him by necessity or his ultimate desire to come in direct contact with people is, of course, a matter of little concern. Both may have affected it, but his nobility of character strongly convinces one that the latter was the more pertinent and probably the sole motive. He had an inevitable interest in people. His rivals were Beecher, Chapin, Parker, Emerson, Phillips, but they were not his compeers. With the antislavery cause his lectures as well as his editorials deepened into a sense of responsibility which made his

In 1858 and 1859 he published his "Trumps," a series of satires in the *Harper's Weekly*.

He was delegate in 1860 to the Republican Convention which nominated Abraham Lincoln. Seward also was a candidate, whom Evarts strongly upheld. Joshua R. Giddings moved that the clause, "Life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness," be incorporated in the platform, but was resisted by a loud and determined opposition. Mr. Curtis, like Wendell Phillips in Faneuil Hall, felt his nation's principles slighted, and arose.

"Folding his arms he calmly faced the uproarious mass and waited. The spectacle of a man who wouldn't be put down, at length so far amused the delegates that they stopped to look at him. 'Gentlemen,' rang out that musical voice in tones of calm intensity, 'this is the convention of free speech, and I have been given the floor. I have only a few words to say to you, but I shall say them if I stand here until to-morrow morning.' Again the tumult threatened the roof of the wigwam, and again the speaker waited. His pluck and the chairman's gavel soon gave him another chance. Skillfully changing the amendment to the second resolution to make it in order he spoke as with a tongue of fire in its support, daring the representatives of the party of freedom meeting on the borders of the free prairies, in a hall dedicated to the advancement of liberty, to reject the doc-

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thusiasm more unanimous and deafening than the yell with which it had been previously rejected."*

After Abraham Lincoln's election Mr. Curtis resumed the "stump" and political platform with renewed vigor. In 1862 he declines Abraham Lincoln's offer of consul-generalship in Egypt; in 1863 he becomes political editor of *Harper's Weekly*, the popular organ of the day; in 1864 he is elected a member of the Board of Regents, and in 1867 chairman of the Committee on Education in the State Constitutional Convention.

He was always an enthusiast of the franchisement of women, and in a learned address on "Fair Play for Women" he said: "Do women have fair play in this country? As before, a sneer and a smile of derision may ripple from one end of the land to the other; but the question will swell louder and louder until it is answered by the ballot in the hands of every citizen, and by the perfect vindication of the American fundamental principle, that 'governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governed.'"†

In 1869 he was urgently asked to take the editorship of the *Times*, but for reasons best known to himself he refused.

Mr. Curtis will long be remembered as an something that sparkles with a sincere witticism, something that brings one into an intimacy with the subject treated, something, in fact, that shows the touch of a master hand. He shows us the grandeur of Wendell Phillips, and gives us a glimpse at Thoreau as he runs into Emerson's library to borrow a book; Emerson, who is only understood by "My Daughters," and Dickens, whose departing words are, "I shall never recall you as a mere public audience, but rather as a host of personal friends, and ever with the greatest gratitude, tenderness, and consideration. God bless you, and God bless the land in which I leave you."

Curtis' eulogies on Sumner, Bryant, Phillips, and Lowell are alone sufficient to warrant him a place as a great orator. It was his eulogy on Wendell Phillips that made Massachusetts renew the pride in her noble son, and was not his last eulogy—the one on Lowell—his finest accomplishment? In 1876 President Hayes wished to make him minister to England or Germany, but he again gently refused. Mr. Curtis was one of the noblest figures in politics, and while he continued to take an active part, he was always an opponent to the "spoils system"; and upheld a dignity in party affiliation which

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In 1869 he was urgently asked to take the editorship of the *Times*, but for reasons best known to himself he refused.

Mr. Curtis will long be remembered as an enthusiastic advocate of civil service reform since 1865, when Hon. Thomas A. Jenckes of Rhode Island framed the first measure. He was appointed by President Grant as chairman of the first Civil Service Commission. His earnestness in the cause was increased by a growing desire for the purification of politics.

While Curtis was severely ill in 1873, Mr. Thomas Bailey Aldrich filled the "Easy Chair," but it is said that he was so modest "that few people knew the fact." There is no series of short essays that contain more sound fact and are written in such a terse style. While they are slightly tinctured with an Addisonian flavor, they are distinctly the production of a more cultured refinement and polite literature. As a *littérateur* Mr. Curtis' name will ever be remembered by his "Easy Chair." He was always careful to keep his audience in mind, and while his orations were always persuasive, his editorials convincing, his "Easy Chair" essays are more didactic and truly the literary production of a great essayist. There is something exhilarating,

[9] Boston Herald, January 19, 1880.
[†] May 12, 1870, at Steinway Hall, N. Y.

noblest figures in politics, and while he continued to take an active part, he was always an opponent to the "spoils system"; and upheld a dignity in party affiliation which was prone to be rewarded by the highest citizenship and the truest manhood. In his address before the Commonwealth Club* he wisely said:

"I know very well the charm of party association. I know very well that in this community the condition of the achievement of all objects is the existence of great parties. I am prouder of nothing than of my own connection with that party which seems to me to have done more for human liberty and for free popular institutions than any other party in the history of the race. But, gentlemen, important as party is, there is one thing still more important, and that is manly, reasonable, American independence of party. It is those who hold party always subordinate to the private conscience and to independent judgment, who compel a party to keep its leaders true to public principle and the public welfare, who make its strength."

It was this great fundamental principle that led him in 1884 to sever his association with the party that nominated a candidate whom he could not support with "good will." His citizenship was, therefore, of the most

* Spring of 1887.

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loyal and beneficent kind. His guide was principle and a good conscience, not office and the spoils. Lowell, whose nature was almost akin to his in this respect, writes,

"Good men all own you; what is left to me, then,
To heighten praise with but Good Citizen?
But why this praise to make you blush and stare,
And give a backache to your Easy Chair?
Old Crestien rightly says no language can
Express the worth of a true gentleman,
And I agree, but other thoughts deride
My first intent, and lure my pen aside."*

Honors were always in store for Mr. Curtis, and in 1890 this scholar of noncollegiate education was elected chancellor of the University of the State of New York, and nonresident professor of Cornell University; besides having since been president of the Metropolitan Museum of Art and honorary vice president of the Egypt Exploration Fund.

His last great public function was the magnificent and sympathetic oration on Lowell delivered in Association Hall, Brooklyn, on the 22nd day of February, 1892. His eloquence and personal feeling for Lowell will not soon be forgotten by those who heard him.

Alas! he died last August, amid the beehive of his selected activity. He has won for himself one of the grandest and noblest places in the history of mankind. While he has made his mark as a *littérateur*, an orator, an editor and journalist, he will forever have his name blended with that of Washington as the truest type of great citizenship. Nothing is more noble. For what was nobler than to be a good citizen of Rome, and what is nobler to-day than to be a good citizen of America? Mr. Howells fittingly says, "I should not find it easy to speak of him as a man of letters only, for humanity was above the humanities in him, and we all know how he turned from the fairest career in literature to tread the thorny path of politics because he believed that duty led the way, and that good citizens were needed more than good romances."

His name as a citizen and gentleman will carry him to posterity together with Lowell the scholar and Whittier the poet.

* An Epistle to George William Curtis.

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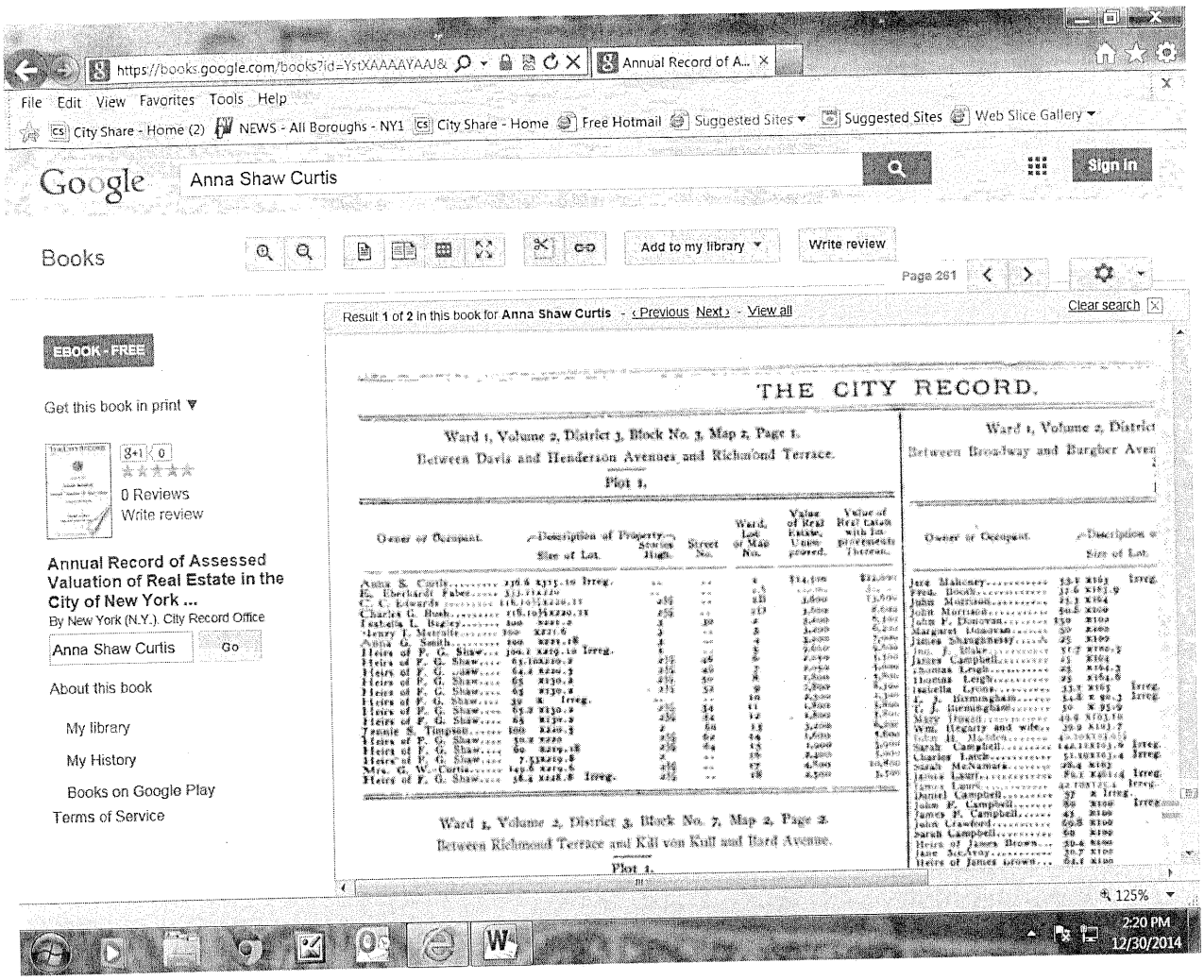
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Republicans" as they were called by the opposing party. On Staten Island, as elsewhere in the State, the freedman did not have equal civil rights. New York State permitted black men to vote only if they paid a tax. Many whites feared competition of the black people in the labor market.

CIVIL WAR PERIOD

Draft Quotas

In July 1863, serious riots occurred in Manhattan to protest the Federal Conscription Act. This riot action spread to Richmond County as some whites became enraged and vented their anger on black people and upon the Abolitionists. Again we acknowledge *North Shore Legends*, in which Martin Gay has written about incidents of those days. According to his childhood memories, he reports that the citizens of Port Richmond, determined to have no violence in the village, placed "a small cannon at the bridge where the Shore Road crosses Bodine's Creek (presently Richmond Terrace and Jewett Avenue) and let it be known that no rioters would be allowed in that village and no attempt by them to get in was reported." This incident took place a short distance from the present location of P.S. 20.

Escape to New Jersey

Many blacks escaped from Staten Island across the water to New Jersey. Some left their homes and hid in the woods. Others were beaten. Mr. Gay reports "a confectioner's store in New Brighton kept by a respectable colored man was attacked and gutted."

Abolitionists Befriended Blacks

Some stories are recorded that indicate how the Abolitionists on Staten Island befriended blacks during these critical days. When Mrs. Louis T. Hoyt discovered a group of black refugees hidden in the woods near her home (Bard and Castleton Avenues) she sheltered them in her barn and personally fed and cared for them, fearing that her servants might inform the leaders of the mob.

Mr. Gay recalls another incident:

Mr. Charles G. Thorpe, driving to the boat one morning, met a colored man pursued by a mob. The man was at his last gasp, and begged for help. Mr. Thorpe seized the reins, pitched the coachman, whom he dared not

trust, into the road, pulled the exhausted man into the wagon and drove him to safety.

Abolitionists in Danger

The abolitionists also lived in terror of mob attacks. Many threats of violence were reported. Under the cover of darkness, some families left their homes to seek safety with neighbors who had protected themselves with firearms. Mrs. Gay and her children took refuge in the home of George Cabot Ward. Her husband's safety was threatened in his New York office where he was stranded.

July 1863 Riots

Rumors of disorder on Staten Island spread as the draft riots in Manhattan became more violent. At this time there were nearly 1,000 blacks on staten island in a total population of about 26,000.[14] Angry mobs of whites seized thirty muskets from the Tompkins Lyceum on Van Duzer Street, Stapleton, and from other drill rooms, set fire to homes and stores, and threatened innocent African Americans who lived on McKeon Street (now Tompkins Street) Stapleton. This is near the present P.S. 14. The rioters then burned the car barns of the railroad at Vanderbilt's landing, Clifton. Damage to property in these July 1863 riots was great. After investigation by the Board of Supervisors, the county was ordered to pay the African Americans damages amounting to $9,314.69 and to the whites in the amount of $1,710.96. The claims of the white people were settled almost immediately but the cases of the black claimants were delayed for two or three years.

SANDY GROUND

A small community of black families exists today on Bloomingdale Road between Drumgoole Boulevard and Arthur Kill Road. The name of this area, Sandy Ground, appears in records dating back to 1779.

The soil there was well suited for the growth of strawberries and asparagus. For years the produce was shipped from the Rossville area to the Manhattan markets by steamboat. At the present time air pollution, caused by nearby New Jersey factories, prevents the growth of profitable crops.

It was in the 1830s and 1840s that a group of free blacks from Snow Hill, Maryland, came to Sandy Ground. There had been black families

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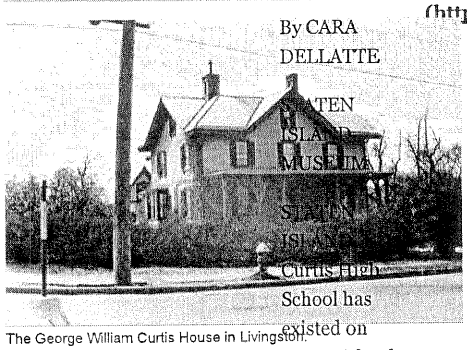

The George William Curtis House in Livingston. *Advance File Photo*

By CARA DELLATTE STATEN ISLAND MUSEUM

Curtis High School has existed on Staten Island since Dec. 23, 1903.

Many Staten Islanders have graduated from there without ever knowing anything about the man whose name shines brightly on the outside of the building.

Having worked in the Archives of the Staten Island Museum for almost seven years now, I never really knew that much about George William Curtis either, until I began working on a new project for the museum.

The idea of creating an exhibition regarding the Abolition Movement and the Civil War on Staten Island began to take shape and I found myself constantly looking into the George William Curtis Collection.

LARGE COLLECTION

It's by far one of our biggest collections in the Archives and spans from 1784-1956, encompassing letters and correspondence to a variety of people, most notably Frederick Douglass, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Sidney Howard Gay, William H. Seward and Rutherford B. Hayes, to name a few.

Some of the other letters contain correspondence regarding women's suffrage, equal rights, the Republican Party, "Black Republicanism" and national politics.

Curtis, to my extreme delight, also created countless scrapbooks which focused on the Civil War.

This collection covers Wendell Phillips, Charles Sumner, the Draft Riots, speeches and campaigns and Congressional proceedings as well as local politics, abolitionism and the "War between the States Journalism."

This is a fantastic resource to researchers and scholars since it's a first-hand view of the papers that were in existence during the 19th century as well as a close-up of the Civil War as it was happening.

The man who Curtis High School was named for was born Feb. 24, 1824 in Providence, R.I.

He finished his schooling in Providence in 1839 and his family moved to New York City that same year so George could continue his education via private tutoring.

Having spent the summers of 1842 and 1843 at Brook Farm, he spent the following summers studying and farming in Concord, Mass., where he became good friends with Ralph Waldo Emerson, Nathaniel Hawthorne and Henry David Thoreau.

In 1854, he became Editor of the Easy Chair column in "Harper's Monthly Magazine."

He maintained this position for the rest of his life. George William Curtis' connection to Staten Island became permanent when he married Anna Shaw, the daughter of Francis G. Shaw of Staten Island.

The Shaws were a family that believed in abolition whole-heartedly and in the idea of freedom. Within one year, it became apparent that Curtis had a deep interest in abolitionism and politics in general.

In 1858 his novel, "Trumps" was serialized in Harper's Weekly. His interest in politics continued to grow and he became very active in the Richmond County Republican Party Organization.

During this time, he was also gaining a reputation as a brilliant orator.

In 1860, he was nominated as a delegate to the national convention in Chicago, where he made a speech in favor of the resolution that all men are created equal be endorsed by the Party.

He became political editor of Harper's Weekly in 1863 and the following year, again was a delegate to the Republican National Convention, where he was an ardent supporter of Lincoln and wrote the letter officially notifying Lincoln of his re-nomination.

Curtis continued to be very active as the years went by and in 1880, when the New York Civil Service Reform Association was founded, he was elected president. He would remain in that post until his death.

LAST LECTURE ON ISLAND

His last lecture on Staten Island was delivered on Charles Sumner at the YMCA building in Tompkinsville.

He became very ill early in June of 1892 and after a period of suffering, he died at his Staten Island home on August 31, 1892.

George William Curtis left his mark on Staten Island in more ways than one.

His collection shows his interests and gives us the ability more than 150 years later to peek into his life and see not only his accomplishments but also what life was like during the 19th century nationally as well as locally.

His collection is an excellent source for research on the Civil War as well as many other aspects of Staten Island history from this time period.

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49M-199. Gift of The House of Whittemore, Westborough, Mass.; received: 1949 November 29.
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Historical Note

Curtis was an American author, orator, editor, and reformer.

Arrangement

Organized into the following series:

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Scope and Content

Collection includes various correspondence on such topics as abolitionists, President Garfield and the Republican Party, the purchasing and publishing of his essays, and suffrage. There are many letters from various correspondents congratulating Curtis for his "Gettysburgh Address," and also requesting copies from Curtis of the address. Letters also discuss a novel Curtis wrote titled Trumps, the death of Theodore Johnson, an article that Curtis wrote which was published in Harpers, and several letters from the Christian Union, which wanted to put his picture on the front page of their publication. Collection also includes newspaper clippings, poetry written by various authors, and a telegraph.

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- **(35)** [Hazard? E H] A.L.s. Providence, 12 Sep 1881. 1s.(4p.)
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- **(37)** Holmes, John, 1812-1899. A.L.s. Cambridge, 20 Mar 1886. 1s.(4p.)
- **(38)** Holt, Joseph, 1807-1894. A.L.s. Washington, 6 Feb 1867. 1s.(2p.)
- **(39)** Holt, Joseph, 1807-1894. A.L.s. same, 19 Nov 1883. 1s.(2p.)
- **(40)** Hone, Philip, 1780-1851. A.L.s. [n.p.] 28 Oct [1844] 1s.(2p.)
  Addressed to George Curtis.
- **(41)** Houston, A O A.L.s. Moorhead, Pa., 3 Aug 1888. 1s.(1p.)
- **(42)** Johnson, Laura (Winthrop) 1825-1889. A.L.s. [n.p., n.d.] 1s.(4p.)
  Addressed to Anna [(Shaw) Curtis]
- **(43)** Johnson, Laura (Winthrop) 1825-1889. A.L.s. [n.p.] 27 Mar 1860. 1s.(2p.)
- **(44)** Johnson, Laura (Winthrop) 1825-1889. A.L.s. [n.p.] 27 Feb 1864. 1s.(4p.)
- **(45)** Johnson, Laura (Winthrop) 1825-1889. A.L.s. [n.p., n.d.] 1s.(3p.)
  Encl; 2 poems by Theodore Winthrop, copies: Rachel, and Dreamy dreamy moonlight over plain [first line]
- **(46)** Johnson, Laura (Winthrop) 1825-1889. A.L.s. [n.p., n.d.] 3s.(9p.)
  Concerns the life of Theodore Winthrop.
- **(47)** Kasson, John Adam, 1822-1910. A.L.s. Washington, 29 Dec 1873. 1s.(2p.)
- **(48)** Kenny, Thomas J T.L.s. Boston, 2 Aug 1888. 1s.(1p.)
- **(49)** King, Horatio Collins, 1837-1918. T.L.s. New York, 6 Jul 1888. 1s.(1p.)
- **(50)** Kirkland, Caroline Matilda (Stansbury) 1801-1864. A.L.s. Amboy, N.J., 9 Jun 1857. 1s.(2p.)
  Addressed to [ ] Miller and [George William] Curtis.
- **(51)** Krauth, John M A.L.s. Gettysburg, Pa., 13 Jul 1888. 1s.(1p.)
- **(52)** Lagen, Charles A A.L.s. Philadelphia, 5 Jul 1888. 1s.(1p.)
- **(53)** Lea, Henry Charles, 1825-1909. A.L.s. Cape May, 4 Jul 1888. 1s.(4p.)

- **(54)** Lettib, N B A.L.s. Palmyra, Va., 5 Jul 1888. 1s.(2p.)
- **(55)** Lewis, Taylor, 1802-1877. A.L.s. Schenectady, 26 Oct 1864. 1s.(1p.)
  Addressed to Harper & Brothers.
- **(56)** Low, Seth, 1850-1916. A.L.s. Brooklyn, 15 May 1889. 1s.(1p.)
- **(57)** Lyman, Theodore, 1833-1897. MS.L.(s. by amanuensis) Dublin, N.H. [1888] 1s.(3p.)
  In the hand of Elizabeth (Russell) Lyman.
- **(58)** Mabie, Hamilton Wright, 1846-1916. T.L.s. New York, 16 Jul 1891. 1s.(1p.)
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- **(68)** Nichols, J B A.L.s. Providence, 3 Mar 1853. 1s.(1p.)
  Addressed to George Curtis.
- **(69)** Nicholson, John Page, 1842-1922. MS.L.s. Philadelphia, 6 Jul 1888. 1s.(1p.)
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- **(72)** Pierce, Edward Lillie, 1829-1897. A.L.s. Milton, 4 Nov 1888. 1s.(3p.)
- **(73)** Pierce, Edward Lillie, 1829-1897. A.L.s. Boston, 8 Nov 1888. 1s.(3p.)
- **(74)** Pierce, Edward Lillie, 1829-1897. A.L.s. Rome, 13 Jan 1889. 2s.(7p.)
- **(75)** Pierce, Edward Lillie, 1829-1897. A.L.s.(initials) [n.p.] 15 Jun [ ] 1s.(1p.)
  On the verso is a MS. copy by Pierce of a MS. and printed letter from Isaac Bassett to [Charles Sumner]; [Washington] 2 Dec 1872.
- **(76)** Pinkerton, John J., b.1836. A.L.s. West Chester, 4 Mar 1891. 2s.(6p.)
- **(77)** Porter, F S A.L.s. Lansing, Mich., 31 Jul 1888. 1s.(1p.)
- **(78)** Potts, William, 1838-1908. A.L.s. New York, 27 Sep 1882. 1s.(1p.)
- **(79)** Pray, John F A.L.s. [n.p.] 4 Sep 1858. 1s.(1p.)
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- **(81)** Price, J B A.L.s. Jefferson City, Mo., 4 Jul 1888. 1s.(1p.)
- **(82)** Reynolds, Grindall, 1822-1894. MS.L.s. Boston, 5 Jun 1891. 1s.(1p.)
- **(83)** Richie, Walter B A.L.s. Lima, Ohio, 9 Jul 1888. 1s.(1p.)
- **(84)** [Ricketson, Daniel, 1813-1898] A.L.s.(initials) [n.p., Dec 1886?] 1s.(2p.)
  Includes MS.L. (copy in Ricketson's hand), John Greenleaf Whittier to Daniel Ricketson; Danvers, Mass., 19 Dec 1886.
- **(85)** Ritchie, Anna Cora (Ogden) Mowatt, 1819-1870. A.L.s.(Anna Cora Mowatt) New York, 21 May 1854. 1s.(2p.)
  Addressed to "Gentlemen"
- **(86)** Ritchie, Anna Cora (Ogden) Mowatt, 1819-1870. A.L.s. same, 26 Aug 1856. 1s.(1p.)
- **(87)** Sellers, A J A.L.s. Philadelphia, 5 Jul [1888] 1s.(2p.)
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- **(94)** Street, Alfred Billings, 1811-1881. A.L.s. Albany, 8 Jun 1859. 1s.(3p.)
- **(95)** Street, Alfred Billings, 1811-1881. A.L.s. same, 9 Mar 1861. 1s.(2p.)
- **(96)** Street, Alfred Billings, 1811-1881. A.L.s. same, 31 Mar 1863. 1s.(2p.)
- **(97)** Street, Alfred Billings, 1811-1881. A.L.s. same, 11 Nov 1873. 1s.(3p.)
- **(98)** Swope, A M MS. telegram; Lexington, Ky., 11 Sep 1888. 1s.(1p.)
- **(99)** Taylor, E S A.L.s. Chicago, 11 Jul 1888. 1s.(1p.)
- **(100)** Tuckerman, Henry Theodore, 1813-1871. A.L.s. [New York?] 19 Nov 1856. 1s.(2p.)
- **(101)** Van Wormer, John R MS.L.s. New York, 8 Mar 1881. 1s.(1p.)
  Written on behalf of Thomas Lemuel James by his secretary.
- **(102)** Walpole, Gertrude Wallis[?] A.L.s. Syracuse, 25 Jun 1886. 4s.(15p.)
- **(103)** Walser, Zeb V A.L.s. Lexington, N.C., 17 Jul 1888. 1s.(2p.)
  postcard.
- **(104)** Wayland, Heman Lincoln, 1830-1898. T.L.s. Philadelphia, 5 Jul 1888. 1s.(2p.)
- **(105)** [Wetmore, Prosper Montgomery, 1798-1876] A.L.s.(initials) Long Island, 4 Feb 1874. 1s.(4p.)
  Incomplete: postscript of letter only.
- **(106)** Willis, Richard Storrs, 1819-1900. A.L.s. [n.p.] 10 Apr [1858] 1s.(1p.)
- **(107)** Winthrop, Elizabeth W A.L.s. Bement Ave. [n.p.] 5 Jul [ ] 1s.(4p.)
- **(108)** Winthrop, Elizabeth W A.L.s. same, 2 Jul [ ] 1s.(2p.)
- **(109)** Yulee, David Levy, 1810-1886. A.L.s.(facsimile) Washington, 7 Jan 1861. 1s.(1p.) env.
  Addressed to Joseph Finegan.
- **(110)** [ ] A.L.s.("Hopeful") Boston, 9 Jul 1888. 1s.(3p.)
  An anonymous letter.
- **(111)** [Curtis, George William, 1824-1892] Fort Wagner1863. -- *Who shall vote?* 1865. A.MS.(unsigned); [n.p.] Jun 1865. 1s.(1p.)
- **(112)** Miscellaneous MSS., printed matter, including calling cards, pressed flowers from the graves of Keats and Mrs. Longfellow, etc.
- **(113)** Miscellaneous newspaper cuttings, printed matter about University extension, from University of the State of N.Y.

- **Series: II. MS Am 1124.10: Letters from George William Curtis to Anna Shaw Curtis**
  *49M-200
  - **(1)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. Letters to Anna (Shaw) Curtis, as follows: A.L.s. (G.) Jam[aica] Plain, 8 Feb 1856. 1s.(4p.)
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- **(18)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. A.L.s.(G.) same, 17 May 1860. 1s.(4p.)
- **(19)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. A.L.s.(G.) same, 19 May 1860. 1s.(4p.)
  Nos. 15-19 describe the convention which nominated Lincoln for president.
- **(20)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. A.L.s. Albany, 13 Nov 1860. 1s.(3p.)
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- **(23)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. A.L.s.(G.) Boston, 2 Jan 1861. 1s.(4p.)
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- **(29)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. A.L.s.(G.) Providence, 23 Jan 1861. 1s.(4p.)
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- **(33)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. A.L.s.(G.) Mohawk, 28 Feb 1861. 1s.(4p.)
- **(34)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. A.L.s.(G.) Boston, 12 Jul 1861. 1s.(4p.)
- **(35)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. A.L.s.(G.) [Cambridge] 12 Jul 1861. 1s.(4p.)
  Nos. 34 & 35 concern the death of Mrs. Longfellow.
- **(36)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. A.L.s.(G.) Syracuse, 10 Sep 1861. 1s.(4p.)
- **(37)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. A.L.s.(G.) Cambridge, 13 Nov 1861. 1s.(4p.)
- **(38)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. A.L.s.(G.) [same?] 14 Nov 1861. 1s.(2p.)
- **(39)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. A.L.(signature torn off) Concord, N.H., 15 Nov 1861. 1s.(4p.)
- **(40)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. A.L.s.(G.) Cambridge, 16 Nov 1861. 1s.(4p.)
- **(41)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. A.L.(unsigned) same, 19 Nov 1861. 1s.(4p.)
- **(42)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. A.L.s.(G.) Providence, 21 Nov 1861. 1s.(4p.)
- **(43)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. A.L.s.(initials) Buffalo, 10 Dec 1861. 1s.(2p.)
- **(44)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. A.L.s.(G.) Syracuse, 11 Dec 1861. 1s.(4p.)
- **(45)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. A.L.s.(G.) Rochester, 12 Dec 1861. 1s.(4p.)
- **(46)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. A.L.s.(G.) Washington, 20 Jan 1862. 1s.(4p.)
- **(47)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. A.L.s.(G.) Washington, 21 Jan 1862. 1s.(4p.)
- **(48)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. A.L.s.(G.) same, 22 Jan 1862. 2s.(6p.)
- **(49)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. A.L.s.(G.) same, 23 Jan 1862. 1s.(4p.)
- **(50)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. A.L.s.(G.) Cambridge, 8 Dec 1862. 1s.(4p.)
- **(51)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. A.L.s.(G.) Syracuse, 26 Jan 1863. 1s.(4p.)
- **(52)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. A.L.s.(G.) Troy, 3 Feb 1863. 1s.(4p.)

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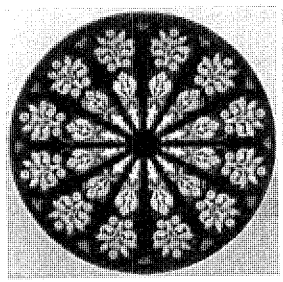

The Unitarian Church of Staten Island

Member of the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations

The Rev. Darrell Berger, Minister
312 Fillmore Street
Staten Island, NY 10301
718-447-2204

The History of Our Church

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Who We Are as a Church
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Leadership

Robert Gould Shaw, son of Francis George Shaw and Sarah Sturgis Shaw, founding members of the Unitarian Church of the Redeemer

During the mid-nineteenth century, the population of Staten Island numbered just over 15,000, with many newcomers from New England settling on the North Shore in Stapleton and New Brighton. On October 24, 1852, two congregations of liberal Christians, the New Brighton group known as the Congregational Church of the Evangelists and the United Independent Church of Stapleton, incorporated in what then became the Church of the Redeemer.

Established in the Unitarian denomination, in 1853, the Church of the Redeemer opened its first building near what is now Victory Boulevard and Cebra Avenue. It called the Reverend John Parkman, a Unitarian minister originally from New Hampshire, to lead the conjoined congregations, which he had served separately prior to their merger.

Distinguished Founding Families

Francis George Shaw, Bostonian businessman turned philosopher and philanthropist, settled on Staten Island in West New Brighton with his wife Sarah Sturgis. Socially conscious and deeply devoted to intellectual and spiritual pursuits, the Shaws became founding members of the new Unitarian church.

The best known of their children, Robert Gould Shaw and Anna and Josephine Shaw, were deeply influenced by their parents' commitment to social justice. Robert, who famously led the Fifty Fourth Massachusetts Regiment composed of freed slaves in the fateful Civil War attack on Battery Wagner, Morris Island, SC, was immortalized, along with his regiment, in the film *Glory*.

Anna was married at the Unitarian Church of the Redeemer to George William Curtis in 1856. Curtis, another New England transplant to Staten Island was an author, an editor of the short-lived but highly esteemed Putnam's Magazine, and a columnist for Harper's Magazine. He was an abolitionist and a supporter of civil rights for African Americans and Native Americans. He also advocated women's suffrage, civil service reform, and public education.

The Curtis and Shaw families, rooted as they were in the liberal soil of New England, counted among their close associates Emerson, Hawthorne and Thoreau.

Anna Shaw Curtis

Josephine married Charles Russell Lowell, Jr., in 1863 in the same little church where her sister was married. Lowell graduated from Harvard in 1854 at the head of his class but when the Civil war began he demanded a commission as his patriotic duty. Josephine joined him in Virginia to help care for the sick and wounded. He was fatally wounded in the Battle of Cedar Creek on October 19, 1864 and was promoted brigadier general of U.S. Volunteers. He died on the next day at Middletown, Virginia, at the age of 29. Josephine and her young daughter Carlotta, born one month after his death, returned to Staten Island to live with her parents.

The Shaw sisters and their mother spearheaded local efforts to help the war effort. The Underground Railroad was in use during this time to help runaway slaves, and it is believed that the Curtises and the Shaws were very involved in this effort. George Curtis was targeted by Southern sympathizers and, during the draft riots in NYC during 1863, Anna and her three children left Staten Island temporarily for the safety of her grandparents' home in Roxbury Massachusetts.

George William Curtis, husband of Anna Shaw Curtis

Josephine Shaw Lowell: A Life in Service to Others

Josephine, a 21-year-old widow and mother, after a respectable period of mourning for both her husband and her brother, embarked upon a life of effort to help others. One of her first missions took her to Virginia with the Freedman's Association to help establish schools for African Americans in the South. This was just the beginning of her commitment to be a force for change in society for justice, freedom, and upholding moral values. In 1874 she moved from her parents' house on Staten Island to Manhattan.

Josephine Shaw Lowell

Josephine was a life-long Unitarian. She preferred its liberal faith and sincere beliefs in humanism. She hated all forms of bigotry, and worked to overcome them. She became a career woman in the growing field of organized philanthropy and government service. In 1876 she was appointed by Governor Tilden of New York State to be the first woman commissioner of the New York State Board of Charities. She served in this position until 1889, using her post to speak out, lobby, legislate, and advocate for people who were unable to do so themselves.

Her list of affiliations and accomplishments is lengthy: improved care for the insane; benefits for dependent children and widows; improved reformatories; police matrons for women prisoners; the emancipation of labor; advocacy of settlement houses; civil service reform; consumer's rights; and anti-imperialism. There is a permanent memorial to Josephine Shaw Lowell in Bryant Park in Manhattan.

In a letter to her sister-in-law in 1883 she writes, "Common charity, that is, feeding and clothing people, I am beginning to look upon as wicked! Not in its intention, of course, but in its carelessness and its results, which certainly are to destroy people's character and make them poorer and poorer. If it could only be drummed into the rich that what the poor want is fair wages and not little doles of food, we should not have all this suffering and misery and vice."

From Auspicious Beginnings to Years of Hardship

The early enthusiasm for the new church was not sustained due in part to its inaccessibility for many New Brighton congregants. Not only was it some distance from their homes but also its situation on a slope below a passage known as "Mud Lane" suggests a sea of mud that greeted churchgoers in damp and rainy weather. Attendance dwindled. Members were moving away or dying. Reverend Parkman submitted his resignation in December 1858 and in 1863, a mere ten years following its establishment, the Unitarian Church of the Redeemer closed its doors and sold the building to Trinity Lutheran Church.

Despite the setback, a dedicated core group of members kept the spirit of the church alive during the difficult years of the Civil War. Although there was no church home and no regular worship services, the New Brighton women kept the Sunday school in operation at the Union Sabbath School on First Street near Jersey Street. And so the church lived on in its Sunday school teachers and its children.

In 1868, a second church opened at the present site, at the corner of Fillmore Street and Clinton Avenue on land donated by George Jewitt, a prominent member of the community and a founding member of the church. In a peculiar design, which was to be its downfall, the steeply pitched roof descended sharply from ridgepole to the first story. Satirically known as "St. Roofus", the church was cold and drafty. The decade of the 1870s would prove again to be a period of decline with older members dying and their offspring moving away, leaving the church in heavy debt.

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The Stalwart Women of the Church

These, too, were years in which there was no permanent minister. Once again the women and the Sunday school proved to be the linchpin of the church community. The Shaw sisters assumed important leadership positions in the church. When Josephine returned from her work in Virginia with the Freedmen's Association

setting up schools for freed slaves, she became one of the first women elected to the Board of Trustees of the Unitarian Church of the Redeemer. She was instrumental in convincing the Reverend W. R. G. Mellen to leave Chicago for a ministerial position on Staten Island in 1871. He was only able to stay for a period of three years due to dwindling church funds and rising debt.

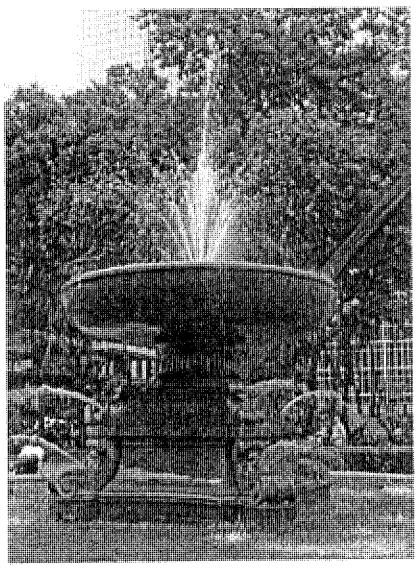
Despite these financial difficulties, the women of the church were able to raise money to purchase an organ by "giving a theatrical exhibition at the Town Hall." The five stalwart women of the church were Mrs. Sarah Holman Hicks, Mrs. Anna Shaw Curtis, Mrs. Josephine Lowell, Mrs. Charles C. Goodhue and Mrs. L.W. Johnson.

In 1881 the congregation voted to close the church, due to its perilous condition. Between 1881 and 1893 the church Sunday school persevered in the home of Sarah H. Hicks, up the street from the collapsing building. After sustaining severe damage in the blizzard of 1888, due to the stress of the massive roof upon the supporting structure, the building was demolished. Some of the original features were salvaged, including the beautiful rose window, and used in the construction of the third and current building, designed by Frank Quimby in the Arts and Crafts style. It was dedicated on March 31, 1895.

Anna Curtis was president of the Board of Trustees for the Unitarian Church of the Redeemer, (later re-named the Unitarian Church of Staten Island) for sixteen years 1903-1919. She remained active in the church as a Board member until 1923. During her tenure she spearheaded many important projects, including the building of the parish hall and the parsonage. It is a testament to her efforts that both buildings are still in use today.

Since its founding by abolitionists almost a hundred and fifty years ago, our church has had a proud and liberal heritage. Our leadership and members have included civil rights activists, champions of women's suffrage and women's liberation; antiwar and antinuclear activists. In 2005, our membership voted unanimously to become a Welcoming Congregation, opening our hearts to the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered communities.

This Church history was adapted from the writings of UCSI Minister Emeritus Benjamin Bortin; Bradford Green, UCSI historian; and Susan McAnanama, long-time member of the congregation.



Josephine Shaw Lowell Memorial Fountain

At the western gateway to Bryant Park, behind the magnificent Beaux-Arts New York Public Library building, is the pink granite Josephine Shaw Lowell Memorial Fountain, designed by Charles Adams Platt and dedicated in 1912. This was the city's first public memorial dedicated to a woman.

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Josephine Shaw Lowell 1843-1905
&
Anna Shaw Curtis 1838-1927

Staten Island True Women - Social Reformer and Church Lay Leader

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Anna and Josephine Shaw were two of five children born to Francis George Shaw and Sarah Sturgis of New England. They were sixth generation Americans born to a family of wealth and privilege.Their father was a businessman turned philosopher and philanthropist. Although he was born rich, he used his money to benefit mankind and his own family. The parents were devoted to their four daughters and one son. Their influence on Anna and Josephine continued throughout their lives. They traveled abroad for five years from 1851-1856 and instilled in their children love, attention, religious tolerance, and culture. In 1855 the family settled in Staten Island. They moved toStaten Island primarily because Mrs. Shaw need medical attention for her eyes and she wanted to be near Dr. Elliott, a well-respected doctor in West New Brighton. Anna, the eldest child, and Josephine, the second youngest, grew up to have very different lives, despite their very similar childhood. They were both true women and believed in family, traditions, and high moral standards. There is quite a bit of information about Josephine Shaw Lowell including her own writings, essays, letters, and memorials. There is very little about Anna's life, except what is recorded by her famous husband, George William Curtis, and in the records of the small Unitarian Church she was married in and where she served as president of the Board of Trustees for sixteen years.

Anna Shaw Curtis

Anna was married at the age of 20 to George William Curtis in 1856 in the Church of the Redeemer in New Brighton, Staten Island. George was an intellectual, an orator, an author, and considered to be a splendid match. Curtis was very much in love with Anna. He said, "she is thoroughly feminine yet conscious of social evils and eager to remedy them....thoroughly domestic, yet intelligent and widely read and able to charm the distinguished visitors."

Anna's husband George was a witer, but soon after they were married, an investment in Putnam's Monthly soured. Anna's father made him a loan, and for the next ten years George traveled far and wide and lectured frequently to reduce his business debt to his father-in-law. Anna and George lived with the Shaws after they were married and eventually they settled near her parents in a big house on Bard and Henderson. They lived there for the rest of their lives. Anna Curtis helped her famous husband in many ways. She typed all his essays and articles. She talked over difficult situations frankly and honestly and showed clear judgement. She was not a social butterfly. She avoided public functions. She was not a social butterfly. She took full charge of their home, stables, and grounds with very little assistance from her busy husband. According to her husband's biographer, Anna loved her own extended family above all. Her children Frank, Sally, and Elizabeth certainly kept her busy. Sally, her middle child was classified as "slow"and Anna was very attentive to her needs. She spent much of her adult life devoted to raising her children, and helping those in her immediate neighborhood who were in need. There is little mention of her traveling with George on his many excursions. George Curtis was a spokesman for women's rights. On the tenth anniversary of the Declaration of Sentiments in 1858 he said, "Good wifehood does not consist exclusively of skillful baking and boiling, neat darning and patching but in intellectual and public interests as well. The higher the estimate of women, the better the

civilization...in a truly civilized society she should be given the right to vote and the opportunity for higher education." He must have had his wife in mind, and she strove to meet his definition of womanhood her entire life.

During the Civil War, she and her sisters and mother spearheaded local efforts to help the war effort. Although her whole family was abolitionist, there is no record of her ideas or actions in this regard. There is mention of knitting socks and sewinggarments to be sent to the front. The Underground Railroad was in use during this time to help runaway slaves, and it is believed that the Curtises and the Shaws were very involved in this effort. George Curtis was targeted by Southern sympathizers and during the draft riots in NYC during 1863, Anna and her three children left Staten Island to stay with her grandparents in Roxbury Massachusetts.

After the war, and the deaths of her brother Robert Gould Shaw, and her brother-in-law Charles Russell Lowell, Anna and her immediate family spent long summers in Ashfield Massachusetts in the Berkshires. Her children thrived in both these environments. Frank entered Harvard in 1875, and eventually became a medical doctor. Sally, the "slow" daughter died in 1874. Elizabeth Curtis was well educated, musical, and eventually grew up to found the Political Equality Club for Women, which evolved into the League of Women Voters. Elizabeth died before her mother in 1914. Little is known about the details of her life after George Curtis died in 1892. Anna became even more active in her church, taking on leadership and administrative assignments. She served as President of the Board of Trustees for the Church of the Redeemer, (later re-named the Unitarian Church of Staten Island for sixteen years from 1903-1919. She still was active in the church up until 1923 as an active Board member. During her tenure she undertook many substantial and important projects. She instigated the building of a parish hall and a parsonage. She worked closely with several ministers to accomplish much good. One of the ways in which the small church raised over $5,000.00 for these projects was to hold a Dickens festival in 1910. Both buildings are still in use today and are a testament to her efforts. Anna was influenced by her parents, and her husband, and the society she lived in. She was a successful daughter, wife, mother, and capable efficient and selfless church leader. This true woman is rarely mentioned in history books but gave much to her family, her church, and her country.

Josephine Shaw Lowell (1843-1905)

Josephine's life might have turned out more like her sister Anna's had her husband not been killed in battle during the Civil War. Her mother considered her "the genius" of her family. She was quick to learn, and eventually with studying abroad was able to learn several languages. She was influenced by the constant intellectual discourse in her household. Her early years were spent studying , but she showed an inclination to help others by the time she was thirteen. She assisted a poor settlement of Irish families in her neighborhood by offering treats at her home. She eagerly joined with her mother working with the Woman's Central Relief Association in NYC packing up clothing and useful items to soldiers. She kept a diary before her marriage and shows an unusual interest in the affairs of the country. She was quite concerned with the military successes and failure. She knew many young men from her circle of friends and family that were serving their country, and followed the news very carefully. She was involved with many conversations about important ideas with men and never took a back seat. This may have distinguished her from many other girls, but her family was quite liberal and educated.

She married Charles Russell Lowell Jr. in 1863 in the same little church on Staten Island that her sister was married in.. Lowell graduated Harvard in 1954, at the head of his class. He was self-supporting in business, but when the war began he demanded a commission as his patriotic duty. Josephine Shaw

Lowell decided to join him in Virginia and help take care of the sick and wounded. They were very much in love and his bravery was evident. He died a hero in battle and was called "a perfection of man and soldier." Unfortunately he never lived to see his daughter born one month after his death. Josephine and her young daughter Carlotta went back to Staten Island to live with her parents. She mourned for her husband, and her brother and started a long correspondence with her brother's widow, Annie.. There are no letters or evidence of discussions between Josephine and her sister Anna during this time, but they lived close by and probably saw each other regularly. After a respectable period of mourning, Josephine, a 21-year-old widow and mother renewed her efforts to help others, and she never stopped. One of her first missions was with the Freedman's Association. She and a friend traveled to Virginia with the goal of establishing schools for colored people in the South. This was just the beginning of her commitment to be a force for change in society for justice, freedom, and upholding moral values. In 1874 she moved from her parents house on Staten Island to NYC where she wished her daughter to be educated properly. She was already knee deep in charity work, visiting poorhouses and reporting on abuses. Her home on E. 30th street was simple but very welcoming. She rejected personal extravagances and the society life, choosing instead to be a charity worker day and night, with only Sunday as her day of reflection.

She was a life-long Unitarian in her religious beliefs. She preferred their liberal faith and sincere beliefs in humanism. She hated all forms of bigotry, and worked to right any wrongs. Josephine became a career woman in the growing field or organized philanthropy and government service. In 1876 she was appointed by Governor Tilden of New York State to be the first woman commissioner of the NYS Board of Charities.

In this position she served until 1889, using her post to speak out, lobby, legislate, and advocate for people who were unable to do so themselves.

Her list of affiliations and accomplishments is lengthy. The highlights of her achievements during her lifetime are as follows: Improved care for the insane; work for dependent children and widows; improved reformatories; police matrons for women prisoners; work for the emancipation of labor; settlement house advocate; civil service reformer; consumers league organizer, and anti-imperialist leader.. All this she did within the established context of society. She sometimes did become angry with others in society, but she never stopped trying. In a letter to her sister-in-law in 1883 she writes, " Common charity, that is, feeding and clothing people, I am beginning to look upon as wicked! Not in its intention, of course, but in its carelessness and its results, which certainly are to destroy people's character and make them poorer and poorer. If it could only be drummed into the rich that what the poor want is fair wages and not little doles of food, we should not have all this suffering and misery and vice. ."

Personally her life was fulfilled with family, friends, and her work. She never remarried and never rejected her true womanhood. She always dressed in black and believed first in her duties toward home. She was opposed to the concept of institutionalism, except as a last resort. She believed that even a poor home was preferable to a good institution. Later in life she spoke out on more political matters and in a speech advocating her support for William Jennings Bryan for president she revealed her passion for patriotism and morality. "When the people of the United States consent to deprive another people of its rights and liberties, they strike a terrific blow at the foundations upon which stand their own rights and liberties." Josephine was opposed to both the Spanish-American and Philippine-American wars. "We paid a bitter price to free ourselves from the sin of slavery, and the nation will again pay a bitter price to free itself from the sin of empire, if, driven by fear of financial distress or lured by hope of wealth, it now deserts its ancient ideals." In this fight she did not prevail, but her ideas certainly made an impact. She died from an incurable disease in 1905.

The memorial service to Josephine Shaw Lowell had hundreds of attendees and at least 50 eulogies, as

well as write-ups in the daily newspapers. She was remembered in the *Outlook* as "devoted herself to public affairs without sacrificing her womanliness." There is a permanent memorial to Josephine Shaw Lowell in Bryant Park in NYC. It is a classical style granite fountain dedicated shortly after her death.

Further Resources for Studying:

George William Curtis & the Genteel Tradition by Gordon Milne
The Philanthropic Work of Josephine Shaw Lowell by William Rinelander Stewart
Unitarian Church of Staten Island
Curtis, Staten Island's First High School

Return to the New York City Women's Biography Hub
Return to the Course Homepage for HST/WMS 386

Prepared by Susan McAnanama, a student in Professor Catherine Lavender's History/Women's Studies 386 (Women in New York City, 1890-1940) course, The Department of History and The Program in Women's Studies, The College of Staten Island of The City University of New York.

Send email to Susan McAnanama at suebu@aol.com or to Professor Lavender at lavender@postbox.csi.cuny.edu.
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Crisis and progress : the rhetoric and ideals of nineteenth century reformer, George William Curtis (1824-1892)

Author/Creator: Robert Charles Kennedy

Subjects: Curtis, George William, 1824-1892; Reformers -- United States

Publisher: Thesis (Ph. D.)--Graduate College of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 1993.

Language: English

Publication Date: 1993

Description: vii, 558 p. ; 21 cm.

Available:
- New-York Historical SocietyMain Collection (HN64 .K36 1993 Non-circulating)

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Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. George William Curtis papers, 1839-1930: Guide. (MS Am 1124.5 -1124.8) [Persistent ID: nrs.harvard.edu/urn-3:FHCL.Hough:hou00968] View HOLLIS Record

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Repository: Houghton Library, Harvard College Library, Harvard University
Location: b, MS
Call No.: MS Am 1124.5
Call No.: MS Am 1124.6
Call No.: MS Am 1124.7
Call No.: MS Am 1124.8
Creator: Curtis, George William, 1824-1892.
Title: George William Curtis papers,
Date(s): 1839-1930.
Quantity: 8 boxes, and 3 volumes (4.5 linear ft.)
Language of materials: Collection materials are in English.
Abstract: Speeches, lectures, journals, clippings and obituaries by or about American author George Curtis.

Acquisition Information:

MS Am 1124.5: *47M-59 Gift of George W. Curtis Esq., Ashfield, Massachusetts; received: 1947 October 1.

MS Am 1124.6 and MS Am 1124.7 Gift of Bridgham Curtis; received: 1940 Mar. 16 - 1942 Mar. 5. Both recataloged from MS Am 1124 (614) and MS Am 1124 (615); formerly MS Am 50.

MS Am 1124.8: *42M-330F. Gift of his son, Bridgham Curtis, Bate, Curtis & Loeb, 11 Broadway, New York, N.Y.; received: 1942 March 26.

Access Restrictions:

There are no restrictions on physical access to this material.

Preferred Citation for Publication:

George William Curtis Papers, 1839-1930 (MS Am 1124.5-1124.8). Houghton Library, Harvard University.

Historical Note

Curtis was an American author, orator, editor, and reformer.

Scope and Content

Primarily autograph manuscript speeches and lectures along with poems, a notebook, a commonplace book, two journals, and a scrapbook of clippings and obituaries.

Container List

- **Series: bMS Am 1124.5** 8 boxes.
  - **(1)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. Notebook] A.Ms.s. (Geo. Wm. Curtis); Linz, Jun [1848]., etc. [20]p., 36 blank l.
  - **(2)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. [Commonplace book] A. Ms. unsigned; [n.p., n.d.] [36]p., 62 blank l.
  - **(3)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *Dora [and Henry]* A.Ms. unsigned; Lenox [Mass.] 24 Aug 1845. 43p. num. 25-67, 5 blank p. num. 68-72.
    Leaves have been cut from both ends of the notebook.
  - **(4)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. [Poems] A.Ms.s. (George William Curtis); [v.p.] 1844-1850. 279p., 28 blank l.
    With annotation by author, 'Please print nothing which I may leave behind me'.
  - **(5)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *The faith of the fathers.* Newspaper clipping mounted in small composition-book, s. (Geo. William Curtis); Port Richmond, 4 Jul 1860.
  - **(6)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *Lecture upon public opinion as a motive.* A.Ms.s. (G. W. C.); [Boston?] 15 Nov [1841].
  - **(7)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *Dora.* Typescript; [Lenox, Mass., 1845]
    See item (3) for original A.Ms.
  - **(8)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *Two months of Switzerland with a week of Italy.* A.Ms. unsigned; [v.p.] 1849.
  - **(9)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *Gold and gilt in young America.* A.Ms. unsigned; [n.p.] 1853.
  - **(10)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *The duty of the American scholar to politics and the times.* A.Ms. unsigned; [n.p.] 1856.
  - **(11)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *Patriotism.* A.Ms. unsigned; [n.p.] 1857.
  - **(12)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *Farming and farmers.* A.Ms. unsigned; [n.p.] 1858.
  - **(13)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *The present aspect of the slavery question.* A.Ms. unsigned; [n.p.] Oct 1859.
  - **(14)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *The policy of honesty.* A.Ms. unsigned; [n.p.] 13 Nov 1860.
  - **(15)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *The American doctrine of liberty.* A.Ms. unsigned; [n.p.] Jul 1862.
  - **(16)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *The way of peace.* A.Ms. unsigned; [n.p.] Aug 1863.

- **(17)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *Political infidelity.* A.Ms. unsigned; [n.p.] Mar 1864.
- **(18)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *The good fight.* A.Ms. unsigned; [n.p.] 1865-1866.
- **(19)** Curtis, George, William, 1824-1892. *The way of peace.* A.Ms. unsigned; [n.p.] 1866.
- **(20)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *Conservatism.* A.Ms. unsigned; [n.p.] 1868 (?)
- **(21)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *Political morality.* A.Ms. unsigned; [n.p.] 1868-1869.
- **(22)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *Tennyson.* A.Ms. unsigned; [delivered at Cornell, May 1869 and 15 May 1871]
- **(23)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *Robert Browning.* A.Ms. unsigned; [delivered at Cornell, 7 May 1869 and 16 May 1871]
- **(24)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *Some minor recent poets.* A.Ms. unsigned; [delivered at Cornell, 9 May 1869 and 18 May 1871]
- **(25)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *American literature.* A.Ms. unsigned; [delivered at Cornell, 7 Jun 1869]
- **(26)** Curtis, George, William, 1824-1892. *The public duty of educated men in America.* A.Ms. unsigned; [delivered at Union College, 27 Jun 1877]
- **(27)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *[Speeches on women's suffrage]* Typescripts of 9 speeches, with a few Ms. notations; [v.p.] 1860-1889.
- **(28)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *Grant or Greeley & why.* A.Ms. unsigned; [n.p., n.d.]
- **(29)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *[Charlotte Bronte (Currer Bell)]* A.Ms. unsigned; [n.p., n.d.]
  First leaf damaged, affecting title and beginning of text.
- **(30)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. [Fragments of two orations: *Centennial oration before the board of regents of the university of the state of New York (Albany, 1884)* and *Machine politics and the remedy (New York, 1880)]* A.Mss. unsigned; New York and Albany, 1880-1884.
- **(31)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. The river (poem). A.MS. (unsigned); Concord, May 1846.
- **(32)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *From a romance.* A.Ms. unsigned; [n.p., n.d.]
- **(33)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *Tales told in a gondola. 1. Guy & his gondolier.* A.Ms. unsigned; [n.p., n.d.]
- **(34)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *Elis & Ulla.* A.Ms. unsigned; [n.p., n.d.]
- **(35)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *The invisible church [and] the visible church.* Typescript unsigned; [n.p., n.d.]
- **(36)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *[Thackeray]* A.Ms. unsigned; [n.p., n.d. (Cornell? 1869)]
- **(37)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *[Thackeray* (continued)] A.Ms. unsigned; [n.p., n.d. (Cornell? 1869?)]
- **(38)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *[Party government]* A.Ms. unsigned; [n.p., n.d.]
- **(39)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. [Notes, galley-proofs, clippings, etc., of lectures and orations] Ms. and printed; [v.p., v.d.] 1 box.

- **Series**: MS Am 1124.6 **Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. Journal no. 3 Continued from no. 2 : AMs (unsigned), Hallstadt to Heidelberg, 1848 June 10 - July 4.** 39f. (78p.) in 1 v.
  Recat. from MS Am 50.

- **Series**: MS Am 1124.7 **Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. Journal : AMs (unsigned), Baden-Baden to Magdeburn, 1848 August 2 - October 6.** 1 v.
  Includes: *Meeta* : AMs (unsigned), Concord, Mass., 1845 Nov. 6. (9p.).

Recat. from MS Am 50.

- **Series**: MS Am 1124.8 **Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. Scrapbook : clippings and photographs, 1839-1930.** 1 v.

  Many are obituaries of Curtis collected by Mrs. Curtis, but also includes photographs of early residences and GWC portraits, and clippings of orations and speeches. Also with articles about Curtis long after his death.

  *42M-330F.

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http://www.historic-restorations.com/wp-content/uploads/Chuck-Pic_compressed-252x300.jpg

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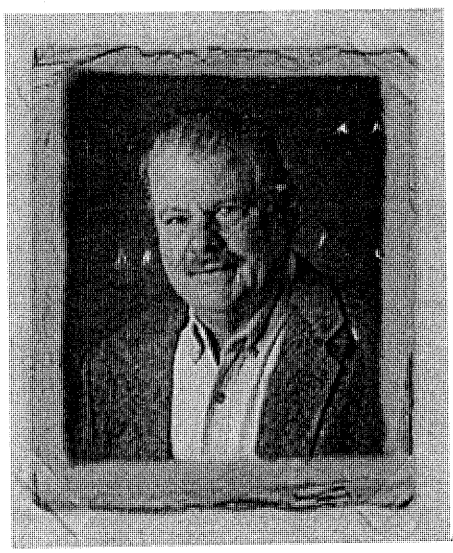


A unique combination of life experience makes Chuck our resident visionary and artist. In the 1970's Chuck began his construction career underground mining in Colorado, giving him experience in structural engineering. From there he moved through the trades working as a framer, mason, roofer, and carpenter forming his vision of how a design/build renovation company should be - providing all services to the client to allow complete control over the project outcome. In the mid-1980's with this in mind he began his apprenticeship in a modern cabinet shop. Using his background as a platform in the early 1990's Chuck began to devote his life and career to fine custom cabinetry, furniture, millwork, and whole house period-style restoration.

Chuck has attended classes and workshops to increase his knowledge of the building trades. As a member of the Preservation Trades Network he has attended the International Preservation Trades workshop to network and learn from like-minded individuals. In a world that has been fed a cheaper, faster, replace – repeat kind of diet, Chuck believes that permanence and sustainability are needed in the building trades.

Chuck enjoys watching the Steelers win and perfecting his barbecue techniques when not working.

Chuck co-authored a recently released book on historic preservation with his daughter Danielle. *Preservation Primer, Volume 1: Avoid Common Mistakes that Cause Irreversible & Costly Damage to Your Historical Building's Architectural Integrity* is available on Amazon in both **Print edition** and **Kindle edition**.

The book was also featured in a Lancaster Newspapers Sunday News article "Pointers from Preservationists".

Click here to read the full article.

Jonathan Keperling

A native Lancastrian – Jonathan has worked in the restoration field since 1998. He is usually given the tasks that require attention to detail, though the crew knows that it is best to leave him alone until 10 AM when his mood improves dramatically.

Jonathan's contributions as a principle of the company have provided a fresh perspective and insight. Jonathan has taken several classes related to building trades and wood finishing. As a member of the Preservation Trades Network he continues to look for ways to increase his knowledge in the trades.

When Jonathan is not on the job site or in the shop you can find him playing video games, organizing music on his iPod, or wishing for a motorcycle . . . anything but working on his own house.

Lois Groshong

Lois is Chuck's business partner and wife. She enjoys being part of the supporting arm of the company. Lois contributes to the company's success by dealing with clients and helping to organize the office.

Lois is the Chairperson of the Lancaster City Historic Commission overseeing the demolition and development within the Lancaster Historic Commission. She has been certified by Buck's County Community College in Historic Preservation.

Most recently Lois has turned her attention to promoting the Lancaster Historic Home Show helping to bring together vintage homeowners, people who supply goods and services, and traditional trade professionals in one place to help promote the traditional building trades.

SUNDAY NEWS

Building on a respect for old structures

Saving historically significant buildings has become a way of life for Lois Groshong.

"I started my life in an old house," says the native Nebraskan. "I lived in a home that my grandfather built for his family, and I was drawn to it. I always felt a need to take care of it." A city resident, Groshong is chairwoman of the Lancaster Historical Commission, which oversees new construction and demolition of properties within the Heritage Conservation District.

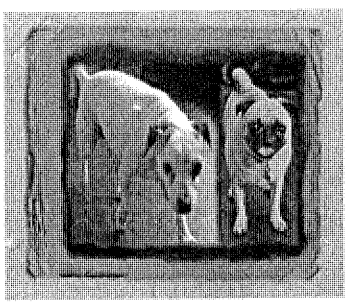
Her philosophy and preservation work were featured in a Lancaster Newspapers Sunday News article "Building on Respect for Old Structures". *Click on the picture at the right to read the full article...*

Danielle Groshong-Keperling

Danielle has worked in the construction industry since 2001. Her duties include ordering supplies for the projects, bookkeeping, and organizing the office and job site paperwork. She is the person to go to if you need to run down a detail about a project – she knows exactly which pile the answer is in.

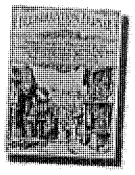
Before this career she worked as a cake decorator as assures us that dealing with an emotional bride is similar to helping someone through the sometimes difficult, though always rewarding, and remodeling process.

Danielle recently earned her MBA in Management from Eastern University. She is now keeping herself busy organizing the Central Pennsylvania Preservation Society monthly meetings and volunteering on the Historic Preservation Trust of Lancaster County's marketing and publicity committee.



She enjoys the creativity and exchange of ideas that the design/build project entails. Seeing the project go through the initial meeting, design, and then building process is one of the most rewarding aspects of the job to Danielle.

Often when you call the office you will hear Danielle's "children" in the background, a Jack Russell named Delilah, and Angelica a Pug. After work you can find Danielle nagging Jonathan to finish projects around the house, watching reality TV, or reading.



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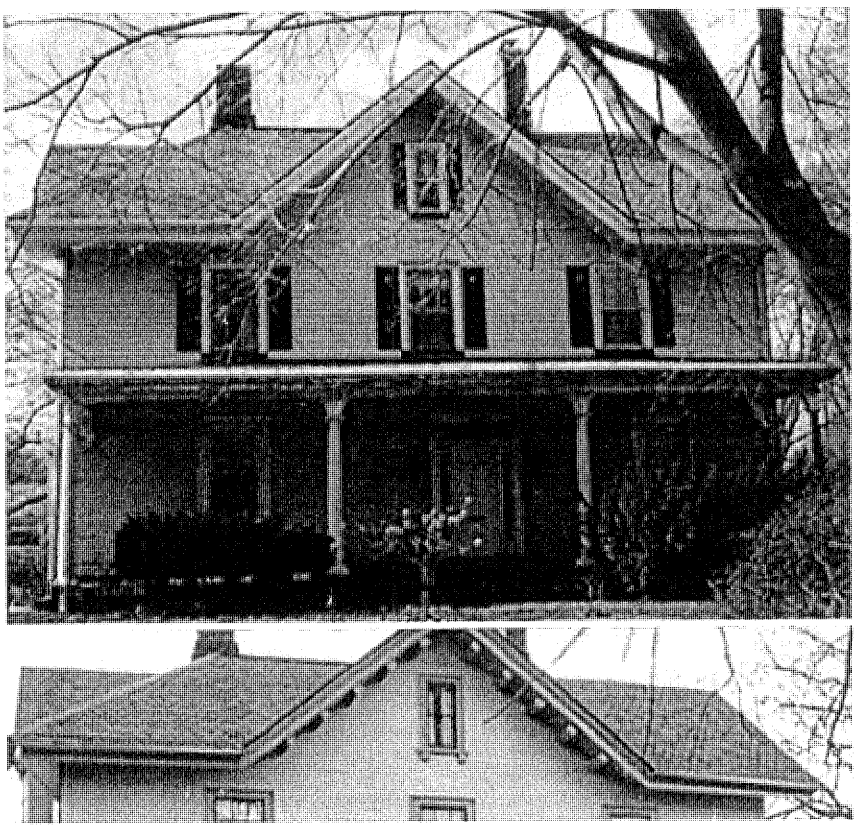
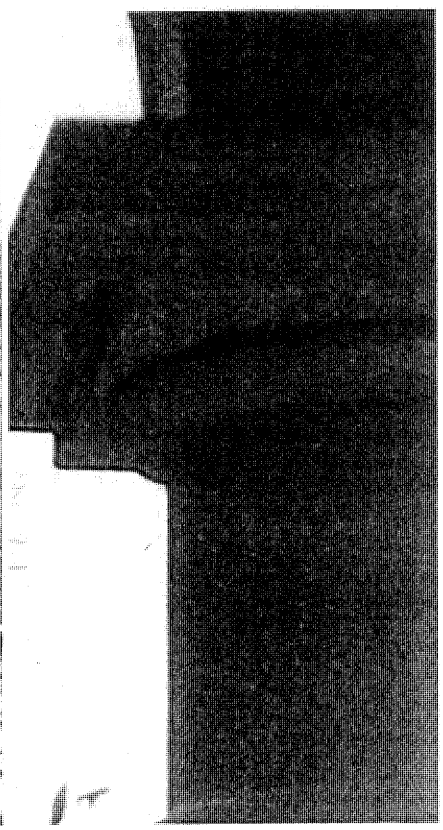
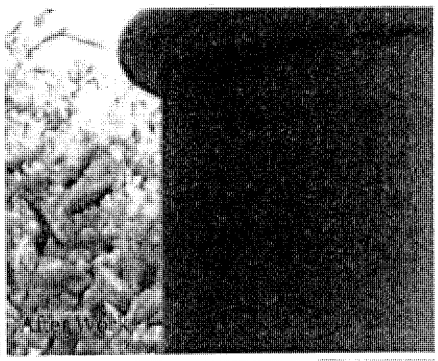
George William Curtis House, Staten Island

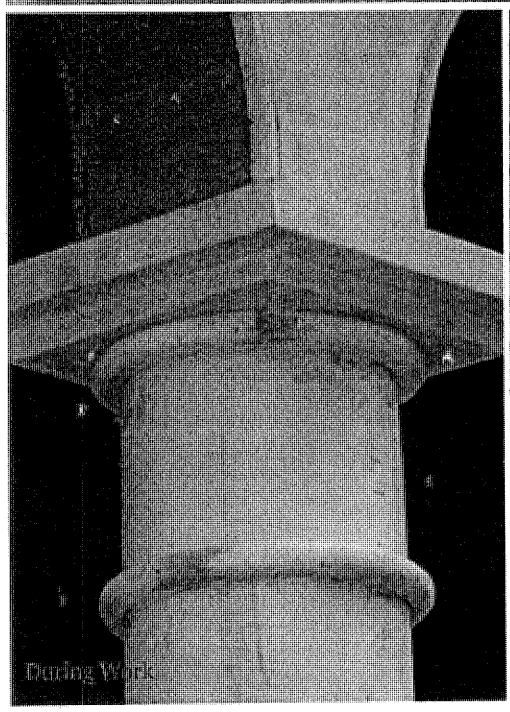
For this project, we fabricated 19th Century porch architectural details, installed columns, built stairs, replaced ears on window sills, replaced brackets under the eave, fabricated true divided light windows to replace modern replacement windows, and fabricated solid wood louvered shutters.

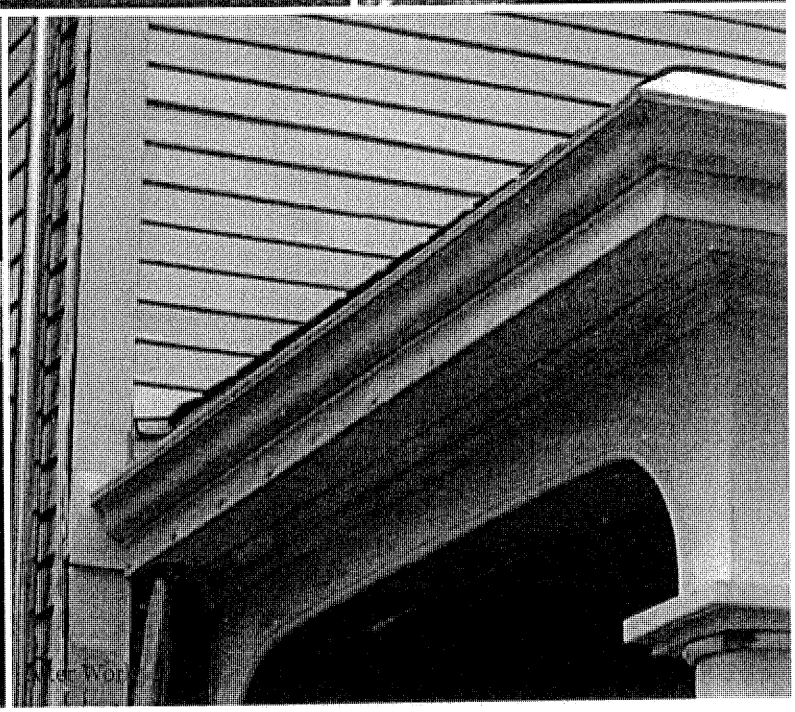
Read Lois Groshong's article "The Legacy" to learn more about George William Curtis and the historical significance of his house.











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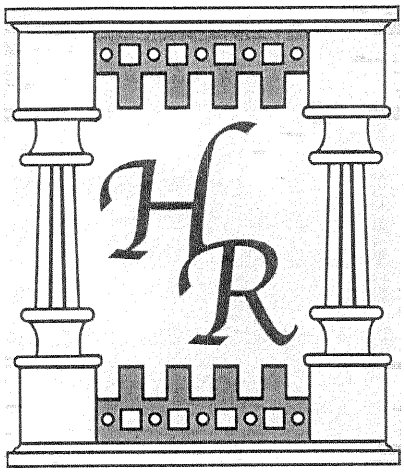
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Author	Foote, Lorien, 1969-
Title	**Seeking the one great remedy : Francis George Shaw and nineteenth-century reform / Lorien Foote.**
Imprint	Athens : Ohio University Press, 2003.

Location	Call No.	Status	Message
Schwarzman Building - Main Reading Room 315	JFE 03-15745 ---	AVAILABLE	USE IN LIBRARY

DETAILS

Description	xi, 224 p. : ill., ports. ; 24 cm.
Bibliography	Includes bibliographical references (p. 207-216) and index.
Subject	Shaw, Francis George, 1809-1882. Shaw family. Abolitionists -- United States -- Biography. Social reformers -- United States -- Biography. Feminists -- United States -- Biography. Businessmen -- New England -- Biography. Antislavery movements -- United States -- History -- 19th century. Social movements -- United States -- History -- 19th century. United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865 -- African Americans. Reconstruction (U.S. history, 1865-1877) -- Social aspects.
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ISBN	0821414992 (acid-free paper)
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Research Call Number	JFE 03-15745

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Author	Burchard, Peter.
Title	**"We'll stand by the Union" : Robert Gould Shaw and the Black 54th Massachusetts Regiment / Peter Burchard.**
Imprint	New York : Facts on File, c1993.

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DETAILS

Description	xi, 132 p. : ill. ; 24 cm.
Series	Makers of America
	Makers of America (Facts on File, Inc.)
Bibliography	Includes bibliographical references (p. 119-124) and index.
Subject	Shaw, Robert Gould, 1837-1863.
	United States. Army. Massachusetts Infantry Regiment, 54th (1863-1865)
	Massachusetts -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865 -- Regimental histories.
	Massachusetts -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865 -- Participation, Afro-American.
	United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865 -- Regimental histories.
	United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865 -- Participation, Afro-American.
	Soldiers -- Massachusetts -- Biography.
	African Americans -- History -- To 1863.
	African Americans -- History -- 1863-1877.
LCCN	92037132
ISBN	0816026092
Research Call Number	IKG (Mass. : 54th regt.) 94-2215
	Sc E 94-265

Author	Dall, Caroline Wells Healey, 1822-1912.
Title	**Daughter of Boston : the extraordinary diary of a nineteenth-century woman / Caroline Healey Dall ; edited by Helen R. Deese.**
Imprint	Boston : Beacon Press, c2005.

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Location	Call No.	Status	Message
Schwarzman Building - Main Reading Room 315	JFE 06-1392 ---	AVAILABLE	USE IN LIBRARY

DETAILS

Description	xxxiii, 452 p. : ill., ports. ; 24 cm.
Bibliography	Includes bibliographical references (p. 357-414) and index.
Subject	Dall, Caroline Wells Healey, 1822-1912 -- Diaries. Boston (Mass.) -- Intellectual life -- 19th century. Authors, American -- 19th century -- Diaries. Reformers -- United States -- Diaries.
Added Author	Deese, Helen.
LCCN	2005011774
ISBN	0807050342 (cloth : alk. paper)
Call No.	JFE 06-1392
Research Call Number	JFE 06-1392

Author	Waugh, Joan.
Title	**Unsentimental reformer : the life of Josephine Shaw Lowell / Joan Waugh.**
Imprint	Cambridge, Mass. : Harvard University Press, 1997.

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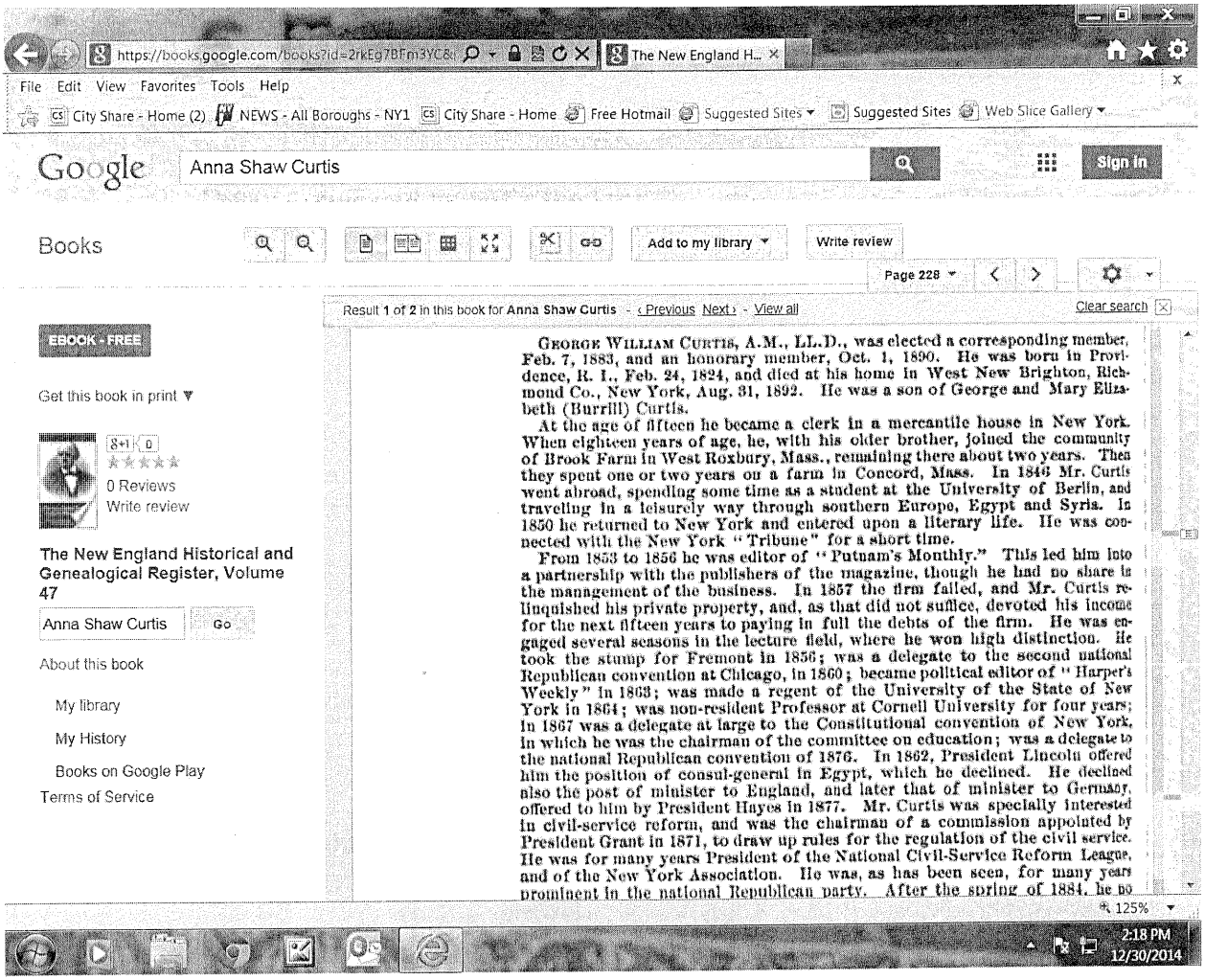
Description	296 p. : ill. ; 25 cm.
Bibliography	Includes bibliographical references (p. [285]-289) and index.
Subject	Lowell, Josephine Shaw, 1843-1905. Charity Organization Society of the City of New York -- History. Women philanthropists -- New York (State) -- Biography. Women social reformers -- New York (State) -- Biography.
Added Title	Life of Josephine Shaw Lowell
LCCN	97015647
ISBN	0674930363
Call No.	JFE 98-5449
Research Call Number	JFE 98-5449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GEORGE WILLIAM CURTIS, A.M., LL.D., was elected a corresponding member, Feb. 7, 1883, and an honorary member, Oct. 1, 1890. He was born in Providence, R. I., Feb. 24, 1824, and died at his home in West New Brighton, Richmond Co., New York, Aug. 31, 1892. He was a son of George and Mary Elizabeth (Burrill) Curtis.
At the age of fifteen he became a clerk in a mercantile house in New York. When eighteen years of age, he, with his older brother, joined the community of Brook Farm in West Roxbury, Mass., remaining there about two years. Then they spent one or two years on a farm in Concord, Mass. In 1846 Mr. Curtis went abroad, spending some time as a student at the University of Berlin, and traveling in a leisurely way through southern Europe, Egypt and Syria. In 1850 he returned to New York and entered upon a literary life. He was connected with the New York "Tribune" for a short time.
From 1853 to 1856 he was editor of "Putnam's Monthly." This led him into a partnership with the publishers of the magazine, though he had no share in the management of the business. In 1857 the firm failed, and Mr. Curtis relinquished his private property, and, as that did not suffice, devoted his income for the next fifteen years to paying in full the debts of the firm. He was engaged several seasons in the lecture field, where he won high distinction. He took the stump for Fremont in 1856; was a delegate to the second national Republican convention at Chicago, in 1860; became political editor of "Harper's Weekly" in 1863; was made a regent of the University of the State of New York in 1864; was non-resident Professor at Cornell University for four years; in 1867 was a delegate at large to the Constitutional convention of New York, in which he was the chairman of the committee on education; was a delegate to the national Republican convention of 1876. In 1862, President Lincoln offered him the position of consul-general in Egypt, which he declined. He declined also the post of minister to England, and later that of minister to Germany, offered to him by President Hayes in 1877. Mr. Curtis was specially interested in civil-service reform, and was the chairman of a commission appointed by President Grant in 1871, to draw up rules for the regulation of the civil service. He was for many years President of the National Civil-Service Reform League, and of the New York Association. He was, as has been seen, for many years prominent in the national Republican party. After the spring of 1884, he no
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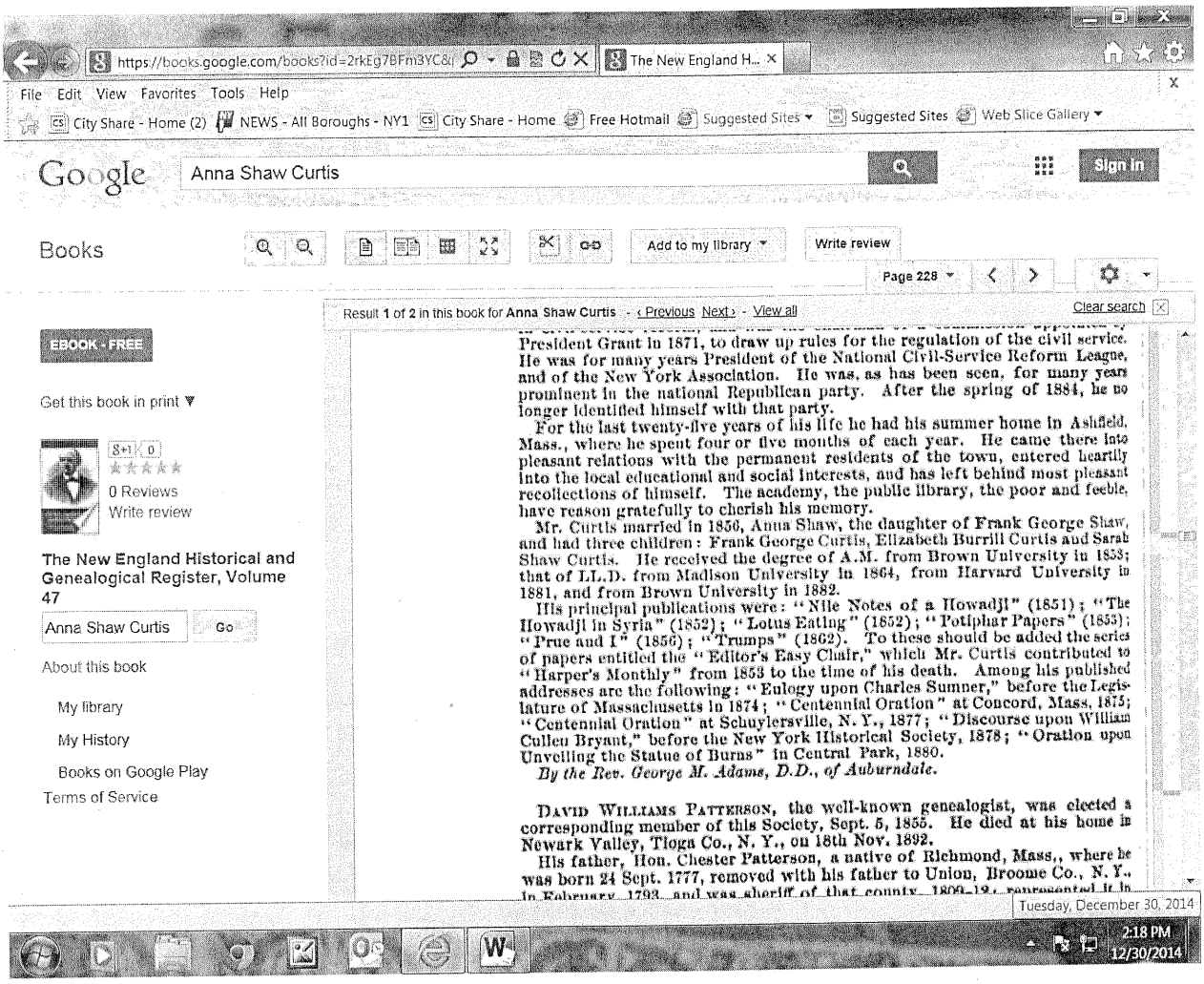
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President Grant in 1871, to draw up rules for the regulation of the civil service. He was for many years President of the National Civil-Service Reform League, and of the New York Association. He was, as has been seen, for many years prominent in the national Republican party. After the spring of 1884, he no longer identified himself with that party.
For the last twenty-five years of his life he had his summer home in Ashfield, Mass., where he spent four or five months of each year. He came there into pleasant relations with the permanent residents of the town, entered heartily into the local educational and social interests, and has left behind most pleasant recollections of himself. The academy, the public library, the poor and feeble, have reason gratefully to cherish his memory.
Mr. Curtis married in 1856, Anna Shaw, the daughter of Frank George Shaw, and had three children: Frank George Curtis, Elizabeth Burrill Curtis and Sarah Shaw Curtis. He received the degree of A.M. from Brown University in 1853; that of LL.D. from Madison University in 1864, from Harvard University in 1881, and from Brown University in 1882.
His principal publications were: "Nile Notes of a Howadji" (1851); "The Howadji in Syria" (1852); "Lotus Eating" (1852); "Potiphar Papers" (1853); "Prue and I" (1856); "Trumps" (1862). To these should be added the series of papers entitled the "Editor's Easy Chair," which Mr. Curtis contributed to "Harper's Monthly" from 1853 to the time of his death. Among his published addresses are the following: "Eulogy upon Charles Sumner," before the Legislature of Massachusetts in 1874; "Centennial Oration" at Concord, Mass, 1875; "Centennial Oration" at Schuylersville, N. Y., 1877; "Discourse upon William Cullen Bryant," before the New York Historical Society, 1878; "Oration upon Unveiling the Statue of Burns" in Central Park, 1880.
By the Rev. George M. Adams, D.D., of Auburndale.
DAVID WILLIAMS PATTERSON, the well-known genealogist, was elected a corresponding member of this Society, Sept. 5, 1855. He died at his home in Newark Valley, Tioga Co., N. Y., on 18th Nov. 1892.
His father, Hon. Chester Patterson, a native of Richmond, Mass,, where he was born 24 Sept. 1777, removed with his father to Union, Broome Co., N. Y., in February, 1793, and was sheriff of that county, 1809-12; represented it in
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talists. Even the brilliant Howadji might find as rich a theme in his youthful reminiscences of Brook Farm, and a more novel one,—close at hand as it lies,—than those which he has since made so distant a pilgrimage to seek in Syria and along the current of the Nile."

It was Curtis' travels in Syria that encouraged him to write his "Howadji," while his experience at Brook Farm gave him many a theme for noble narratives.* In fact, it was the impression of this early education that made him say before the alumni of Brown University, "It is a poor education, believe me, that gives us accuracy in grammar instead of a *love of letters*; that leaves us masters of the integral calculus and slaves of sordid spirit and mean ambitions."†

From Brook Farm Mr. Curtis went to Concord, the home of transcendentalism and its foremost leader. Here he renews his intimacy with Emerson, Thoreau, and Hawthorne. After his sojourn of two years he goes abroad in 1846, studies for a few months at the University of Berlin, and visits Italy, Switzerland, Germany, Holland, Egypt, Palestine, and England. He went abroad with Bayard Taylor's idea to become familiar with the old historic spots. It was the memorable period of the revolution of 1848, and traveling much by foot he experienced the great revolutionary tumult both in Italy, by a dangerous walk from Como to Milan, and in Berlin where he

[illegible] were his best advice to Curtis. And well did he heed it!

During these travels he sent constant contributions to the *Times*, edited by Henry J. Raymond, and the *Tribune*, edited by Charles A. Dana.

After his return in 1850 he wrote musical criticisms for the *Tribune*, and later a series of letters on summer resorts—such as the Catskills, Niagara, and Saratoga. In the same year he joined Wendell Phillips and Dr. Chapin to lecture on "The Lost Arts," or as Dr. Chapin said, "I will lecture for fame—that is fifty [dollars] and my expenses." This was Curtis' beginning in the lecture field, and the great advantage which this avocation and literature offered him well-nigh established his enduring reputation.

In 1851 he published his "Nile Notes of a Howadji," of which Bayard Taylor wrote, "My friend, the Howadji in whose 'Nile Notes' the Egyptian atmosphere is so perfectly reproduced, says that conscience falls asleep on the Nile."† In 1852 he published his "Howadji in Syria," which won great public recognition as a descriptive narrative of superior merit. "Lotus Eating," containing his letters on summer resorts, was also published. It is stated that his interest in Niagara did much to save the usurpation of the falls for private greed. His American patriotism was always foremost even in lit-

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him some sixteen years (working laboriously both in the lecture and literary field) he succeeded in paying the debt,—the success of which crowns him as a man of noble character and most zealous motives.

His experience well fitted him for the "Easy Chair" and the series of editorial articles entitled "The Lounger," which he continued to write for *Harper's Weekly*. At this time he also entered with renewed vigor into the lecture field, but whether it was open to him by necessity or his ultimate desire to come in direct contact with people is, of course, a matter of little concern. Both may have affected it, but his nobility of character strongly convinces one that the latter was the more pertinent and probably the sole motive. He had an inevitable interest in people. His rivals were Beecher, Chapin, Parker, Emerson, Phillips, but they were not his compeers. With the antislavery cause his lectures as well as his editorials deepened into a sense of responsibility which made his words ring forth like the keynote, whether or not he had to go from "Dr. Furness' house in Philadelphia to the lecture hall with eight revolvers in the pockets of as many friends to insure his safety."

platform, but was resisted by a loud and determined opposition. Mr. Curtis, like Wendell Phillips in Faneuil Hall, felt his nation's principles slighted, and arose.

"Folding his arms he calmly faced the uproarious mass and waited. The spectacle of a man who wouldn't be put down, at length so far amused the delegates that they stopped to look at him. 'Gentlemen,' rang out that musical voice in tones of calm intensity, 'this is the convention of free speech, and I have been given the floor. I have only a few words to say to you, but I shall say them if I stand here until to-morrow morning.' Again the tumult threatened the roof of the wigwam, and again the speaker waited. His pluck and the chairman's gavel soon gave him another chance. Skillfully changing the amendment to the second resolution to make it in order he spoke as with a tongue of fire in its support, daring the representatives of the party of freedom meeting on the borders of the free prairies, in a hall dedicated to the advancement of liberty, to reject the doctrine of the Declaration of Independence affirming the equality and defining the rights of man. The speech fell like a spark upon tinder, and the amendment was adopted with a shout of en-

* "Prue and I."

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well as write-ups in the daily newspapers. She was remembered in the *Outlook* as "devoted herself to public affairs without sacrificing her womanliness." There is a permanent memorial to Josephine Shaw Lowell in Bryant Park in NYC. It is a classical style granite fountain dedicated shortly after her death.

Further Resources for Studying:

George William Curtis & the Genteel Tradition by Gordon Milne
The Philanthropic Work of Josephine Shaw Lowell by William Rinelander Stewart
Unitarian Church of Staten Island
Curtis, Staten Island's First High School

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Prepared by Susan McAnanama, a student in Professor Catherine Lavender's History/Women's Studies 386 (Women in New York City, 1890-1940) course, The Department of History and The Program in Women's Studies, The College of Staten Island of The City University of New York.

Send email to Susan McAnanama at suebu@aol.com or to Professor Lavender at lavender@postbox.csi.cuny.edu.
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Crisis and progress : the rhetoric and ideals of nineteenth century reformer, George William Curtis (1824-1892)

Author/Creator: Robert Charles Kennedy

Subjects: Curtis, George William, 1824-1892; Reformers -- United States

Publisher: Thesis (Ph. D.)--Graduate College of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 1993.

Language: English

Publication Date: 1993

Description: vii, 558 p. ; 21 cm.

Available:
- New-York Historical SocietyMain Collection (HN64 .K36 1993 Non-circulating)

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Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. George William Curtis papers, 1839-1930: Guide. (MS Am 1124.5 -1124.8) [Persistent ID: nrs.harvard.edu/urn-3:FHCL.Hough:hou00968] View HOLLIS Record

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Creator: Curtis, George William, 1824-1892.
Title: George William Curtis papers,
Date(s): 1839-1930.
Quantity: 8 boxes, and 3 volumes (4.5 linear ft.)
Language of materials: Collection materials are in English.
Abstract: Speeches, lectures, journals, clippings and obituaries by or about American author George Curtis.

Acquisition Information:

MS Am 1124.5: *47M-59 Gift of George W. Curtis Esq., Ashfield, Massachusetts; received: 1947 October 1.

MS Am 1124.6 and MS Am 1124.7 Gift of Bridgham Curtis; received: 1940 Mar. 16 - 1942 Mar. 5. Both recataloged from MS Am 1124 (614) and MS Am 1124 (615); formerly MS Am 50.

MS Am 1124.8: *42M-330F. Gift of his son, Bridgham Curtis, Bate, Curtis & Loeb, 11 Broadway, New York, N.Y.; received: 1942 March 26.

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George William Curtis Papers, 1839-1930 (MS Am 1124.5-1124.8). Houghton Library, Harvard University.

Historical Note

Curtis was an American author, orator, editor, and reformer.

Scope and Content

Primarily autograph manuscript speeches and lectures along with poems, a notebook, a commonplace book, two journals, and a scrapbook of clippings and obituaries.

Container List

- **Series: bMS Am 1124.5** 8 boxes.
  - **(1)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. Notebook] A.Ms.s. (Geo. Wm. Curtis); Linz, Jun [1848]., etc. [20]p., 36 blank l.
  - **(2)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. [Commonplace book] A. Ms. unsigned; [n.p., n.d.] [36]p., 62 blank l.
  - **(3)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *Dora [and Henry]* A.Ms. unsigned; Lenox [Mass.] 24 Aug 1845. 43p. num. 25-67, 5 blank p. num. 68-72.
    Leaves have been cut from both ends of the notebook.
  - **(4)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. [Poems] A.Ms.s. (George William Curtis); [v.p.] 1844-1850. 279p., 28 blank l.
    With annotation by author, 'Please print nothing which I may leave behind me'.
  - **(5)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *The faith of the fathers.* Newspaper clipping mounted in small composition-book, s. (Geo. William Curtis); Port Richmond, 4 Jul 1860.
  - **(6)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *Lecture upon public opinion as a motive.* A.Ms.s. (G. W. C.); [Boston?] 15 Nov [1841].
  - **(7)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *Dora.* Typescript; [Lenox, Mass., 1845]
    See item (3) for original A.Ms.
  - **(8)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *Two months of Switzerland with a week of Italy.* A.Ms. unsigned; [v.p.] 1849.
  - **(9)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *Gold and gilt in young America.* A.Ms. unsigned; [n.p.] 1853.
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  - **(14)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *The policy of honesty.* A.Ms. unsigned; [n.p.] 13 Nov 1860.
  - **(15)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *The American doctrine of liberty.* A.Ms. unsigned; [n.p.] Jul 1862.
  - **(16)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *The way of peace.* A.Ms. unsigned; [n.p.] Aug 1863.

- **(17)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *Political infidelity.* A.Ms. unsigned; [n.p.] Mar 1864.
- **(18)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *The good fight.* A.Ms. unsigned; [n.p.] 1865-1866.
- **(19)** Curtis, George, William, 1824-1892. *The way of peace.* A.Ms. unsigned; [n.p.] 1866.
- **(20)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *Conservatism.* A.Ms. unsigned; [n.p.] 1868 (?)
- **(21)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *Political morality.* A.Ms. unsigned; [n.p.] 1868-1869.
- **(22)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *Tennyson.* A.Ms. unsigned; [delivered at Cornell, May 1869 and 15 May 1871]
- **(23)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *Robert Browning.* A.Ms. unsigned; [delivered at Cornell, 7 May 1869 and 16 May 1871]
- **(24)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *Some minor recent poets.* A.Ms. unsigned; [delivered at Cornell, 9 May 1869 and 18 May 1871]
- **(25)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *American literature.* A.Ms. unsigned; [delivered at Cornell, 7 Jun 1869]
- **(26)** Curtis, George, William, 1824-1892. *The public duty of educated men in America.* A.Ms. unsigned; [delivered at Union College, 27 Jun 1877]
- **(27)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *[Speeches on women's suffrage]* Typescripts of 9 speeches, with a few Ms. notations; [v.p.] 1860-1889.
- **(28)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *Grant or Greeley & why.* A.Ms. unsigned; [n.p., n.d.]
- **(29)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *[Charlotte Bronte (Currer Bell)]* A.Ms. unsigned; [n.p., n.d.]
  First leaf damaged, affecting title and beginning of text.
- **(30)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. [Fragments of two orations: *Centennial oration before the board of regents of the university of the state of New York (Albany, 1884)* and *Machine politics and the remedy (New York, 1880)]* A.Mss. unsigned; New York and Albany, 1880-1884.
- **(31)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. The river (poem). A.MS. (unsigned); Concord, May 1846.
- **(32)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *From a romance.* A.Ms. unsigned; [n.p., n.d.]
- **(33)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *Tales told in a gondola. 1. Guy & his gondolier.* A.Ms. unsigned; [n.p., n.d.]
- **(34)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *Elis & Ulla.* A.Ms. unsigned; [n.p., n.d.]
- **(35)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *The invisible church [and] the visible church.* Typescript unsigned; [n.p., n.d.]
- **(36)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *[Thackeray]* A.Ms. unsigned; [n.p., n.d. (Cornell? 1869)]
- **(37)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *[Thackeray* (continued)] A.Ms. unsigned; [n.p., n.d. (Cornell? 1869?)]
- **(38)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *[Party government]* A.Ms. unsigned; [n.p., n.d.]
- **(39)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. [Notes, galley-proofs, clippings, etc., of lectures and orations] Ms. and printed; [v.p., v.d.] 1 box.

- **Series**: MS Am 1124.6 **Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. Journal no. 3 Continued from no. 2 : AMs (unsigned), Hallstadt to Heidelberg, 1848 June 10 - July 4.** 39f. (78p.) in 1 v.
  Recat. from MS Am 50.

- **Series**: MS Am 1124.7 **Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. Journal : AMs (unsigned), Baden-Baden to Magdeburn, 1848 August 2 - October 6.** 1 v.
  Includes: *Meeta* : AMs (unsigned), Concord, Mass., 1845 Nov. 6. (9p.).

Recat. from MS Am 50.

- **Series**: MS Am 1124.8 **Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. Scrapbook : clippings and photographs, 1839-1930.** 1 v.

  Many are obituaries of Curtis collected by Mrs. Curtis, but also includes photographs of early residences and GWC portraits, and clippings of orations and speeches. Also with articles about Curtis long after his death.

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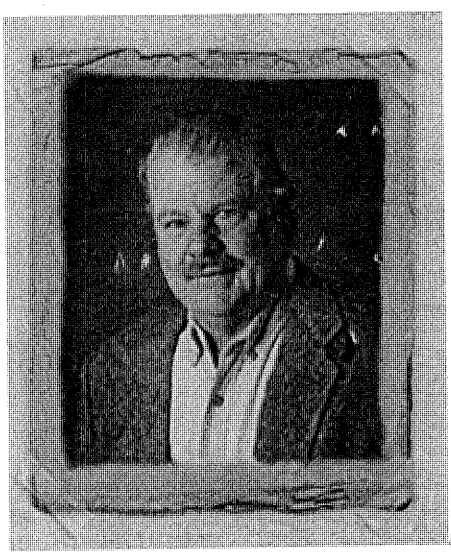
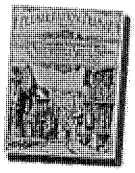


A unique combination of life experience makes Chuck our resident visionary and artist. In the 1970's Chuck began his construction career underground mining in Colorado, giving him experience in structural engineering. From there he moved through the trades working as a framer, mason, roofer, and carpenter forming his vision of how a design/build renovation company should be - providing all services to the client to allow complete control over the project outcome. In the mid-1980's with this in mind he began his apprenticeship in a modern cabinet shop. Using his background as a platform in the early 1990's Chuck began to devote his life and career to fine custom cabinetry, furniture, millwork, and whole house period-style restoration.

Chuck has attended classes and workshops to increase his knowledge of the building trades. As a member of the Preservation Trades Network he has attended the International Preservation Trades workshop to network and learn from like-minded individuals. In a world that has been fed a cheaper, faster, replace – repeat kind of diet, Chuck believes that permanence and sustainability are needed in the building trades.

Chuck enjoys watching the Steelers win and perfecting his barbecue techniques when not working.



Chuck co-authored a recently released book on historic preservation with his daughter Danielle. *Preservation Primer, Volume 1: Avoid Common Mistakes that Cause Irreversible & Costly Damage to Your Historical Building's Architectural Integrity* is available on Amazon in both **Print edition** and **Kindle edition.**

The book was also featured in a Lancaster Newspapers Sunday News article "Pointers from Preservationists".

Click here to read the full article.

Jonathan Keperling

A native Lancastrian – Jonathan has worked in the restoration field since 1998. He is usually given the tasks that require attention to detail, though the crew knows that it is best to leave him alone until 10 AM when his mood improves dramatically.

Jonathan's contributions as a principle of the company have provided a fresh perspective and insight. Jonathan has taken several classes related to building trades and wood finishing. As a member of the Preservation Trades Network he continues to look for ways to increase his knowledge in the trades.

When Jonathan is not on the job site or in the shop you can find him playing video games, organizing music on his iPod, or wishing for a motorcycle . . . anything but working on his own house.

Lois Groshong

Lois is Chuck's business partner and wife. She enjoys being part of the supporting arm of the company. Lois contributes to the company's success by dealing with clients and helping to organize the office.

Lois is the Chairperson of the Lancaster City Historic Commission overseeing the demolition and development within the Lancaster Historic Commission. She has been certified by Buck's County Community College in Historic Preservation.

Most recently Lois has turned her attention to promoting the Lancaster Historic Home Show helping to bring together vintage homeowners, people who supply goods and services, and traditional trade professionals in one place to help promote the traditional building trades.

SUNDAY NEWS

Building on a respect for old structures

Saving historically significant buildings has become a way of life for Lois Groshong.

"I started my life in an old house," says the native Nebraskan. "I lived in a home that my grandfather built for his family, and I was drawn to it. I always felt a need to take care of it." A city resident, Groshong is chairwoman of the Lancaster Historical Commission, which oversees new construction and demolition of properties within the Heritage Conservation District.

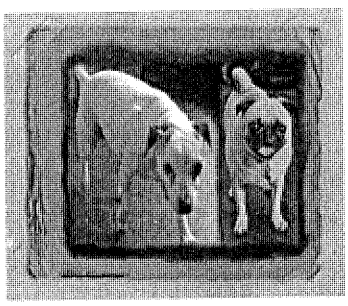
Her philosophy and preservation work were featured in a Lancaster Newspapers Sunday News article "Building on Respect for Old Structures". *Click on the picture at the right to read the full article...*

Danielle Groshong-Keperling

Danielle has worked in the construction industry since 2001. Her duties include ordering supplies for the projects, bookkeeping, and organizing the office and job site paperwork. She is the person to go to if you need to run down a detail about a project – she knows exactly which pile the answer is in.

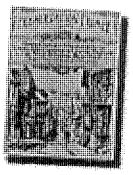
Before this career she worked as a cake decorator as assures us that dealing with an emotional bride is similar to helping someone through the sometimes difficult, though always rewarding, and remodeling process.

Danielle recently earned her MBA in Management from Eastern University. She is now keeping herself busy organizing the Central Pennsylvania Preservation Society monthly meetings and volunteering on the Historic Preservation Trust of Lancaster County's marketing and publicity committee.



She enjoys the creativity and exchange of ideas that the design/build project entails. Seeing the project go through the initial meeting, design, and then building process is one of the most rewarding aspects of the job to Danielle.

Often when you call the office you will hear Danielle's "children" in the background, a Jack Russell named Delilah, and Angelica a Pug. After work you can find Danielle nagging Jonathan to finish projects around the house, watching reality TV, or reading.



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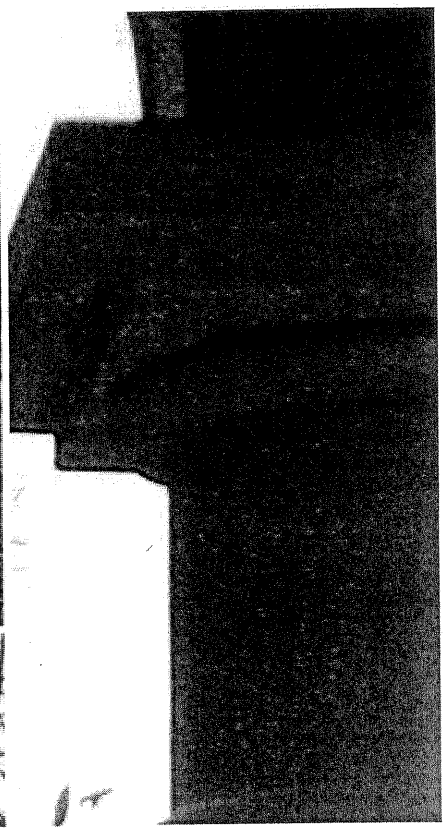
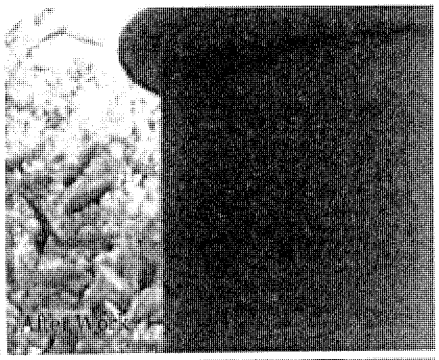
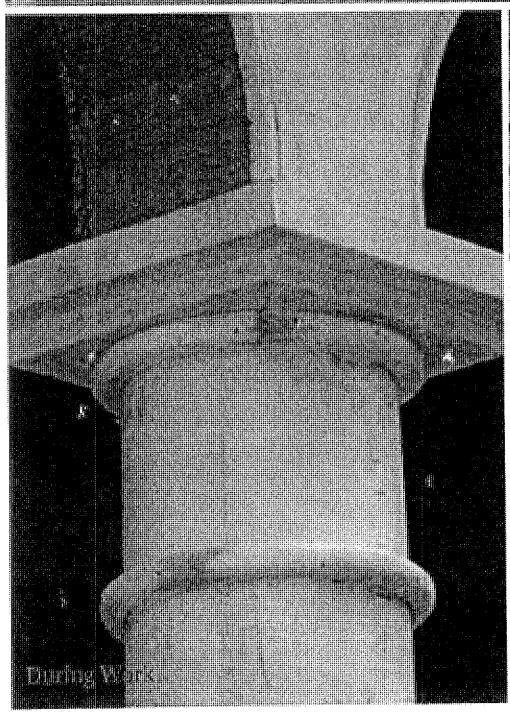
George William Curtis House, Staten Island

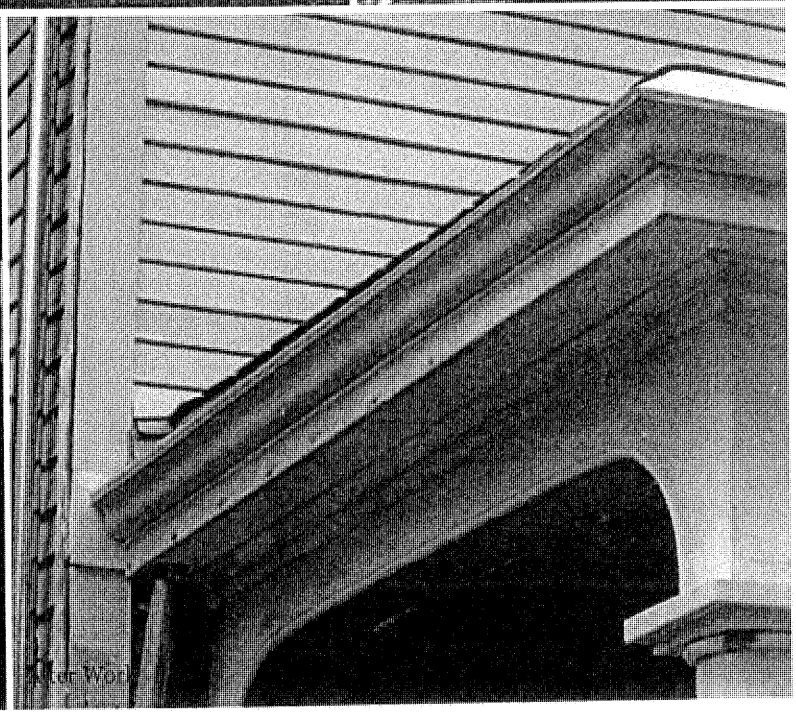
For this project, we fabricated 19th Century porch architectural details, installed columns, built stairs, replaced ears on window sills, replaced brackets under the eave, fabricated true divided light windows to replace modern replacement windows, and fabricated solid wood louvered shutters.

Read Lois Groshong's article "The Legacy" to learn more about George William Curtis and the historical significance of his house.









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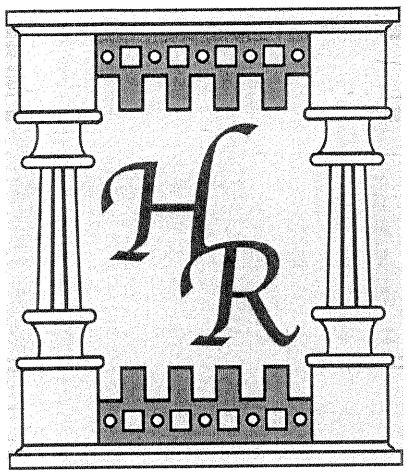

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Author	Foote, Lorien, 1969-
Title	**Seeking the one great remedy : Francis George Shaw and nineteenth-century reform / Lorien Foote.**
Imprint	Athens : Ohio University Press, 2003.

Location	Call No.	Status	Message
Schwarzman Building - Main Reading Room 315	JFE 03-15745 ---	AVAILABLE	USE IN LIBRARY

DETAILS

Description	xi, 224 p. : ill., ports. ; 24 cm.
Bibliography	Includes bibliographical references (p. 207-216) and index.
Subject	Shaw, Francis George, 1809-1882. Shaw family. Abolitionists -- United States -- Biography. Social reformers -- United States -- Biography. Feminists -- United States -- Biography. Businessmen -- New England -- Biography. Antislavery movements -- United States -- History -- 19th century. Social movements -- United States -- History -- 19th century. United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865 -- African Americans. Reconstruction (U.S. history, 1865-1877) -- Social aspects.
LCCN	2003051435
ISBN	0821414992 (acid-free paper)
Call No.	JFE 03-15745
Research Call Number	JFE 03-15745

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Author	Burchard, Peter.
Title	**"We'll stand by the Union" : Robert Gould Shaw and the Black 54th Massachusetts Regiment / Peter Burchard.**
Imprint	New York : Facts on File, c1993.

Location	Call No.	Status	Message
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Schwarzman Building - Milstein Division Rm 121	IKG (Mass. : 54th regt.) 94-2215 ---	AVAILABLE	USE IN LIBRARY

DETAILS

Description	xi, 132 p. : ill. ; 24 cm.
Series	Makers of America
	Makers of America (Facts on File, Inc.)
Bibliography	Includes bibliographical references (p. 119-124) and index.
Subject	Shaw, Robert Gould, 1837-1863.
	United States. Army. Massachusetts Infantry Regiment, 54th (1863-1865)
	Massachusetts -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865 -- Regimental histories.
	Massachusetts -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865 -- Participation, Afro-American.
	United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865 -- Regimental histories.
	United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865 -- Participation, Afro-American.
	Soldiers -- Massachusetts -- Biography.
	African Americans -- History -- To 1863.
	African Americans -- History -- 1863-1877.
LCCN	92037132
ISBN	0816026092
Research Call Number	IKG (Mass. : 54th regt.) 94-2215
	Sc E 94-265

Author	Dall, Caroline Wells Healey, 1822-1912.
Title	**Daughter of Boston : the extraordinary diary of a nineteenth-century woman / Caroline Healey Dall ; edited by Helen R. Deese.**
Imprint	Boston : Beacon Press, c2005.

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Location	Call No.	Status	Message
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DETAILS

Description	xxxiii, 452 p. : ill., ports. ; 24 cm.
Bibliography	Includes bibliographical references (p. 357-414) and index.
Subject	Dall, Caroline Wells Healey, 1822-1912 -- Diaries. Boston (Mass.) -- Intellectual life -- 19th century. Authors, American -- 19th century -- Diaries. Reformers -- United States -- Diaries.
Added Author	Deese, Helen.
LCCN	2005011774
ISBN	0807050342 (cloth : alk. paper)
Call No.	JFE 06-1392
Research Call Number	JFE 06-1392

Author	Waugh, Joan.
Title	**Unsentimental reformer : the life of Josephine Shaw Lowell / Joan Waugh.**
Imprint	Cambridge, Mass. : Harvard University Press, 1997.

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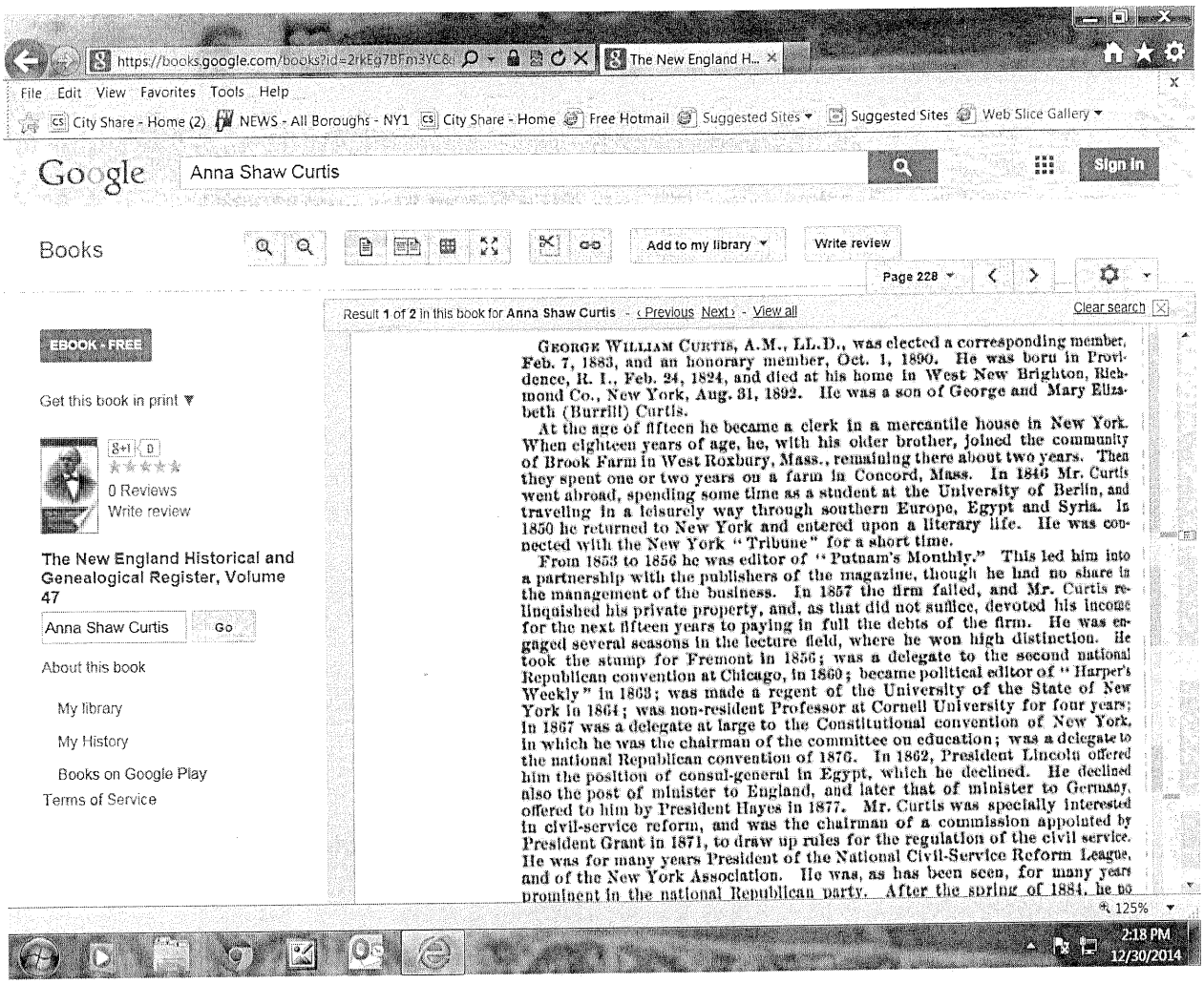
DETAILS

Description	296 p. : ill. ; 25 cm.
Bibliography	Includes bibliographical references (p. [285]-289) and index.
Subject	Lowell, Josephine Shaw, 1843-1905. Charity Organization Society of the City of New York -- History. Women philanthropists -- New York (State) -- Biography. Women social reformers -- New York (State) -- Biography.
Added Title	Life of Josephine Shaw Lowell
LCCN	97015647
ISBN	0674930363
Call No.	JFE 98-5449
Research Call Number	JFE 98-5449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GEORGE WILLIAM CURTIS, A.M., LL.D., was elected a corresponding member, Feb. 7, 1883, and an honorary member, Oct. 1, 1890. He was born in Providence, R. I., Feb. 24, 1824, and died at his home in West New Brighton, Richmond Co., New York, Aug. 31, 1892. He was a son of George and Mary Elizabeth (Burrill) Curtis.
At the age of fifteen he became a clerk in a mercantile house in New York. When eighteen years of age, he, with his older brother, joined the community of Brook Farm in West Roxbury, Mass., remaining there about two years. Then they spent one or two years on a farm in Concord, Mass. In 1846 Mr. Curtis went abroad, spending some time as a student at the University of Berlin, and traveling in a leisurely way through southern Europe, Egypt and Syria. In 1850 he returned to New York and entered upon a literary life. He was connected with the New York "Tribune" for a short time.
From 1853 to 1856 he was editor of "Putnam's Monthly." This led him into a partnership with the publishers of the magazine, though he had no share in the management of the business. In 1857 the firm failed, and Mr. Curtis relinquished his private property, and, as that did not suffice, devoted his income for the next fifteen years to paying in full the debts of the firm. He was engaged several seasons in the lecture field, where he won high distinction. He took the stump for Fremont in 1856; was a delegate to the second national Republican convention at Chicago, in 1860; became political editor of "Harper's Weekly" in 1863; was made a regent of the University of the State of New York in 1864; was non-resident Professor at Cornell University for four years; in 1867 was a delegate at large to the Constitutional convention of New York, in which he was the chairman of the committee on education; was a delegate to the national Republican convention of 1876. In 1862, President Lincoln offered him the position of consul-general in Egypt, which he declined. He declined also the post of minister to England, and later that of minister to Germany, offered to him by President Hayes in 1877. Mr. Curtis was specially interested in civil-service reform, and was the chairman of a commission appointed by President Grant in 1871, to draw up rules for the regulation of the civil service. He was for many years President of the National Civil-Service Reform League, and of the New York Association. He was, as has been seen, for many years prominent in the national Republican party. After the spring of 1884, he no
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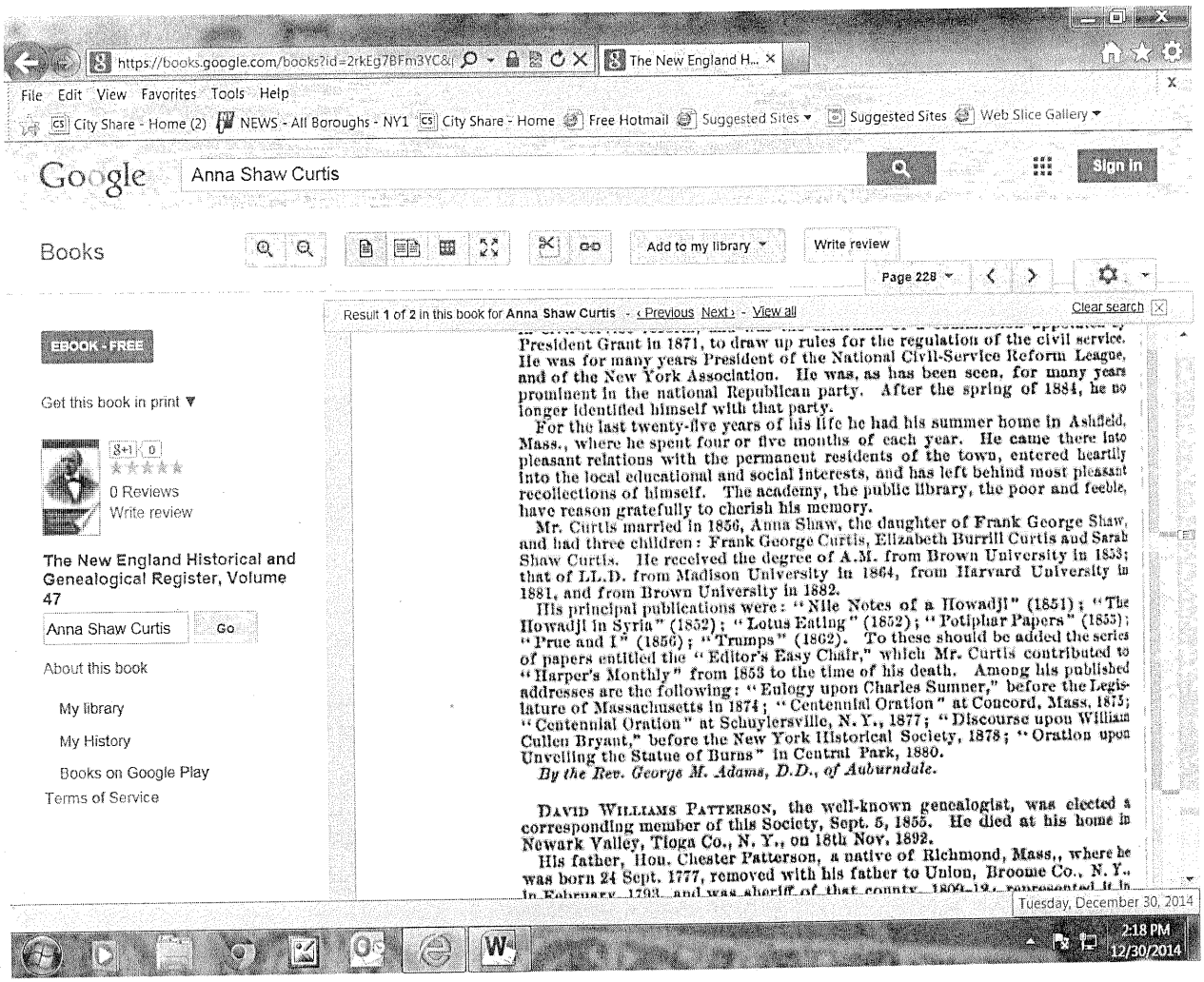
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President Grant in 1871, to draw up rules for the regulation of the civil service. He was for many years President of the National Civil-Service Reform League, and of the New York Association. He was, as has been seen, for many years prominent in the national Republican party. After the spring of 1884, he no longer identified himself with that party.
For the last twenty-five years of his life he had his summer home in Ashfield, Mass., where he spent four or five months of each year. He came there into pleasant relations with the permanent residents of the town, entered heartily into the local educational and social interests, and has left behind most pleasant recollections of himself. The academy, the public library, the poor and feeble, have reason gratefully to cherish his memory.
Mr. Curtis married in 1856, Anna Shaw, the daughter of Frank George Shaw, and had three children: Frank George Curtis, Elizabeth Burrill Curtis and Sarah Shaw Curtis. He received the degree of A.M. from Brown University in 1853; that of LL.D. from Madison University in 1864, from Harvard University in 1881, and from Brown University in 1882.
His principal publications were: "Nile Notes of a Howadji" (1851); "The Howadji in Syria" (1852); "Lotus Eating" (1852); "Potiphar Papers" (1853); "Prue and I" (1856); "Trumps" (1862). To these should be added the series of papers entitled the "Editor's Easy Chair," which Mr. Curtis contributed to "Harper's Monthly" from 1853 to the time of his death. Among his published addresses are the following: "Eulogy upon Charles Sumner," before the Legislature of Massachusetts in 1874; "Centennial Oration" at Concord, Mass. 1875; "Centennial Oration" at Schuylersville, N. Y., 1877; "Discourse upon William Cullen Bryant," before the New York Historical Society, 1878; "Oration upon Unveiling the Statue of Burns" in Central Park, 1880.
By the Rev. George M. Adams, D.D., of Auburndale.
DAVID WILLIAMS PATTERSON, the well-known genealogist, was elected a corresponding member of this Society, Sept. 5, 1855. He died at his home in Newark Valley, Tioga Co., N. Y., on 18th Nov. 1892.
His father, Hon. Chester Patterson, a native of Richmond, Mass., where he was born 24 Sept. 1777, removed with his father to Union, Broome Co., N. Y.,
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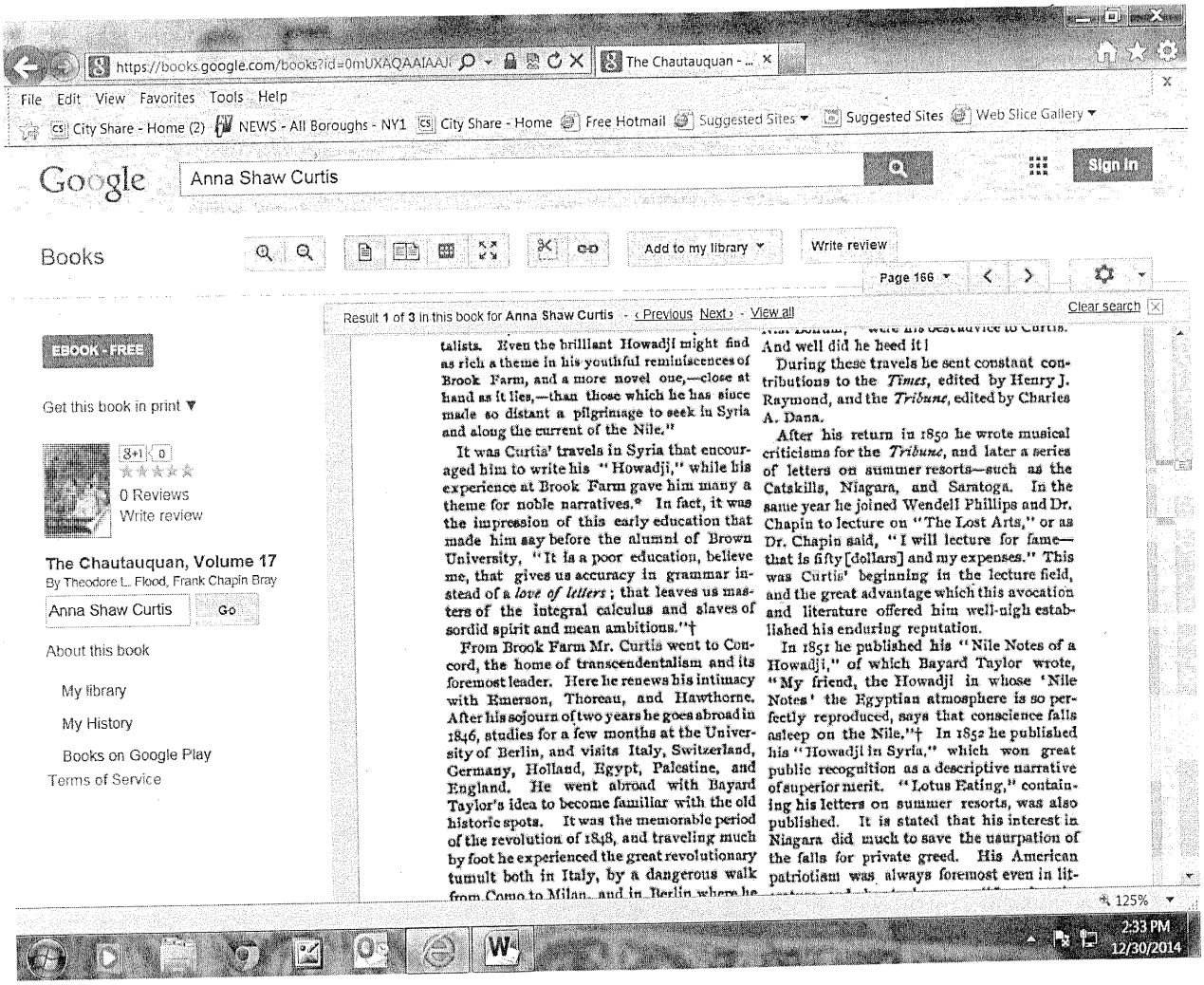
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talists. Even the brilliant Howadji might find as rich a theme in his youthful reminiscences of Brook Farm, and a more novel one,—close at hand as it lies,—than those which he has since made so distant a pilgrimage to seek in Syria and along the current of the Nile."
It was Curtis' travels in Syria that encouraged him to write his "Howadji," while his experience at Brook Farm gave him many a theme for noble narratives.* In fact, it was the impression of this early education that made him say before the alumni of Brown University, "It is a poor education, believe me, that gives us accuracy in grammar instead of a *love of letters*; that leaves us masters of the integral calculus and slaves of sordid spirit and mean ambitions."†
From Brook Farm Mr. Curtis went to Concord, the home of transcendentalism and its foremost leader. Here he renews his intimacy with Emerson, Thoreau, and Hawthorne. After his sojourn of two years he goes abroad in 1846, studies for a few months at the University of Berlin, and visits Italy, Switzerland, Germany, Holland, Egypt, Palestine, and England. He went abroad with Bayard Taylor's idea to become familiar with the old historic spots. It was the memorable period of the revolution of 1848, and traveling much by foot he experienced the great revolutionary tumult both in Italy, by a dangerous walk from Como to Milan, and in Berlin where he
And well did he heed it!
During these travels he sent constant contributions to the *Times*, edited by Henry J. Raymond, and the *Tribune*, edited by Charles A. Dana.
After his return in 1850 he wrote musical criticisms for the *Tribune*, and later a series of letters on summer resorts—such as the Catskills, Niagara, and Saratoga. In the same year he joined Wendell Phillips and Dr. Chapin to lecture on "The Lost Arts," or as Dr. Chapin said, "I will lecture for fame—that is fifty [dollars] and my expenses." This was Curtis' beginning in the lecture field, and the great advantage which this avocation and literature offered him well-nigh established his enduring reputation.
In 1851 he published his "Nile Notes of a Howadji," of which Bayard Taylor wrote, "My friend, the Howadji in whose 'Nile Notes' the Egyptian atmosphere is so perfectly reproduced, says that conscience falls asleep on the Nile."† In 1852 he published his "Howadji in Syria," which won great public recognition as a descriptive narrative of superior merit. "Lotus Eating," containing his letters on summer resorts, was also published. It is stated that his interest in Niagara did much to save the usurpation of the falls for private greed. His American patriotism was always foremost even in lit-
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him some sixteen years (working laboriously both in the lecture and literary field) he succeeded in paying the debt,—the success of which crowns him as a man of noble character and most zealous motives.

His experience well fitted him for the "Easy Chair" and the series of editorial articles entitled "The Lounger," which he continued to write for *Harper's Weekly*. At this time he also entered with renewed vigor into the lecture field, but whether it was open to him by necessity or his ultimate desire to come in direct contact with people is, of course, a matter of little concern. Both may have affected it, but his nobility of character strongly convinces one that the latter was the more pertinent and probably the sole motive. He had an inevitable interest in people. His rivals were Beecher, Chapin, Parker, Emerson, Phillips, but they were not his compeers. With the antislavery cause his lectures as well as his editorials deepened into a sense of responsibility which made his words ring forth like the keynote, whether or not he had to go from "Dr. Furness' house in Philadelphia to the lecture hall with eight revolvers in the pockets of as many friends to insure his safety."

platform, but was resisted by a loud and determined opposition. Mr. Curtis, like Wendell Phillips in Faneuil Hall, felt his nation's principles slighted, and arose.

"Folding his arms he calmly faced the uproarious mass and waited. The spectacle of a man who wouldn't be put down, at length so far amused the delegates that they stopped to look at him. 'Gentlemen,' rang out that musical voice in tones of calm intensity, 'this is the convention of free speech, and I have been given the floor. I have only a few words to say to you, but I shall say them if I stand here until to-morrow morning.' Again the tumult threatened the roof of the wigwam, and again the speaker waited. His pluck and the chairman's gavel soon gave him another chance. Skillfully changing the amendment to the second resolution to make it in order he spoke as with a tongue of fire in its support, daring the representatives of the party of freedom meeting on the borders of the free prairies, in a hall dedicated to the advancement of liberty, to reject the doctrine of the Declaration of Independence affirming the equality and defining the rights of man. The speech fell like a spark upon tinder, and the amendment was adopted with a shout of en-

* "True and I."

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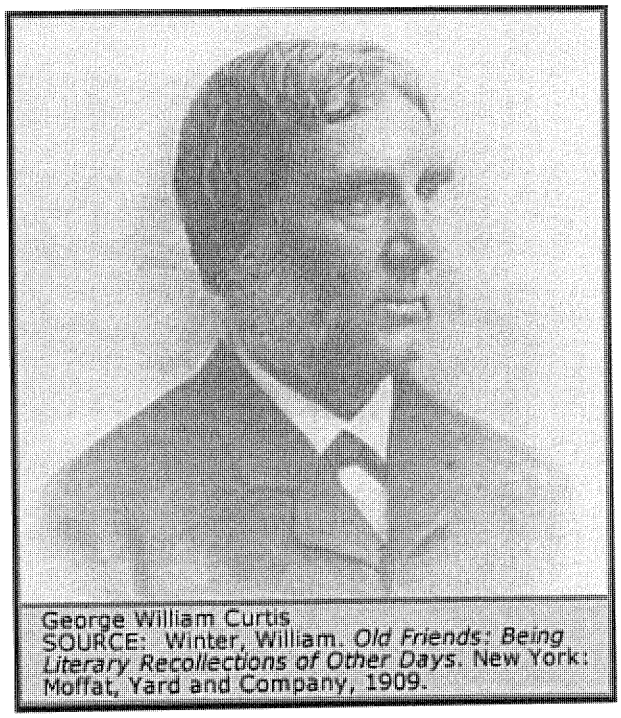

George William Curtis
SOURCE: Winter, William. *Old Friends: Being Literary Recollections of Other Days*. New York: Moffat, Yard and Company, 1909.

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Lecturer, Novelist, Essayist, Journalist, Editor, Travel Writer.

Travel writer, journalist, and orator George William Curtis was influenced by important men of American letters and by his extensive travels. Curtis was born in Rhode Island and educated in Massachusetts along with his older brother James, an influential figure in his life. When Curtis was a teenager, the family moved to New York City where he began a clerkship. Due to his growing interest in the Transcendentalist Movement, Curtis, along with his brother, resided for two years in the utopian community at Brook Farm. William Winter claims that Curtis already had the "Brook Farm ideal" in mind when he arrived there: "the ideal of a social existence regulated by absolute justice and adorned by absolute beauty" (*Old Friends* 228-30). It was at Brook Farm that Curtis met, learned from, and was influenced by the notable residents and visitors of the place, including Nathaniel Hawthorne, Charles Anderson Dana, Margaret Fuller, George Ripley, Theodore Parker, and Ralph Waldo Emerson, who was to become a strong influence on his thinking.

Curtis eventually left Brook Farm and began a period of travel that took him through Europe, Egypt, and Syria. Accounts of these trips were published in the *New York Tribune*. Curtis later reworked these impressions into travelogues *Nile Notes of a Howadji* (1851) and *The Howadji in Syria* (1852). He also went on to publish *Lotus-Eating* (1852) and the satirical *Potiphar Papers* (1853) which focuses on New York life and society inspired by Washington Irving's *Salmagundi*. Again inspired by Irving, Curtis would later publish the anti-consumerist *Prue and I* (1857). He also published a novel *Trumps* in *Harper's*, and wrote over 2500 articles in 38 years of work. His writings sold well and were critically recognized (Winter *Old Friends* 264-266).

During the 1850s, Curtis worked as a critic and travel writer for the *Tribune*, an editor for the critically acclaimed *Putnam's Magazine* (after its bankruptcy in 1856 Curtis assumed and eventually paid the debt), and a columnist for *Harper's Monthly* ("Easy Chair") and *Harper's Weekly* ("Lounger"). Curtis was named editor of the latter magazine in 1863 (Haynes 57, 70, 78).

Perhaps inspired by Emerson or the lighter frivolity of the addresses of Artemus Ward and Mark Twain, Curtis became known as an orator. His speeches, such as "The Duty of the American Scholar to Politics and the Times" (1856), dealt with civic responsibility and abolitionism. His friend William Winter revealed that "while Curtis spoke, the hearts of that multitude were first lured and entranced by the golden tones of his delicious voice, and then were shaken, as with a whirlwind, by the righteous fervor of his magnificent enthusiasm" (*Old Friends* 241-243). During the war years, Curtis continued to write patriotic editorials and to give nationalist speeches. One of his most memorable talks was "Political Infidelity" in which he argued that "Any system, any policy, any institution, which may not be debated will overthrow us if we do not overthrow it" (qtd. in G. Hellman).

In the postwar years he became involved in politics, agitating for the rights of women, civil service reform, and the campaign of Grover Cleveland. Curtis became chancellor of the University of the State of New York where he again emphasized the importance of an informed and educated citizenry. He also delivered orations commemorating statesmen and literary figures like President Garfield and William Cullen Bryant. His address on Robert Lowell in 1892 was the end of a long career.

In addition to American literary giants like Emerson, Longfellow, and Lowell, Curtis counted among his acquaintances several members of the crowd at Pfaff's: Bayard Taylor, Richard and Elizabeth Stoddard, Edmund Clarence Stedman, Fitz-James O'Brien, Fitz Hugh Ludlow, and Theodore Winthrop (*Old Friends*177). Curtis was a member of Taylor's poetic group along with Richard Henry Stoddard, Elizabeth Barstow Stoddard, Edmund Clarence Stedman, George Henry Boker, Fitz-James O'Brien, Christopher P. Cranch, and Fitz Hugh Ludlow (177). Ferris Greenslet notes that Curtis also befriended Pfaff's visitor Thomas Bailey Aldrich and that

between the two men "there grew up a pleasant acquaintance which later ripened into friendship" (38). William Dean Howells also held Curtis in high esteem. He remembers visiting Pfaff's but shying away from Curtis whose work "I knew so much by heart, and whom I adored, [...] I may not have had the courage, or I may have heard he was out of town" (Howells, "First Impressions" 65).

While delivering Curtis's eulogy, William Winter described him as bearing "the manner of a natural aristocrat--a manner that is born, not made; a manner that is never found except in persons who are self-centered without being selfish; who are intrinsically noble, simple, and true" (*Old Friends* 224). In his memoirs, Winter devotes an entire chapter of *Old Friends* to Curtis and states that "It is not because he was a friend of mine that I try to assist in commemoration of him; it is because he was a great person. The career of Curtis was rounded and complete. The splendid structure of his character stands before the world like a monument of gold. Not to express homage for a public benefactor is to fail in self-respect" (225). Curtis's story is that of "a man of genius whose pure life and splendid powers were devoted to the ministry of beauty and to the self- sacrificing service of mankind" (227).

[view works by this person]

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Aldrich, Thomas Bailey, Mrs. (Lillian Woodman Aldrich). *Crowding Memories*. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin, 1920. [more about this work]

Clemens, Aldrich, Curtis, and Howells were among the speakers at the "Authors' Reading" done by the friends of Longfellow for the Longfellow Memorial Fund (256). At this event, Curtis read from the "Potiphar Papers" (258). [pages: 256,258]

Allen, Gay Wilson. *The Solitary Singer: A Critical Biography of Walt Whitman*. New York: MacMillan, 1955. [more about this work]

Allen reprints a September 30, 1865, letter from Curtis to Willaim O'Connor that responds to O'Connor's request for "advice and aid" in seeking a publisher for a draft of his essay *The Good Gray Poet*. Curtis was the editor of Harper's and wrote to O'Connor:

"The task you undertake is not easy, as you know. The public sympathy will be the Secretary for removing a man who will be considered an obscene author and a free lover.

But your hearty vindication of free letters will not be less welcome to all liberal men.

"Personally I do not know Whitman and while his Leaves of Grass impressed me less than it impressed many better men than I, I have never heard anything of him but what was noble nor believed anything byt what was honorable.

"That a man should be expelled from office and held up to public contumely, because of an honest book which no candid mind can truly regard as hurtful to public morality, *is* an offense which demands exposure and censure."

According to Allen, "Curtis offered to do what he could 'to redress the wrong' that O'Connor had undertaken to right" (361-362). [pages: 361-362]

Benson, Eugene. "New York Journalists - George William Curtis." *The Galaxy*. Mar. 1869: 327-332. [more about this work]
[pages: 327-332]

Clare, Ada. "Thoughts and Things No. I." *New York Saturday Press*. 22 Oct. 1859: 2. [more about this work]
Clare discusses G.W. Curtis' *Trumps* and discusses how it has increasingly interested the reading audience and claims that it is on par with English serial stories (2). [pages: 2]

Conant, S. S. "George William Curtis." *Appletons' Journal*. 13 Sep. 1873: 321-322. [more about this work]
[pages: 321-322, 321(ill.)]

Congdon, Charles T. *Reminiscences of a Journalist*. Boston: James R. Osgood, 1880. [more about this work]
[pages: 280]

Derby, J.C. *Fifty Years among Authors, Books and Publishers*. New York: G. W. Carleton and Co., 1884. [more about this work]
Derby recalls that Curtis returned from his "Eastern travels" thirty-five years before his writing, and, that upon his return, he brought a manuscript that discussed his travels to Harper & Brothers for publication. Col. John Harper looked over his manuscript briefly and told Curtis' "We will publish your book, and you may bring us all the manuscripts on Syria you choose, if written as well as this" (683). The books that followed were: "Nile Notes on the Howadji," "Howadji in Syria," and Lotus-Eating," illustrated by John F. Kensett. The last book appears to have been well received by the London press (683-684).

Derby and Curtis met "when he was connected with a publishing house whose disastrous failure soon terminated his career as a book publisher;" the firm accrued great debts, which Curtis was not obligated to pay, "but he considered himself morally responsible for the debts, and did pay every dollar from the proceeds of the earnings of his pen and eloquent lectures which became so popular

throughout the whole country" (684).

In 1854, Curtis was a contributor to *Putnam's Monthly* and was also on the magazine's editorial staff. His contributions were "a series of satirical sketches on fashionable society, which obtained great popularity and were afterwards published in a volume under their title, 'The Potiphar Papers'" (684).

Derby writes that "In 1856, Mr. Curtis entered the political arena, not as an office-seeker or an office-holder, for he has never been either, but a steady friend of all that is pure in politics" (684).

According to Derby, at the time of his writing, "Mr. Curtis has been, for more than a quarter of a century, the editor of *Harper's Weekly*, which under his guidance has become not only an influential factor in politics, but emphatically what it claims to be -- a journal of civilization" (685). Derby also notes that aside from being an "author, journalist, and statesman" he is also a "lecturer and orator, and in my opinion, the most eloquent and graceful since the voices of Phillips and Sumner have been forever silenced" (685).

Curtis was one of the writers gathered at the complimentary fruit and flower festival held for distinguished authors by New York publishers at the Crystal Palace in 1855 (35).

Derby quotes Curtis in the "Editor's Easy Chair" of *Harper's* about James Harper's fatal accident (96). Curtis is also quoted discussing Fletcher Harper after his death (101). Derby quotes Curtis's "Easy Chair" column about Fletcher Harper on p.105. He is also quoted discussing the division of labor among the Harper brothers on p.107.

During the early days of the Civil War, Curtis was appointed the political editor of *Harper's Weekly*, a position he "continues to hold with commanding ability" at the time of Derby's writing (104-105).

Derby quotes some lines written by Curtis that are incsribed over the fireplace of the Harper's private office in Franklin Square, which he feels "express, in the most felicitous manner, the traditional spirit of the [Harper publishing] house:

"My flame expires; but let true hands pass on
An unextinguished torch from sire to son" (109).

Derby describes Curtis as a "graceful orator" in his discussion of the memory of William Cullen Bryant. Part of Curtis's "commemorative address" at the Academy of Music, for the New York Historical Society, December 30, 1883 is quoted on p.171-172.

Derby notes that Curtis's "celebrated" "Potiphar Papers" were first submissions to Putnam's *Monthly Magazine* (314).

Curtis's recollections of James Fields and his bookstore are reprinted by Derby p.627-629.

Derby reprints the following excerpt from an article contributed to the Century Magazine by S.S. Conant, executive editor of *Harper's Weekly*:

"His devotion to journalism and political affairs has prevented Mr. Curtis from pursuing authorship as a profession, if we are to regard authorship as the writing of books; but although he has put forth no new volume since the publication of 'Trumps,' the readres of the 'Easy Chair' in *Harper's Magazine*, and on 'Manners upon the Road,' in *Harper's Bazaar*, with recognize in him the most charming essayist of the day. The delicate, graceful humor of these papers, the purity of style, the wide range of culture and observation which they indicate, but which is never obtrusive, give them a distinctive character of their own. The 'Easy Chair' is the first part of the magazine to which the reader turns. The author of 'Trumps,' 'The Potiphar Papers,' and 'Prue and I,' could hardly have failed as a novelist, had he chosen to pursue the path of literature; but we will not regret his choice, for while we have many novelists, where shall we look for another name like his in the field of American journalism?" (685). [pages: 35,96,101,104-105,107,109,163,171,314,627,683-685]

"George William Curtis." *The Living Age*. 24 Sep. 1853: 801-806. [more about this work]
[pages: 801-806]

Greenslet, Ferris. *The Life of Thomas Bailey Aldrich*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1908. 303 p. [more about this work]
Greenslet describes Curtis's friendship with Thomas Bailey Aldrich (38).

Aldrich discusses Curtis' irreplacability in New York (in relation to his "Easy Chair" column) in a letter to Stedman, Oct. 8, 1891, from Boston (171). [pages: 38,171]

Guarneri, Carl J. *The Utopian Alternative: Fourierism in Nineteenth-Century America*. Cornell, NY: Cornell University Press, 1994. [more about this work]
[pages: 58,400-401]

Haynes, John Edward. *Pseudonyms of Authors: Including Anonyms and Initialisms*. New York, 1882. [more about this work]
This text identifies the following pseudonyms: Lounger (57), Old Bacheldor (70), Potiphar (78). [pages: 57, 70, 78]

Hellman, George S. "George William Curtis." *Dictionary of American Biography*. Base Set. American Council of Learned Societies, 1928-1936. Reproduced in *Biography Resource Center*. Farmington Hills, Mich.: Thomson

Gale, 2006. http://www.galenet.com/servlet/BioRC. [more about this work]
This biographical entry discusses Curtis' career as a journalist, travel writer, and orator.

Hemstreet, Charles. *Literary New York: Its Landmarks and Associations*. New York: G.P. Putnam, 1903. [more about this work]
Hemstreet mentions that the offices of *Harper's Magazine*, "where George W. Curtis established his Easy Chair in which he was enthroned so long," are located down Frankfort Street, in Franklin Square. Hemstreet also mentions that Howells has taken over Curtis' old position at the magazine (235). [pages: 235]

Howells, William Dean. "First Impressions of Literary New York." *Harper's New Monthly Magazine*. Jun. 1895: 62-74. [more about this work]
Howells mentions his adoration of Curtis and muses over why he didn't see him when he visited New York (65). [pages: 65]

Howells, William Dean. "George William Curtis." *The North American Review*. Jul. 1868: 104-117. [more about this work]
[pages: 104-117]

Howland, Harold. "Charles Frederick Briggs." *Dictionary of American Biography*. Base Set. American Council of Learned Societies, 1928-1936. Reproduced in *Biography Resource Center*. Farmington Hills, Mich.: Thomson Gale, 2006. http://www.galenet.com/servlet/BioRC. [more about this work]
Curtis edited *Putnam's Magazine* with Briggs and Parke Godwin in 1853.

Leland, Charles Godfrey. *Memoirs*. New York: D. Appleton & Co., 1893. [more about this work]
[pages: 239]

"Literary Intelligence." *Saturday Press*. 13 Nov. 1858: 2. [more about this work]
A note reports that George W. Curtis, Esq. is rumored to be writing about the history of the Hudson River (2). [pages: 2]

"Literary Items." *Saturday Press*. 23 Oct. 1858: 3. [more about this work]
The section "The Magazines and Their Contents" lists Curtis's "The Millenial Club" as appearing in the November issue of the *Knickerbocker Magazine*. A note on *Harper's Magazine* lists George W. Curtis among the "principal contributors" (3). [pages: 3]

Lukens, Henry Clay. "American Literary Comedians." *Harper's New Monthly Magazine*. Apr. 1890: 783-797. [more about this work]
[pages: 795]

Miller, Tice L. *Bohemians and Critics: American Theatre Criticism in the Nineteenth Century*. Metuchen, NJ: The Scarecrow Press, 1981. [more about this work]

Edward Wilkins' ability to combine "society gossip and theatrical chit-chat in an amusing style" was reminiscent of Curtis's contributions to *Harper's* (Miller 48).

In defense of Edwin Forrest's artistic abilities, Edwin G. P. Wilkins grouped together Curtis, William Stuart, Adam Badeau, and William Hurlburt as a "clique" of dramatic "'critics' who rarely have pluck enough to judge for themselves" (Miller 65).

Curtis was one of many writers who sought "refuge in the past" in order to escape the "chaos caused by the war and a rapidly changing American society" (Miller 82). [pages: 48, 65, 82, 126]

Odell, George C.D. *Annals of the New York Stage: Volume VIII (1865-1870)*. New York:Columbia University Press, 1936. [more about this work]

Curtis spoke as part of the lecture series at the Reformed Dutch Church between 21st Street between 5th and 6th Ave. during 1865-66 season. His March 21, 1866 lecture was titled "The Good Fight" (92). Curtis gave same lecture for the Westbury Educational association two days later in Jamaica, Queens (126). Curtis also gave this lecture on Staten Island December 29, 1865; Odell states that Curtis is a "noted resident" of Staten Island (127).

Curtis was the Westbury Lecture Room lecturer March 18, 1867, "his talk enlarging on Conservatism." On Dec. 26, 1866, he lectured at the Old Dutch Church, Tompkinsville, Staten Island (266). Odell mentions that the "silvery eloquence" of Curtis was heard Dec. 18, 1868, at Cooper Institute on Political Morality (514).

Curtis also gave a lecture about Charles Dickens January 28, 1869, at Lyric Hall. Odell expresses a desire to have been at the event (515). Curtis Spoke at the Pavilion Hotel, New Brighton, Feb. 18, 1869, on Political Morality (557). He lectured October 26, 1869, at the Church of the Reformation in Brooklyn with a "silvery discourse" on American Literature (676).

Odell reports that "George William Curtis gave 1870 a dignified start" Jan. 7 with a lecture on Staten Island on American Literature given at the Unitarian Church in New Brighton (692). Odell again remarks that Curtis is "silver tongued." Curtis gave a lecture on "Our National Folly - the Civil Service" on February 17 (postponed from the 15th), 1870, at the Baptist Church, Port Richmond, Staten Island, which was attended by 80 people. His next lecture on April 18th in this venue brought an audience of 100 and was on Thackeray. Odell states that this lecture "was so fitting for his own style and taste that one might have expected a

crowded hall" (693). [pages: 92,126, 127,266,514, 515,557,676,692,693]

Odell, George Clinton. *Annals of the New York Stage: Volume VI (1850-1857)*. New York: Columbia University Press, 1931. [more about this work]

Odell mentions that the "then hihgly popular *Potiphar Papers* of George William Curtis" were dramatized and titled *Our Best Society* at Burton's (290).

Curtis lectured in Brooklyn during the 1854-1855 season at the Brooklyn Institute - the title and subject of his lecture is unknown(420). He also lectured at the Institute during the 1855-1856 season. [pages: 290,420,507]

Odell, George Clinton. *Annals of the New York Stage: Volume VII (1857-1865)*. New York: Columbia University Press, 1931. [more about this work]

Gave a lecture as part of the lecture series at the Institute in Brooklyn in the 1857-1858 season. Curtis returned to this venue in the 1858-1859 season. His Nov. 30, 1859, lecture was entitled *Democracy and Education*. Curtis also lectured during 1859-1860 season.

Curtis is listed as one of the few critics who "did justice to the drama" in reviewing Augustin Daly's *Deborah*. Curtis' review appears in the March 7, 1863, issue of *Harper's Weekly* (Odell reprints the text). Odell also reprints Curtis' review of J.S. Clarke's acting. [pages: 103,196,299, 485,638]

"Our Authors and Authorship - Melville and Curtis." *Putnam's Monthly Magazine*. Apr. 1857: 384-394. [more about this work]

[pages: 384-394]

Starr, Louis Morris. *Bohemian Brigade; Civil War Newsmen in Action*. New York: Knopf, 1954. 367 p. [more about this work]

Starr writes that Curtis, editor of *Harper's Weekly*, suggested privately during the attacks on the *Tribune* by the *Herald* "that Gay issue 'an edict that the existance of the Herald shall never be recognized in or by the Tribune in any way.'" He also proposed that Gay "let the worthy old Scot [Hudson] lie and rave as much as he likes...There are some animals that...cannot be touched or fought, for even if you hit and kill them they make you smell dreadfully" (235). [pages: 235]

"The Household Book of Poetry." *Saturday Press*. 27 Nov. 1858: 2. [more about this work]

The review of Dana's *The Household Book of Poetry* discusses Curtis's inclusion in the volume and cites one of his more "peculiar" contributions (2). [pages: 2]

"The Young Men of the New York Press." *The Independent*. 7 Jun. 1866: 4. [more about this work]

"It is a striking fact that the number of young men prominently connected with the New York press as writers is greater now than at any former period... the chief editorial work in these journals is done by men between the years of twenty-five and forty" (4).

"George William Curtis, the editorial writer of *Harper's Weekly*, is not the youngest of young men; but we trust the years will be many before he shall grow old" (4). [pages: 4]

Thomas, Lately. *Delmonico's: A Century of Splendor.* Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1967. [more about this work]

Curtis is mentioned in relation to the New York Historical Society. [pages: 153]

Wilson, James Grant and John Fiske, eds. *Appletons' Cyclopaedia of American Biography, Volume I, Aaron-Crandall.* New York: D. Appleton & Co., 1888. [more about this work]

Appleton lists Curtis as a chief contributor to his publication.

Wilson, James Grant and John Fiske, eds. *Appletons' Cyclopaedia of American Biography, Volume II, Crane-Grimshaw.* New York: D. Appleton & Co., 1888. [more about this work]

Appleton noted that Curtis served as New York's delegate to the National REpublican convetion betwene the years of 1860-1864. [pages: 35(ill.)]

Winter, William. *George William Curtis. A Eulogy; Delivered before the People of Staten Island, at the Castleton, St. George, February 24, 1893.* New York: Macmillan and Co, 1893. [more about this work]

Winter, William. *Old Friends; Being Literary Recollections of Other Days.* New York: Moffat, Yard and Company, 1909. 407 p. [more about this work]

Curtis, "a man of letters" was born in Providence, RI ("Our American Venice"),in 1824. Winter notes that Curtis was born almost two months before the death of Byron and that he was eight when Goethe and Sir Walter Scott died. Winter mentions that Curtis's life and sensibilities have often been described by his early experiences at Brook Farm, in Roxbury, from 1840-1844, but Winter argues that Curtis already had the "Brook Farm ideal" in mind when he arrived there: "the ideal of a social existance regulated by absolute justice and adorned by absolute beauty." It was at Brook Farm that Curtis met, learned from, and was influenced by the notable residents and visitors of the place, including Hawthorne, Emerson, Charles Anderson Dana, Margaret Fuller, George Ripley, and Theodore Parker. After his early experiences at Brook Farm, Curtis traveled to "the Orient," "and found inspiration and theme in subjects that were novel because their scene was both august and remote. Curtis appears to have made an exhaustive tour of the "Orient," and Winter notes that while Curtis was an

"American humorist,"he did not endeavor to be comic...he was not the humorist who grins among the sculptures of Westminster Abbey"; Curtis's humor and appreciation of things appears to have been, according to Winter, more contemplative and respectful (228-230).

Winter quotes Curtis to best describe "the spirit in which he rambled": "Great persons and events that notch time in passing, do so because Nature gave them such an excessive and exaggerated impulse that wherever they touch they leave their mark; and that intense humanity secures human sympathy beyond the most beautiful balance, which, indeed, the angels love and we are beginning to appreciate" (231).

Winter applauds Curtis for his ability to incorporate and appreciate both the past and present in his work, as well as the sense of insight that comes through in Curtis's writing. While Curtis did write some poetry, Winter claims that "to the poetic laurel he made no pretension," and cites some of Curtis's patriotic poetry ("A Rhyme of Rhode Island and the Times"-1863) as an example of his verse. According to Winter, "Poetry..was not his natural vocation," but he "was a man of deep poetic sensiblity." Winter cites Curtis's "Prue and I" and "Lotus-Eating" as examples of Curtis's poetic nature being demonstrated in his writing (231-234). Winter also cites some of Curtis's verse as part of his discussion of the "poetical feeling that existed in New England about 1855" and the politics of the region and the time; responses to the Fugitive Slave Law, "Uncle Tom's Cabin," and other events leading to the Civil War (236-240).

Winter mentions that early in his writing career, Washington Irving made the following remark to Curtis: "You young fellows are not so lucky as I was, for when I began to write there were only a few of us" (81).

Curtis was a member of Bayard Taylor's poetic group (177).

Winter met Curtis at Longfellow's home when Winter was a young poet. Longfellow also introduced the two men. Winter describes Curtis during their first meeting as "a young man, lithe, slender, faultlessly apparelled, very handsome, who rose at my approach, turning upon me a countenance that beamed with kindness, and a smile that was a welcome from the heart...He had the manner of a natural artistocrat--a manner that is born, not made; a manner that is never found except in persons who are self-centered without being selfish; who are intrinsically noble, simple, and true." Winter remarks that the two men were friends from that moment until the end of Curtis' life (224).

Winter devotes an entire chapter to Curtis and states that "It is not because he was a friend of mine that I try to assist in commemoration of him; it is because he was a great person. The career of Curtis was rounded and complete. The splendid structure of his character stands before the world like a monument of gold. Not to express homage for a

public benefactor is to fail in self-respect" (225). Of Curtis, Winter claims, "It is the story of a man of genius whose pure life and splendid powers were devoted to the ministry of beauty and to the self- sacrificing service of mankind" (227).

Winter discusses Curtis' oratorical career, particulary during "that conflict, of Right against Wrong, [into which] Curtis threw himself, with all his soul." Winter's reference is to "the poetcial feeling in New England around 1855" that he claims occured in response to the political and social events that led up to and included the Civil War (240-241).

Curtis' literary career began in 1846, at the age of twenty-two (264). Curtis "made his mark" on the growing American literary tradition with his "observations" from his "Oriental travels." His satirical "Potiphar Papers" the romantic "Prue and I" published in "Putnam's Magazine" in 1852 and 1854, respectively, helped to cement his reputation. "He assumed the Easy Chair of 'Harper's Magazine,' in 1854...and he occupied it until the last." Curtis also wrote his novel "Trumps" in "Harper's." With the exception of a short break in 1873, Curtis wrote steadily for the Easy Chair for thirty-eight years and produced twenty-five hundred of these articles, as well as other publications (264-266)

Winter states that Curtis' speaking career began in 1851, with a talk titled "Contemporary Artists of Europe" given for the New York National Academy of Design. Winter states that "in 1853 he had formally adopted the Platform as a vocation; and it continued to be a part of his vocation for the next twenty years. He was everywhere popular in the lyceum, and he now brought into the more turbulent field of politics the dignity of the scholar, the refinement and grace of a gentleman, and all the varied equipments of the zealous and accomplished advocate, the caustic satirist, and the impassioned champion of the rights of man" (241).

Winter remebers first seeing Curtis speak on politics, "making an appeal for Fremont," at a convention in Fritchburg. Curtis followed Greeley on the bill of speakers. Winter states that neither Curtis nor Greeley were "worldly-wise; neither was versed in political duplicty." Winter states that "while Curtis spoke, the hearts of that multitude were first lured and entranced by the golden tones of his delicious voice, and then were shaken, as with a whirlwind, by the righteous fervor of his magnificent enthusiasm." Winter claims that while Curtis may have lacked in style in his prose," "but in the felicty of speech Curtis was supreme above all other men of his generation. (Winter notes that he is specifically referring to Curtis' speaking career from 1860-1890)" (241-243).

Winter notes that Curtis stopped doing regular speaking engagements in 1873, but never completely gave up oratory (242). According to Winter, "Oratory as it existed in America in the previous epoch has no living representative. Curtis was the last orator of the school of Everett, Sumner, and Wendell Phillips." Winter continues wiht a discussion of

Curtis' oratorical influences and the models on which he based his speeches (243-245). Winter then discusses how the oratorical schools of Curtis' time no longer exist. "The oratory of a later day is characterized by colloquialism, familiarity, and comic anecdote. Curtis maintained the dignity of the old order. Some of my readers, perhaps, may remember the charm of his manner,--how subtle it was, yet seemingly how simple; how completely it convinced and satisfied; how it clarified intelligence; how it enobled feeling. One secret of it, no doubt, was its perfect sincerity. Noble himself, and speaking only for right, and truth, and beauty, he addressed nobility in others. That consideration would maintain the moral and the genial authority of his eloquence. The total effect of it, however, was attributable to his exquisite, inexplicable art" (247-248).

Winter discusses Curtis' talent at oratory in depth, as well as his careers in business and writing. Business seems to have left Curtis in debt, but he was a prolific writer; "The shackle that business imposed upon him was the shackle of drudgery. He was compelled to write profusely and without pause." Winter refers to a break-down Curtis had in October, 1873, which left him unable to write and work. Aldrich filled in for Curtis at "Harper's" until Curtis recovered; Winter maintains, however, that Curtis worked non-stop for over forty years (254).

Winter claims that "Curtis was controlled less by his imagination than by his moral sense. He had ideals, but they were were based on reason" (260-261).

Winter reprints a "threnody" he wrote a few days after Curtis died (August 31, 1892) (270-274).

Winter also notes that while Taylor, Stoddard, Stedman, Boker, Curtis, Ludlow, and the names of have been "comingled wtih those of Clapp's Bohemian associates," they "were not only not affiliated with that coterie but were distinct from it, and, in some instances, were inimical to it" (295).

Winter reprints a letter Curtis wrote him dated March 29, 1882, from Staten Island, that discusses Longfellow's death. After describing the funeral and other matters, Curtis writes: "I do not forget that it was at Longfellow's we met, and our mutual regard has the benediction of his gracious memory. The fathers are departing. I saw Emerson stand by the coffin and look at the dead face. But, in his broken state, the dead looked happier than the living" (347-348).

Winter notes that Curtis is one of the young "wandering mistrels" mentioned in Wallack's "Memories of Fifty Years": "You come upon him very pleasantly, in the society of that brilliant actor, and you hear their youthful voices blended" (267). [pages: 81,177,224-245, 242(.ill), 247-274,295,302,347-348,267,370]

Wolle, Francis. *Fitz-James O'Brien: A Literary Bohemian of the Eighteen-Fifties*. Boulder, Col.; University of Colorado, 1944. 309 p. [more about this work]

Wolle mentions him as a clever young man in the New York group. [pages: 34, 103, 143, 184]

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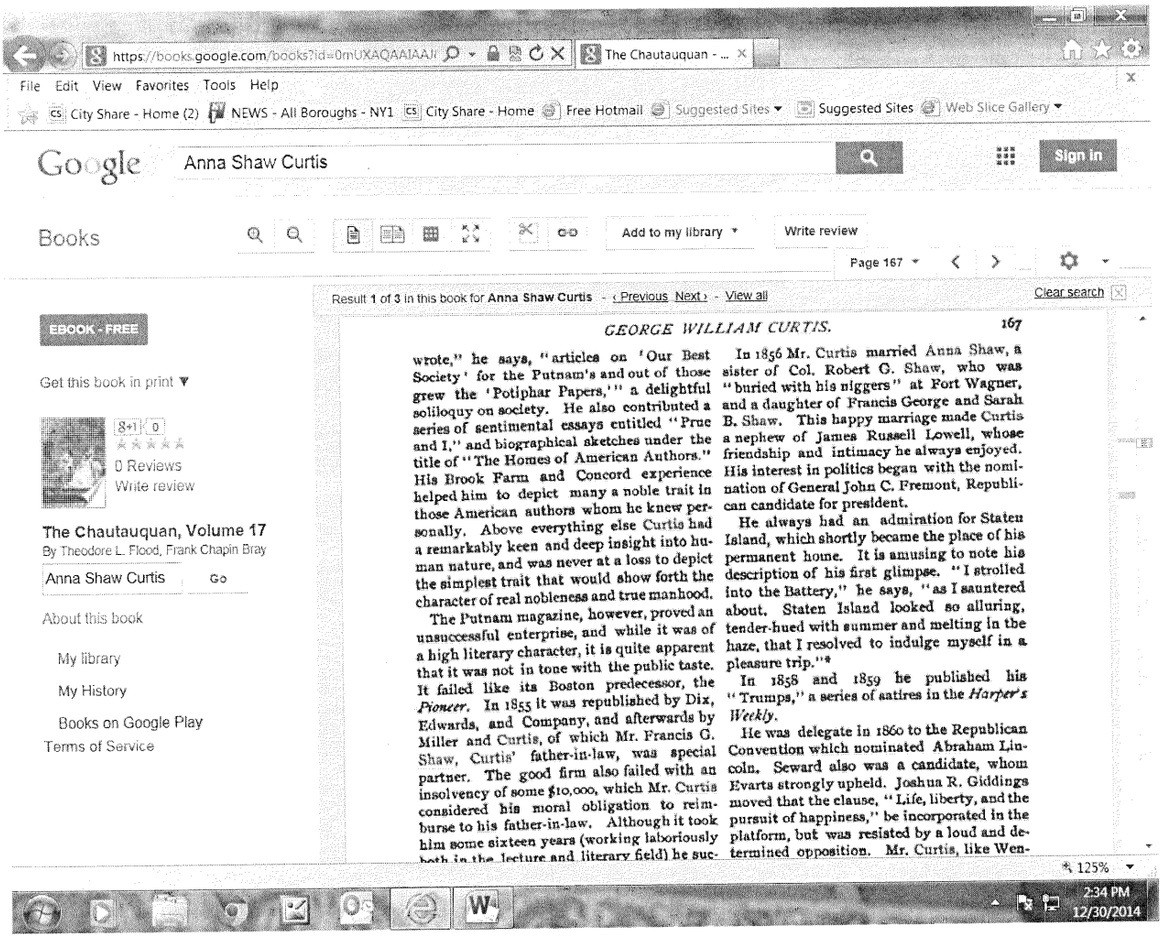
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GEORGE WILLIAM CURTIS. 167
wrote," he says, "articles on 'Our Best Society' for the Putnam's and out of those grew the 'Potiphar Papers,'" a delightful soliloquy on society. He also contributed a series of sentimental essays entitled "Prue and I," and biographical sketches under the title of "The Homes of American Authors." His Brook Farm and Concord experience helped him to depict many a noble trait in those American authors whom he knew personally. Above everything else Curtis had a remarkably keen and deep insight into human nature, and was never at a loss to depict the simplest trait that would show forth the character of real nobleness and true manhood.
The Putnam magazine, however, proved an unsuccessful enterprise, and while it was of a high literary character, it is quite apparent that it was not in tone with the public taste. It failed like its Boston predecessor, the Pioneer. In 1855 it was republished by Dix, Edwards, and Company, and afterwards by Miller and Curtis, of which Mr. Francis G. Shaw, Curtis' father-in-law, was special partner. The good firm also failed with an insolvency of some $10,000, which Mr. Curtis considered his moral obligation to reimburse to his father-in-law. Although it took him some sixteen years (working laboriously both in the lecture and literary field) he succ-
In 1856 Mr. Curtis married Anna Shaw, a sister of Col. Robert G. Shaw, who was "buried with his niggers" at Fort Wagner, and a daughter of Francis George and Sarah B. Shaw. This happy marriage made Curtis a nephew of James Russell Lowell, whose friendship and intimacy he always enjoyed. His interest in politics began with the nomination of General John C. Fremont, Republican candidate for president.
He always had an admiration for Staten Island, which shortly became the place of his permanent home. It is amusing to note his description of his first glimpse. "I strolled into the Battery," he says, "as I sauntered about. Staten Island looked so alluring, tender-hued with summer and melting in the haze, that I resolved to indulge myself in a pleasure trip."[2]
In 1858 and 1859 he published his "Trumps," a series of satires in the Harper's Weekly.
He was delegate in 1860 to the Republican Convention which nominated Abraham Lincoln. Seward also was a candidate, whom Evarts strongly upheld. Joshua R. Giddings moved that the clause, "Life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness," be incorporated in the platform, but was resisted by a loud and determined opposition. Mr. Curtis, like Wen-
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Republicans" as they were called by the opposing party. On Staten Island, as elsewhere in the State, the freedman did not have equal civil rights. New York State permitted black men to vote only if they paid a tax. Many whites feared competition of the black people in the labor market.

CIVIL WAR PERIOD

Draft Quotas

In July 1863, serious riots occurred in Manhattan to protest the Federal Conscription Act. This riot action spread to Richmond County as some whites became enraged and vented their anger on black people and upon the Abolitionists. Again we acknowledge *North Shore Legends*, in which Martin Gay has written about incidents of those days. According to his childhood memories, he reports that the citizens of Port Richmond, determined to have no violence in the village, placed "a small cannon at the bridge where the Shore Road crosses Bodine's Creek (presently Richmond Terrace and Jewett Avenue) and let it be known that no rioters would be allowed in that village and no attempt by them to get in was reported." This incident took place a short distance from the present location of P.S. 20.

Escape to New Jersey

Many blacks escaped from Staten Island across the water to New Jersey. Some left their homes and hid in the woods. Others were beaten. Mr. Gay reports "a confectioner's store in New Brighton kept by a respectable colored man was attacked and gutted."

Abolitionists Befriended Blacks

Some stories are recorded that indicate how the Abolitionists on Staten Island befriended blacks during these critical days. When Mrs. Louis T. Hoyt discovered a group of black refugees hidden in the woods near her home (Bard and Castleton Avenues) she sheltered them in her barn and personally fed and cared for them, fearing that her servants might inform the leaders of the mob.

Mr. Gay recalls another incident:

Mr. Charles G. Thorpe, driving to the boat one morning, met a colored man pursued by a mob. The man was at his last gasp, and begged for help. Mr. Thorpe seized the reins, pitched the coachman, whom he dared not

trust, into the road, pulled the exhausted man into the wagon and drove him to safety.

Abolitionists in Danger

The abolitionists also lived in terror of mob attacks. Many threats of violence were reported. Under the cover of darkness, some families left their homes to seek safety with neighbors who had protected themselves with firearms. Mrs. Gay and her children took refuge in the home of George Cabot Ward. Her husband's safety was threatened in his New York office where he was stranded.

July 1863 Riots

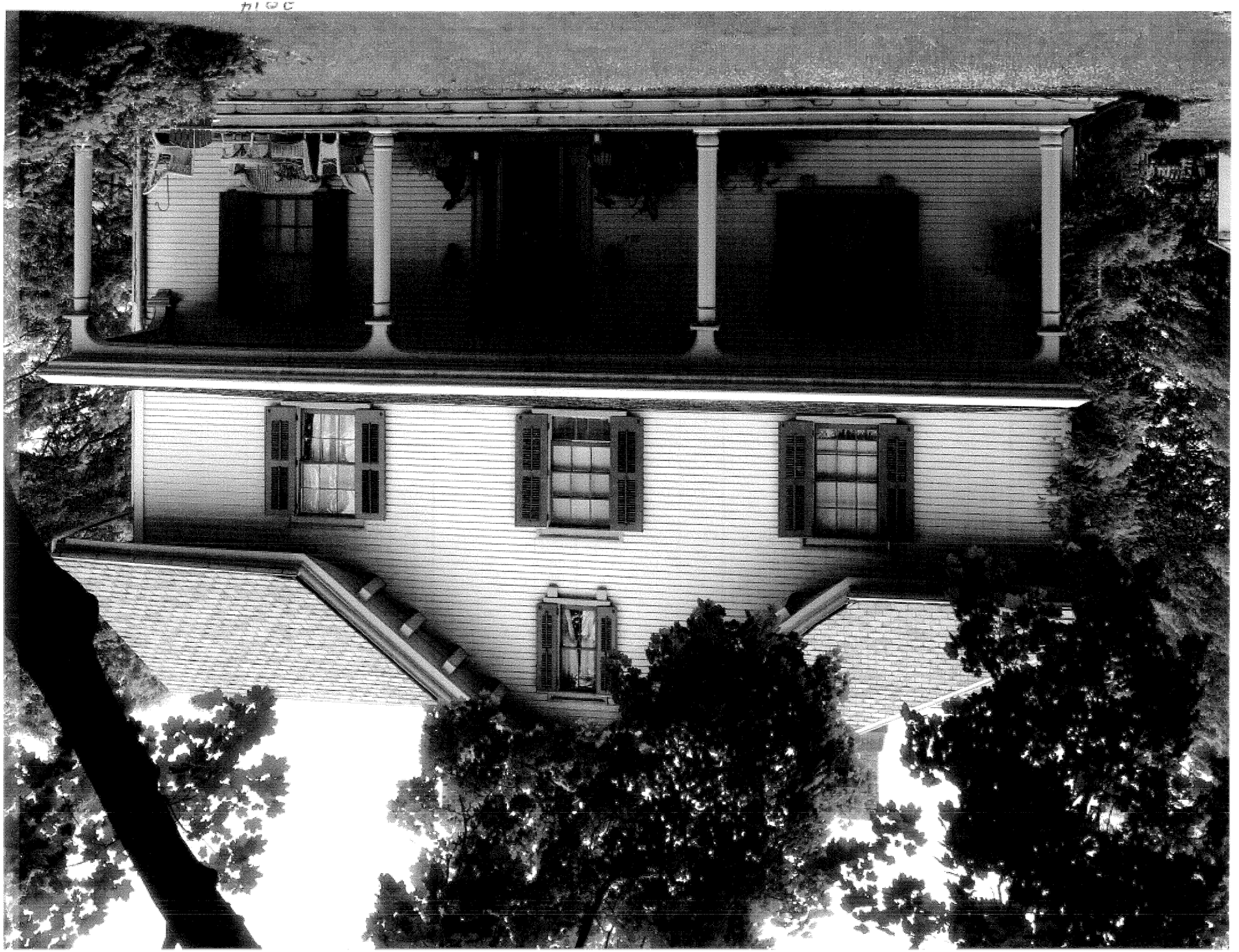
Rumors of disorder on Staten Island spread as the draft riots in Manhattan became more violent. At this time there were nearly 1,000 blacks on staten island in a total population of about 26,000.[14] Angry mobs of whites seized thirty muskets from the Tompkins Lyceum on Van Duzer Street, Stapleton, and from other drill rooms, set fire to homes and stores, and threatened innocent African Americans who lived on McKeon Street (now Tompkins Street) Stapleton. This is near the present P.S. 14. The rioters then burned the car barns of the railroad at Vanderbilt's landing, Clifton. Damage to property in these July 1863 riots was great. After investigation by the Board of Supervisors, the county was ordered to pay the African Americans damages amounting to $9,314.69 and to the whites in the amount of $1,710.96. The claims of the white people were settled almost immediately but the cases of the black claimants were delayed for two or three years.

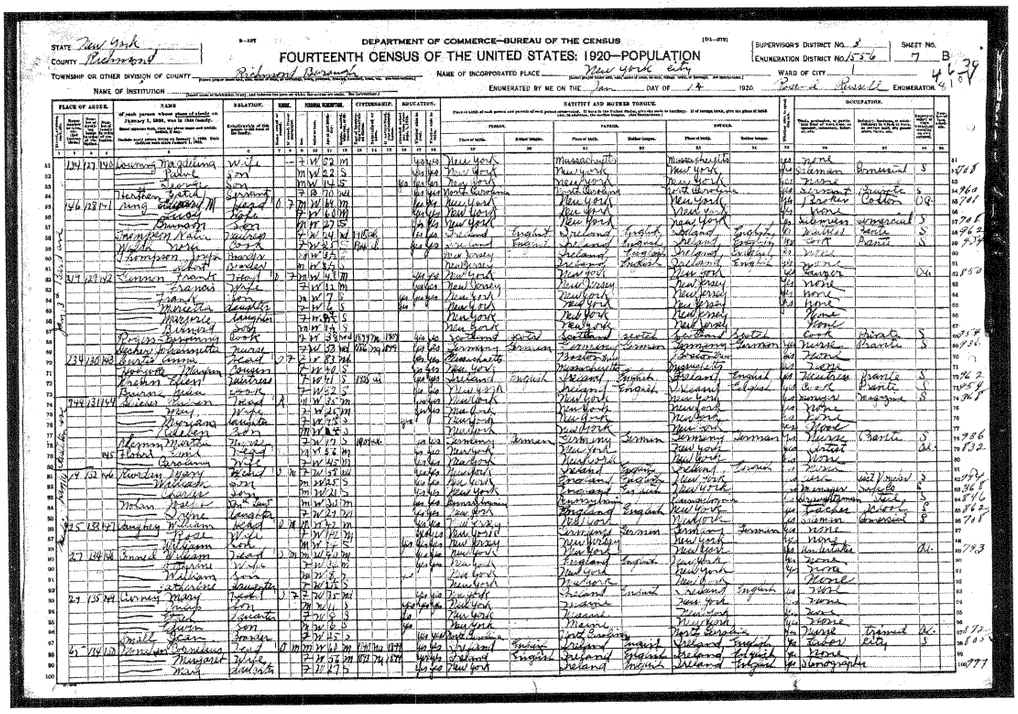
SANDY GROUND

A small community of black families exists today on Bloomingdale Road between Drumgoole Boulevard and Arthur Kill Road. The name of this area, Sandy Ground, appears in records dating back to 1779.

The soil there was well suited for the growth of strawberries and asparagus. For years the produce was shipped from the Rossville area to the Manhattan markets by steamboat. At the present time air pollution, caused by nearby New Jersey factories, prevents the growth of profitable crops.

It was in the 1830s and 1840s that a group of free blacks from Snow Hill, Maryland, came to Sandy Ground. There had been black families





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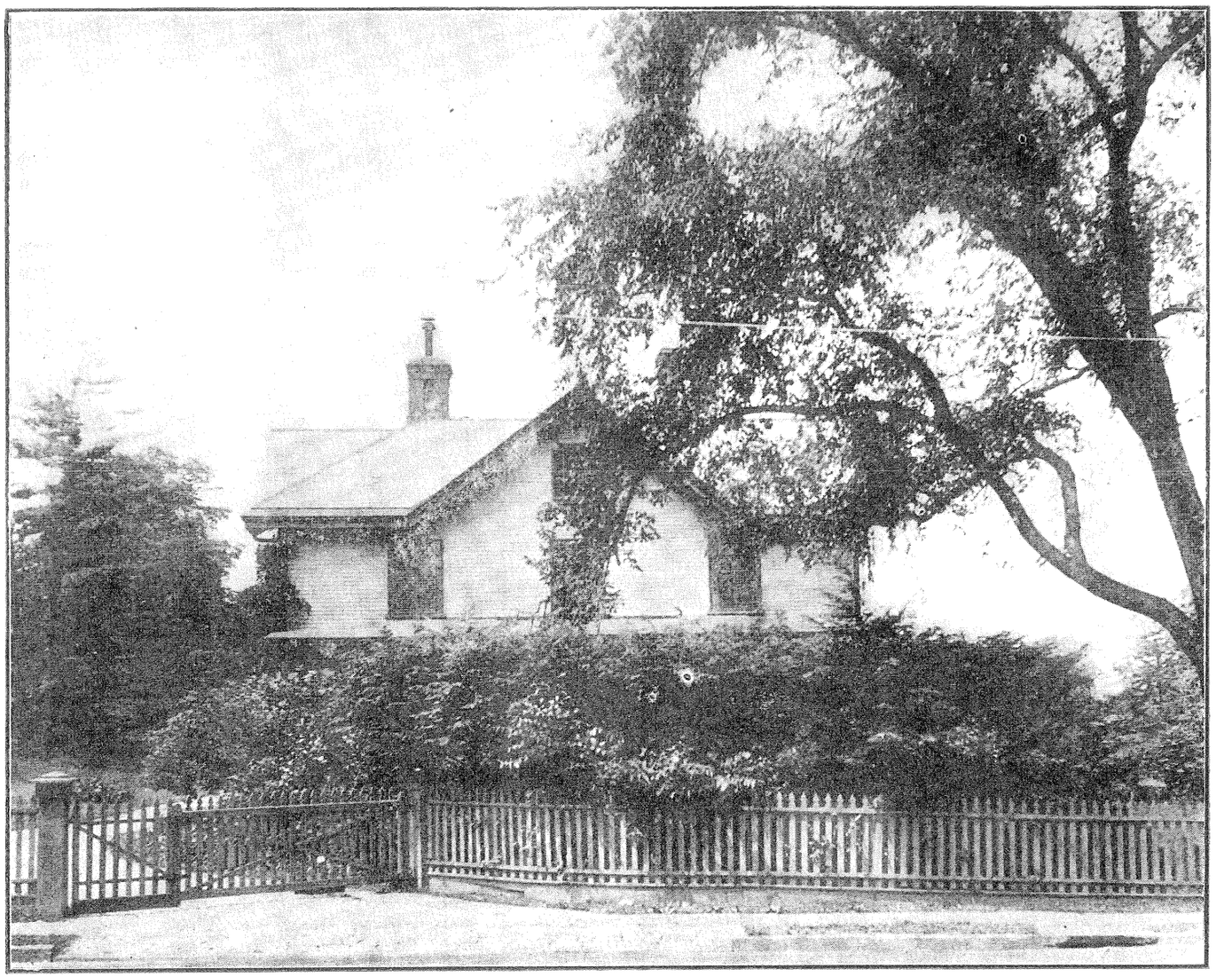
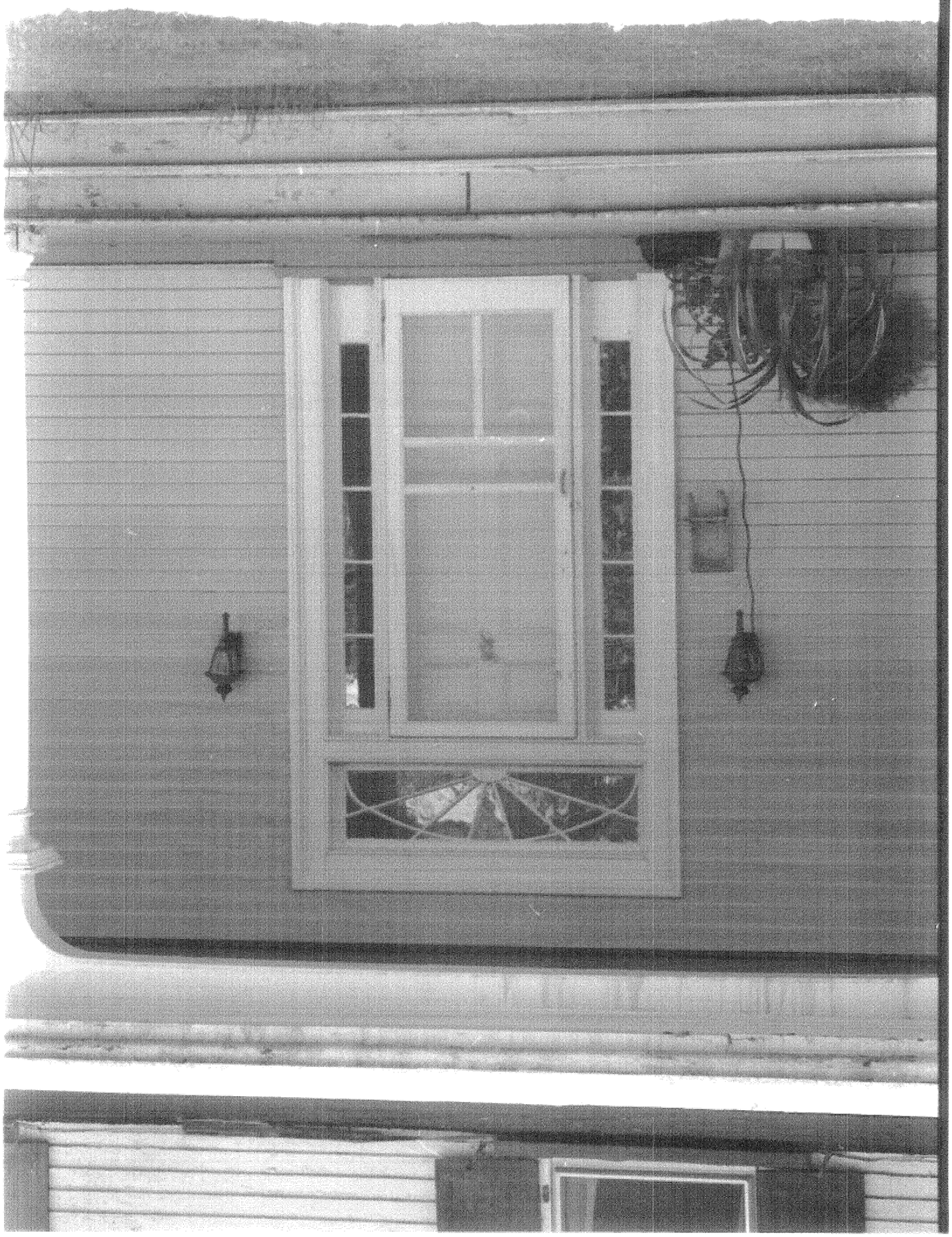
FOURTEENTH CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES: 1920—POPULATION

STATE New York — COUNTY Richmond — TOWNSHIP OR OTHER DIVISION OF COUNTY Richmond Borough — NAME OF INCORPORATED PLACE New York City — SUPERVISOR'S DISTRICT NO. 3 — ENUMERATION DISTRICT NO. 536 — SHEET NO. 7 B — WARD OF CITY 1 — NAME OF INSTITUTION — ENUMERATED BY ME ON THE Jan DAY OF 14 1920 — Fred A. Russell ENUMERATOR

	PLACE OF ABODE		NAME	RELATION	SEX	RACE	AGE	CITIZENSHIP	EDUCATION	NATIVITY AND MOTHER TONGUE						OCCUPATION			
										PERSON		FATHER		MOTHER					
										Place of birth	Mother tongue	Place of birth	Mother tongue	Place of birth	Mother tongue				
51	134	123	Lawson Magdalena	Wife	F	W	52	M		New York		Massachusetts		Massachusetts		None			768
52			Pearl	Son	M	W	22	S		New York		New York		New York		Saleman	Garment	S	
53			George	Son	M	W	14	S		New York		New York		New York		None			960
54			Hartson Fred	Servant	M	W	70	Wd		New York	North Carolina	North Carolina	North Carolina	New York		Servant	Private	S	
55	136	123	Long Benjamin M	Head	M	W	44	M		New York		New York		New York		Lawyer	Law	Div	761
56			Lucy	Wife	F	W	40	M		New York		New York		New York		None			
57			Duncan	Son	M	W	17	S		New York		New York		New York		Laborer	Unskilled	S	764
58			Thompson Nan	Lodger	F	W	24	Wd		Ireland	England	Ireland	English	Ireland	English	Cook	Private	S	962
59			Wylie Ina	Cook	F	W	21			Ireland	England	Ireland	English	Ireland	English	Cook	Family	S	937
60			Thompson Jos	Boarder	M	W	42			New Jersey		Ireland	English	Ireland	English	Mill			
61			Short	Boarder	M	W	29			Pennsylvania		Ireland	English	Ireland	English	None			
62	137	124	Curran Frank	Head	M	W	34	M		New York		New York		New York		Lawyer		Div	950
63			Emma	Wife	F	W	33	M		New Jersey		New Jersey		New Jersey		None			
64			Frank	Son	M	W	7	S		New York		New York		New York		None			
65			Marietta	Daughter	F	W	5	S		New York		New York		New York		None			
66			Margaret	Daughter	F	W	3	S		New York		New York		New York		None			
67			Lenard	Son	M	W	1	S		New York		New York		New York		None			
68			Rogers Raymond	Cook	F	W	36	Wd	1877	Scotland	Scotch	Scotland	Scotch	Scotland	Scotch	Cook	Private	S	954
69			Hughes Antoinette	Nurse	F	W	53	Wd	1866	Germany	German	Germany	German	Germany	German	Nurse	Private	S	936
70	138	125	Duarte Emma	Head	F	W	21	Md		Massachusetts		Massachusetts		Massachusetts		None			
71			Yvonette Marjorie	Daughter	F	W	4	S		New York		Massachusetts		Massachusetts		None			
72			Fallon Ellen	Waitress	F	W	41	S	1905	Ireland	English	Ireland	English	Ireland	English	Waitress	Private	S	962
73			Barnes Jessie	Cook	F	W	52	S		Ireland	English	Ireland	English	Ireland	English	Cook	Private	S	954
74	144	131	Allen Minnie	Head	F	W	32	M		New York		New York		New York		Manager	Magazine	S	746
75			May	Wife	F	W	21	M		New York		New York		New York		None			
76			Morgan Augusta	Servant	F	W	23	S		New York		New York		New York		None			
77			Colton Son		M	W	3	S		New York		New York		New York		None			
78			Morgan Martin	Nurse	F	W	43	S	Alone	Germany	German	Germany	German	Germany	German	Nurse	Private	S	786
79			Hobart Lind	Lodger	M	W	56	Wd		New York		New York		New York		Artist		Wd	732
80			Caroline	Wife	F	W	45	Wd		New York		New York		New York		None			
81	14	132	Martin Mary	Head	F	W	52	Wd		Ireland	English	Ireland	English	Ireland	English	Nurse			778
82			William	Son	M	W	23	S		New York		Ireland	English	New York		Manager	Self	S	868
83			Louise	Son	M	W	21	S		New York		Ireland	English	New York		Manager	Safety	S	846
84			Nolan Rose	Servant	F	W	31	M		Pennsylvania		Pennsylvania		Canada		Housekeeper	Family	S	846
85			Wine Louise	Lodger	F	W	22	Wd		England	England	New York		New York		Teacher	Private	S	862
86			Wine	Lodger	M	W	23	M		Ireland		Ireland		Ireland		Salesman	Grocery	S	718
87	25	132	Langley William	Head	M	W	43	M		Germany	German	Germany	German	Germany	German	None			
88			Rose	Wife	F	W	42	M		New Jersey		New York		New York		None			
89			William	Son	M	W	15	S		New Jersey		New Jersey		New York		Assistant		Wk	783
90	27	134	Emmet William	Head	M	W	42	M		New York		England	English	New York		None			
91			Agnes	Wife	F	W	36	M		New York		New York		New York		None			
92			William	Son	M	W	8	S		New York		New York		New York		None			
93			Catherine	Daughter	F	W	12	S		New York		New York		New York		None			
94	27	135	Carney Mary	Head	F	W	80	Wd		Ireland	Irish	Ireland	English	Ireland	English	None			
95			Mary	Dau	F	W	46	S		New York		Ireland		New York		None			
96			Ford Agnes	Servant	F	W	18	S		New York		Ireland		New York		None			
97			Smith Jean	Boarder	F	W	45	S		New York	North England	New York	North England	New York	North England	Nurse	Trained	Wk	772
98	29	136	Vanderbeek Cornelius	Head	M	W	70	Wd	1877	England	English	Ireland	English	England	English	Tailor	City	S	803
99			Margaret	Wife	F	W	65	M	1877	England	English	Ireland	English	Ireland	English	Stenographer			777
100			Mary	Servant	F	W	47	S		New York		Ireland	English	Ireland	English				



Residence of George William Curtis, West New Brighton, S. I.



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Blue-Eyed Child of Fortune

The Civil War Letters of Colonel Robert Gould Shaw

Edited by Russell Duncan
Foreword by William S. McFeely

The man who led America's vanguard black regiment

Reviews

"Splendid . . . Important . . . Superb . . . Deserves a place on every Civil War bookshelf . . . Shaw emerges more vividly in this book than he did in the film *Glory*."
—New York Times Book Review

"A fine and conscientious work."
—Boston Globe

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Description

On the Boston Common stands one of the great Civil War memorials, a magnificent bronze sculpture by Augustus Saint-Gaudens. It depicts the black soldiers of the Fifty-fourth Massachusetts Infantry marching alongside their young white commander, Colonel Robert Gould Shaw. When the philosopher William James dedicated the memorial in May 1897, he stirred the assembled crowd with these words: "There they march, warm-blooded champions of a better day for man. There on horseback among them, in the very habit as he lived, sits the blue-eyed child of fortune."

In this book Shaw speaks for himself with equal eloquence through nearly two hundred letters he wrote to his family and friends during the Civil War. The portrait that emerges is of a man more divided and complex--though no less heroic--than the Shaw depicted in the celebrated film *Glory*. The pampered son of wealthy Boston abolitionists, Shaw was no abolitionist himself, but he was among the first patriots to respond to Lincoln's call for troops after the attack on Fort Sumter. After Cedar Mountain and Antietam, Shaw knew the carnage of war firsthand. Describing nightfall on the Antietam battlefield, he wrote, "the crickets chirped, and the frogs croaked, just as if nothing unusual had happened all day long, and presently the stars came out bright, and we lay down among the dead, and slept soundly until daylight. There were twenty dead bodies within a rod of me."

When Federal war aims shifted from an emphasis on restoring the Union to the higher goal of emancipation for four million slaves, Shaw's mother pressured her son into accepting the command of the North's vanguard black regiment, the Fifty-fourth Massachusetts. A paternalist who never fully reconciled his own prejudices about black inferiority, Shaw assumed the command with great reluctance. Yet, as he trained his recruits in Readville, Massachusetts, during the early months of 1963, he came to respect their pluck and dedication. "There is not the least doubt," he wrote his mother, "that we shall leave the state, with as good a regiment, as any that has marched."

Despite such expressions of confidence, Shaw in fact continued to worry about how well his troops would perform under fire. The ultimate test came in South Carolina in July 1863, when the Fifty-fourth led a brave but ill-fated charge on Fort Wagner, at the approach to Charleston Harbor. As Shaw waved his sword and urged his men forward, an enemy bullet felled him on the fort's parapet. A few hours later the Confederates dumped his body into a mass grave with the bodies of twenty of his men. Although the assault was a failure from a military standpoint, it proved the proposition to which Shaw had reluctantly dedicated himself when he took command of the Fifty-fourth: that black soldiers could indeed be fighting men. By year's end, sixty new black regiments were being organized.

A previous selection of Shaw's correspondence was privately published by his family in 1864. For this volume, Russell Duncan has restored many passages omitted from the earlier edition and has provided detailed explanatory notes to the letters. In addition he has written a lengthy biographical essay that places the young colonel and his regiment in historical context.

Russell Duncan is a professor of history in the English Institute at the University of Copenhagen, Denmark. He is the author of several books, including *First Person Past: American Autobiographies*, *Freedom's Shore: Tunis Campbell and the Georgia Freedmen* (Georgia), and *Entrepreneur for Equality: Governor Rufus Bullock, Commerce, and Race in Post-Civil War Georgia* (Georgia).

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DETAILS

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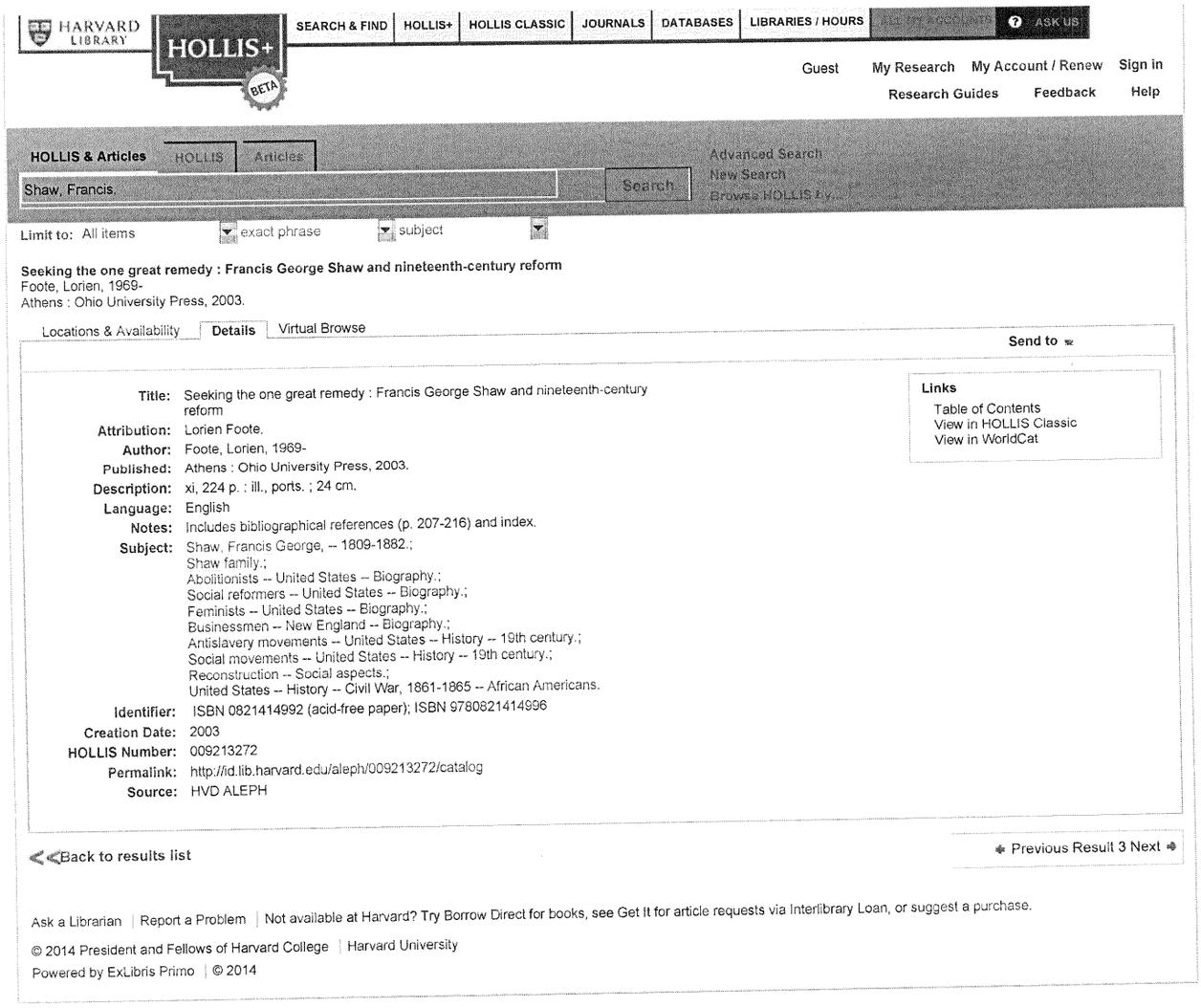
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Feminists -- United States -- Biography.;
Businessmen -- New England -- Biography.;
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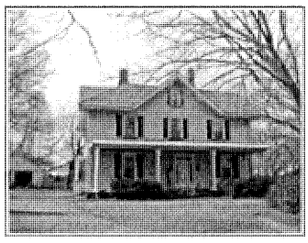

Address: 234 Bard Avenue Staten Island, NY 10310

Built: 1853

LPC Action: The LPC held a hearing for the George William Curtis House in 1966

This mid-eighteenth century Victorian featured six fireplaces, high dentil details below the roof line, six over six, double hung large picture windows, and stately columns that hold the tongue and grooved ceiling above the wrap-a-round porch. On the right hand of the house in the rear of there is a small enclosed porch. Today the original carriage house remains at a slight distance from the "new" garage but is no longer a part of the property. Recently the family that lived in the George William Curtis House wanted to restore to its former grandeur. With the help of Historic Restorations, a residential restoration company based in Lancaster P.A., they have done so and have replaced much of its former detailing.

Historic Restorations: http://www.historic-restorations.com/index.html

To Support Contact: Council Member Deborah Rose

The Advocate for New York City's Historic Neighborhoods
232 East 11th Street New York NY 10003
tel: **212-614-9107** fax: 212-614-9127 email: hdc@hdc.org
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Collections: Art Collection

Paintings

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Anna Gould Shaw

A1960.19.1

An oil on canvas potrait painting by American artist William Page (1811 - 1855) of Anna Gould Shaw (1836 - 1923) when she was 12 or 13 years old. Shaw was the sister of Robert Gould Shaw (1837 - 1863), the famed Colonel of the all-black 54th Massachussets Infantry Regiment during the Civil War. In 1855, she married George William Curtis (1824 - 1892), a well known writer, abolitionist, and public speaker who was the Editor of *Harper's Weekly*. The couple resided on Staten Island.

One of the most original of the late romantic painters was William Page, who has been called an "American Titian" because of his interest in Venetian art. He prefered warm and muted tones from a mid point in the scale of light to dark. Anna Gould Shaw's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Francis G. Shaw, were close friends and patrons of Page when they resided on Staten Island.

Artist: William Page (1811 - 1885)
Title: *Anna Gould Shaw*
Medium: Oil on canvas
Dates: c. 1848
Dimensions: 16.5 in. x 16.5 in.
Culture: American
Accession Number: A1960.19.1
Credit: Museum Purchase, 1960
Tags: 19th century, american, anna gould shaw, canvas, curtis, george curtis, oil, page, painting, portrait, staten island, william page

Overview

Art Collection

Paintings
Works on Paper
Clothing and Textiles
Sculpture
Photography
Antiquities
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Art of the Americas
Asian Art
Pacific Island Art

Natural Science Collection

History Archives & Library

Rates & Reproductions

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> 3rd century
> abstract
> acrylic
> adeline wigand
> adler
> africa
> african
> albert barbelle
> alcohol

> alexander the great

> alfred mcnamara > allegory

> allen tucker > allori

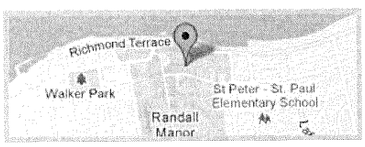
> alps

Locations

Staten Island Museum
75 Stuyvesant Place
Staten Island, New York 10301

Staten Island Museum History Center
1000 Richmond Terrace
Snug Harbor Campus, Building H
Staten Island, New York 10301

Staten Island Museum History Archives & Library
1000 Richmond Terrace
Snug Harbor Campus, Building H
Staten Island, New York 10301



View Map & Directions

Hours & Admissions

Monday - Friday 11am - 5pm
Saturday 10am - 5pm
Sunday 12pm - 5pm

The Museum is closed on National Holidays: on New Year's Day, Memorial Day, 4th of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas Day.

Recommended Admission:
Adults: $5.00
Students and Seniors: $3.00
Children under 12 and Members: FREE
Sneak Peek Tuesdays Free admission 12-2pm

The Staten Island Museum's public spaces are wheel-chair accessible. Companions or aides of persons with disabilities are admitted free of charge.

For further information on accessibility for adult audiences, contact us via email or call the receptionist at 718.727.1135.

History Center Hours:
Tuesday - Saturday: 1pm - 4pm
Sunday and Monday Closed
Admission FREE

History Archives & Library Research Hours:
Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays
from 10am to 4pm by appointment only.
Call 718.727.1135 x122
or email to schedule an appointment.

Contact Us

Call: 718.727.1135

Email Us

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Ferry Rider's Guide
Download our Ferry Rider's Guide for your trip. It is an an illuminating publication revolving around the Staten Island Ferry and a history that spans over four centuries. Available for download as a PDF.

Download Ferry Rider's Guide (PDF File)

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Site Design

Geographic Online Address Translator

Welcome to the Geographic Online Address Translator (GOAT)!

GOAT allows you to enter a New York City geographic location, such as an address, intersection, street segment, street stretch, block and lot or BIN, and returns back related geographic information, such as cross streets, side of street, tax block and lot (AKA Parcel –ID), five-digit ZIP code, census tract and block, police precinct, community district and city council district.

Information on the functions can be found in the GOAT User Guide.

Display Street and Property Level Information by Address

Select a Borough: Staten Island | Address Number: 234 | Street or Place Name: BARD AVENUE | Submit

Hide Search Options

☐ Roadbed Specific Information
☑ TPAD

◉ Address Range List
○ Complete BIN List
○ Display Both

Normalize Input Street Name as:
◉ Input Street Name
○ Primary Street Name
○ Principal Street Name
○ Preferred Street Name

Geographic Information for 234 BARD AVENUE in STATEN IS

Related Resources | Send Feedback

Orientation:
Address is on the right when facing from WALNUT STREET to HENDERSON AVENUE

X,Y Coordinate:	954440 , 172038	**From Node:**	0009418
Community District:	Staten Island 01	**From X,Y Coordinate:**	954403 , 172285
ZIP Code:	10310	**To Node:**	0009408
LION Face Code:	0560	**To X,Y Coordinate:**	954460 , 171933
LION Sequence Number:	00080	**Coincident Segment Count:**	1
Street Code B10SC:	51739001010	**Segment ID /Length:**	0013735 / 356
Alley/Cross Street Flag:	No Split/Change	**Segment Type:**	Undivided
Traffic Direction:	A	**Feature Type:**	Street
2010 Census Tract:	97	**Roadway Type:**	Street
2010 Census Block:	3019	**Right of Way Type:**	
Atomic Polygon:	201	**Physical ID:**	0062938
2000 Census Tract:	97	**Generic ID:**	0055077
2000 Census Block:	1012	**Bike Lane:**	
CD Eligibility:	Not CD Eligible	**Special Address:**	
DCP Preferred B7SC / Street Name:	51739001 / BARD AVENUE		
Low House Number:	204	**High House Number:**	242
Low End Cross Street(s):		**High End Cross Street(s):**	

B7SC	Street Name
55420001	WALNUT STREET
50011401	RICHARD A CARABBA WAY

B7SC	Street Name
53260001	HENDERSON AVENUE

City Service Information

Police Borough Command:	Staten Island	**Sanitation District/Section:**	501 / 012
Police Precinct:	120	**Sanitation Subsection:**	2D
Fire Division:	8	**Regular Sanitation Pickup:**	TF
Fire Battalion:	22	**Recycling Sanitation Pickup:**	EF

Fire Company:	Engine 156	**DOT Street Light Area:**	5
Health Area:	03.00	**School District:**	31
Health Center District:	51	**DSNY Snow Priority:**	Primary
Neighborhood Tabulation Area:	SI22 / West New Brighton-New Brighton-St. George		

Political Information

City Council District:	49	**Municipal Court District:**	1
Assembly District:	61	**Election District:**	12
Congressional District:	11	**State Senate District:**	23
BOE Preferred B7SC/Street Name:	51739001 / BARD AVENUE		

Property Level Information for 234 BARD AVENUE in STATEN IS

Tax Block:	138	**RPAD SCC:**	7
Tax Lot:	166	**RPAD Building Class:**	B3
BBL:	5001380166	**RPAD Interior Lot:**	Not Interior Lot
Block Faces:	1	**RPAD Irreg. Shaped Lot:**	Not Irregular Lot
Sanborn Boro/Vol/Page:	5/01 /079	**RPAD Condo Number:**	N/A
X,Y Coordinate:	0954328 , 0171982	**RPAD Co-op Number:**	N/A
Structures:	2	**Condo Lot:**	Non-Condo
Vacant Lot:	Not Vacant	**Tax Map/Section/Volume:**	5 / 01 / 04
Low BBL of Condo:	N/A	**High BBL of Condo:**	N/A
BIN:	5003544	**BIN Status:**	No activity
TPAD BIN:		**TPAD BIN Status:**	No activity
Corner Code:	NO	**TPAD Conflict Flag:**	1
Business Improvement District:			

Address Range List (Number of Addresses: 2)

Type:	Low Address#:	High Address#:	Street Name	BIN:	TPAD BIN Status
	234	234	BARD AVENUE	5003544	No activity
	234 GARAGE	234 GARAGE	BARD AVENUE	5136466	No activity

'Type' Field
Blank Space = Ordinary Address Range

Related Resources Go

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I. Population.

CENSUS of the Inhabitants living in the Second Election District in the Town of Castleton in the County of Richmond, N. Y., on the first day of June, 1865.

This Enumeration was made by me, on the Seventeenth day of June, 1865.

Abm W. Boyce Enumerator.

(2.)

Line	1 Dwellings: Numbered in order of visitation	2 Dwellings: Of what material built	3 Dwellings: Value	4 Families numbered in order of visitation	5 Name	6 Age	7 Sex	8 Color	9 Relation to head of family	10 Where born	11 Of how many children the parent	12 Number of times married	13 Now married	14 Now widowed	15 Single	16 Profession, trade or occupation	17 Usual place of employment	18 Voters: Native	19 Voters: Naturalized	20 Aliens	21 Colored persons not taxed	22 Owner of land	23 Over 21 not able to read and write	24 Deaf, dumb, blind, insane or idiotic	25 Now in army	26 Now in navy	27 Formerly in army	28 Formerly in navy
1					Patk Hart	16	M			Ireland					1													
2	61	Wood	2000	57	Rosa E. Rainsford	31	F		Mother	N.Y.	4	1		1														
3					Geo D. Rainsford	8	M		Son	"																		
4					John C. Rainsford	7	"		"	Richd																		
5					Cath Rainsford	5	F		Daug	"																		
6					Rosa Rainsford	2	"		"																			
7					Cath Gaffey	26	"			Ireland					1	Laundress												
8					Jane Maxwell	34	"			"		1		1		Cook												
9					Fanny Percival	29	"			"					1	Chambermaid												
10					Annie Wallace	25	"			"					1	Nurse												
11					Kate Keefe	26	"			"					1	Waitress												
12					John Tansey	40	M			"					1	Gardener				1								
13					Peter Sawdon	21	"			"					1	Coachman			1									
14	62	"	12000	58	F. G. Shaw	56	"			Mass						Mer	N.Y.	1										
15					S.B. Shaw	49	F		Wife	"	5	1	1															
16					A.S. Lowell	21	"		Daug	"		1		1														
17					E. Shaw	20	"		"	"					1													
18					Annie Nye	37	"			Eng					1	Cook												
19					Eliza Masterson	21	"			Ireland					1	Waitress												
20					Kith Mulcrill	29	"			"					1	Chambermaid												
21					Frances Moran	24	"			"					1	Nurse												
22					Mary Oalley	36	"		Mother	"		1		1		Laundress												
23					John Oalley	7	M		Son	N.Y.																		
24	63	"	12000	59	Geo W Curtis	41	M			R.I.						Author	N.Y.	1										
25					Anna S. Curtis	29	F		Wife	Mass	3	1	1															
26					F. G. Curtis	7	M		Son	Richd																		
27					E.B. Curtis	4	F		Daughter	"																		
28					Sarah S. Curtis	2	"		"	"																		
29					Martha Price	29	"			Ireland					1	Nurse												
30					Eliza Flood	19	"			"					1	Waitress												
31					Celia Scott	36	"			"					1	Cook												
32	64	"	1800	60	Chas Moase	65	M			Eng						None				1								
33					Lydia S. Moase	60	F		Wife	"	5	1	1			Teacher												
34					Miriam Moase	31	"		Daughter	"					1	"												
35					Sarinea Moase	23	"		"	"					1	"												
36	65	"	5000	61	John B. Staples	45	M			Conn						Lawyer	N.Y.	1										
37					S.B. Staples	40	F		Wife	N.Y.	3	1	1															
38					Cornelia Staples	30	"		Daught	"					1													
39					Markham Staples	16	M		Son	N.Y.					1													
40					J B Staples Jr	12	"		"	Richd																		
41					Julius Schonou	50	"			Denmark					1	Laborer				1								
42					Bridget Cahill	16	F			Ireland					1	Chambermaid												
43					Ellen Katrim	25	"			Ger					1	Cook												
44	66	"	2000	62	Cath Baird	86	"		Mother	W. Indies	14	1		1														
45					Caroline Baird	50	"		Daughter	N.Y.					1													

Page 23

I. Population.

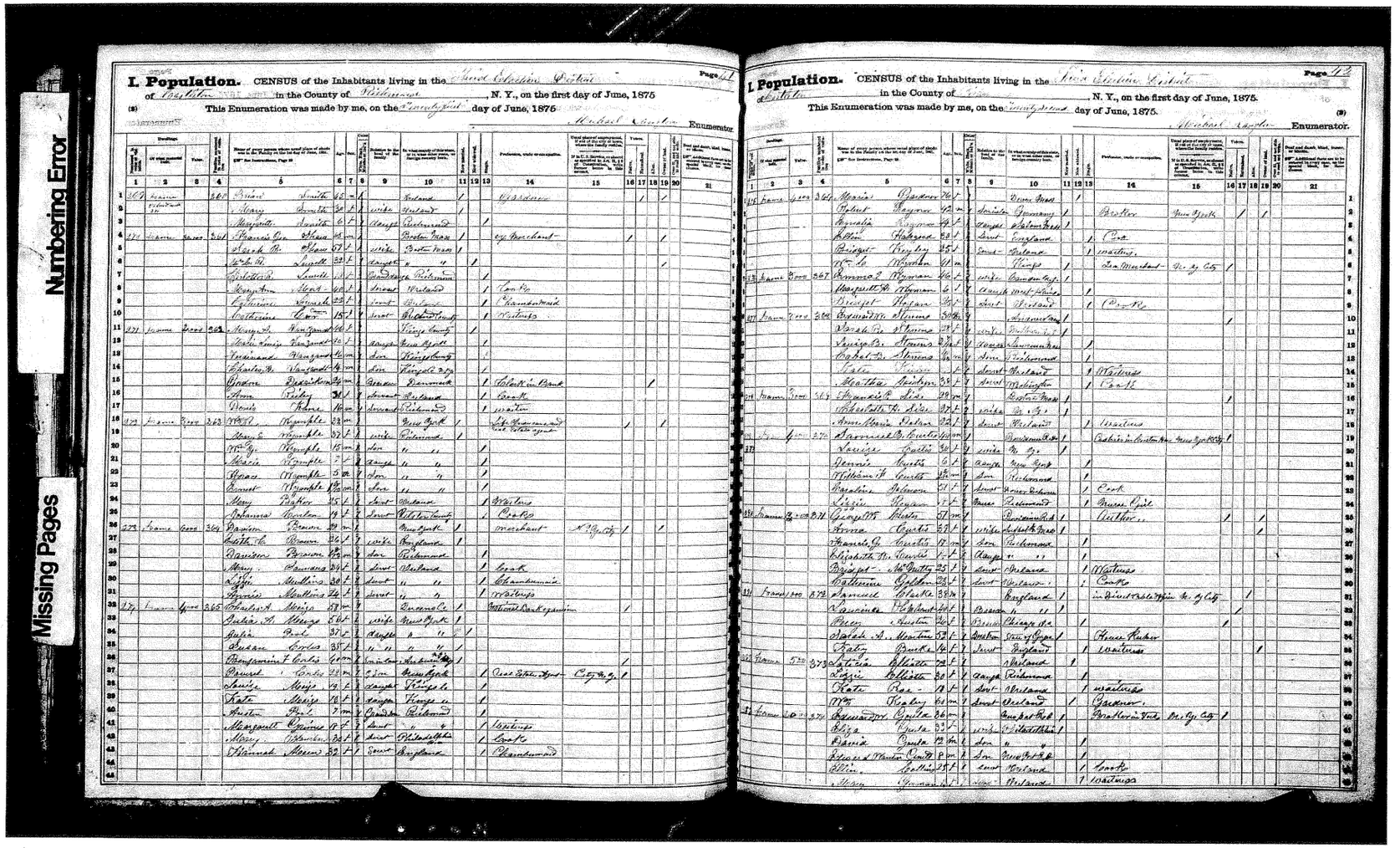
CENSUS of the Inhabitants living in the Second Election District in the Town of Castleton in the County of Richmond, N. Y., on the first day of June, 1865.

This Enumeration was made by me, on the Seventeenth day of June, 1865.

(2.)

Abm W. Boyce Enumerator.

1 Dwellings: Numbered in order of visitation	2 Dwellings: Of what material built	3 Dwellings: Value	4 Families numbered in order of visitation	5 Name	6 Age	7 Sex	8 Color	9 Relation to head of family	10 Where born	11 Of how many children the parent	12 Number of times married	13 Now married	14 Now widowed	15 Single	16 Profession, trade or occupation	17 Usual place of employment	18 Voters: Native	19 Voters: Naturalized	20 Aliens	21 Colored persons not taxed	22 Owner of land	23 Over 21 not able to read and write	24 Deaf, dumb, blind, insane or idiotic	25 Now in army	26 Now in navy	27 Formerly in army	28 Formerly in navy	Line
				Louis Sands	30	M		G. Son	N.Y.					1			1								1			1
				Arthur Sands	27	"		"	"					1			1											2
				Thos Lyon	28	"			Ireland					1	Coachman				1									3
				Bridget Keating	25	F			"					1	Cook													4
				Isabella Steel	35	"			"					1	House Maid													5
67	Wood	6000	63	Sydney H. Gay	50	M			Mass						Editor	N.Y.	1											6
				Elizabth Gay	45	F		Wife	Pa	4	1	1																7
				Sarah M. Gay	13	"		Daugh	Richd																			8
				Martin Gay	11	M		Son	"																			9
				Mary O. Gay	3	F		Daug	"																			10
				Mary Murphy	25	"			Ireland					1	Chambermaid													11
				Kate Flood	20	"			"					1	Cook													12
68	"	1000	64	Richd Craven	40	M			"						Gardener			1										13
				Mary Craven	30	F		Wife	"	1	1	1																14
				Infante Craven	6	M		Son	Richd																			15
69	"	500	65	John Gannon	52	M			Ireland						Contractor			1										16
				Ann Gannon	41	F		Wife	"	10	1	1																17
				Ellen Gannon	18	"		Daug	Richd					1														18
				Mary A. Gannon	16	"		Daugh	"					1														19
				John Gannon	13	M		Son	"																			20
				Patk Gannon	11	"		Son	"																			21
				Wm Gannon	6	"		"	"																			22
				Cath Gannon	2	F		Daug	"																			23
			66	John Wilson	36	M			Sweden						Sailor				1									24
				Martha Wilson	36	F		Wife	D.C.	1	1	1																25
			67	Wm Butler	36	M			Ger						Coachman				1									26
				Mary Butler	28	F		Wife	"	2	1	1																27
				Bertha Butler	4	"		Daug	N.J.																			28
				Emma Butler	2	"		"	"																			29
70	"	200	68	John Carr	33	M			Ireland						Gardener			1										30
				Mary Carr	33	F		Wife	"	4	1	1																31
				Cath Carr	5	"		Daug	Richd																			32
				Mary Carr	3	"		"	"																			33
				Mary Carr	2	"		"	"																			34
				Joseph Carr	3/12	M		Son	"																			35
			69	Thos Haly	32	"			Ireland						Bar Tender				1									36
				Mary Haly	30	F		Wife	"	4	1	1																37
				John Haly	6	M		Son	Richd																			38
				Sarah Haly	4 1/2	F		Daug	"																			39
				Mary Haly	2 1/2	"		"	"																			40
				Letitia Haly	3/12	"		"	"																			41
71	"	200	70	Dennis Creighton	60	M			Ireland						Laborer			1										42
				Hannah Creighton	60	F		Wife	"	9	1	1																43
				Cath Creighton	17	"		Daug	"					1														44
			71	Edwd Keenan	35	M			"						Coachman				1									45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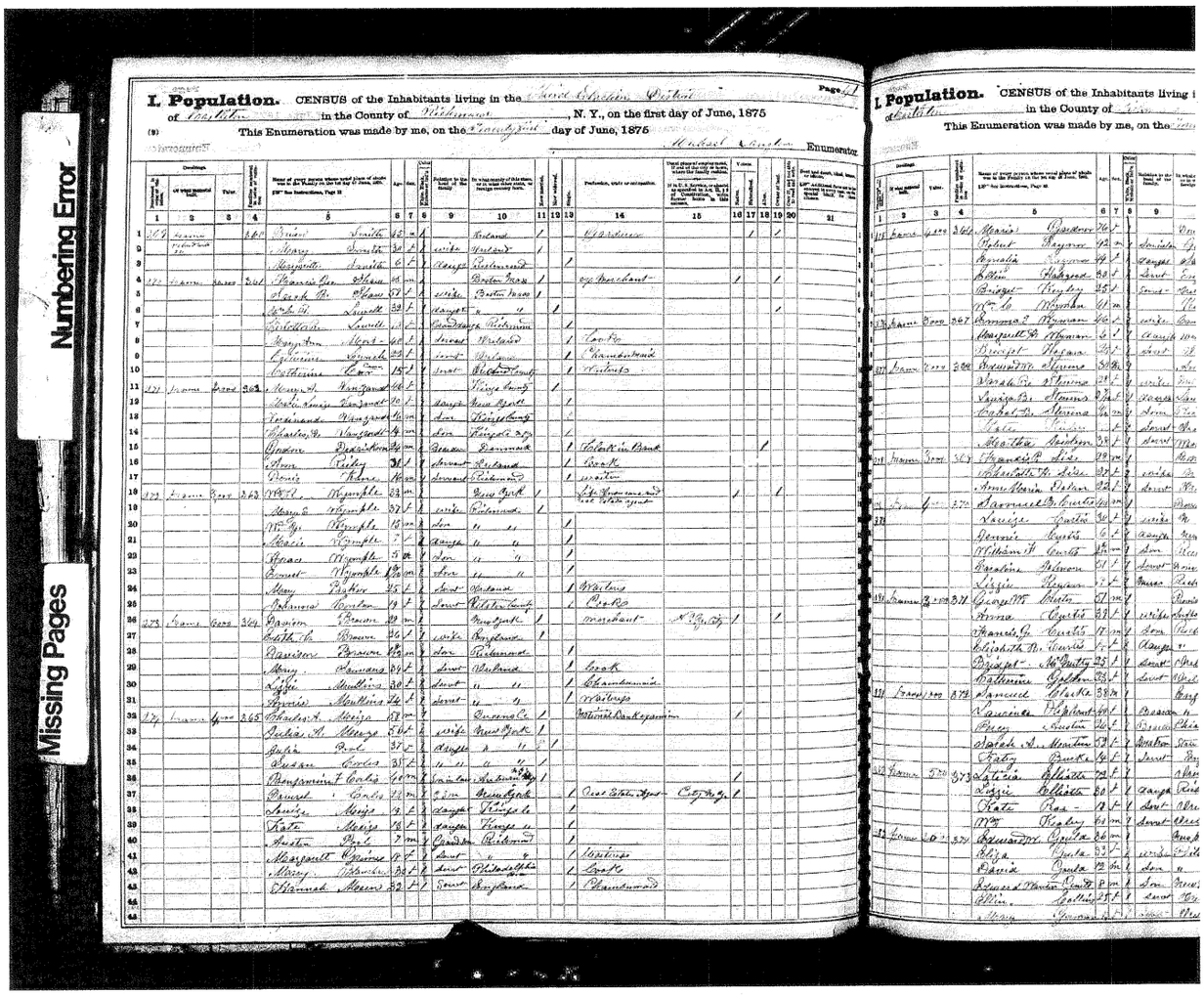
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(9.) Page 22

Line	1 Dwelling No.	2 Of what material built	3 Value	4 Families numbered	5 Name	6 Age	7 Sex	8 Color	9 Relation to head of family	10 In what county of this state, or in what other state, or foreign country born	11 Of how many children the parent	12 Number of times married	13 Now married	14 Now widowed	15 Single	16 Profession, trade or occupation	17 Usual place of employment	18 Voters: Native	19 Naturalized	20 Aliens	21 Colored persons not taxed
1					Patk Hart	16	M			Ireland					1						
2	61	Wood	2000	57	Rosa E. Rainsford	31	F		Mother	N.Y.	4	1		1							
3					Geo D. Rainsford	8	M		Son	"											
4					John C. Rainford	7	"		"	Richd											
5					Cath Rainsford	5	F		Daug	"											
6					Rosa Rainford	2	"		"	"											
7					Cath Gaffey	26	"			Ireland					1	Laundress					
8					Jane Maxwell	36	"			"		1		1		Cook					
9					Fanny Percival	29	"			"					1	Chambermaid					
10					Annie Wallace	25	"			"					1	Nurse					
11					Kate Keefe	26	"			"					1	Waitress					
12					John Tansey	40	M			"					1	Gardener				1	
13					Peter Sawdon	21	"			"					1	Coachman			1		
14	62	"	12000	58	F. G. Shaw	56	"			Mass						Mer	N.Y.	1			
15					S. B. Shaw	49	F		Wife	"	5	1	1								
16					S. S. Lowell	21	"		Daug	"		1		1							
17					E. Shaw	20	"		"	"					1						
18					Annie Nyes	37	"			Eng					1	Cook					
19					Eliza Mastiron	21	"			Ireland					1	Waitress					
20					Cath Mulcock	29	"			"					1	Chambermaid					
21					Frances Moran	26	"			"					1	Nurse					
22					Mary Calley	36	"		Mother	"		1		1		Laundress					
23					John Calley	7	M		Son	N.Y.											
24	63	"	12000	59	Geo W. Curtis	41	M			R. I.						Author	N.Y.	1			
25					Anna S. Curtis	29	F		Wife	Mass	3	1	1								
26					F. G. Curtis	7	M		Son	Richd											
27					E. B. Curtis	4	F		Daughter	"											
28					Sarah S. Curtis	2	"		"	"											
29					Martha Price	29	"			Ireland					1	Nurse					
30					Eliza Flood	19	"			"					1	Waitress					
31					Celia Scott	36	"			"					1	Cook					
32	64	"	1800	60	Chas Moase	65	M			Eng						None					1
33					Lydia I. Moase	60	F		Wife	"	5	1	1			Teacher					
34					Miriam Moase	31	"		Daughter	"					1	"					
35					Tasimea Moase	23	"		"	"					1	"					
36	65	"	5000	61	John B. Staples	45	M			Conn						Lawyer	N.Y.	1			
37					S. B. Staples	40	F		Wife	N.Y.	3	1	1								
38					Cornelia Staples	30	"		Daught	"					1						
39					Markham Staples	16	M		Son	N.Y.					1						
40					J B Staples Jr	12	"		"	Richd											
41					Julius Schoman	50	"			Denmark					1	Laborer				1	
42					Bridget Cahill	16	F			Ireland					1	Chambermaid					
43					Ellen Hatona	25	"			Ger					1	Cook					
44	66	"	2800	62	Cath Band	86	"		Mother	W. Indies	14	1		1							
45					Caroline Band	50	"		Daughter	N.Y.					1						

I. Population.

CENSUS of the Inhabitants living in the … of Castleton in the County of Richmond …

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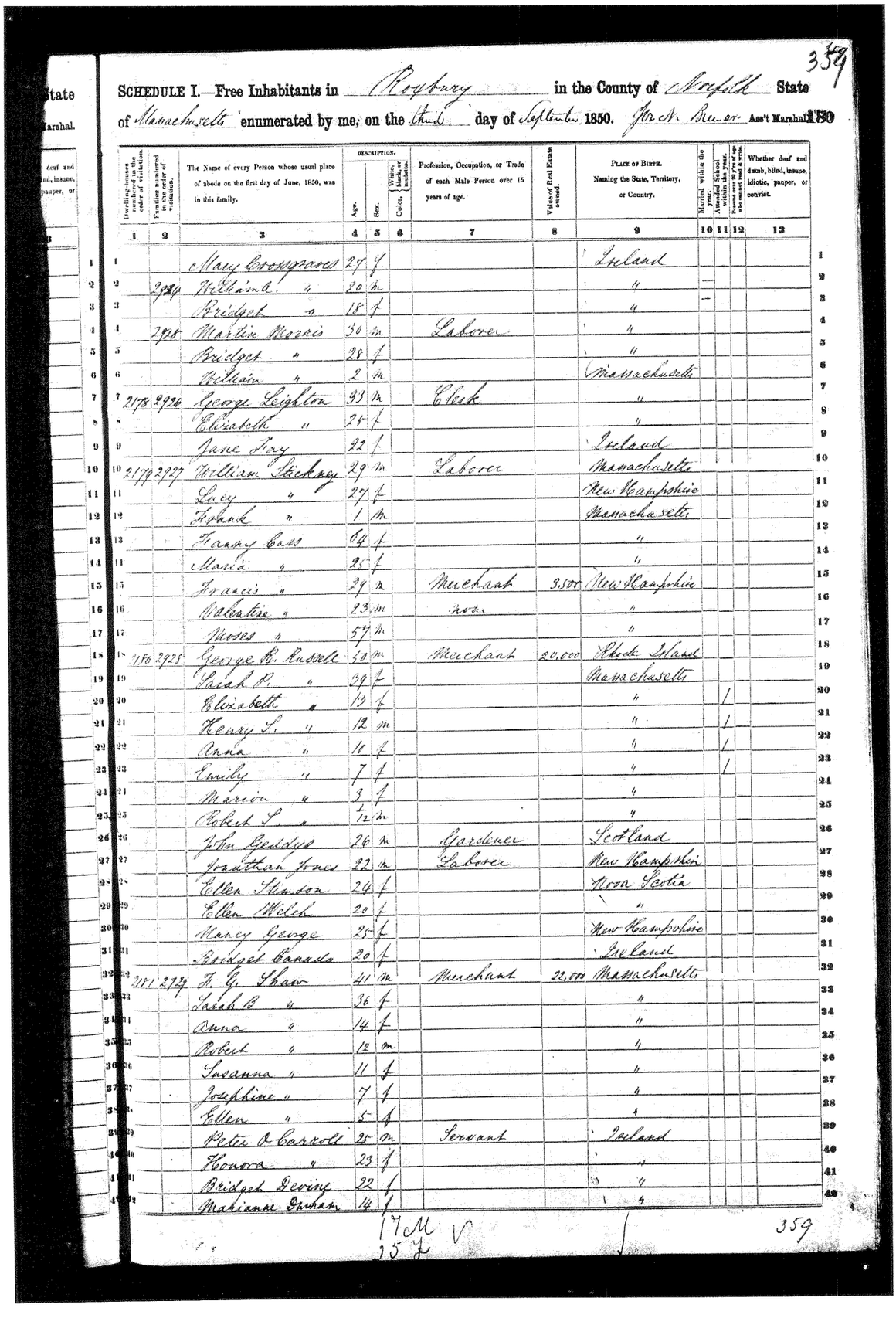
1					Louis Sands	30	M		G. Son	N.Y.	
2					Arthur Sands	27	"		"	"	
3					Thos Lyon	28	"			Ireland	
4					Bridget Keating	25	F			"	
5					Isabella Steel	35	"			"	
6	67	Wood	6000	63	Sydney H. Gay	50	M			Mass	
7					Elizth Gay	45	F		Wife	Pa	4
8					Sarah Ch Gay	13	"		Daugh	Richd	
9					Martin Gay	11	M		Son	"	
10					Mary O. Gay	3	F		Daug	"	
11					Mary Murphy	25	"			Ireland	
12					Kate Flood	20	"			"	
13	68	"	1000	64	Richd Craven	40	M			"	
14					Mary Craven	34	F		Wife	"	1
15					Frank Craven	6	M		Son	Richd	
16	69	"	600	65	John Gannon	52	M			Ireland	
17					Ann Gannon	41	F		Wife	"	10
18					Ellen Gannon	18	"		Daug	Richd	
19					Mary A. Gannon	16	"		Daugh	"	
20					John Gannon	13	M		Son	"	
21					Patk Gannon	11	"		Son	"	
22					Wm Gannon	6	"		"	"	
23					Cath Gannon	2	F		Daug	"	
24				66	John Wilson	36	M			Sweden	
25					Martha Wilson	36	F		Wife	D. C.	1
26				67	Wm Butler	36	M			Ger	
27					Mary Butler	28	F		Wife	"	2
28					Bertha Butler	4	"		Daug	N. J.	
29					Ema Butler	2	"		"	"	
30	70	"	200	68	John Carr	33	M			Ireland	
31					Mary Carr	33	F		Wife	"	4
32					Cath Carr	5	"		Daug	Richd	
33					Mary Carr	3	"		"	"	
34					Mary Carr	2	"		"	"	
35					Joseph Carr	3/12	M		Son	"	
36				69	Thos Haly	32	"			Ireland	
37					Mary Haly	30	F		Wife	"	4
38					John Haly	6	M		Son	Richd	
39					Sarah Haly	4½	F		Daug	"	
40					Mary Haly	2½	"		"	"	
41					Letitia Haly	5/12	"		"	"	
42	71	"	200	70	Dennis Creighton	60	M			Ireland	
43					Hannah Creighton	60	F		Wife	"	9
44					Cath Creighton	17	"		Daug	"	
45				71	Edwd Keenan	35	M				



359

SCHEDULE I.—Free Inhabitants in Roxbury **in the County of** Norfolk **State of** Massachusetts **enumerated by me, on the** third **day of** September **1850.** Jos N. Brewer **Ass't Marshal.** 180

Dwelling-houses numbered in the order of visitation.	Families numbered in the order of visitation.	The Name of every Person whose usual place of abode on the first day of June, 1850, was in this family.	Age.	Sex.	Color, white, black, or mulatto.	Profession, Occupation, or Trade of each Male Person over 15 years of age.	Value of Real Estate owned.	Place of Birth. Naming the State, Territory, or Country.	Married within the year.	Attended School within the year.	Persons over 20 y'rs of age who cannot read & write.	Whether deaf and dumb, blind, insane, idiotic, pauper, or convict.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
		Mary Crossgraves	27	f				Ireland				
	2924	William A. "	20	m				"				
		Bridget "	18	f				"	—			
	2925	Martin Morris	30	m		Laborer		"				
		Bridget "	28	f				"				
		William "	2	m				Massachusetts				
2178	2926	George Leighton	33	m		Clerk		"				
		Elizabeth "	25	f				"				
		Jane Fay	22	f				Ireland				
2179	2927	William Stickney	29	m		Laborer		Massachusetts				
		Lucy "	27	f				New Hampshire				
		Frank "	1	m				Massachusetts				
		Fanny Cass	64	f				"				
		Maria "	25	f				"				
		Francis "	29	m		Merchant	3,500	New Hampshire				
		Valentine "	23	m		none		"				
		Moses "	57	m				"				
2180	2928	George R. Russell	50	m		Merchant	20,000	Rhode Island				
		Sarah P. "	39	f				Massachusetts				
		Elizabeth "	13	f				"		1		
		Henry S. "	12	m				"		1		
		Anna "	10	f				"		1		
		Emily "	7	f				"		1		
		Marion "	3	f				"				
		Robert S. "	1/12	m				"				
		John Geddys	26	m		Gardener		Scotland				
		Jonathan Jones	22	m		Laborer		New Hampshire				
		Ellen Stimson	24	f				Nova Scotia				
		Ellen Welch	20	f				"				
		Nancy George	25	f				New Hampshire				
		Bridget Canada	20	f				Ireland				
2181	2929	F. G. Shaw	41	m		Merchant	22,000	Massachusetts				
		Sarah B "	36	f				"				
		Anna "	14	f				"				
		Robert "	12	m				"				
		Susanna "	11	f				"				
		Josephine "	7	f				"				
		Ellen "	5	f				"				
		Peter O Carroll	25	m		Servant		Ireland				
		Honora "	23	f				"				
		Bridget Devine	22	f				"				
		Marianne Durham	14	f				"				

17 M
25 F

359

Page No. 127

SCHEDULE 1.—Free Inhabitants in the Township of Castleton **in the County of** Richmond **State of** New York **enumerated by me, on the** 18 **day of** June **1860.** M A Mathis **Ass't Marshal.**

Post Office Port Richmond.

Dwelling-houses numbered in the order of visitation.	Families numbered in the order of visitation.	The name of every person whose usual place of abode on the first day of June, 1860, was in this family.	Description: Age.	Description: Sex.	Description: Color, White, black, or mulatto.	Profession, Occupation, or Trade of each person, male and female, over 15 years of age.	Value of Estate Owned: Value of Real Estate.	Value of Estate Owned: Value of Personal Estate.	Place of Birth, Naming the State, Territory, or Country.	Married within the year.	Attended School within the year.	Persons over 20 y'rs of age who cannot read & write.	Whether deaf and dumb, blind, insane, idiotic, pauper, or convict.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
858	912	George W. Curtis	36	M	/	Author		100	Rhode Island				
		Anna "	24	F	/				Mass ths				
		Francis G. "	2	M					N. York				
		Margaret Gleason	27	F	/	Cook ✓			Ireland				
		Mary McCarroll	27	F	/	Waitress ✓			"				
		Teressa Divine	18	F	/	Nurse ✓			Mass ths				
859	913	Eleazer Peet	60	M	/	Merchant ✓	40000	4000	Connecticut				
		Maria "	32	F					N. York				
		Mary "	17	F					" "		1		
		William E. "	16	M					" "		1		
		Charles F. "	13	M					" "		1		
		Lena "	5	F					" "				
		Ellen Schulley	21	F	/	Waitress ✓			Ireland			/	
		Mary "	24	F	/	Cook ✓			"				
		Johannah Simmerman	18	F	/	House Maid ✓			Hanover				
860	914	Leonard Goddard	30	M		Lawyer ✓		500	N. York				
		Adelaid "	24	F					" "				
		Ely "	5	M					" "				
		Mant "	4	M					" "				
		Charles Gassaux	60	M	/	Coachman ✓			France				
		Fonly Sidel	20	F		Servant ✓			N. York				
861	915	George Young	32	M	/	Carriage Maker ✓	400	2000	England				
		Mary A "	32	F	/				"				
		Mary "	6	F					N. York		1		
		George "	10/12	M					" "				
		James "	21	M	/	Carriage Maker ✓			England				
	916	Arthur Bell	33	M	/	Carriage Trimmer ✓		250	"				
		Mary A "	30	F	/				"				
862	917	Catharine Dennis	27	F	/				Ireland				
		James "	34	M	/	Laborer ✓		200	"				
		Mary "	6	F					N. York				
		John "	3	M					" "				
		Eliza "	2	F					" "				
		James "	1/12	M					" "				
863	918	William Vigelivo	28	M	/	Tobacconist ✓		400	Bavaria	1			
		Clara "	27	F					N. York	1			
		Horous Galpin	72	M		Unitarian Clergyman ✓			" "				
		Ellen "	19	F					" "				
		Howard "	24	M	/	Clerk ✓			Georgia				
		Mary McCarty	20	F	/	Servant ✓			Ireland			/	

No. white males, 19 No. colored males, ___ No. foreign born, ___ No. blind, ___ No. idiotic, ___ No. convicts, ___

No. white females, 21 No. colored females, ___ No. deaf and dumb, ___ No. insane, ___ No. paupers, ___

40400 7400

40 34

Page No. 152

SCHEDULE 1.—Free Inhabitants in the Township of Castleton in the County of Richmond State of New York enumerated by me, on the 21 day of June 1860. M K Mathey Asst Marshal.

Post Office Port Richmond.

Dwelling-houses numbered in the order of visitation.	Families numbered in the order of visitation.	The name of every person whose usual place of abode on the first day of June, 1860, was in this family.	Descriptions. Age.	Sex	Color, (black, or mulatto)	Profession, Occupation, or Trade of each person, male and female, over 15 years of age.	Value of Estate Owned. Value of Real Estate.	Value of Personal Estate.	Place of Birth, Naming the State, Territory, or Country.	Married within the year.	Attended School within the year.	Person over 20 yrs of age who cannot read & write.	Whether deaf and dumb, blind, insane, idiotic, pauper, or convict.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1	1042	1102	John C Wendinson	49	M		Merchant	500000	500000	Ohio				
2			Jane L "	38	F					N York				
3			Robert G "	27	M		Merchant			"				
4			Charles "	17	F					"		1		
5			Elizabeth "	15	F					"		1		
6			Mary "	13	F					"		1		
7			John C "	12	M					"		1		
8			Charles "	10	M					"		1		
9			Maria "	5	F					"		1		
10			Louisa "	4	F					France				
11			Howard "	3	M					N York				
12			Edith "	1	F					"				
13			Maria Kelly	35	F		Nurse			Ireland			1	
14			Eliza Roddy	28	F		Chm Maid			"				
15			Catharine Hanigan	21	F		Waitress			"				
16			Mary Clark	26	F		Laundress			"				
17			Julia Dackmond	28	F		Cook			"				
18			Laverna Velfer	30	F		Seamstress			Germany				
19			James Forsyth	55	M		Coachman			Ireland				
20			Charles Waters	38	M		Gen Servant			France				
21			Benjamin Webber	21	M		1st Gardener			England				
22			William Reed	19	M		2nd do			Scotland				
23	1043	1103	Francis G Shaw	50	M		Merchant	80000	5000	Mass				
24			Sarah B "	44	F					"				
25			Robert G "	22	M		Merchant			"				
26			Josephine "	16	F					"		1		
27			Susan "	21	F					"		1		
28			Ellen "	15	F					"		1		
29			Catharine Desmond	40	F		Cook			Ireland				
30			Bridget Divine	29	F		Chm Maid			"				
31			Hannah Ryne	25	F		do do			"				
32			Alice Healy	23	F		Laundress			"				
33			Bridget Kenedy	23	F		Waitress			"				
34	1044	1104	Thomas Regan	50	M		Laborer	2000	300	"				
35			Ellen "	21	F					"				
36			George "	7	M					N York		1		
37			Mary "	3	F					"				
38			Thomas B "	5/12	M					"				
39			Michael Healy	22	M		Laborer			Ireland				
40	1045	1105	William C Frances	33	M		Metal Worker	2500	150	Maryland				

No. white males, 24 No. colored males, ____ No. foreign born, ____ No. blind, ____

No. white females, 32 No. colored females, ____ No. deaf and dumb, ____ No. insane, ____

No. idiots, ____ No. paupers, ____ No. convicts, ____

539500 505450

40

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NOTE.—Inquiries numbered 7, 16, and 17 are not to be asked in respect to infants. Inquiries numbered 11, 12, 15, 16, 17, 19, and 20 are to be answered (if at all) merely by an affirmative mark, as /.

SCHEDULE 1.—Inhabitants in The Town of Castleton, in the County of Richmond, State of New York, enumerated by me on the 5th day of September, 1870.

Post Office: Tompkinsville S.I. NY

A. Geo. Waters Ass't Marshal.

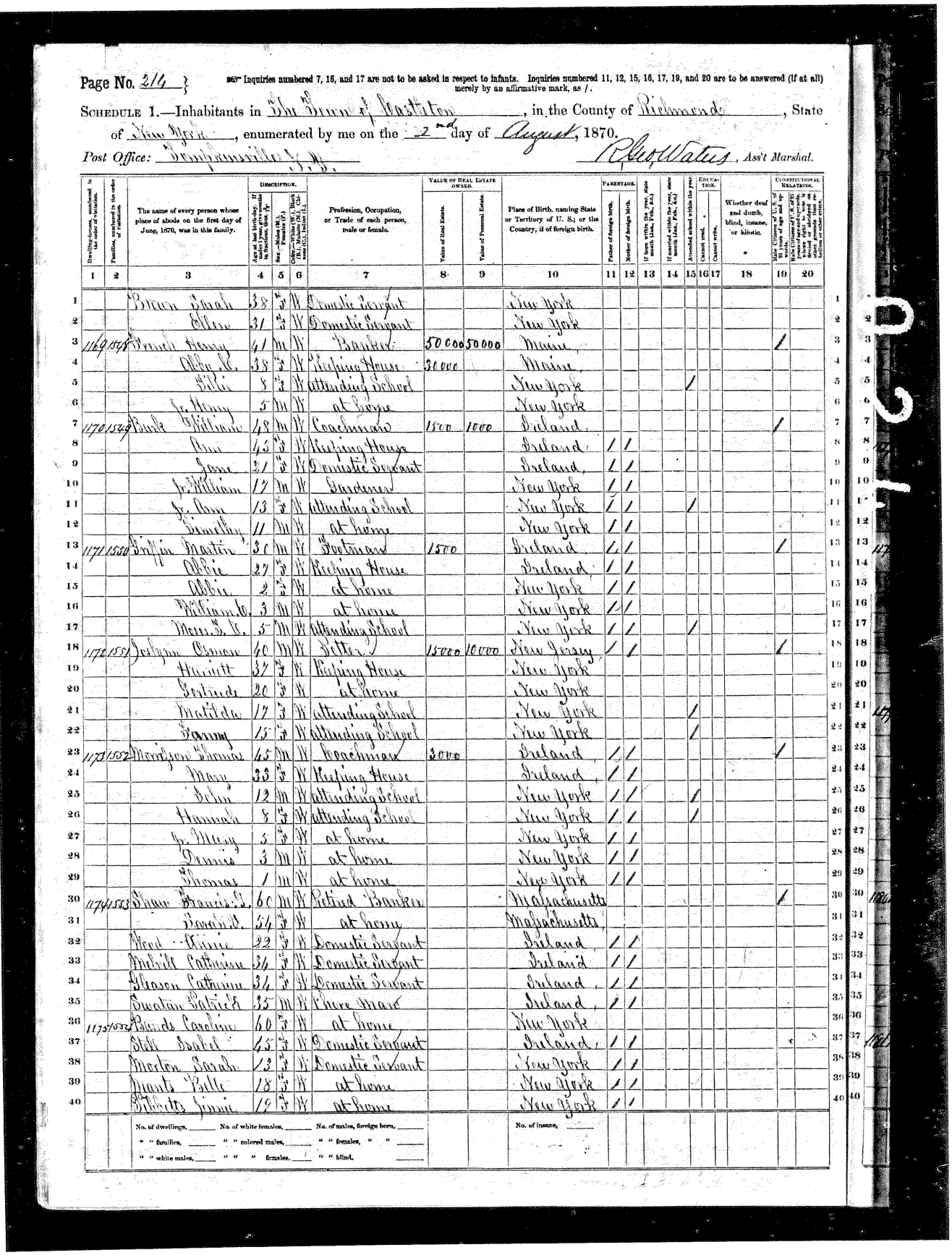
Dwelling-houses, numbered in the order of visitation.	Families, numbered in the order of visitation.	The name of every person whose place of abode on the first day of June, 1870, was in this family.	Description: Age at last birthday. If under 1 year, give months in fraction, thus 6/12.	Description: Sex—Males (M.), Females (F.).	Description: Color—White (W.), Black (B.), Mulatto (M.), Chinese (C.), Indian (I.).	Profession, Occupation, or Trade of each person, male or female.	Value of Real Estate Owned: Value of Real Estate.	Value of Real Estate Owned: Value of Personal Estate.	Place of Birth, naming State or Territory of U. S.; or the Country, if of foreign birth.	Parentage: Father of foreign birth.	Parentage: Mother of foreign birth.	If born within the year, state months (Jan., Feb., &c.)	If married within the year, state month (Jan., Feb., &c.)	Education: Attended school within the year.	Education: Cannot read.	Education: Cannot write.	Whether deaf and dumb, blind, insane, or idiotic.	Constitutional Relations: Male Citizens of the U. S. of 21 years and upwards (N.); Male Citizens of 21 years and upwards, whose right to vote is denied or abridged on other grounds than rebellion or other crime (C.).	Constitutional Relations: Male Citizens of the U. S. of 21 years and upwards (N.); Male Citizens of 21 years and upwards, whose right to vote is denied or abridged on other grounds than rebellion or other crime (C.).
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1	1205	1635	Curtis Rob't B.	34	M	W	Merchant (Shipping)	30000	20000	New York									/	
2			— Sarah S.	31	F	W	Keeping house			Massachusetts										
3			— Rob't Shaw	7	M	W	at Home			New York										
4			— Sarah	5	F	W	at Home			New York										
5			— Edith	3	F	W	at Home			New York										
6			Sterling John	25	M	B	Coachman			Virginia									/	
7			Marie Catherine	31	F	W	Nurse			Massachusetts	/	/								
8			Lacey Margaret	40	F	W	Domestic Servant			Ireland	/	/								
9			Cook Mc Ellen	22	F	W	Domestic Servant			Ireland	/	/								
10			Mahon Ellen	18	F	W	Domestic Servant			Ireland	/	/								
11	1206	1636	Curtis Geo. Wm	46	M	W	Professor of Belles Lettres	10000	10000	Rhode Island									/	
12			— Anna S.	36	F	W	Keeping House			Massachusetts										
13			— Francis P.	13	M	W	at Home			New York										
14			— Sarah S.	7	F	W	at Home			New York										
15			— Elizabeth B.	9	F	W	at Home			New York										
16	1207	1637	Van Zandt Chas. O.	49	M	W	Wine Merchant	20000	10000	New York									/	
17			— Mary A.	36	F	W	Keeping house			New York										
18			— Laura A.	16	F	W	at home			New York										
19			— Minnie E.	15	F	W	at Home			New York										
20			— Fred'k S.	12	M	W	at home			New York										
21			— Chas A.	10	M	W	at Home			New York										
22			Conley Mary	16	F	W	Domestic Servant			Ireland	/	/								
23	1208	1638	Fleter Alois	57	M	W	Manufacturer Cornbrakes	25000	15000	Prussia	/	/							/	
24			— Magdalen	47	F	W	Keeping house			Prussia	/	/								
25			— Louisa	22	F	W	at Home			New York	/	/								
26			— Louis	21	M	W	Clerk in Office			New York	/	/							/	
27			— Geo W.	20	M	W	Clerk in Office			New York	/	/								
28			— Frank	13	M	W	attending School			New York	/	/			/					
29			— William	11	M	W	attending School			New York	/	/			/					
30			Hatzfeld Carrie	86	F	W	at Home			Prussia	/	/								
31			Leary Timothy	30	M	W	Coachman			Ireland	/	/							/	
32			Cohen Bridget	32	F	W	Domestic Servant			Ireland	/	/								
33			Hatzfeld Catherine	67	F	W	Nurse			Prussia	/	/								
34	1209	1639	Brandt Alexander	38	M	W	Merchant (Shipping)	25000	25000	New York										
35			— Maria	46	F	W	Keeping House			New York										
36			— James	21	M	W	Clerk in Office			New York									/	
37			— Susan	20	F	W	at Home			New York										
38			— John	15	M	W	attending School			New York					/					
39			Clary John	36	M	W	Coachman			Ireland	/	/							/	
40			Scott Sabina	30	F	W	Domestic Servant			Ireland	/	/								

No. of dwellings, ____ No. of white females, ____ No. of males, foreign born, ____

" " families, ____ " " colored males, ____ " " females, " " ____

" " white males, ____ " " " females, ____ " " blind, ____

No. of insane, ____



Page No. 214

NOTE Inquiries numbered 7, 16, and 17 are not to be asked in respect to infants. Inquiries numbered 11, 12, 15, 16, 17, 19, and 20 are to be answered (if at all) merely by an affirmative mark, as /.

SCHEDULE 1.—Inhabitants in Ward Seven of Castleton, in the County of Richmond, State of New York, enumerated by me on the 2nd day of August, 1870.

Post Office: Port Richmond S.I. N.Y. Robert Wates, Ass't Marshal.

Dwelling-houses, numbered in the order of visitation.	Families, numbered in the order of visitation.	The name of every person whose place of abode on the first day of June, 1870, was in this family.	Description: Age at last birthday. If under 1 year, give months. If born within the year, write 12m.	Sex: Male (M.); Female (F.)	Color: White (W.); Black (B.); Chinese (C.); Indian (I.)	Profession, Occupation, or Trade of each person, male or female.	Value of Real Estate Owned.	Value of Personal Estate.	Place of Birth, naming State or Territory of U. S.; or the Country, if of foreign birth.	Parentage: Father of foreign birth.	Parentage: Mother of foreign birth.	If born within the year, state month (thus, Jan., Feb., &c.)	If married within the year, state month (thus, Jan., Feb., &c.)	Education: Attended school within the year.	Education: Cannot read.	Education: Cannot write.	Whether deaf and dumb, blind, insane, or idiotic.	Constitutional Relations: Male citizens of 21 yrs. of age and upwards.	Constitutional Relations: Persons of age and upwards, not citizens, whose right to vote is denied or abridged on account of participation in rebellion or other crime.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
		Brown Sarah	38	F	W	Domestic Servant			New York										
		Ellen	31	F	W	Domestic Servant			New York										
1169	1548	Smith Henry	41	M	W	Banker	50000	50000	Maine									1	
		Ellen M.	38	F	W	Keeping House	30000		Maine										
		Ellis	8	F	W	attending School			New York					1					
		Jr. Henry	5	M	W	at home			New York										
1170	1549	Burke William	48	M	W	Coachman	1500	1000	Ireland									1	
		Ann	45	F	W	Keeping House			Ireland	1	1								
		Jane	21	F	W	Domestic Servant			Ireland	1	1								
		Jr. William	17	M	W	Gardener			New York	1	1								
		Jr. Ann	13	F	W	attending School			New York	1	1			1					
		Timothy	11	M	W	at home			New York	1	1								
1171	1550	Smith Martin	30	M	W	Boatman	1500		Ireland	1	1							1	
		Abbie	27	F	W	Keeping House			Ireland	1	1								
		Abbie	2	F	W	at home			New York	1	1								
		William H.	3	M	W	at home			New York	1	1								
		Mary E. H.	5	M	W	attending School			New York	1	1			1					
1172	1551	Delyon Thomas	40	M	W	Peddler	15000	10000	New Jersey	1	1							1	
		Harriett	37	F	W	Keeping House			New York										
		Gertrude	20	F	W	at home			New York										
		Matilda	17	F	W	attending School			New York					1					
		Fanny	15	F	W	attending School			New York					1					
1173	1552	Merrigan Thomas	45	M	W	Coachman	3000		Ireland	1	1							1	
		Mary	33	F	W	Keeping House			Ireland	1	1								
		John	12	M	W	attending School			New York	1	1			1					
		Hannah	8	F	W	attending School			New York	1	1			1					
		Jr. Mary	5	F	W	at home			New York	1	1								
		Dennis	3	M	W	at home			New York	1	1								
		Thomas	1	M	W	at home			New York	1	1								
1174	1553	Shaw Francis G.	60	M	W	Retired Banker			Massachusetts									1	
		Sarah D.	54	F	W	at home			Massachusetts										
		Hood Minnie	22	F	W	Domestic Servant			Ireland	1	1								
		Melvill Catherine	36	F	W	Domestic Servant			Ireland	1	1								
		Gleason Catherine	34	F	W	Domestic Servant			Ireland	1	1								
		Swatan Patrick	35	M	W	Farm Hand			Ireland	1	1								
1175	1554	Blunds Caroline	60	F	W	at home			New York										
		Stitt Isabel	45	F	W	Domestic Servant			Ireland	1	1								
		Morton Sarah	13	F	W	Domestic Servant			New York	1	1								
		Hunts Belle	18	F	W	at home			New York	1	1								
		Shorts Jennie	19	F	W	at home			New York	1	1								

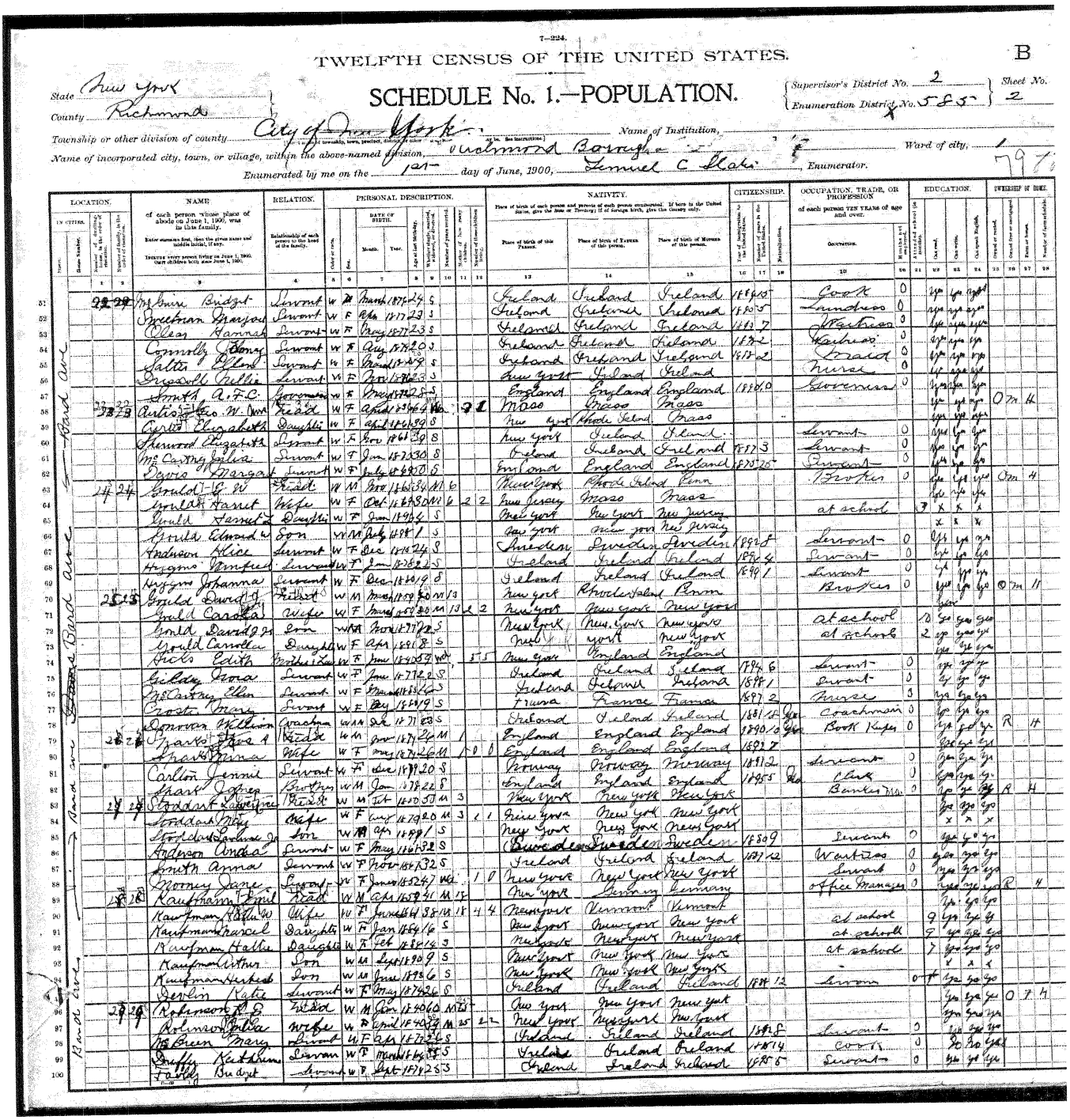
No. of dwellings, _____ No. of white females, _____ No. of males, foreign born, _____
" " families, _____ " " colored males, _____ " " females, " " _____
" " white males, _____ " " " females, _____ " " blind, _____
No. of insane, _____

Author	St. George's Church (New York, N.Y.)
Title	**"C.C.B." as we knew him; Charles Culp Burlingham, August 31, 1858-June 6, 1959.**
Imprint	[New York, 1959]

Location	Call No.	Status	Message
Schwarzman Building - Main Reading Room 315	C-12 9764 no. 1-5	AVAILABLE	USE IN LIBRARY

DETAILS

Description	[32] p. ports. 18 cm.
Subject	Burlingham, Charles C. (Charles Culp), 1858-1959.
Call No.	C-12 9764
Research Call Number	C-12 9764



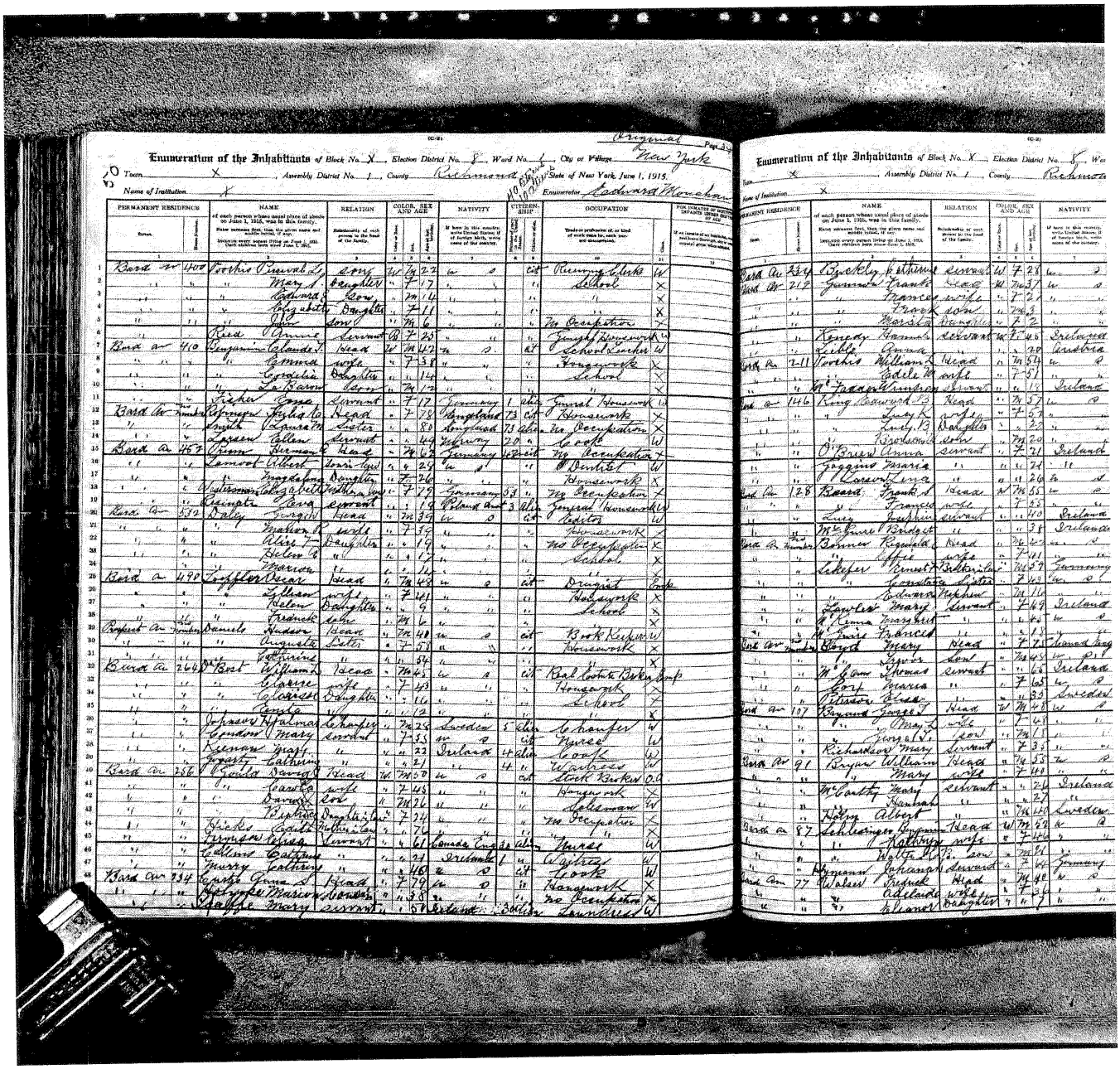
7–224.

TWELFTH CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES. B

SCHEDULE No. 1.—POPULATION.

State New York
County Richmond
Township or other division of county City of New York
Name of Institution,
Name of incorporated city, town, or village, within the above-named division, Richmond Borough
Ward of city, 1
Enumerated by me on the 1st day of June, 1900, Samuel C Clark Enumerator.
Supervisor's District No. 2
Enumeration District No. 585
Sheet No. 2

Dwelling-house number in the order of visitation	Family number in the order of visitation	Name of each person whose place of abode on June 1, 1900, was in this family. Enter surname first, then the given name and middle initial, if any. Include every person living on June 1, 1900. Omit children born since June 1, 1900.	Relation of each person to the head of the family.	Color	Sex	Month of birth	Year of birth	Age at last birthday	Married during census year	Number of years married	Mother of how many children	Number of these children living	Place of birth of this person	Place of birth of Father of this person	Place of birth of Mother of this person	Year of immigration to the United States	Number of years in the United States	Naturalization	Occupation	Months not employed	Attended school	Can read	Can write	Can speak English	Owned or rented	Owned free or mortgaged	Farm or house	Number of farm schedule
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
22	22	McGuire Bridget	Servant	W	F	March	1874	25	S				Ireland	Ireland	Ireland	1895	5		Cook	0		yes	yes	yes				
		Sweetman Grayson	Servant	W	F	Apr	1877	23	S				Ireland	Ireland	Ireland	1897	3		Laundress	0		yes	yes	yes				
		Allen Hannah	Servant	W	F	May	1877	23	S				Ireland	Ireland	Ireland	1891	7		Waitress	3		yes	yes	yes				
		Connolly Johnny	Servant	W	M	Aug	1878	20	S				Ireland	Ireland	Ireland	1892			Waiter	0		yes	yes	yes				
		Salter Ethel	Servant	W	F	Aug	1878	21	S				England	England	England	1898	2		Maid	0		yes	yes	yes				
		Driscoll Nellie	Servant	W	F	Jan	1880	20	S				New York	Ireland	Ireland				Nurse	0		yes	yes	yes				
		Smith A. F. C.	Governess	W	F	May	1872	28	S				England	England	England	1898	0		Governess	0		yes	yes	yes				
22	22	Curtis Geo. W.	Head	W	M	April	1864	36	Ma	12			Mass	Mass	Mass							yes	yes	yes	O	m	H	
		Curtis Elizabeth	Daughter	W	F	Apr	1894	6	S				New York	Rhode Island	Mass							yes	yes	yes				
		Sherwood Elizabeth	Servant	W	F	Nov	1861	39	S				New York	Ireland	Ireland							yes	yes	yes				
		McCarthy Julia	Servant	W	F	Jan	1878	22	S				Ireland	Ireland	Ireland	1897	3		Servant	0		yes	yes	yes				
		Ogura Margaret	Servant	W	F	July	1879	20	S				England	England	England	1895	5		Servant	0		yes	yes	yes				
14	24	Gould G. W.	Head	W	M	Nov	1864	35	M	6			New York	Rhode Island	Penn				Broker	0		yes	yes	yes	O	m	H	
		Gould Harriet	Wife	W	F	Oct	1868	31	M	6	2	2	New Jersey	Mass	Mass							yes	yes	yes				
		Gould Harriet	Daughter	W	F	Jan	1894	6	S				New York	New York	New Jersey				at school	3		X	X	X				
		Gould Edward	Son	W	M	July	1898	1	S				New York	New York	New Jersey							X	X	X				
		Anderson Alice	Servant	W	F	Dec	1874	25	S				Sweden	Sweden	Sweden	1892	8		Servant	0		yes	yes	yes				
		Hyams Pamfred	Servant	W	F	Jan	1876	24	S				Ireland	Ireland	Ireland	1894	4		Servant	0		yes	yes	yes				
		Higgins Johanna	Servant	W	F	Dec	1880	19	S				Ireland	Ireland	Ireland	1899	1		Servant	0		yes	yes	yes				
25	25	Gould David J.	Father	W	M	March	1859	40	M	13			New York	Rhode Island	Penn				Broker	0		yes	yes	yes	O	m	H	
		Gould Caroline	Wife	W	F	May	1867	32	M	13	2	2	New York	New York	New York							yes	yes	yes				
		Gould David J. Jr	Son	W	M	Nov	1887	12	S				New York	New York	New York				at school	0		yes	yes	yes				
		Gould Caroline	Daughter	W	F	Apr	1891	8	S				New York	New York	New York				at school	2		yes	yes	yes				
		Hicks Edith	Mother's Sister	W	F	Jan	1840	57	Wd		5	5	New York	England	England							yes	yes	yes				
		Gilday Nora	Servant	W	F	Jan	1872	28	S				Ireland	Ireland	Ireland	1894	6		Servant	0		yes	yes	yes				
		McCarthy Ellen	Servant	W	F	Mar	1881	19	S				Ireland	Ireland	Ireland	1897	1		Servant	0		yes	yes	yes				
		Foster Mary	Servant	W	F	May	1879	20	S				France	France	France	1897	2		Nurse	3		yes	yes	yes				
		Donovan William	Coachman	W	M	Oct	1871	28	S				Ireland	Ireland	Ireland	1881	18	Yes	Coachman	0		yes	yes	yes				
28	28	Sparks Steve A.	Head	W	M	Nov	1874	25	M	1			England	England	England	1890	10	Yes	Book Keeper	0		yes	yes	yes	R		H	
		Sparks Anna	Wife	W	F	May	1874	26	M	1	0	0	England	England	England	1892	7					yes	yes	yes				
		Carlton Jennie	Servant	W	F	Dec	1879	20	S				Norway	Norway	Norway	1891	2		Servant	0		yes	yes	yes				
		Sparks Jessie	Brother in Law	W	M	Jan	1878	22	S				England	England	England	1895		No	Clerk	0		yes	yes	yes				
28	28	Stoddart Lawrence	Head	W	M	Jul	1850	50	M	3			New York	New York	New York				Banker Dir.	0		yes	yes	yes	R		H	
		Stoddart May	Wife	W	F	Aug	1872	27	M	3	1	1	Prince Lyra	New York	New York							X	X	X				
		Stoddart Lawrence Jr	Son	W	M	Apr	1899	1	S				New York	New York	New York													
		Anderson Andrea	Servant	W	F	May	1868	32	S				Sweden	Sweden	Sweden	1889			Servant	0		yes	yes	yes				
		Smith Anna	Servant	W	F	Nov	1868	32	S				Ireland	Ireland	Ireland	1891	12		Waitress	0		yes	yes	yes				
		Mooney Jane	Servant	W	F	June	1852	47	Wd		1	0	New York	New York	New York				Servant	0		yes	yes	yes				
28	28	Kaufmann Emil	Head	W	M	Apr	1859	41	M	15			New York	Germany	Germany				Office Manager	0		yes	yes	yes	R		H	
		Kaufmann Estelle W.	Wife	W	F	June	1864	35	M	15	4	4	New York	Vermont	Vermont							yes	yes	yes				
		Kaufmann Marcel	Daughter	W	F	Jan	1889	11	S				New York	New York	New York				at school	9		yes	yes	yes				
		Kaufmann Helle	Daughter	W	F	Feb	1891	9	S				New York	New York	New York				at school	7		yes	yes	yes				
		Kaufmann Arthur	Son	W	M	Apr	1893	7	S				New York	New York	New York							X	X	X				
		Kaufmann Herbert	Son	W	M	June	1895	6	S				New York	New York	New York													
		Devlin Kate	Servant	W	F	May	1879	26	S				Ireland	Ireland	Ireland	1898	12		Servant	0		yes	yes	yes				
29	29	Robinson R. E.	Head	W	M	Jan	1860	40	M	15			New York	New York	New York							yes	yes	yes	O	I	H	
		Robinson Ella	Wife	W	F	April	1870	29	M	15	2	2	New York	Missouri	New York							yes	yes	yes				
		McEwen Mary	Servant	W	F	Apr	1877	23	S				Ireland	Ireland	Ireland	1898	5		Servant	0		yes	yes	yes				
		Duffy Kathleen	Servant	W	F	March	1875	25	S				Ireland	Ireland	Ireland	1894	6		Cook	0		yes	yes	yes				
		Foddy Bridget	Servant	W	F	Oct	1874	25	S				Ireland	Ireland	Ireland	1895	5		Servant	0		yes	yes	yes				



Enumeration of the Inhabitants of Block No. X, Election District No. 1, Ward No. 1, City or Village New York

Town X, Assembly District No. 1, County Richmond, State of New York, June 1, 1915.

Name of Institution X

Enumerator Edward Monahan

PERMANENT RESIDENCE: Street	No.	NAME of each person whose usual place of abode on June 1, 1915, was in this family.	RELATION: Relationship of each person to the head of the family.	COLOR	SEX	AGE: Last Birthday	NATIVITY: If born in this country write United States; if of foreign birth, write name of the country.	CITIZENSHIP: Number of Years in U.S.	Citizen of what country.	OCCUPATION: Trade or profession of, or kind of work done by, each person, even if unemployed.	Hrs.	FOR INMATES OF INSTITUTIONS, INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE: If an inmate of an institution, write Institution; if an infant under one year old, write month of birth.
1												
Bard av	400	Tuthis Edward L	Son	W	M	22	N	O		Clerk Clerk		
		Mary L	Daughter		F	17				School		X
		Catharine S	Son		F	14						X
		Elizabeth	Daughter		F	11						X
		John	Son		M	6				No Occupation		X
		Reid Minnie	Servant	B	F	25				Family Housework		
Bard av	410	Engemann Edwards L	Head	W	M	42	N	O		School Teacher		W
		Emma	wife		F	38				Housework		X
		Cordelia	Daughter		F	14				School		X
		La Baron	Servant		M	17						X
		Fisher Emma	Servant		F	17	Germany	1	Alien	General Housework		
Bard av	Number	Rifenger Sylvia A	Head		F	18	England	13	Cit	Housework		X
		Smith Emma M	Sister			20	England	13	Alien	No Occupation		X
		Lepsen Allan	Servant			44	Norway	20		Cook		W
Bard av	467	Grim Herman	Head		M	62	Germany	42	Cit	No Occupation		X
		Lamrot Albert	Son-in-law			29				Dentist		W
		Magdalena	Daughter		F	26				Housework		X
		Ogilvie Elizabeth	Mother-in-law		F	79	Germany	33		No Occupation		X
		Reinato Jana	Servant			19	Poland Aust	3	Alien	General Housework		W
Bard av	530	Daley Joseph	Head		M	36			Cit	Editor		W
		Mahon Edwards	Ward		F	14				Housework		X
		Alice T	Daughter			19				No Occupation		X
		Helen S				17				School		X
		Marion				12						X
Bard a	490	Loeffler Oscar	Head		M	48			Cit	Druggist		Emp
		Ellen	wife		F	41				Housework		X
		Helen	Daughter			9				School		X
		Frederick	Son		M	6						X
Bryant av	46 Number	Daniels Hudson	Head		M	48			Cit	Book Keeper		W
		Augusta	Sister		F	51				Housework		X
		Fehrenbach				54						X
Bard av	2642	Burt William	Head		M	45			Cit	Real Estate Broker		Emp
		Eleanor	wife		F	43				Housework		X
		Clarence	Daughter			16				School		X
		Gladys				12						X
		Depauw Palmer	Lodger		M	28	Sweden	5	Alien	Engineer		W
		Condon Mary	Servant		F	55			Cit	Nurse		W
		Keenan Mary				22	Ireland	4	Alien	Cook		W
		Fogarty Catherine				21		4		Waitress		W
Bard av	266	Gould David B	Head	W	M	50			Cit	Stock Broker		O.D
		Jeanette	wife		F	48				Housework		X
		Darwin	Son		M	26				Salesman		W
		Stephen	Son-in-law		F	24				No Occupation		X
		Hicks Edith	Mother-in-law			70						X
		Ferguson Maria	Servant			61	Canada Eng		Alien	Nurse		W
		Coleman Catherine				21	Scotland	1		Waitress		W
		Murry Catherine				46			Cit	Cook		W
Bard av	934	Cepeda Emma A	Head		F	29				Housework		X
		Applegate Marion	Boarder			38				No Occupation		X
		Scaffe Mary	Servant		F	61	Ireland		Cit	Laundress		W

Enumeration of the Inhabitants of Block No. X, Election District No. 1, Ward

Town X, Assembly District No. 1, County Richmond

Name of Institution X

PERMANENT RESIDENCE: Street	No.	NAME of each person whose usual place of abode on June 1, 1915, was in this family.	RELATION	SEX	AGE: Last Birthday	NATIVITY
Bard Av	334	Buckley Katherine	Servant	W	F	28
Bard Av	212	Jennings Frank	Head	W	M	37
		Frances	wife		F	2
		Frank	son		M	3
		Marcia	daughter		F	2
		Kenegar Hannah	Servant	W	F	45
		Gibbs Emma				29
Bard Av	211	Forbes William	Head		M	37
		Edith M	wife		F	37
		Fagan Anthony	Servant			17
Bard av	146	King Edward B	Head		M	37
		Lucy K	wife		F	37
		Lucy B	Daughter			12
		Borkowski John	Servant		M	20
		O'Brien Anna	Servant		F	21
		Foggino Maria				24
		Corwin Lena				20
Bard Av	128	Rogers Frank A	Head	W	M	55
		Frances	wife		F	55
		Lucy Hopkins	Servant			40
		McGinnis Bridget				38
Bard Av	Number	Bonner Reginald	Head		M	46
		Alice	wife		F	40
		Lakefer Emmett	Lodger		M	37
		Gondata Lydia			F	43
		Edward	Nephew		M	16
		Fowler Mary	Servant		F	49
		Anna Margaret				8
		Louis Frances				1
Bard Av		Boyd Mary	Head		F	71
		Spicer Son	Servant		M	43
		Thomas	Servant			68
		Gorp Marcus			F	68
		Ottoson Elsa				39
Bard Av	127	Bryant George F	Head	W	M	48
		Mary L	wife		F	48
		Gary Lee	Son		M	13
		Richardson Mary	Servant		F	35
Bard Av	91	Bryan William	Head		M	58
		Mary	wife		F	48
		McCarthy Mary	Servant			24
		Hannah				27
		Kelly Albert			M	46
Bard av	87	Schlesinger Gustave	Head	W	M	62
		Kathryn	wife		F	46
		Walter	Son		M	21
		Hyman Johanah	Servant		F	44
Bard Av	77	Malasev Trepuk	Head		M	48
		Adelaide	wife		F	34
		Eleanor	Daughter		F	7

The University of Minnesota. The Calendar for the year 1880–81. By the University. Minneapolis. 1881. 8vo. pp. 112.

Report of an Examination of the Upper Columbia River and the territory in its vicinity, in September and October, 1881. By Lieut. Thomas W. Symons, chief engineer of the department of the Columbia. Washington: Government Printing Office. 1882. 8vo. pp. 133+.

In Memoriam. A discourse preached in Harvard Church, Brookline, Sunday, May 21, 1882. By Rev. Reuen Thomas. Brookline, Mass.: Privately printed. 1882. 8vo. pp. 22.

The Dover, Great Falls and Rochester Directory for 1882–83. No. 17. Containing General Directories, &c. Compiled and published by Dean Dudley & Co. 1882. 8vo. pp. 240.

In Memoriam. Samuel Orr, born at Newtownards, Ireland, October 11th, 1810. Died at Evansville, Indiana, February 8th, 1882, aged 72 years. Faithful in the discharge of every duty, a citizen devoted to the advancement of the best interest of the community in which he lived. An exemplary husband and father, a consistent christian and an honest man. He died sincerely mourned, having passed forty eventful years in the midst of a people who loved and honored him. 8vo. pp. 50.

1832—1882. Semi-Centennial week at Wabash College, June, 1882. Crawfordsville, Indiana: Review Book and Job Printers. 1882. 8vo. pp. 151.

Proceedings of the Long Island Historical Society at the nineteenth annual meeting, held May 9, 1882, with the report of the directors and a list of the members. Brooklyn, N. Y.: Printed for the Society. 1882. 8vo. pp. 52.

DEATHS.

Plumer, William, died at West Newton, Pa., Sept. 22, 1882. He was born at West Newton, April 29, 1800, and with the exception of a few years spent in Illinois and Ohio, lived all his life there. He was a man of rare intelligence and exemplary piety, and was a ruling elder of the Presbyterian church for nearly fifty years. He married in 1822 Miss Sarah J. Robinson, who died in 1870. He married second, in 1877, Mrs. Amelia Maginnis, who survives. By his first wife he was the father of twelve children, of whom seven are living. Four took up arms in defence of their country, three of whom sleep in soldiers' graves.

Shaw, Francis George, died at his home in West Brighton, Staten Island, N. Y., November 7, 1882, aged 73. He was the eldest child of the Hon. Robert G. and Mrs. Elizabeth (Willard) Shaw, and was born at Boston, Mass., October 23, 1809. He studied a year or two at Harvard College, but left before graduating. He subsequently became a partner in business with his father, under the firm of Robert G. Shaw & Co. He retired in 1840 with ample means. In 1849 he removed to Staten Island. He had the respect and trust of all who knew him. He translated "Consuelo" and "The Countess of Rudolstadt," by George Sand; also Zschokke's "History of Switzerland." He wrote a memoir of his father for the second volume of "Memorial Biographies." He married Miss Sarah Blake Sturgis, by whom he had five children. Col. Robert G., his only son, was killed at Fort Wagner, July 18, 1863; Anne, his oldest daughter, is the wife of George William Curtis, LL.D.; Susanna is the wife of Robert B. Minturn; Josephine is the widow of Brig. Gen. Charles R. Lowell (*ante*, xix. 81, 96), and Ellen is the wife of Francis C. Barlow.

Torrey, Rufus Campbell, died in Claiborne, Ala., Sept. 23, 1882, aged 69. He graduated at Harv. College in 1833. He was author of a "History of Fitchburg," Mass., published in 1836, and reprinted in 1865.

Worcester, Hon. Samuel T., died at Nashua, N. H., Dec. 6, 1882, aged 78. He was a son of Jesse and Sarah (Parker) Worcester, was born in Hollis, N. H., Aug. 30, 1804, and graduated at Harvard College in 1830. He studied law, and in 1835 settled at Norwalk, Ohio. He was elected district judge of the 10th Ohio district, October, 1859, and while holding that office was elected a representative to congress in 1861. He removed to Nashua in 1867, where he resided till his death. He was the author of a "History of Hollis" and other works.

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☞ Inquiries numbered 7, 16, and 17 are not to be asked in respect to infants. Inquiries numbered 11, 12, 15, 16, 17, 19, and 20 are to be answered (if at all) merely by an affirmative mark, as /.

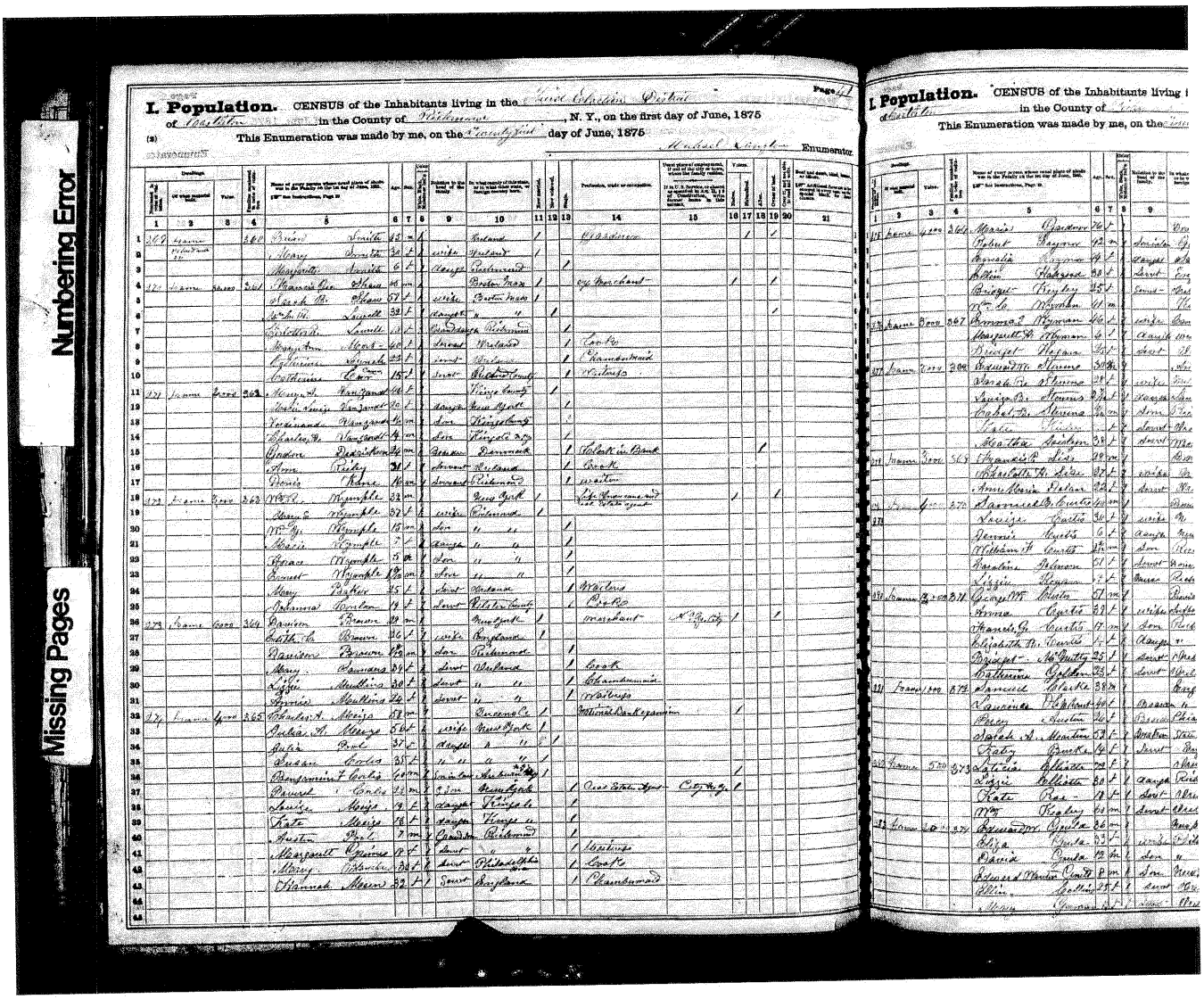
SCHEDULE 1.—Inhabitants in The Town of Castleton, in the County of Richmond, State of New York, enumerated by me on the 5th day of September, 1870.

Post Office: Tompkinsville S.I. N.Y. — Geo. Wm. Curtis Ass't Marshal.

Dwelling-houses, numbered in the order of visitation.	Families, numbered in the order of visitation.	The name of every person whose place of abode on the first day of June, 1870, was in this family.	Description: Age at last birthday. If under 1 year, give months in fractions, thus, 6/12.	Description: Sex.—Males (M.), Females (F.)	Description: Color.—White (W.), Black (B.), Mulatto (Mu.), Chinese (C.), Indian (I.)	Profession, Occupation, or Trade of each person, male or female.	Value of Real Estate owned.	Value of Personal Estate.	Place of Birth, naming State or Territory of U. S.; or the Country, if of foreign birth.	Parentage: Father of foreign birth.	Parentage: Mother of foreign birth.	If born within the year, state month (Jan., Feb., &c.)	If married within the year, state month (Jan., Feb., &c.)	Education: Attended school within the year.	Education: Cannot read.	Education: Cannot write.	Whether deaf and dumb, blind, insane, or idiotic.	Constitutional Relations: Male Citizens of U. S. of 21 years and upwards.	Constitutional Relations: Male Citizens (of U. S.) of 21 years and upwards, whose right to vote is denied or abridged on other grounds than participation in rebellion or other crime.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1	1235	1633	Curtis Geo. Wm.	46	M	W	Shipping & Ballastering	10000	10000	Rhode Island									/	
2			— Anna S.	38	F	W	Keeping House			Massachusetts										
3			— Francis P.	13	M	W	at Home			New York										
4			— Sarah E.	7	F	W	at Home			New York										
5			— Elizabeth	9	F	W	at Home			New York										
6			Sterling John	25	M	B	Coachman			Virginia									/	
7			Mains Catherine	31	F	W	Nurse			Massachusetts	/	/								
8			Lacey Margaret	40	F	W	Domestic Servant			Ireland	/	/								
9			Cook McEllen	22	F	W	Domestic Servant			Ireland	/	/								
10			Mahon Ellen	18	F	W	Domestic Servant			Ireland	/	/								
11	1236	1636	Curtis Geo. Wm.	46	M	W	Shipping & Ballastering	10000	10000	Rhode Island									/	
12			— Anna S.	38	F	W	Keeping House			Massachusetts										
13			— Francis P.	13	M	W	at Home			New York										
14			— Sarah E.	7	F	W	at Home			New York										
15			— Elizabeth	9	F	W	at Home			New York										
16	1247	1637	VanZandt Chas. O.	49	M	W	Wine Merchant	20000	10000	New York									/	
17			— Mary	36	F	W	Keeping House			New York										
18			— Laura A.	16	F	W	at home			New York										
19			— Minnie E.	15	F	W	at Home			New York										
20			— Fred'k E.	12	M	W	at home			New York										
21			— Chas. A.	10	M	W	at Home			New York										
22			Conley Mary	16	F	W	Domestic Servant			Ireland	/	/								
23	1248	1636	Pfeiffer Alois	57	M	W	Manufacturer Sandpaper	25000	15000	Prussia	/	/							/	
24			— Magdalena	47	F	W	Keeping house			Prussia	/	/								
25			— Louisa	22	F	W	at Home			New York	/	/								
26			— Louis	21	M	W	Clerk in Office			New York	/	/							/	
27			— Geo. W.	20	M	W	Clerk in Office			New York	/	/								
28			— Emma M.	13	M	W	attending School			New York	/	/			/					
29			— William	11	M	W	attending School			New York	/	/			/					
30			Hatzfeld Carrie	56	F	W	at Home			Prussia	/	/								
31			Leary Timothy	30	M	W	Coachman			Ireland	/	/							/	
32			Cohen Bridget	32	F	W	Domestic Servant			Ireland	/	/								
33			Hatzfeld Catherine	67	F	W	Nurse			Prussia	/	/								
34	1249	1637	Pendfield Alexander	58	M	W	Merchant Shipping	25000	25000	New York										
35			— Maria	46	F	W	Keeping House			New York										
36			— James	21	M	W	Clerk in Office			New York									/	
37			— Susan	20	F	W	at Home			New York										
38			— John	15	M	W	at Attending School			New York										
39			Clary John	36	M	W	Coachman			Ireland	/	/							/	
40			Scott Sabina	30	F	W	Domestic Servant			Ireland	/	/								

No. of dwellings, ____ No. of white females, ____ No. of males, foreign born, ____
" " families, ____ " " colored males, ____ " " females, " " ____
" " white males, ____ " " " females, ____ " " blind, ____

No. of insane, ____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B. [7-290.]

Page No. 2.
Supervisor's Dist. No. 2
Enumeration Dist. No. 299

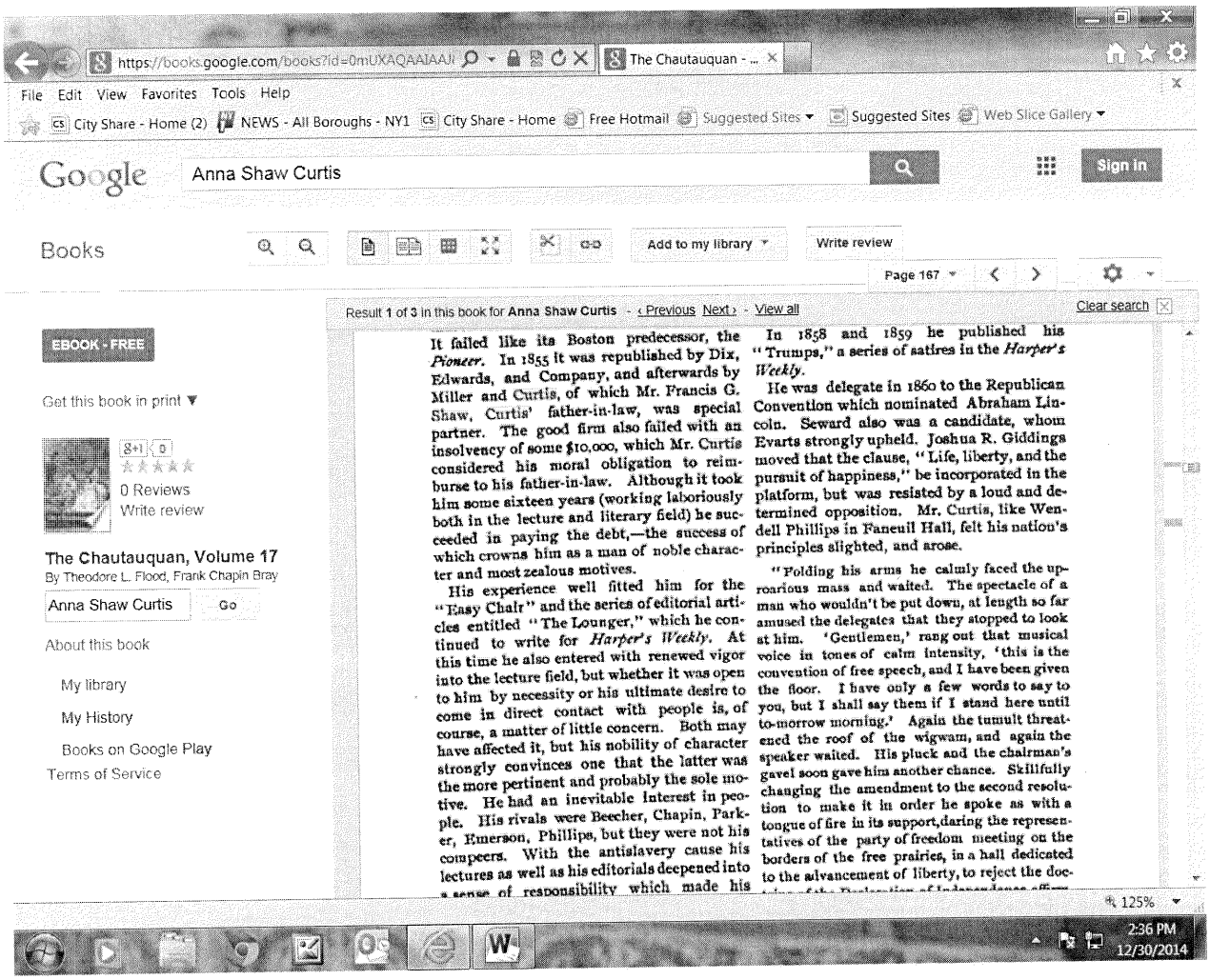
Note A.—The Census Year begins June 1, 1879, and ends May 31, 1880.
Note B.—All persons will be included in the Enumeration who were living on the 1st day of June, 1880. No others will. Children BORN SINCE June 1, 1880, will be OMITTED. Members of Families who have DIED SINCE June 1, 1880, will be INCLUDED.
Note C.—Questions Nos. 13, 14, 22 and 23 are not to be asked in respect to persons under 10 years of age.

SCHEDULE I.—Inhabitants in West New Brighton S.I., in the County of Richmond, State of New York enumerated by me on the 1st & 2nd day of June, 1880.

Charles M. Bauer Enumerator.

In Cities. Name of Street.	In Cities. House Number.	Dwelling-houses numbered in order of visitation.	Families numbered in order of visitation.	The Name of each Person whose place of abode, on 1st day of June, 1880, was in this family.	Personal Description. Color—White, W.; Black, B.; Mulatto, Mu.; Chinese, C.; Indian, I.	Sex—Male, M.; Female, F.	Age at last birthday prior to June 1, 1880. If under 1 year, give months; if a child born in June, 1880, write 1/12.	Relationship of each person to the head of this family—whether wife, son, daughter, servant, boarder, or other.	Whether Single, Married, Widowed, or Divorced.	Married within the Census year, give the month.	Occupation. Profession, Occupation or Trade of each person, male or female.	Number of months this person has been unemployed during the Census year.	Health. Is the person [on the day of the Enumeration] sick or disabled, so as to be unable to attend to ordinary business or duties? If so, what is the sickness or disability?	Attended school within the Census year.	Cannot read.	Cannot write.	Place of Birth of this person, naming State or Territory of United States, or the Country, if of foreign birth.	Place of Birth of the Father of this person, naming the State or Territory of United States, or the Country, if of foreign birth.	Place of Birth of the Mother of this person, naming the State or Territory of United States, or the Country, if of foreign birth.
1	2			3	4	5	6	8	9	10	13	14	15	21	22	23	24	25	26
				Brown Julia	W	F	43	Servant			Servant						Germany		
				Eggman Mary	W	F	44	Servant			Servant						Switzerland	Switzerland	Switzerland
				Monahan Mary	W	F	24	Servant			Servant						Ireland	Ireland	Ireland
				Murrill Josephine	W	F	21	Servant			Servant						New York		
	11	11		Lavin Richard	W	M	27				Coachman	7					Ireland	Ireland	Ireland
				Annie	W	F	23	Wife			keeping house						Ireland	Ireland	Ireland
				William J.	W	M	2/12	Son									New York	Ireland	Ireland
	12	12		Dunbrow Sarah E.	W	F	55				keeping House						New York	New York	New York
				Walter	W	M	29	Son			Clerk in Store						New York	New York	New York
				Alfred F.	W	M	33	Son			Clerk in Store						New York	New York	New York
				Allen John	W	M	26	Son in Law			Clerk in Store	9					New York	Ireland	Ireland
				Cecelia E.	W	F	27	Daughter									New York	W.Y.	W.Y.
				John A.	W	M	3	Grandson									New York	N.Y.	N.Y.
				Elizabeth D.	W	F	1/12	Aug Granddaughter									New York	N.Y.	N.Y.
				Arthur Louise	W	F	23	Servant			Servant						New York	Ireland	Ireland
				Robertson Ella	W	F	22	Servant			Servant						New York	Ireland	Ireland
				Johnson Michael	W	M	22	Servant			Coachman						New York	Ireland	Ireland
	13	13		Custil George W.	W	M	36				Author						Rhode Island	Mass	R.I.
				Anna S	W	F	34	Wife			keeping House						Massachusetts	Mass	Mass.
				Francis G.	W	M	22	Son	1		Attending College						New York	R.I.	Mass
				Elizabeth B.	W	F	19	Daughter			" "						New York	R.I.	Mass
				Carol Margaret	W	F	60	Servant			Servant					1	Ireland	Ireland	Ireland
				Hogan Mary	W	F	36	Servant			Servant					1	Ireland	Ireland	Ireland
				McGinty Bridget	W	F	39	Servant			Servant						Ireland	Ireland	Ireland
	14	14		Hinkleton John C.	W	M	68				Merchant						Ohio	England	N.Y.
				Jane C.	W	F	58	Wife			keeping House						New York	Ohio	Mass.
				Charlotte	W	F	23	Daughter									New York	Ohio	N.Y.
				Elizabeth	W	F	30	"									New York	Ohio	N.Y.
				Mary W.	W	F	29	"									New York	Ohio	N.Y.
				Lewis O.	W	M	24	Son			Merchant						France	Ohio	N.Y.
				Harold G.	W	M	22	Son									New York	Ohio	N.Y.
				Ernest F.	W	M	20	Son			At College						New York	Ohio	N.Y.
				Norman	W	M	18	Son			"						New York	Ohio	N.Y.
				Ellen S.	W	F	16	Daughter									New York	Ohio	N.Y.
				Coffigan Patrick	W	M	34	Servant	1		Servant						Ireland	Ireland	Ireland
				Sheridan Maggie	W	F	16	Servant			"						Ireland	Ireland	Ireland
				Seald Mattie	W	F	30	Servant	1		"						Ireland	Ireland	Ireland
				Deury Lizzie	W	F	21	Servant	1		"						Ireland	Ireland	Ireland
				MacDermott Mary	W	F	21	Servant	1		"						New York	Ireland	Ireland
				" Sarah	W	F	23	Servant	1		"						New York	Ireland	Ireland
				Grandy Sarah	W	F	20	Servant	1		"						New York	Ireland	Ireland
				Wolfell Edward	W	M	24	Servant	1		Coachman						New York	Ireland	Ireland
	15	15		Johnson Roselle	W	M	38				Editor						New York	Conn	Conn
				Nellie R	W	F	37	Wife			keeping House						New York	Vermont	Mass.
				Florence L	W	F	7	Daughter								1	New Hampshire	N.Y.	N.Y.
				Evelyn	W	F	1	Daughter									New Jersey	N.Y.	N.Y.
				Bergin Ann	W	F	45	Servant			Servant						Ireland	Ireland	Ireland
	16	16		Richard Benjamin	W	M	46				Real Estate Agent						New York	N.J.	N.Y.
				Eliza F	W	F	41	Wife	1		Keeping House						New York	N.Y.	Delaware
				Guy	W	M	14	Son			Attending School						New York	N.Y.	N.Y.

Note D.—In making entries in columns 9, 10, 11, 12, 16 to 23, an affirmative mark only will be used—thus /, except in the case of divorced persons, column 11, when the letter "D" is to be used.
Note E.—Question No. 12 will only be asked in cases where an affirmative answer has been given either to question 10 or to question 11.
Note F.—Question No. 14 will only be asked in cases when a gainful occupation has been reported in column 13.
Note G.—In column 7 an abbreviation in the name of the month may be used, as Jan., Apr., Dec.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It failed like its Boston predecessor, the *Pioneer*. In 1855 it was republished by Dix, Edwards, and Company, and afterwards by Miller and Curtis, of which Mr. Francis G. Shaw, Curtis' father-in-law, was special partner. The good firm also failed with an insolvency of some $10,000, which Mr. Curtis considered his moral obligation to reimburse to his father-in-law. Although it took him some sixteen years (working laboriously both in the lecture and literary field) he succeeded in paying the debt,—the success of which crowns him as a man of noble character and most zealous motives.
His experience well fitted him for the "Easy Chair" and the series of editorial articles entitled "The Lounger," which he continued to write for *Harper's Weekly*. At this time he also entered with renewed vigor into the lecture field, but whether it was open to him by necessity or his ultimate desire to come in direct contact with people is, of course, a matter of little concern. Both may have affected it, but his nobility of character strongly convinces one that the latter was the more pertinent and probably the sole motive. He had an inevitable interest in people. His rivals were Beecher, Chapin, Parker, Emerson, Phillips, but they were not his compeers. With the antislavery cause his lectures as well as his editorials deepened into
In 1858 and 1859 he published his "Trumps," a series of satires in the *Harper's Weekly*.
He was delegate in 1860 to the Republican Convention which nominated Abraham Lincoln. Seward also was a candidate, whom Evarts strongly upheld. Joshua R. Giddings moved that the clause, "Life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness," be incorporated in the platform, but was resisted by a loud and determined opposition. Mr. Curtis, like Wendell Phillips in Faneuil Hall, felt his nation's principles slighted, and arose.
"Folding his arms he calmly faced the uproarious mass and waited. The spectacle of a man who wouldn't be put down, at length so far amused the delegates that they stopped to look at him. 'Gentlemen,' rang out that musical voice in tones of calm intensity, 'this is the convention of free speech, and I have been given the floor. I have only a few words to say to you, but I shall say them if I stand here until to-morrow morning.' Again the tumult threatened the roof of the wigwam, and again the speaker waited. His pluck and the chairman's gavel soon gave him another chance. Skillfully changing the amendment to the second resolution to make it in order he spoke as with a tongue of fire in its support, daring the representatives of the party of freedom meeting on the borders of the free prairies, in a hall dedicated to the advancement of liberty, to reject the doc-
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thusiasm more unanimous and deafening than the yell with which it had been previously rejected."*

After Abraham Lincoln's election Mr. Curtis resumed the "stump" and political platform with renewed vigor. In 1862 he declines Abraham Lincoln's offer of consul-generalship in Egypt; in 1863 he becomes political editor of *Harper's Weekly*, the popular organ of the day; in 1864 he is elected a member of the Board of Regents, and in 1867 chairman of the Committee on Education in the State Constitutional Convention.

He was always an enthusiast of the franchisement of women, and in a learned address on "Fair Play for Women" he said: "Do women have fair play in this country? As before, a sneer and a smile of derision may ripple from one end of the land to the other; but the question will swell louder and louder until it is answered by the ballot in the hands of every citizen, and by the perfect vindication of the American fundamental principle, that 'governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governed.'"†

In 1869 he was urgently asked to take the editorship of the *Times*, but for reasons best known to himself he refused.

Mr. Curtis will long be remembered as an something that sparkles with a sincere witticism, something that brings one into an intimacy with the subject treated, something, in fact, that shows the touch of a master hand. He shows us the grandeur of Wendell Phillips, and gives us a glimpse at Thoreau as he runs into Emerson's library to borrow a book; Emerson, who is only understood by "My Daughters," and Dickens, whose departing words are, "I shall never recall you as a mere public audience, but rather as a host of personal friends, and ever with the greatest gratitude, tenderness, and consideration. God bless you, and God bless the land in which I leave you."

Curtis' eulogies on Sumner, Bryant, Phillips, and Lowell are alone sufficient to warrant him a place as a great orator. It was his eulogy on Wendell Phillips that made Massachusetts renew the pride in her noble son, and was not his last eulogy—the one on Lowell—his finest accomplishment? In 1876 President Hayes wished to make him minister to England or Germany, but he again gently refused. Mr. Curtis was one of the noblest figures in politics, and while he continued to take an active part, he was always an opponent to the "spoils system"; and upheld a dignity in party affiliation which

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In 1869 he was urgently asked to take the editorship of the *Times*, but for reasons best known to himself he refused.

Mr. Curtis will long be remembered as an enthusiastic advocate of civil service reform since 1865, when Hon .Thomas A. Jenckes of Rhode Island framed the first measure. He was appointed by President Grant as chairman of the first Civil Service Commission. His earnestness in the cause was increased by a growing desire for the purification of politics.

While Curtis was severely ill in 1873, Mr. Thomas Bailey Aldrich filled the "Easy Chair," but it is said that he was so modest "that few people knew the fact." There is no series of short essays that contain more sound fact and are written in such a terse style. While they are slightly tinctured with an Addisonian flavor, they are distinctly the production of a more cultured refinement and polite literature. As a *littérateur* Mr. Curtis' name will ever be remembered by his "Easy Chair." He was always careful to keep his audience in mind, and while his orations were always persuasive, his editorials convincing, his "Easy Chair" essays are more didactic and truly the literary production of a great essayist. There is something exhilarating,

* Boston Herald, January 10, 1880.
† May 12, 1870, at Steinway Hall, N. Y.

noblest figures in politics, and while he continued to take an active part, he was always an opponent to the "spoils system"; and upheld a dignity in party affiliation which was prone to be rewarded by the highest citizenship and the truest manhood. In his address before the Commonwealth Club* he wisely said:

"I know very well the charm of party association. I know very well that in this community the condition of the achievement of all objects is the existence of great parties. I am prouder of nothing than of my own connection with that party which seems to me to have done more for human liberty and for free popular institutions than any other party in the history of the race. But, gentlemen, important as party is, there is one thing still more important, and that is manly, reasonable, American independence of party. It is those who hold party always subordinate to the private conscience and to independent judgment, who compel a party to keep its leaders true to public principle and the public welfare, who make its strength."

It was this great fundamental principle that led him in 1884 to sever his association with the party that nominated a candidate whom he could not support with "good will." His citizenship was, therefore, of the most

* Spring of 1887.

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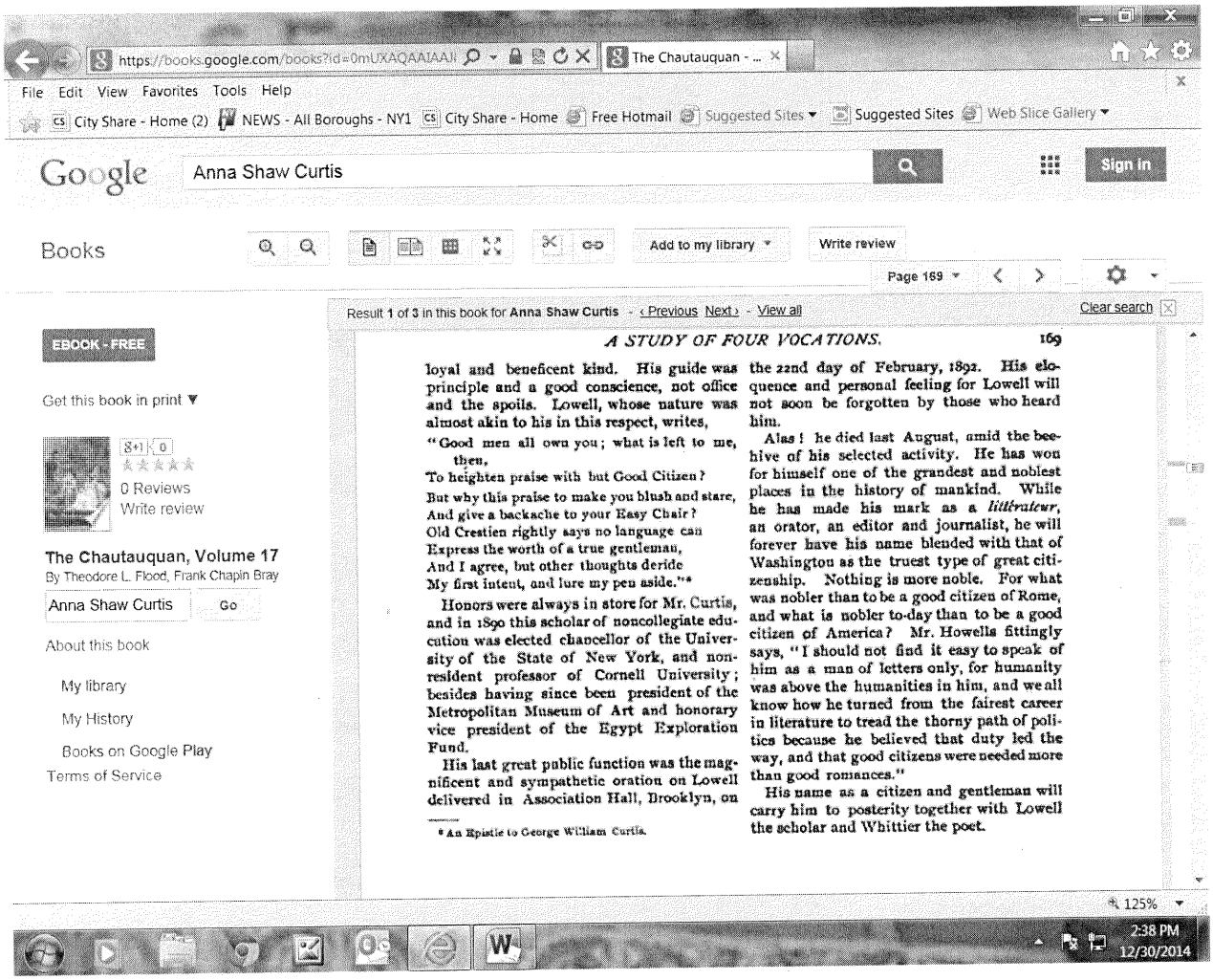
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A STUDY OF FOUR VOCATIONS. 169
loyal and beneficent kind. His guide was principle and a good conscience, not office and the spoils. Lowell, whose nature was almost akin to his in this respect, writes,
"Good men all owu you; what is left to me, then,
To heighten praise with but Good Citizen?
But why this praise to make you blush and stare,
And give a backache to your Easy Chair?
Old Crestien rightly says no language can
Express the worth of a true gentleman,
And I agree, but other thoughts deride
My first intent, and lure my pen aside."*
Honors were always in store for Mr. Curtis, and in 1890 this scholar of noncollegiate education was elected chancellor of the University of the State of New York, and nonresident professor of Cornell University; besides having since been president of the Metropolitan Museum of Art and honorary vice president of the Egypt Exploration Fund.
His last great public function was the magnificent and sympathetic oration on Lowell delivered in Association Hall, Brooklyn, on the 22nd day of February, 1892. His eloquence and personal feeling for Lowell will not soon be forgotten by those who heard him.
Alas! he died last August, amid the beehive of his selected activity. He has won for himself one of the grandest and noblest places in the history of mankind. While he has made his mark as a *littérateur*, an orator, an editor and journalist, he will forever have his name blended with that of Washington as the truest type of great citizenship. Nothing is more noble. For what was nobler than to be a good citizen of Rome, and what is nobler to-day than to be a good citizen of America? Mr. Howells fittingly says, "I should not find it easy to speak of him as a man of letters only, for humanity was above the humanities in him, and we all know how he turned from the fairest career in literature to tread the thorny path of politics because he believed that duty led the way, and that good citizens were needed more than good romances."
His name as a citizen and gentleman will carry him to posterity together with Lowell the scholar and Whittier the poet.
* An Epistle to George William Curtis.
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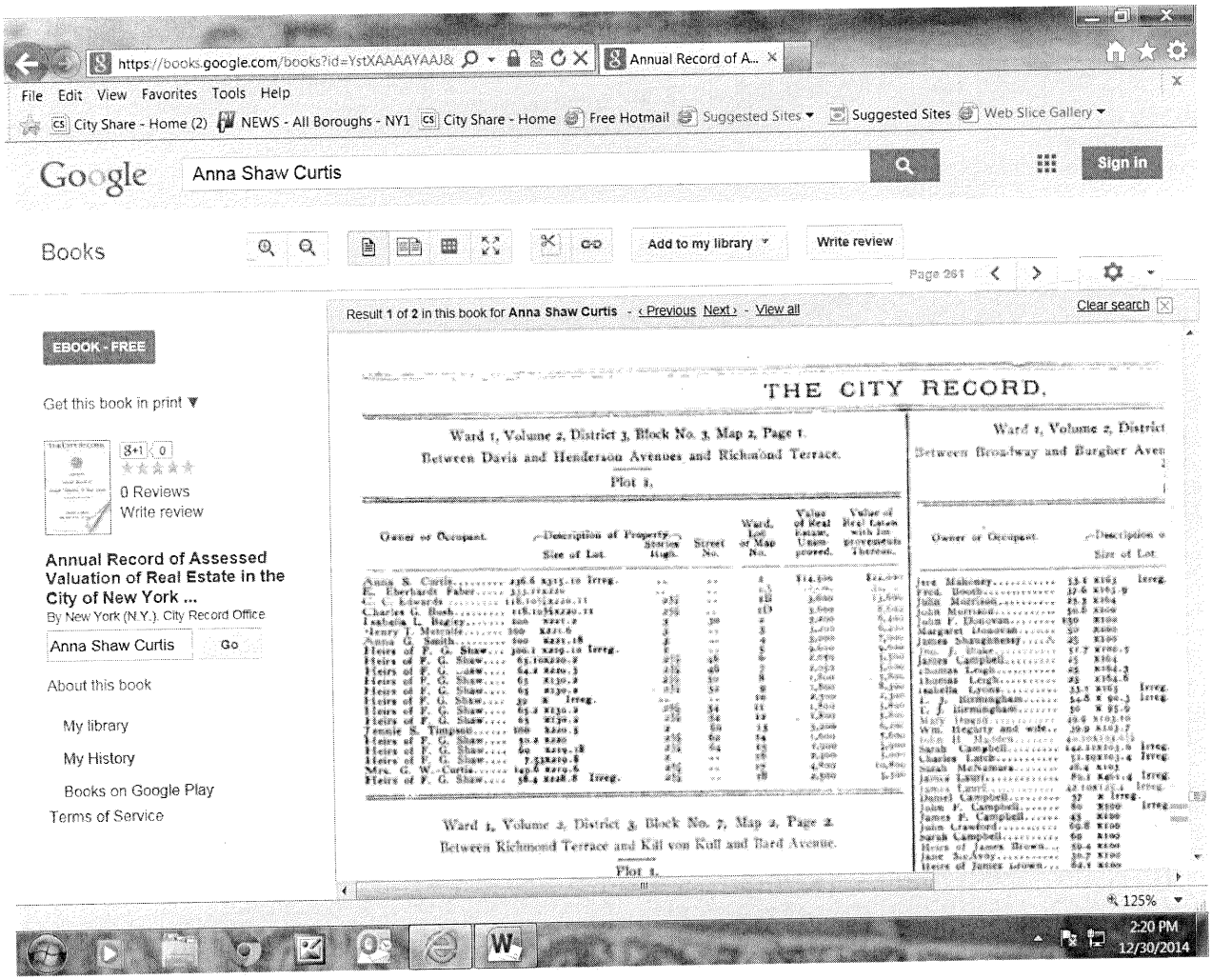
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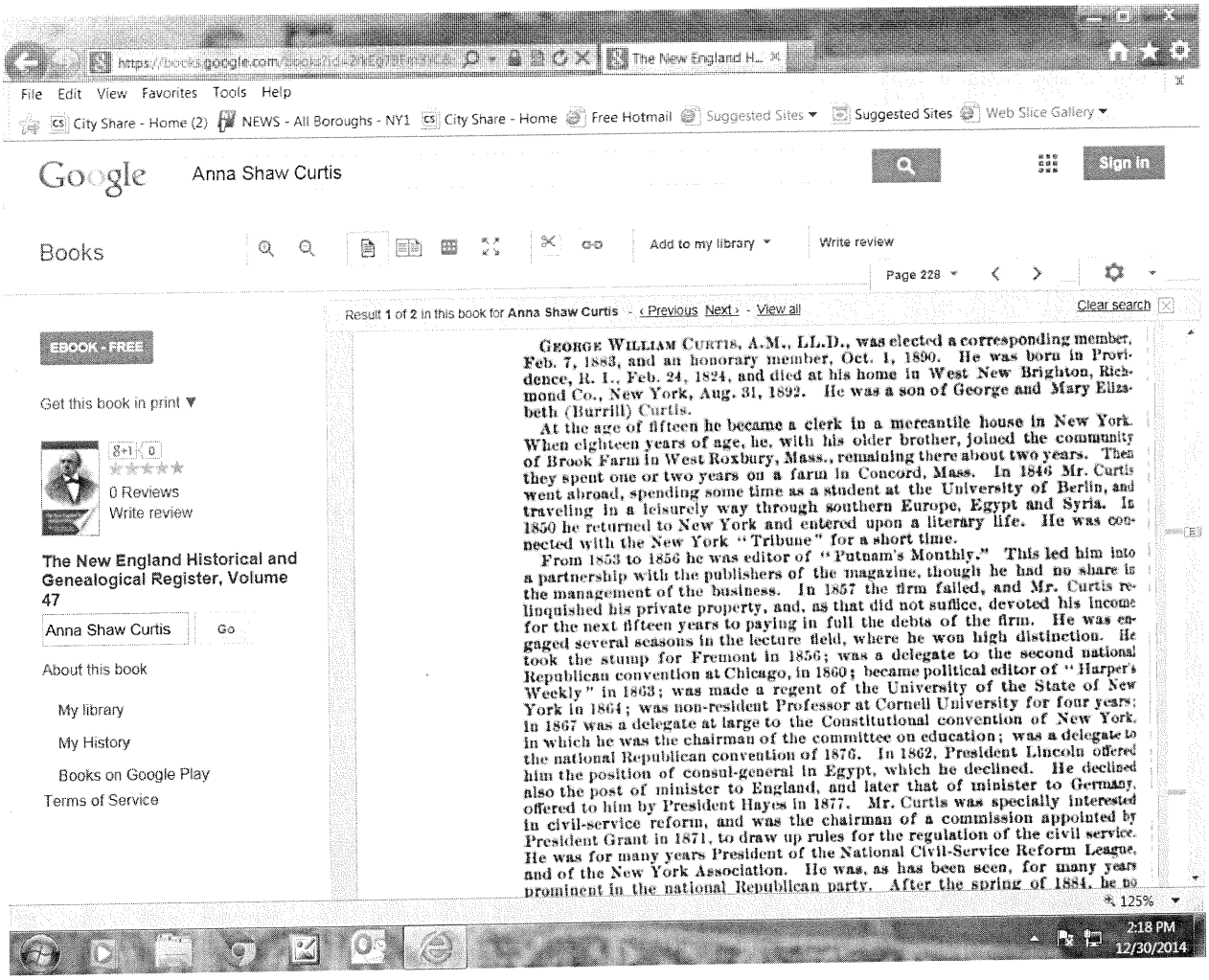
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GEORGE WILLIAM CURTIS, A.M., LL.D., was elected a corresponding member, Feb. 7, 1883, and an honorary member, Oct. 1, 1890. He was born in Providence, R. I., Feb. 24, 1824, and died at his home in West New Brighton, Richmond Co., New York, Aug. 31, 1892. He was a son of George and Mary Elizabeth (Burrill) Curtis.
At the age of fifteen he became a clerk in a mercantile house in New York. When eighteen years of age, he, with his older brother, joined the community of Brook Farm in West Roxbury, Mass., remaining there about two years. Then they spent one or two years on a farm in Concord, Mass. In 1846 Mr. Curtis went abroad, spending some time as a student at the University of Berlin, and traveling in a leisurely way through southern Europe, Egypt and Syria. In 1850 he returned to New York and entered upon a literary life. He was connected with the New York "Tribune" for a short time.
From 1853 to 1856 he was editor of "Putnam's Monthly." This led him into a partnership with the publishers of the magazine, though he had no share in the management of the business. In 1857 the firm failed, and Mr. Curtis relinquished his private property, and, as that did not suffice, devoted his income for the next fifteen years to paying in full the debts of the firm. He was engaged several seasons in the lecture field, where he won high distinction. He took the stump for Fremont in 1856; was a delegate to the second national Republican convention at Chicago, in 1860; became political editor of "Harper's Weekly" in 1863; was made a regent of the University of the State of New York in 1864; was non-resident Professor at Cornell University for four years; in 1867 was a delegate at large to the Constitutional convention of New York, in which he was the chairman of the committee on education; was a delegate to the national Republican convention of 1876. In 1862, President Lincoln offered him the position of consul-general in Egypt, which he declined. He declined also the post of minister to England, and later that of minister to Germany, offered to him by President Hayes in 1877. Mr. Curtis was specially interested in civil-service reform, and was the chairman of a commission appointed by President Grant in 1871, to draw up rules for the regulation of the civil service. He was for many years President of the National Civil-Service Reform League, and of the New York Association. He was, as has been seen, for many years prominent in the national Republican party. After the spring of 1884, he no
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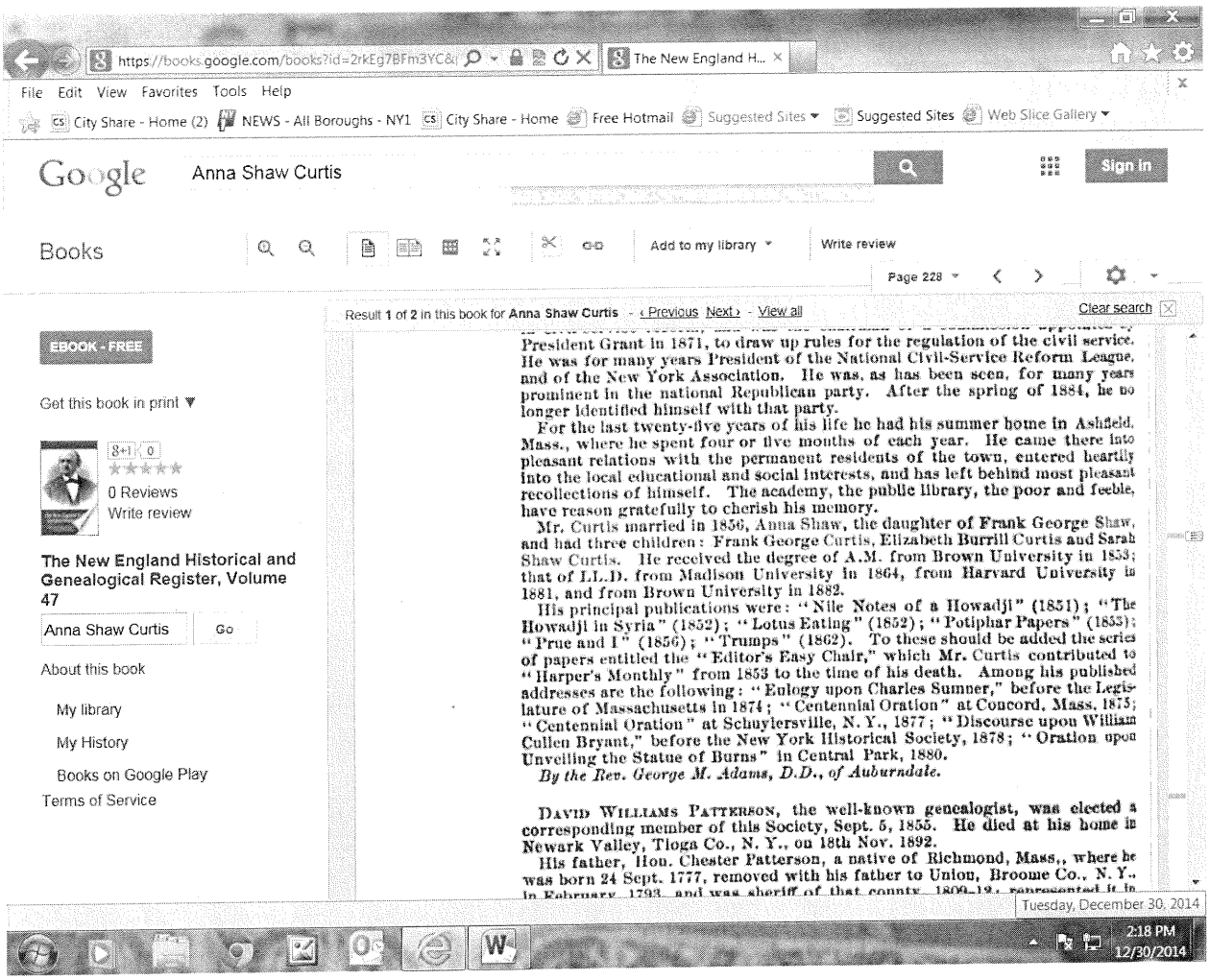
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President Grant in 1871, to draw up rules for the regulation of the civil service. He was for many years President of the National Civil-Service Reform League, and of the New York Association. He was, as has been seen, for many years prominent in the national Republican party. After the spring of 1884, he no longer identified himself with that party.
For the last twenty-five years of his life he had his summer home in Ashfield, Mass., where he spent four or five months of each year. He came there into pleasant relations with the permanent residents of the town, entered heartily into the local educational and social interests, and has left behind most pleasant recollections of himself. The academy, the public library, the poor and feeble, have reason gratefully to cherish his memory.
Mr. Curtis married in 1856, Anna Shaw, the daughter of Frank George Shaw, and had three children: Frank George Curtis, Elizabeth Burrill Curtis and Sarah Shaw Curtis. He received the degree of A.M. from Brown University in 1853; that of LL.D. from Madison University in 1864, from Harvard University in 1881, and from Brown University in 1882.
His principal publications were: "Nile Notes of a Howadji" (1851); "The Howadji in Syria" (1852); "Lotus Eating" (1852); "Potiphar Papers" (1853); "Prue and I" (1856); "Trumps" (1862). To these should be added the series of papers entitled the "Editor's Easy Chair," which Mr. Curtis contributed to "Harper's Monthly" from 1853 to the time of his death. Among his published addresses are the following: "Eulogy upon Charles Sumner," before the Legislature of Massachusetts in 1874; "Centennial Oration" at Concord, Mass. 1875; "Centennial Oration" at Schuylersville, N. Y., 1877; "Discourse upon William Cullen Bryant," before the New York Historical Society, 1878; "Oration upon Unveiling the Statue of Burns" in Central Park, 1880.
By the Rev. George M. Adams, D.D., of Auburndale.
DAVID WILLIAMS PATTERSON, the well-known genealogist, was elected a corresponding member of this Society, Sept. 5, 1855. He died at his home in Newark Valley, Tioga Co., N. Y., on 18th Nov. 1892.
His father, Hon. Chester Patterson, a native of Richmond, Mass., where he was born 24 Sept. 1777, removed with his father to Union, Broome Co., N. Y.,
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talists. Even the brilliant Howadji might find as rich a theme in his youthful reminiscences of Brook Farm, and a more novel one,—close at hand as it lies,—than those which he has since made so distant a pilgrimage to seek in Syria and along the current of the Nile."

It was Curtis' travels in Syria that encouraged him to write his "Howadji," while his experience at Brook Farm gave him many a theme for noble narratives.* In fact, it was the impression of this early education that made him say before the alumni of Brown University, "It is a poor education, believe me, that gives us accuracy in grammar instead of a *love of letters*; that leaves us masters of the integral calculus and slaves of sordid spirit and mean ambitions."†

From Brook Farm Mr. Curtis went to Concord, the home of transcendentalism and its foremost leader. Here he renews his intimacy with Emerson, Thoreau, and Hawthorne. After his sojourn of two years he goes abroad in 1846, studies for a few months at the University of Berlin, and visits Italy, Switzerland, Germany, Holland, Egypt, Palestine, and England. He went abroad with Bayard Taylor's idea to become familiar with the old historic spots. It was the memorable period of the revolution of 1848, and traveling much by foot he experienced the great revolutionary tumult both in Italy, by a dangerous walk from Como to Milan, and in Berlin where he

[illegible] were his best advice to Curtis. And well did he heed it!

During these travels he sent constant contributions to the *Times*, edited by Henry J. Raymond, and the *Tribune*, edited by Charles A. Dana.

After his return in 1850 he wrote musical criticisms for the *Tribune*, and later a series of letters on summer resorts—such as the Catskills, Niagara, and Saratoga. In the same year he joined Wendell Phillips and Dr. Chapin to lecture on "The Lost Arts," or as Dr. Chapin said, "I will lecture for fame—that is fifty [dollars] and my expenses." This was Curtis' beginning in the lecture field, and the great advantage which this avocation and literature offered him well-nigh established his enduring reputation.

In 1851 he published his "Nile Notes of a Howadji," of which Bayard Taylor wrote, "My friend, the Howadji in whose 'Nile Notes' the Egyptian atmosphere is so perfectly reproduced, says that conscience falls asleep on the Nile."† In 1852 he published his "Howadji in Syria," which won great public recognition as a descriptive narrative of superior merit. "Lotus Eating," containing his letters on summer resorts, was also published. It is stated that his interest in Niagara did much to save the usurpation of the falls for private greed. His American patriotism was always foremost even in lit-

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him some sixteen years (working laboriously both in the lecture and literary field) he succeeded in paying the debt,—the success of which crowns him as a man of noble character and most zealous motives.

His experience well fitted him for the "Easy Chair" and the series of editorial articles entitled "The Lounger," which he continued to write for *Harper's Weekly*. At this time he also entered with renewed vigor into the lecture field, but whether it was open to him by necessity or his ultimate desire to come in direct contact with people is, of course, a matter of little concern. Both may have affected it, but his nobility of character strongly convinces one that the latter was the more pertinent and probably the sole motive. He had an inevitable interest in people. His rivals were Beecher, Chapin, Parker, Emerson, Phillips, but they were not his compeers. With the antislavery cause his lectures as well as his editorials deepened into a sense of responsibility which made his words ring forth like the keynote, whether or not he had to go from "Dr. Furness' house in Philadelphia to the lecture hall with eight revolvers in the pockets of as many friends to insure his safety."

platform, but was resisted by a loud and determined opposition. Mr. Curtis, like Wendell Phillips in Faneuil Hall, felt his nation's principles slighted, and arose.

"Folding his arms he calmly faced the uproarious mass and waited. The spectacle of a man who wouldn't be put down, at length so far amused the delegates that they stopped to look at him. 'Gentlemen,' rang out that musical voice in tones of calm intensity, 'this is the convention of free speech, and I have been given the floor. I have only a few words to say to you, but I shall say them if I stand here until to-morrow morning.' Again the tumult threatened the roof of the wigwam, and again the speaker waited. His pluck and the chairman's gavel soon gave him another chance. Skillfully changing the amendment to the second resolution to make it in order he spoke as with a tongue of fire in its support, daring the representatives of the party of freedom meeting on the borders of the free prairies, in a hall dedicated to the advancement of liberty, to reject the doctrine of the Declaration of Independence affirming the equality and defining the rights of man. The speech fell like a spark upon tinder, and the amendment was adopted with a shout of en-

* "True and I."

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Author	Foote, Lorien, 1969-
Title	**Seeking the one great remedy : Francis George Shaw and nineteenth-century reform / Lorien Foote.**
Imprint	Athens : Ohio University Press, 2003.

Location	Call No.	Status	Message
Schwarzman Building - Main Reading Room 315	JFE 03-15745 ---	AVAILABLE	USE IN LIBRARY

DETAILS

Description	xi, 224 p. : ill., ports. ; 24 cm.
Bibliography	Includes bibliographical references (p. 207-216) and index.
Subject	Shaw, Francis George, 1809-1882. Shaw family. Abolitionists -- United States -- Biography. Social reformers -- United States -- Biography. Feminists -- United States -- Biography. Businessmen -- New England -- Biography. Antislavery movements -- United States -- History -- 19th century. Social movements -- United States -- History -- 19th century. United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865 -- African Americans. Reconstruction (U.S. history, 1865-1877) -- Social aspects.
LCCN	2003051435
ISBN	0821414992 (acid-free paper)
Call No.	JFE 03-15745
Research Call Number	JFE 03-15745

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New Yorker 6 (Mar 22 1930)
67-68

Author	Burchard, Peter.
Title	**"We'll stand by the Union" : Robert Gould Shaw and the Black 54th Massachusetts Regiment / Peter Burchard.**
Imprint	New York : Facts on File, c1993.

Location	Call No.	Status	Message
Schomburg Center - Research & Reference	Sc E 94-265 --- c.2	AVAILABLE	USE IN LIBRARY
Schwarzman Building - Milstein Division Rm 121	IKG (Mass. : 54th regt.) 94-2215 ---	AVAILABLE	USE IN LIBRARY

DETAILS

Description	xi, 132 p. : ill. ; 24 cm.
Series	Makers of America
	Makers of America (Facts on File, Inc.)
Bibliography	Includes bibliographical references (p. 119-124) and index.
Subject	Shaw, Robert Gould, 1837-1863.
	United States. Army. Massachusetts Infantry Regiment, 54th (1863-1865) Massachusetts -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865 -- Regimental histories. Massachusetts -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865 -- Participation, Afro-American. United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865 -- Regimental histories. United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865 -- Participation, Afro-American. Soldiers -- Massachusetts -- Biography. African Americans -- History -- To 1863. African Americans -- History -- 1863-1877.
LCCN	92037132
ISBN	0816026092
Research Call Number	IKG (Mass. : 54th regt.) 94-2215
	Sc E 94-265

Author	Dall, Caroline Wells Healey, 1822-1912.
Title	**Daughter of Boston : the extraordinary diary of a nineteenth-century woman / Caroline Healey Dall ; edited by Helen R. Deese.**
Imprint	Boston : Beacon Press, c2005.

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Table of contents

Location	Call No.	Status	Message
Schwarzman Building - Main Reading Room 315	JFE 06-1392 ---	AVAILABLE	USE IN LIBRARY

DETAILS

Description	xxxiii, 452 p. : ill., ports. ; 24 cm.
Bibliography	Includes bibliographical references (p. 357-414) and index.
Subject	Dall, Caroline Wells Healey, 1822-1912 -- Diaries. Boston (Mass.) -- Intellectual life -- 19th century. Authors, American -- 19th century -- Diaries. Reformers -- United States -- Diaries.
Added Author	Deese, Helen.
LCCN	2005011774
ISBN	0807050342 (cloth : alk. paper)
Call No.	JFE 06-1392
Research Call Number	JFE 06-1392

Author	Waugh, Joan.
Title	**Unsentimental reformer : the life of Josephine Shaw Lowell / Joan Waugh.**
Imprint	Cambridge, Mass. : Harvard University Press, 1997.

Location	Call No.	Status	Message
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DETAILS

Description	296 p. : ill. ; 25 cm.
Bibliography	Includes bibliographical references (p. [285]-289) and index.
Subject	Lowell, Josephine Shaw, 1843-1905. Charity Organization Society of the City of New York -- History. Women philanthropists -- New York (State) -- Biography. Women social reformers -- New York (State) -- Biography.
Added Title	Life of Josephine Shaw Lowell
LCCN	97015647
ISBN	0674930363
Call No.	JFE 98-5449
Research Call Number	JFE 98-5449

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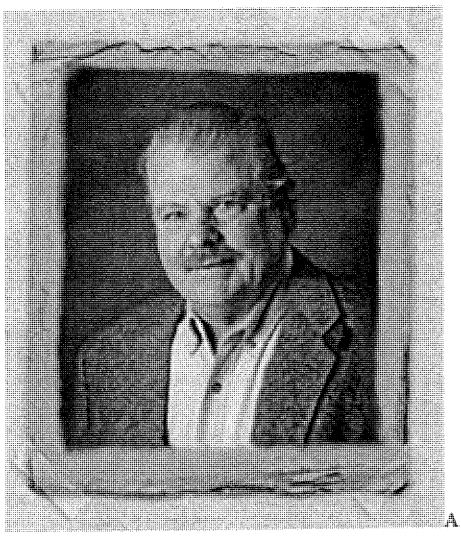
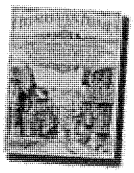


A unique combination of life experience makes Chuck our resident visionary and artist. In the 1970's Chuck began his construction career underground mining in Colorado, giving him experience in structural engineering. From there he moved through the trades working as a framer, mason, roofer, and carpenter forming his vision of how a design/build renovation company should be - providing all services to the client to allow complete control over the project outcome. In the mid-1980's with this in mind he began his apprenticeship in a modern cabinet shop. Using his background as a platform in the early 1990's Chuck began to devote his life and career to fine custom cabinetry, furniture, millwork, and whole house period-style restoration.

Chuck has attended classes and workshops to increase his knowledge of the building trades. As a member of the Preservation Trades Network he has attended the International Preservation Trades workshop to network and learn from like-minded individuals. In a world that has been fed a cheaper, faster, replace – repeat kind of diet, Chuck believes that permanence and sustainability are needed in the building trades.

Chuck enjoys watching the Steelers win and perfecting his barbecue techniques when not working.



Chuck co-authored a recently released book on historic preservation with his daughter Danielle. *Preservation Primer, Volume 1: Avoid Common Mistakes that Cause Irreversible & Costly Damage to Your Historical Building's Architectural Integrity* is available on Amazon in both **Print edition** and **Kindle edition**.

The book was also featured in a Lancaster Newspapers Sunday News article "Pointers from Preservationists".

Click here to read the full article.

Jonathan Keperling

A native Lancastrian – Jonathan has worked in the restoration field since 1998. He is usually given the tasks that require attention to detail, though the crew knows that it is best to leave him alone until 10 AM when his mood improves dramatically.

Jonathan's contributions as a principle of the company have provided a fresh perspective and insight. Jonathan has taken several classes related to building trades and wood finishing. As a member of the Preservation Trades Network he continues to look for ways to increase his knowledge in the trades.

When Jonathan is not on the job site or in the shop you can find him playing video games, organizing music on his iPod, or wishing for a motorcycle . . . anything but working on his own house.

Lois Groshong

Lois is Chuck's business partner and wife. She enjoys being part of the supporting arm of the company. Lois contributes to the company's success by dealing with clients and helping to organize the office.

Lois is the Chairperson of the Lancaster City Historic Commission overseeing the demolition and development within the Lancaster Historic Commission. She has been certified by Buck's County Community College in Historic Preservation.

Most recently Lois has turned her attention to promoting the Lancaster Historic Home Show helping to bring together vintage homeowners, people who supply goods and services, and traditional trade professionals in one place to help promote the traditional building trades.

SUNDAY NEWS

Building on a respect for old structures

Saving historically significant buildings has become a way of life for Lois Groshong.

"I started my life in an old house," says the native Nebraskan. "I lived in a home that my grandfather built for his family, and I was drawn to it. I always felt a need to take care of it." A city resident, Groshong is chairwoman of the Lancaster Historical Commission, which oversees new construction and demolition of properties within the Heritage Conservation District.

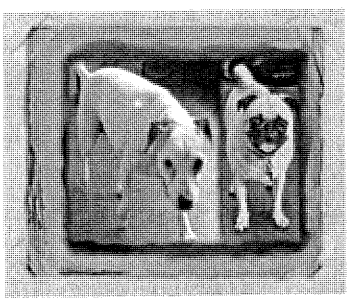
Her philosophy and preservation work were featured in a Lancaster Newspapers Sunday News article "Building on Respect for Old Structures". *Click on the picture at the right to read the full article...*

Danielle Groshong-Keperling

Danielle has worked in the construction industry since 2001. Her duties include ordering supplies for the projects, bookkeeping, and organizing the office and job site paperwork. She is the person to go to if you need to run down a detail about a project – she knows exactly which pile the answer is in.

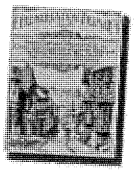
Before this career she worked as a cake decorator as assures us that dealing with an emotional bride is similar to helping someone through the sometimes difficult, though always rewarding, and remodeling process.

Danielle recently earned her MBA in Management from Eastern University. She is now keeping herself busy organizing the Central Pennsylvania Preservation Society monthly meetings and volunteering on the Historic Preservation Trust of Lancaster County's marketing and publicity committee.



She enjoys the creativity and exchange of ideas that the design/build project entails. Seeing the project go through the initial meeting, design, and then building process is one of the most rewarding aspects of the job to Danielle.

Often when you call the office you will hear Danielle's "children" in the background, a Jack Russell named Delilah, and Angelica a Pug. After work you can find Danielle nagging Jonathan to finish projects around the house, watching reality TV, or reading.



Danielle co-authored a recently released book on historic preservation with her father Chuck. *Preservation Primer, Volume 1: Avoid Common Mistakes that Cause Irreversible & Costly Damage to Your Historical Building's Architectural Integrity* is available on Amazon in both **Print edition** and **Kindle edition**.

The book was also featured in a Lancaster Newspapers Sunday News article "Pointers from Preservationists".

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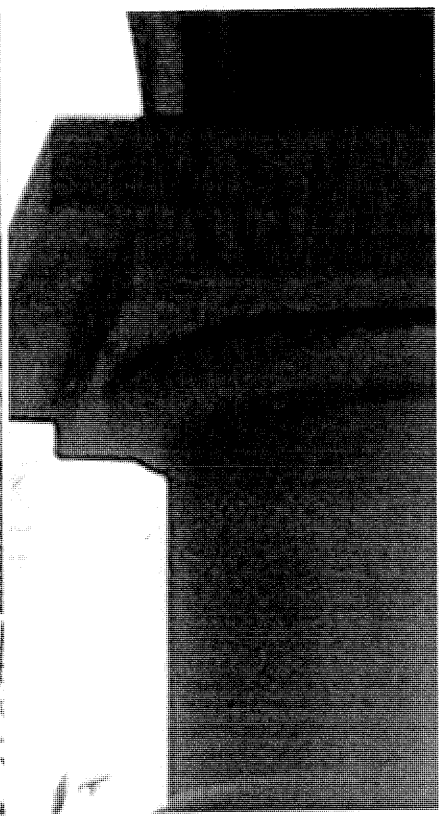
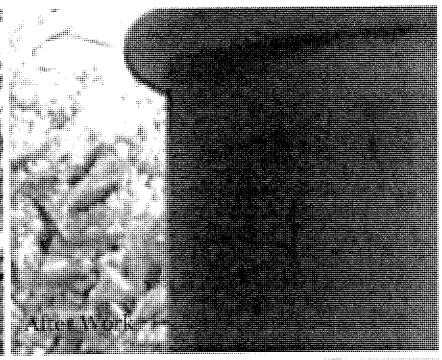
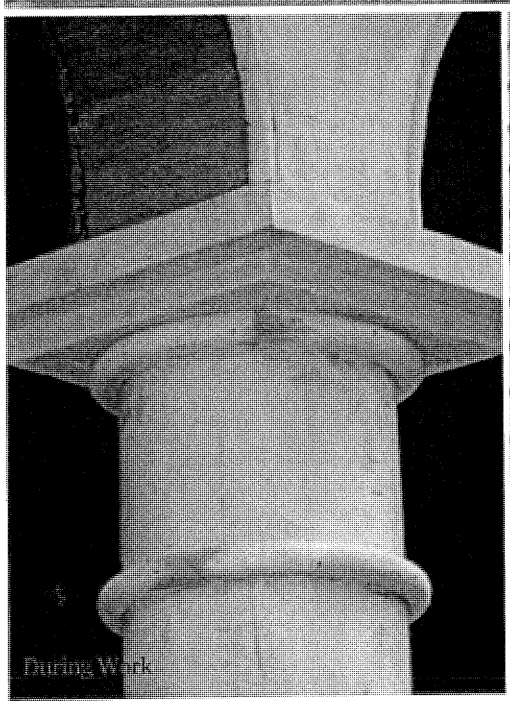
George William Curtis House, Staten Island

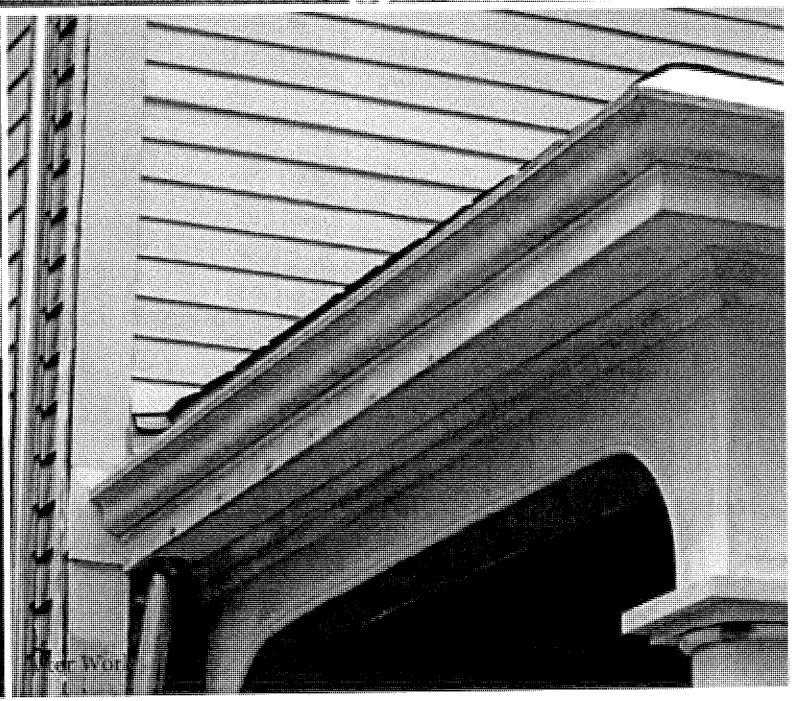
For this project, we fabricated 19th Century porch architectural details, installed columns, built stairs, replaced ears on window sills, replaced brackets under the eave, fabricated true divided light windows to replace modern replacement windows, and fabricated solid wood louvered shutters.

Read Lois Groshong's article "The Legacy" to learn more about George William Curtis and the historical significance of his house.









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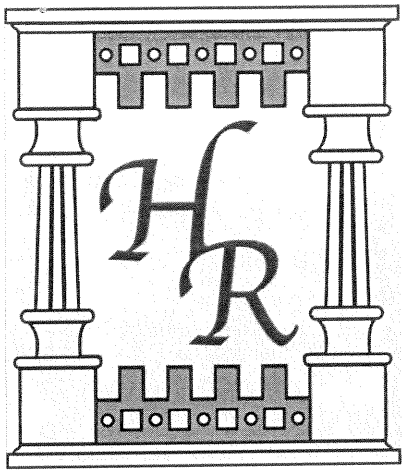
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Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. George William Curtis papers, 1839-1930: Guide. (MS Am 1124.5 -1124.8) [Persistent ID: nrs.harvard.edu/urn-3:FHCL.Hough:hou00968] View HOLLIS Record

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Descriptive Summary

Repository: Houghton Library, Harvard College Library, Harvard University
Location: b, MS
Call No.: MS Am 1124.5
Call No.: MS Am 1124.6
Call No.: MS Am 1124.7
Call No.: MS Am 1124.8
Creator: Curtis, George William, 1824-1892.
Title: George William Curtis papers,
Date(s): 1839-1930.
Quantity: 8 boxes, and 3 volumes (4.5 linear ft.)
Language of materials: Collection materials are in English.
Abstract: Speeches, lectures, journals, clippings and obituaries by or about American author George Curtis.

Acquisition Information:

MS Am 1124.5: *47M-59 Gift of George W. Curtis Esq., Ashfield, Massachusetts; received: 1947 October 1.

MS Am 1124.6 and MS Am 1124.7 Gift of Bridgham Curtis; received: 1940 Mar. 16 - 1942 Mar. 5. Both recataloged from MS Am 1124 (614) and MS Am 1124 (615); formerly MS Am 50.

MS Am 1124.8: *42M-330F. Gift of his son, Bridgham Curtis, Bate, Curtis & Loeb, 11 Broadway, New York, N.Y.; received: 1942 March 26.

Access Restrictions:

There are no restrictions on physical access to this material.

Preferred Citation for Publication:

George William Curtis Papers, 1839-1930 (MS Am 1124.5-1124.8). Houghton Library, Harvard University.

Historical Note

Curtis was an American author, orator, editor, and reformer.

Scope and Content

Primarily autograph manuscript speeches and lectures along with poems, a notebook, a commonplace book, two journals, and a scrapbook of clippings and obituaries.

Container List

- **Series: bMS Am 1124.5** 8 boxes.
  - **(1)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. Notebook] A.Ms.s. (Geo. Wm. Curtis); Linz, Jun [1848]., etc. [20]p., 36 blank l.
  - **(2)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. [Commonplace book] A. Ms. unsigned; [n.p., n.d.] [36]p., 62 blank l.
  - **(3)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *Dora [and Henry]* A.Ms. unsigned; Lenox [Mass.] 24 Aug 1845. 43p. num. 25-67, 5 blank p. num. 68-72.
    Leaves have been cut from both ends of the notebook.
  - **(4)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. [Poems] A.Ms.s. (George William Curtis); [v.p.] 1844-1850. 279p., 28 blank l.
    With annotation by author, 'Please print nothing which I may leave behind me'.
  - **(5)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *The faith of the fathers.* Newspaper clipping mounted in small composition-book, s. (Geo. William Curtis); Port Richmond, 4 Jul 1860.
  - **(6)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *Lecture upon public opinion as a motive.* A.Ms.s. (G. W. C.); [Boston?] 15 Nov [1841].
  - **(7)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *Dora.* Typescript; [Lenox, Mass., 1845]
    See item (3) for original A.Ms.
  - **(8)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *Two months of Switzerland with a week of Italy.* A.Ms. unsigned; [v.p.] 1849.
  - **(9)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *Gold and gilt in young America.* A.Ms. unsigned; [n.p.] 1853.
  - **(10)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *The duty of the American scholar to politics and the times.* A.Ms. unsigned; [n.p.] 1856.
  - **(11)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *Patriotism.* A.Ms. unsigned; [n.p.] 1857.
  - **(12)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *Farming and farmers.* A.Ms. unsigned; [n.p.] 1858.
  - **(13)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *The present aspect of the slavery question.* A.Ms. unsigned; [n.p.] Oct 1859.
  - **(14)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *The policy of honesty.* A.Ms. unsigned; [n.p.] 13 Nov 1860.
  - **(15)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *The American doctrine of liberty.* A.Ms. unsigned; [n.p.] Jul 1862.
  - **(16)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *The way of peace.* A.Ms. unsigned; [n.p.] Aug 1863.

- **(17)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *Political infidelity.* A.Ms. unsigned; [n.p.] Mar 1864.
- **(18)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *The good fight.* A.Ms. unsigned; [n.p.] 1865-1866.
- **(19)** Curtis, George, William, 1824-1892. *The way of peace.* A.Ms. unsigned; [n.p.] 1866.
- **(20)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *Conservatism.* A.Ms. unsigned; [n.p.] 1868 (?)
- **(21)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *Political morality.* A.Ms. unsigned; [n.p.] 1868-1869.
- **(22)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *Tennyson.* A.Ms. unsigned; [delivered at Cornell, May 1869 and 15 May 1871]
- **(23)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *Robert Browning.* A.Ms. unsigned; [delivered at Cornell, 7 May 1869 and 16 May 1871]
- **(24)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *Some minor recent poets.* A.Ms. unsigned; [delivered at Cornell, 9 May 1869 and 18 May 1871]
- **(25)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *American literature.* A.Ms. unsigned; [delivered at Cornell, 7 Jun 1869]
- **(26)** Curtis, George, William, 1824-1892. *The public duty of educated men in America.* A.Ms. unsigned; [delivered at Union College, 27 Jun 1877]
- **(27)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *[Speeches on women's suffrage]* Typescripts of 9 speeches, with a few Ms. notations; [v.p.] 1860-1889.
- **(28)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *Grant or Greeley & why.* A.Ms. unsigned; [n.p., n.d.]
- **(29)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *[Charlotte Bronte (Currer Bell)]* A.Ms. unsigned; [n.p., n.d.]
  First leaf damaged, affecting title and beginning of text.
- **(30)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. [Fragments of two orations: *Centennial oration before the board of regents of the university of the state of New York (Albany, 1884)* and *Machine politics and the remedy (New York, 1880)]* A.Mss. unsigned; New York and Albany, 1880-1884.
- **(31)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. The river (poem). A.MS. (unsigned); Concord, May 1846.
- **(32)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *From a romance.* A.Ms. unsigned; [n.p., n.d.]
- **(33)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *Tales told in a gondola. 1. Guy & his gondolier.* A.Ms. unsigned; [n.p., n.d.]
- **(34)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *Elis & Ulla.* A.Ms. unsigned; [n.p., n.d.]
- **(35)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *The invisible church [and] the visible church.* Typescript unsigned; [n.p., n.d.]
- **(36)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *[Thackeray]* A.Ms. unsigned; [n.p., n.d. (Cornell? 1869)]
- **(37)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *[Thackeray* (continued)] A.Ms. unsigned; [n.p., n.d. (Cornell? 1869?)]
- **(38)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. *[Party government]* A.Ms. unsigned; [n.p., n.d.]
- **(39)** Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. [Notes, galley-proofs, clippings, etc., of lectures and orations] Ms. and printed; [v.p., v.d.] 1 box.

- **Series**: MS Am 1124.6 **Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. Journal no. 3 Continued from no. 2 : AMs (unsigned), Hallstadt to Heidelberg, 1848 June 10 - July 4.** 39f. (78p.) in 1 v.
  Recat. from MS Am 50.

- **Series**: MS Am 1124.7 **Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. Journal : AMs (unsigned), Baden-Baden to Magdeburn, 1848 August 2 - October 6.** 1 v.
  Includes: *Meeta* : AMs (unsigned), Concord, Mass., 1845 Nov. 6. (9p.).

Recat. from MS Am 50.

- **Series**: MS Am 1124.8 **Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. Scrapbook : clippings and photographs, 1839-1930.** 1 v.

  Many are obituaries of Curtis collected by Mrs. Curtis, but also includes photographs of early residences and GWC portraits, and clippings of orations and speeches. Also with articles about Curtis long after his death.

  *42M-330F.

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Josephine Shaw Lowell 1843-1905
&
Anna Shaw Curtis 1838-1927

Staten Island True Women - Social Reformer and Church Lay Leader

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Anna and Josephine Shaw were two of five children born to Francis George Shaw and Sarah Sturgis of New England. They were sixth generation Americans born to a family of wealth and privilege.Their father was a businessman turned philosopher and philanthropist. Although he was born rich, he used his money to benefit mankind and his own family. The parents were devoted to their four daughters and one son. Their influence on Anna and Josephine continued throughout their lives. They traveled abroad for five years from 1851-1856 and instilled in their children love, attention, religious tolerance, and culture. In 1855 the family settled in Staten Island. They moved toStaten Island primarily because Mrs. Shaw need medical attention for her eyes and she wanted to be near Dr. Elliott, a well-respected doctor in West New Brighton. Anna, the eldest child, and Josephine, the second youngest, grew up to have very different lives, despite their very similar childhood. They were both true women and believed in family, traditions, and high moral standards. There is quite a bit of information about Josephine Shaw Lowell including her own writings, essays, letters, and memorials. There is very little about Anna's life, except what is recorded by her famous husband, George William Curtis, and in the records of the small Unitarian Church she was married in and where she served as president of the Board of Trustees for sixteen years.

Anna Shaw Curtis

Anna was married at the age of 20 to George William Curtis in 1856 in the Church of the Redeemer in New Brighton, Staten Island. George was an intellectual, an orator, an author, and considered to be a splendid match. Curtis was very much in love with Anna. He said, "she is thoroughly feminine yet conscious of social evils and eager to remedy them....thoroughly domestic, yet intelligent and widely read and able to charm the distinguished visitors."

Anna's husband George was a witer, but soon after they were married, an investment in Putnam's Monthly soured. Anna's father made him a loan, and for the next ten years George traveled far and wide and lectured frequently to reduce his business debt to his father-in-law. Anna and George lived with the Shaws after they were married and eventually they settled near her parents in a big house on Bard and Henderson. They lived there for the rest of their lives. Anna Curtis helped her famous husband in many ways. She typed all his essays and articles. She talked over difficult situations frankly and honestly and showed clear judgement. She was not a social butterfly. She avoided public functions. She was not a social butterfly. She took full charge of their home, stables, and grounds with very little assistance from her busy husband. According to her husband's biographer, Anna loved her own extended family above all. Her children Frank, Sally, and Elizabeth certainly kept her busy. Sally, her middle child was classified as "slow"and Anna was very attentive to her needs. She spent much of her adult life devoted to raising her children, and helping those in her immediate neighborhood who were in need. There is little mention of her traveling with George on his many excursions. George Curtis was a spokesman for women's rights. On the tenth anniversary of the Declaration of Sentiments in 1858 he said, "Good wifehood does not consist exclusively of skillful baking and boiling, neat darning and patching but in intellectual and public interests as well. The higher the estimate of women, the better the

civilization...in a truly civilized society she should be given the right to vote and the opportunity for higher education." He must have had his wife in mind, and she strove to meet his definition of womanhood her entire life.

During the Civil War, she and her sisters and mother spearheaded local efforts to help the war effort. Although her whole family was abolitionist, there is no record of her ideas or actions in this regard. There is mention of knitting socks and sewinggarments to be sent to the front. The Underground Railroad was in use during this time to help runaway slaves, and it is believed that the Curtises and the Shaws were very involved in this effort. George Curtis was targeted by Southern sympathizers and during the draft riots in NYC during 1863, Anna and her three children left Staten Island to stay with her grandparents in Roxbury Massachusetts.

After the war, and the deaths of her brother Robert Gould Shaw, and her brother-in-law Charles Russell Lowell, Anna and her immediate family spent long summers in Ashfield Massachusetts in the Berkshires. Her children thrived in both these environments. Frank entered Harvard in 1875, and eventually became a medical doctor. Sally, the "slow" daughter died in 1874. Elizabeth Curtis was well educated, musical, and eventually grew up to found the Political Equality Club for Women, which evolved into the League of Women Voters. Elizabeth died before her mother in 1914. Little is known about the details of her life after George Curtis died in 1892. Anna became even more active in her church, taking on leadership and administrative assignments. She served as President of the Board of Trustees for the Church of the Redeemer, (later re-named the Unitarian Church of Staten Island for sixteen years from 1903-1919. She still was active in the church up until 1923 as an active Board member. During her tenure she undertook many substantial and important projects. She instigated the building of a parish hall and a parsonage. She worked closely with several ministers to accomplish much good. One of the ways in which the small church raised over $5,000.00 for these projects was to hold a Dickens festival in 1910. Both buildings are still in use today and are a testament to her efforts. Anna was influenced by her parents, and her husband, and the society she lived in. She was a successful daughter, wife, mother, and capable efficient and selfless church leader. This true woman is rarely mentioned in history books but gave much to her family, her church, and her country.

Josephine Shaw Lowell (1843-1905)

Josephine's life might have turned out more like her sister Anna's had her husband not been killed in battle during the Civil War. Her mother considered her "the genius" of her family. She was quick to learn, and eventually with studying abroad was able to learn several languages. She was influenced by the constant intellectual discourse in her household. Her early years were spent studying , but she showed an inclination to help others by the time she was thirteen. She assisted a poor settlement of Irish families in her neighborhood by offering treats at her home. She eagerly joined with her mother working with the Woman's Central Relief Association in NYC packing up clothing and useful items to soldiers. She kept a diary before her marriage and shows an unusual interest in the affairs of the country. She was quite concerned with the military successes and failure. She knew many young men from her circle of friends and family that were serving their country, and followed the news very carefully. She was involved with many conversations about important ideas with men and never took a back seat. This may have distinguished her from many other girls, but her family was quite liberal and educated.

She married Charles Russell Lowell Jr. in 1863 in the same little church on Staten Island that her sister was married in.. Lowell graduated Harvard in 1954, at the head of his class. He was self-supporting in business, but when the war began he demanded a commission as his patriotic duty. Josephine Shaw

Lowell decided to join him in Virginia and help take care of the sick and wounded. They were very much in love and his bravery was evident. He died a hero in battle and was called "a perfection of man and soldier." Unfortunately he never lived to see his daughter born one month after his death. Josephine and her young daughter Carlotta went back to Staten Island to live with her parents. She mourned for her husband, and her brother and started a long correspondence with her brother's widow, Annie.. There are no letters or evidence of discussions between Josephine and her sister Anna during this time, but they lived close by and probably saw each other regularly. After a respectable period of mourning, Josephine, a 21-year-old widow and mother renewed her efforts to help others, and she never stopped. One of her first missions was with the Freedman's Association. She and a friend traveled to Virginia with the goal of establishing schools for colored people in the South. This was just the beginning of her commitment to be a force for change in society for justice, freedom, and upholding moral values. In 1874 she moved from her parents house on Staten Island to NYC where she wished her daughter to be educated properly. She was already knee deep in charity work, visiting poorhouses and reporting on abuses. Her home on E. 30th street was simple but very welcoming. She rejected personal extravagances and the society life, choosing instead to be a charity worker day and night, with only Sunday as her day of reflection.

She was a life-long Unitarian in her religious beliefs. She preferred their liberal faith and sincere beliefs in humanism. She hated all forms of bigotry, and worked to right any wrongs. Josephine became a career woman in the growing field or organized philanthropy and government service. In 1876 she was appointed by Governor Tilden of New York State to be the first woman commissioner of the NYS Board of Charities.

In this position she served until 1889, using her post to speak out, lobby, legislate, and advocate for people who were unable to do so themselves.

Her list of affiliations and accomplishments is lengthy. The highlights of her achievements during her lifetime are as follows: Improved care for the insane; work for dependent children and widows; improved reformatories; police matrons for women prisoners; work for the emancipation of labor; settlement house advocate; civil service reformer; consumers league organizer, and anti-imperialist leader.. All this she did within the established context of society. She sometimes did become angry with others in society, but she never stopped trying. In a letter to her sister-in-law in 1883 she writes, " Common charity, that is, feeding and clothing people, I am beginning to look upon as wicked! Not in its intention, of course, but in its carelessness and its results, which certainly are to destroy people's character and make them poorer and poorer. If it could only be drummed into the rich that what the poor want is fair wages and not little doles of food, we should not have all this suffering and misery and vice. ."

Personally her life was fulfilled with family, friends, and her work. She never remarried and never rejected her true womanhood. She always dressed in black and believed first in her duties toward home. She was opposed to the concept of institutionalism, except as a last resort. She believed that even a poor home was preferable to a good institution. Later in life she spoke out on more political matters and in a speech advocating her support for William Jennings Bryan for president she revealed her passion for patriotism and morality. "When the people of the United States consent to deprive another people of its rights and liberties, they strike a terrific blow at the foundations upon which stand their own rights and liberties." Josephine was opposed to both the Spanish-American and Philippine-American wars. "We paid a bitter price to free ourselves from the sin of slavery, and the nation will again pay a bitter price to free itself from the sin of empire, if, driven by fear of financial distress or lured by hope of wealth, it now deserts its ancient ideals." In this fight she did not prevail, but her ideas certainly made an impact. She died from an incurable disease in 1905.

The memorial service to Josephine Shaw Lowell had hundreds of attendees and at least 50 eulogies, as

well as write-ups in the daily newspapers. She was remembered in the *Outlook* as "devoted herself to public affairs without sacrificing her womanliness." There is a permanent memorial to Josephine Shaw Lowell in Bryant Park in NYC. It is a classical style granite fountain dedicated shortly after her death.

Further Resources for Studying:

George William Curtis & the Genteel Tradition by Gordon Milne
The Philanthropic Work of Josephine Shaw Lowell by William Rinelander Stewart
Unitarian Church of Staten Island
Curtis, Staten Island's First High School

Return to the New York City Women's Biography Hub
Return to the Course Homepage for HST/WMS 386

Prepared by Susan McAnanama, a student in Professor Catherine Lavender's History/Women's Studies 386 (Women in New York City, 1890-1940) course, The Department of History and The Program in Women's Studies, The College of Staten Island of The City University of New York.

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THE Unitarian Church of Staten Island
Member of the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations

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The History of Our Church

Robert Gould Shaw, son of Francis George Shaw and Sarah Sturgis Shaw, founding members of the Unitarian Church of the Redeemer

During the mid-nineteenth century, the population of Staten Island numbered just over 15,000, with many newcomers from New England settling on the North Shore in Stapleton and New Brighton. On October 24, 1852, two congregations of liberal Christians, the New Brighton group known as the Congregational Church of the Evangelists and the United Independent Church of Stapleton, incorporated in what then became the Church of the Redeemer.

Established in the Unitarian denomination, in 1853, the Church of the Redeemer opened its first building near what is now Victory Boulevard and Cebra Avenue. It called the Reverend John Parkman, a Unitarian minister originally from New Hampshire, to lead the conjoined congregations, which he had served separately prior to their merger.

Distinguished Founding Families

Francis George Shaw, Bostonian businessman turned philosopher and philanthropist, settled on Staten Island in West New Brighton with his wife Sarah Sturgis. Socially conscious and deeply devoted to intellectual and spiritual pursuits, the Shaws became founding members of the new Unitarian church.

The best known of their children, Robert Gould Shaw and Anna and Josephine Shaw, were deeply influenced by their parents' commitment to social justice. Robert, who famously led the Fifty Fourth Massachusetts Regiment composed of freed slaves in the fateful Civil War attack on Battery Wagner, Morris Island, SC, was immortalized, along with his regiment, in the film *Glory*.

Anna was married at the Unitarian Church of the Redeemer to George William Curtis in 1856. Curtis, another New England transplant to Staten Island was an author, an editor of the short-lived but highly esteemed Putnam's Magazine, and a columnist for Harper's Magazine. He was an abolitionist and a supporter of civil rights for African Americans and Native Americans. He also advocated women's suffrage, civil service reform, and public education.

The Curtis and Shaw families, rooted as they were in the liberal soil of New England, counted among their close associates Emerson, Hawthorne and Thoreau.

Anna Shaw Curtis

Josephine married Charles Russell Lowell, Jr., in 1863 in the same little church where her sister was married. Lowell graduated from Harvard in 1854 at the head of his class but when the Civil war began he demanded a commission as his patriotic duty. Josephine joined him in Virginia to help care for the sick and wounded. He was fatally wounded in the Battle of Cedar Creek on October 19, 1864 and was promoted brigadier general of U.S. Volunteers. He died on the next day at Middletown, Virginia, at the age of 29. Josephine and her young daughter Carlotta, born one month after his death, returned to Staten Island to live with her parents.

The Shaw sisters and their mother spearheaded local efforts to help the war effort. The Underground Railroad was in use during this time to help runaway slaves, and it is believed that the Curtises and the Shaws were very involved in this effort. George Curtis was targeted by Southern sympathizers and, during the draft riots in NYC during 1863, Anna and her three children left Staten Island temporarily for the safety of her grandparents' home in Roxbury Massachusetts.

George William Curtis, husband of Anna Shaw Curtis

Josephine Shaw Lowell: A Life in Service to Others

Josephine, a 21-year-old widow and mother, after a respectable period of mourning for both her husband and her brother, embarked upon a life of effort to help others. One of her first missions took her to Virginia with the Freedman's Association to help establish schools for African Americans in the South. This was just the beginning of her commitment to be a force for change in society for justice, freedom, and upholding moral values. In 1874 she moved from her parents' house on Staten Island to Manhattan.

Josephine Shaw Lowell

Josephine was a life-long Unitarian. She preferred its liberal faith and sincere beliefs in humanism. She hated all forms of bigotry, and worked to overcome them. She became a career woman in the growing field of organized philanthropy and government service. In 1876 she was appointed by Governor Tilden of New York State to be the first woman commissioner of the New York State Board of Charities. She served in this position until 1889, using her post to speak out, lobby, legislate, and advocate for people who were unable to do so themselves.

Her list of affiliations and accomplishments is lengthy: improved care for the insane; benefits for dependent children and widows; improved reformatories; police matrons for women prisoners; the emancipation of labor; advocacy of settlement houses; civil service reform; consumer's rights; and anti-imperialism. There is a permanent memorial to Josephine Shaw Lowell in Bryant Park in Manhattan.

In a letter to her sister-in-law in 1883 she writes, "Common charity, that is, feeding and clothing people, I am beginning to look upon as wicked! Not in its intention, of course, but in its carelessness and its results, which certainly are to destroy people's character and make them poorer and poorer. If it could only be drummed into the rich that what the poor want is fair wages and not little doles of food, we should not have all this suffering and misery and vice."

From Auspicious Beginnings to Years of Hardship

The early enthusiasm for the new church was not sustained due in part to its inaccessibility for many New Brighton congregants. Not only was it some distance from their homes but also its situation on a slope below a passage known as "Mud Lane" suggests a sea of mud that greeted churchgoers in damp and rainy weather. Attendance dwindled. Members were moving away or dying. Reverend Parkman submitted his resignation in December 1858 and in 1863, a mere ten years following its establishment, the Unitarian Church of the Redeemer closed its doors and sold the building to Trinity Lutheran Church.

Despite the setback, a dedicated core group of members kept the spirit of the church alive during the difficult years of the Civil War. Although there was no church home and no regular worship services, the New Brighton women kept the Sunday school in operation at the Union Sabbath School on First Street near Jersey Street. And so the church lived on in its Sunday school teachers and its children.

In 1868, a second church opened at the present site, at the corner of Fillmore Street and Clinton Avenue on land donated by George Jewitt, a prominent member of the community and a founding member of the church. In a peculiar design, which was to be its downfall, the steeply pitched roof descended sharply from ridgepole to the first story. Satirically known as "St. Roofus", the church was cold and drafty. The decade of the 1870s would prove again to be a period of decline with older members dying and their offspring moving away, leaving the church in heavy debt.

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The Stalwart Women of the Church

These, too, were years in which there was no permanent minister. Once again the women and the Sunday school proved to be the linchpin of the church community. The Shaw sisters assumed important leadership positions in the church. When Josephine returned from her work in Virginia with the Freedmen's Association

setting up schools for freed slaves, she became one of the first women elected to the Board of Trustees of the Unitarian Church of the Redeemer. She was instrumental in convincing the Reverend W. R. G. Mellen to leave Chicago for a ministerial position on Staten Island in 1871. He was only able to stay for a period of three years due to dwindling church funds and rising debt.

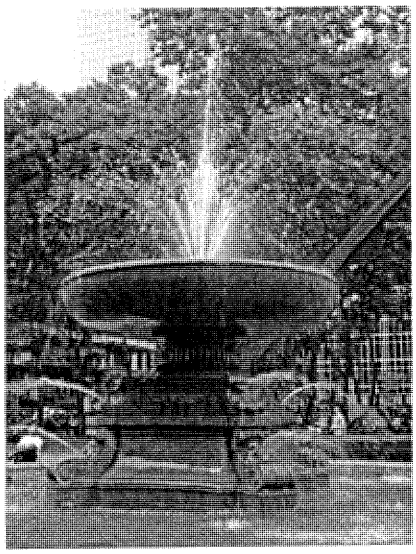
Despite these financial difficulties, the women of the church were able to raise money to purchase an organ by "giving a theatrical exhibition at the Town Hall." The five stalwart women of the church were Mrs. Sarah Holman Hicks, Mrs. Anna Shaw Curtis, Mrs. Josephine Lowell, Mrs. Charles C. Goodhue and Mrs. L.W. Johnson.

In 1881 the congregation voted to close the church, due to its perilous condition. Between 1881 and 1893 the church Sunday school persevered in the home of Sarah H. Hicks, up the street from the collapsing building. After sustaining severe damage in the blizzard of 1888, due to the stress of the massive roof upon the supporting structure, the building was demolished. Some of the original features were salvaged, including the beautiful rose window, and used in the construction of the third and current building, designed by Frank Quimby in the Arts and Crafts style. It was dedicated on March 31, 1895.

Anna Curtis was president of the Board of Trustees for the Unitarian Church of the Redeemer, (later re-named the Unitarian Church of Staten Island) for sixteen years 1903-1919. She remained active in the church as a Board member until 1923. During her tenure she spearheaded many important projects, including the building of the parish hall and the parsonage. It is a testament to her efforts that both buildings are still in use today.

Since its founding by abolitionists almost a hundred and fifty years ago, our church has had a proud and liberal heritage. Our leadership and members have included civil rights activists, champions of women's suffrage and women's liberation; antiwar and antinuclear activists. In 2005, our membership voted unanimously to become a Welcoming Congregation, opening our hearts to the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered communities.

This Church history was adapted from the writings of UCSI Minister Emeritus Benjamin Bortin; Bradford Green, UCSI historian; and Susan McAnanama, long-time member of the congregation.



Josephine Shaw Lowell Memorial Fountain

At the western gateway to Bryant Park, behind the magnificent Beaux-Arts New York Public Library building, is the pink granite Josephine Shaw Lowell Memorial Fountain, designed by Charles Adams Platt and dedicated in 1912. This was the city's first public memorial dedicated to a woman.

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MS Am 1124.9-1124.10

Curtis, George William, 1824-1892. George William Curtis additional correspondence, 1844-1891: Guide.

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Last update on 2012 May 1

Descriptive Summary

Repository: Houghton Library, Harvard College Library, Harvard University
Location: b
Call No.: MS Am 1124.9
Call No.: MS Am 1124.10
Creator: Curtis, George William, 1824-1892.
Title: George William Curtis additional correspondence,
Date(s): 1844-1891.
Quantity: 1 box (.5 linear ft.)
Abstract: Letters written to the American author George Curtis along with letters from him to his wife Anna Shaw Curtis.

Acquisition Information:

49M-199. Gift of The House of Whittemore, Westborough, Mass.; received: 1949 November 29.
49M-200
Purchased with the Norton fund; received: 1949.

Access Restrictions:

There are no restrictions on physical access to this material.

Preferred Citation for Publication:

George William Curtis Additional Correspondence, 1844-1891 (MS Am 1124.110). Houghton Library, Harvard University.

Historical Note

Curtis was an American author, orator, editor, and reformer.

Arrangement

Organized into the following series:

- I. MS Am 1124.9: Letters to George William Curtis
- II. MS Am 1124.10: Letters from George William Curtis to Anna Shaw Curtis

Scope and Content

Collection includes various correspondence on such topics as abolitionists, President Garfield and the Republican Party, the purchasing and publishing of his essays, and suffrage. There are many letters from various correspondents congratulating Curtis for his "Gettysburgh Address," and also requesting copies from Curtis of the address. Letters also discuss a novel Curtis wrote titled Trumps, the death of Theodore Johnson, an article that Curtis wrote which was published in Harpers, and several letters from the Christian Union, which wanted to put his picture on the front page of their publication. Collection also includes newspaper clippings, poetry written by various authors, and a telegraph.

Container List

- **Series: I. MS Am 1124.9: Letters to George William Curtis**
  *49M-199
  Includes letters to George William Curtis from various correspondents.
  - **(1)** Alden, Henry Mills, 1836-1919. A.L.s. New York, 12 Jul 1880. 1s.(4p.)
    With newspaper cutting.
  - **(2)** Alden, Henry Mills, 1836-1919. A.L.s. same, 22 Sep 1886. 3s.(10p.)
  - **(3)** Allen, Elizabeth (Chase) Akers, 1832-1911. A.L.s. Ridgewood, N.J., 3 Jun 1889. 2s. (5p.)
  - **(4)** Avery, Mary L A.L.s. New York, 25 Apr 1891. 2s.(5p.)
  - **(5)** Avery, Samuel Putnam, 1822-1904. A.L.s. [same] 17 Mar 1891. 1s.(2p.)
  - **(6)** [B , Susie.] A.L.s. [n.p., 1888] 1s.(4p.)
  - **(7)** Baker, Alpheus. A.L.s. Louisville, Ky., 6 Jul 1888. 1s.(1p.)
  - **(8)** Blanchard, Henry, 1833-1918. A.L.s. Portland, Me., 4 Jul 1888. 1s.(4p.)
  - **(9)** Bright, Marshal Huntington, 1834-1907. A.L.s. New York, 3 Mar [ ] 1s.(1p.)
  - **(10)** Burgess, Gelett, 1866- A.L.s. [Paris] 3 Nov [ ] 1s.(1p.)
    Addressed to Curtis or someone else?
  - **(11)** Burrage, Henry Sweetser, 1837-1926. A.L.s. Portland, Me., 5 Jul 1888. 2s.(2p.)
  - **(12)** [Burrows, C Y] A.L.s. New York, 11 Nov 1874. 1s.(2p.)
  - **(13)** Butler, M B A.L.s. Bellbrook, O., 5 Mar 1880. 2s.(6p.)
  - **(14)** Camp, Joseph Parker. A.L.s. Philadelphia, 7 Jul 1888. 2s.(4p.)
  - **(15)** Carrington, Henry Beebee, 1824-1912. A.L.s. Hyde Park, Mass., 6 Aug 1888. 1s.(1p.)

- **(16)** Chamberlain, Daniel Henry, 1835-1907. A.L.s. Fordham Heights, 4 Jul 1888. 1s.(2p.)
- **(17)** Conner, Lemuel P A.L.s. Natchez, Miss., 6 Aug 1888. 1s.(1p.)
- **(18)** Cook, J Hervey. A.L.s. Fishkill-on-the-Hudson, 12 Jul 1888. 1s.(2p.)
- **(19)** Crockett, Ingram, 1856- A.L.s. Henderson, Ky. [n.d.] 1s.(1p.)
- **(20)** Drowne, Henry Thayer, 1822- A.L.s. New York, 2 Oct 1869. 1s.(1p.) env.
  With: A.L.s., Drowne to Stephen Randall; New York, 16 Oct 1869. 1s.(1p.)
- **(21)** Frothingham, Octavius Brooks, 1822-1895. A.L.s. Magnolia, Fla., 18 Feb 1884. 1s. (2p.)
- **(22)** Gay, Mary Otis. A.L.s. Hingham, Mass., 4 Sep 1887. 1s.(3p.)
- **(23)** Greene, George Washington, 1811-1883. A.L.s. Cambridge, 26 Jan 1867. 1s.(2p.)
- **(24)** Hale, John Parker, 1806-1873. A.L.s. Philadelphia, 1 Oct 1856. 1s.(1p.)
- **(25)** Harper, John W A.L.s. Carlsbad, 23 Jul 1888. 1s.(3p.)
  Encl: A.L.s., Sir John Henniker Heaton, bart., to John W. Harper; Carlsbad, 21 Jul 1888. 1s.(4p.)
- **(26)** Harper, Joseph Wesley, d.1896. A.L.s. Manhattan Beach, 16 Jul 1880. 2s.(8p.)
- **(27)** Harper, Joseph Wesley, d.1896.A.L.s. New York, 29 Jul 1880. 1s.(4p.)
- **(28)** Harper, Joseph Wesley, d.1896.A.L.s. same, 12 Aug 1880. 1s.(4p.)
- **(29)** Harper, Joseph Wesley, d.1896.A.L.s. same, 3 Oct 1886. 1s.(4p.)
- **(30)** Harper, Joseph Wesley, d.1896.A.L.s. same, 4 Aug 1887. 1s.(4p.)
- **(31)** Harper, Joseph Wesley, d.1896.A.L.s. same, 5 Dec 1887. 1s.(4p.)
- **(32)** Harper, Joseph Wesley, d.1896.A.L.s. same, 30 Jul 1890. 1s.(4p.)
- Harper, firm, publishers, New York. See letters of: Henry Mills Alden John W. Harper Joseph Wesley Harper
- **(33)** Harrison, A M A.L.s. Plymouth, Mass., 1 Dec 1879. 2s.(7p.)
- **(34)** Harrison, A M A.L.s. same, 11 Dec 1879. 1s.(4p.)
- **(35)** [Hazard? E H] A.L.s. Providence, 12 Sep 1881. 1s.(4p.)
- **(36)** Hogin, George B A.L.s. Pasadena, Cal., 12 Jul 1888. 1s.(1p.)
- **(37)** Holmes, John, 1812-1899. A.L.s. Cambridge, 20 Mar 1886. 1s.(4p.)
- **(38)** Holt, Joseph, 1807-1894. A.L.s. Washington, 6 Feb 1867. 1s.(2p.)
- **(39)** Holt, Joseph, 1807-1894. A.L.s. same, 19 Nov 1883. 1s.(2p.)
- **(40)** Hone, Philip, 1780-1851. A.L.s. [n.p.] 28 Oct [1844] 1s.(2p.)
  Addressed to George Curtis.
- **(41)** Houston, A O A.L.s. Moorhead, Pa., 3 Aug 1888. 1s.(1p.)
- **(42)** Johnson, Laura (Winthrop) 1825-1889. A.L.s. [n.p., n.d.] 1s.(4p.)
  Addressed to Anna [(Shaw) Curtis]
- **(43)** Johnson, Laura (Winthrop) 1825-1889. A.L.s. [n.p.] 27 Mar 1860. 1s.(2p.)
- **(44)** Johnson, Laura (Winthrop) 1825-1889. A.L.s. [n.p.] 27 Feb 1864. 1s.(4p.)
- **(45)** Johnson, Laura (Winthrop) 1825-1889. A.L.s. [n.p., n.d.] 1s.(3p.)
  Encl; 2 poems by Theodore Winthrop, copies: Rachel, and Dreamy dreamy moonlight over plain [first line]
- **(46)** Johnson, Laura (Winthrop) 1825-1889. A.L.s. [n.p., n.d.] 3s.(9p.)
  Concerns the life of Theodore Winthrop.
- **(47)** Kasson, John Adam, 1822-1910. A.L.s. Washington, 29 Dec 1873. 1s.(2p.)
- **(48)** Kenny, Thomas J T.L.s. Boston, 2 Aug 1888. 1s.(1p.)
- **(49)** King, Horatio Collins, 1837-1918. T.L.s. New York, 6 Jul 1888. 1s.(1p.)
- **(50)** Kirkland, Caroline Matilda (Stansbury) 1801-1864. A.L.s. Amboy, N.J., 9 Jun 1857. 1s.(2p.)
  Addressed to [ ] Miller and [George William] Curtis.
- **(51)** Krauth, John M A.L.s. Gettysburg, Pa., 13 Jul 1888. 1s.(1p.)
- **(52)** Lagen, Charles A A.L.s. Philadelphia, 5 Jul 1888. 1s.(1p.)
- **(53)** Lea, Henry Charles, 1825-1909. A.L.s. Cape May, 4 Jul 1888. 1s.(4p.)

- **(54)** Lettib, N B A.L.s. Palmyra, Va., 5 Jul 1888. 1s.(2p.)
- **(55)** Lewis, Taylor, 1802-1877. A.L.s. Schenectady, 26 Oct 1864. 1s.(1p.)
  Addressed to Harper & Brothers.
- **(56)** Low, Seth, 1850-1916. A.L.s. Brooklyn, 15 May 1889. 1s.(1p.)
- **(57)** Lyman, Theodore, 1833-1897. MS.L.(s. by amanuensis) Dublin, N.H. [1888] 1s.(3p.)
  In the hand of Elizabeth (Russell) Lyman.
- **(58)** Mabie, Hamilton Wright, 1846-1916. T.L.s. New York, 16 Jul 1891. 1s.(1p.)
- **(59)** McConlogue, J H A.L.s. Mason City, Iowa, 16 Jul 1888. 1s.(1p.)
- **(60)** McCulloch, Hugh, 1808-1895. A.L.s. Aronet[?] Md., 11 Jul 1888. 1s.(1p.)
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- **(65)** May, Samuel Joseph, 1797-1871. A.L.s. Syracuse, 9 Apr 1858. 1s.(4p.)
- **(66)** May, Samuel Joseph, 1797-1871. A.L.s. same, 14 Jan 1865. 1s.(4p.)
- **(67)** Meagher, Thomas Francis, 1823-1867. A.L.(3d person) [New York?] 29 Mar 1855. 1s.(1p.)
- **(68)** Nichols, J B A.L.s. Providence, 3 Mar 1853. 1s.(1p.)
  Addressed to George Curtis.
- **(69)** Nicholson, John Page, 1842-1922. MS.L.s. Philadelphia, 6 Jul 1888. 1s.(1p.)
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- **(74)** Pierce, Edward Lillie, 1829-1897. A.L.s. Rome, 13 Jan 1889. 2s.(7p.)
- **(75)** Pierce, Edward Lillie, 1829-1897. A.L.s.(initials) [n.p.] 15 Jun [ ] 1s.(1p.)
  On the verso is a MS. copy by Pierce of a MS. and printed letter from Isaac Bassett to [Charles Sumner]; [Washington] 2 Dec 1872.
- **(76)** Pinkerton, John J., b.1836. A.L.s. West Chester, 4 Mar 1891. 2s.(6p.)
- **(77)** Porter, F S A.L.s. Lansing, Mich., 31 Jul 1888. 1s.(1p.)
- **(78)** Potts, William, 1838-1908. A.L.s. New York, 27 Sep 1882. 1s.(1p.)
- **(79)** Pray, John F A.L.s. [n.p.] 4 Sep 1858. 1s.(1p.)
- **(80)** Prentice, George Denison, 1802-1870. A.L.s. Louisville, 3 Feb 1857. 1s.(1p.)
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- **(83)** Richie, Walter B A.L.s. Lima, Ohio, 9 Jul 1888. 1s.(1p.)
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  Includes MS.L. (copy in Ricketson's hand), John Greenleaf Whittier to Daniel Ricketson; Danvers, Mass., 19 Dec 1886.
- **(85)** Ritchie, Anna Cora (Ogden) Mowatt, 1819-1870. A.L.s.(Anna Cora Mowatt) New York, 21 May 1854. 1s.(2p.)
  Addressed to "Gentlemen"
- **(86)** Ritchie, Anna Cora (Ogden) Mowatt, 1819-1870. A.L.s. same, 26 Aug 1856. 1s.(1p.)
- **(87)** Sellers, A J A.L.s. Philadelphia, 5 Jul [1888] 1s.(2p.)
  postcard.
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- **(103)** Walser, Zeb V A.L.s. Lexington, N.C., 17 Jul 1888. 1s.(2p.)
  postcard.
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- **(106)** Willis, Richard Storrs, 1819-1900. A.L.s. [n.p.] 10 Apr [1858] 1s.(1p.)
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- **(108)** Winthrop, Elizabeth W A.L.s. same, 2 Jul [ ] 1s.(2p.)
- **(109)** Yulee, David Levy, 1810-1886. A.L.s.(facsimile) Washington, 7 Jan 1861. 1s.(1p.) env.
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The man behind the name of Staten Island school

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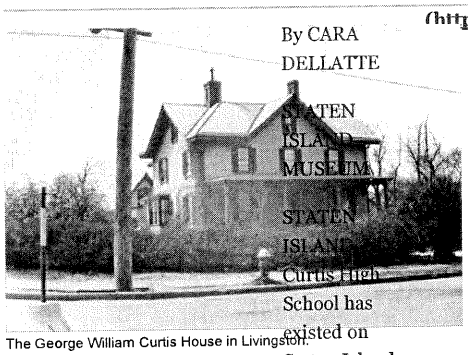

The George William Curtis House in Livingston. *Advance File Photo*

By CARA DELLATTE
STATEN ISLAND MUSEUM
STATEN ISLAND Curtis High School has existed on Staten Island since Dec. 23, 1903.

Many Staten Islanders have graduated from there without ever knowing anything about the man whose name shines brightly on the outside of the building.

Having worked in the Archives of the Staten Island Museum for almost seven years now, I never really knew that much about George William Curtis either, until I began working on a new project for the museum.

The idea of creating an exhibition regarding the Abolition Movement and the Civil War on Staten Island began to take shape and I found myself constantly looking into the George William Curtis Collection.

LARGE COLLECTION

It's by far one of our biggest collections in the Archives and spans from 1784-1956, encompassing letters and correspondence to a variety of people, most notably Frederick Douglass, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Sidney Howard Gay, William H. Seward and Rutherford B. Hayes, to name a few.

Some of the other letters contain correspondence regarding women's suffrage, equal rights, the Republican Party, "Black Republicanism" and national politics.

Curtis, to my extreme delight, also created countless scrapbooks which focused on the Civil War.

This collection covers Wendell Phillips, Charles Sumner, the Draft Riots, speeches and campaigns and Congressional proceedings as well as local politics, abolitionism and the "War between the States Journalism."

This is a fantastic resource to researchers and scholars since it's a first-hand view of the papers that were in existence during the 19th century as well as a close-up of the Civil War as it was happening.

The man who Curtis High School was named for was born Feb. 24, 1824 in Providence, R.I.

He finished his schooling in Providence in 1839 and his family moved to New York City that same year so George could continue his education via private tutoring.

Having spent the summers of 1842 and 1843 at Brook Farm, he spent the following summers studying and farming in Concord, Mass., where he became good friends with Ralph Waldo Emerson, Nathaniel Hawthorne and Henry David Thoreau.

In 1854, he became Editor of the Easy Chair column in "Harper's Monthly Magazine."

He maintained this position for the rest of his life. George William Curtis' connection to Staten Island became permanent when he married Anna Shaw, the daughter of Francis G. Shaw of Staten Island.

The Shaws were a family that believed in abolition whole-heartedly and in the idea of freedom. Within one year, it became apparent that Curtis had a deep interest in abolitionism and politics in general.

In 1858 his novel, "Trumps" was serialized in Harper's Weekly. His interest in politics continued to grow and he became very active in the Richmond County Republican Party Organization.

During this time, he was also gaining a reputation as a brilliant orator.

In 1860, he was nominated as a delegate to the national convention in Chicago, where he made a speech in favor of the resolution that all men are created equal be endorsed by the Party.

He became political editor of Harper's Weekly in 1863 and the following year, again was a delegate to the Republican National Convention, where he was an ardent supporter of Lincoln and wrote the letter officially notifying Lincoln of his re-nomination.

Curtis continued to be very active as the years went by and in 1880, when the New York Civil Service Reform Association was founded, he was elected president. He would remain in that post until his death.

LAST LECTURE ON ISLAND

His last lecture on Staten Island was delivered on Charles Sumner at the YMCA building in Tompkinsville.

He became very ill early in June of 1892 and after a period of suffering, he died at his Staten Island home on August 31, 1892.

George William Curtis left his mark on Staten Island in more ways than one.

His collection shows his interests and gives us the ability more than 150 years later to peek into his life and see not only his accomplishments but also what life was like during the 19th century nationally as well as locally.

His collection is an excellent source for research on the Civil War as well as many other aspects of Staten Island history from this time period.

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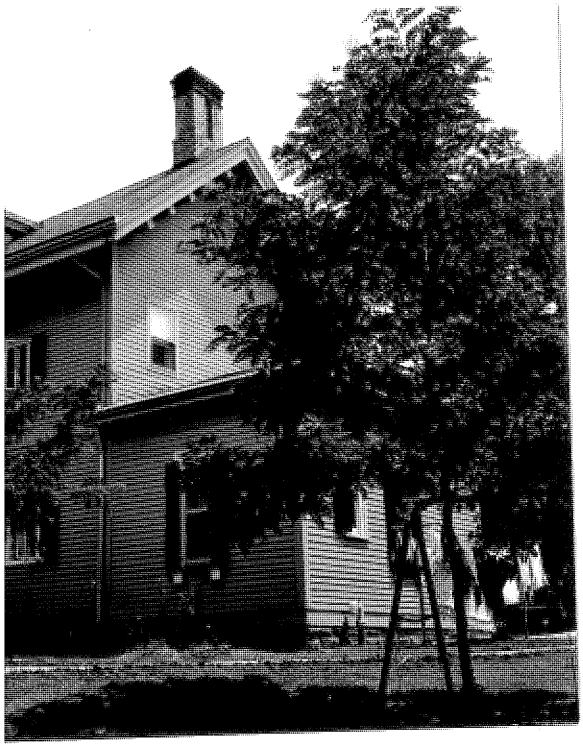

GEORGE WILLIAM CURTIS PAPERS

A Special Collection in

The Archives and Library of

THE STATEN ISLAND MUSEUM

75 Stuyvesant Place, Staten Island, New York 10301

Arranged and Described by

Mabel Abbott,

With addition by

Gail Schneider

NATIONAL HISTORICAL PUBLICATIONS & RECORDS COMMISSION

Grant Number 79-124

PROVENANCE:

The Staten Island Institute of Arts and Sciences had, over the years, received many single gifts of the Curtis materials. They are governed by 48 accession numbers and were the gifts of 22 individuals and institutions.

Many of these items existed in the collections of the Institute at the time that Mabel Abbott was Curator of History and Literature. It was her initiative which brought all of the items together under the label of the George William Curtis Collection, resulting in an exhibition and subsequent gifts of letters, scrapbooks, paintings and memorabilia.

A major part of the most recent gifts were given by descendants and relatives of George William Curtis: Bridgham, Constance, and George William Curtis; Marian Holyoke; Mrs. William Tidball.

The Institute, at the request of Miss Abbott, made a few purchases to augment the collection. These purchases were made through the Crooke Fund or through the Museum Purchase Fund. The period of time covered is from 1918 through 1967, with the greatest activity being between the years 1949 and 1954. The accession numbers are: 1265, 1695, 1816, 2011, 2047, 2229, 3684, 3685, 3605, 3737, 3777, 3778, 3780, 3922, 3922, 3946, 3991, 4091, 3092, 4104, 4140, 4143, 4149, 4161, 4162, 4177, 4183, 4241, 4250, 4252, 4256, 4258, 4262, 4263, 4264, 4276, 4301,4313, 4314, 4316, 54-156, 54-189, 55-43, 57-8, 58-59, 58-94, 63-86, 67-79. Other donors were: Daniel and Edward Bridgman, H. Cleaver Brown, D. Clute, Edward C. Delavan, Jr., Diana, Disosway, E. Eisele, Earle T. Goodnow, Arthur Hollick, Mrs. Pierre Jay, Miss Emily Kolff, H.E. Magruder, Agnes Pollard, H.B. Reed, and Mrs. L.A. Zerega di Zerega. The institutions were the Connecticut Valley Historical Society and Wagner College.

Miss Abbott transcribed and copied letters in other collections and these have been added: The Hayes Memorial Collection; the Curtis Collection at Harvard University; the collection of letters belonging to the Paulist Fathers, New York City.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE:

George William Curtis was born February 24, 1824 at Providence, Rhode Island, the second son of George and Mary (Burrill) Curtis. His brother, James Burrill Curtis, had been born in 1822. He and his brother attended C.W. Greene's boarding school, Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts. Mary Burrill Curtis died in 1826; the boys were in school from 1830-35. George Curtis remarried the daughter of Samuel W. Bridgham of Providence.

At about this time the teachings of Emerson began to influence both the Curtis youths. George finished his schooling in Providence in 1839 and the family moved to New York City, where George received private tutoring.

In 1840, Mr. Curtis placed George as a clerk in a German importing house in Exchange Place. He was poorly suited to his and soon left.

The influence of Emerson flowered into an interest in the Transcendental movement and he spent the summers of 1842 and 1843 at Brook Farm. The following years, both the brothers spent their summers studying and farming at Concord, Massachusetts, where George William became good friends with Emerson, Hawthorn, and Thoreau.

From 1846 to 1850 George William traveled over Europe, Africa, and the Near East, acting as correspondent for the Courier and Inquirer in New York, and had kept a journal. In 1851, he became music critic and editorial writer for the New York Tribune and published his first book, "Nile Notes of a Howadji," and gave his first lecture. "Lotus Eating" and "The Howadji in Syria" were published in 1852, and the following year, he was editor with Parke Goodwin and Charles F. Briggs on Putnam's Weekly, and published two more books: "Potiphar Papers" and "Prue and I."

In 1854, he became Editor of the Easy Chair column in "Harper's Monthly Magazine," a position he maintained the rest of his life.

He married Anna Shaw, daughter of Francis G. Shaw of Staten Island, at her father's home by the Rev. John Parkman. The young couple took up residence on the island. This was also the first year in which he evidenced deep interest in abolitionism and in politics in general, campaigning for Fremont in the fall of the year.

He accepted a partnership of the publishing firm of Dix, Edwards and Co., the new owners of Putnam's Monthly in 1856. In April 1857 the company failed and Curtis accepted a large indebtedness he felt morally, even though he was not legally responsible for it. It took him almost twenty years on the strenuous lecture circuit before he was able to repay the debt, and forced him to forgo his development as a creative author. He came through this to be considered to have been the greatest orator of his time.

In 1857, his first child, a son, was born on Staten Island and the following year his novel "Trumps" was serialized in Harper's Weekly. His interest in politics grew and he became very active in the Richmond County Republican Party Organization. In 1860 he was nominated as a delegate to the national convention in Chicago where he made a speech in favor of the resolution that all men are created equal be endorsed by the Party.

He became political editor of Harper's Weekly in 1863 and the following year again was delegate to the Republican National Convention where he was an ardent supporter of Lincoln and wrote the letter officially notifying Lincoln of his re-nomination. He was nominated for Congress from Staten Island and was defeated, as he expected to be.

He continued to be very active in subsequent years, and in 1868 was Elector on the Republican ticket, casting his vote for Grant. The New York Times offered him the editorship of the Times, which he refused, in 1869 and the same year he declined a nomination for the office of Secretary of State. One year later, he was Chairman of the Republican National Convention, and the following year was nominated Chairman of the Civil Service Reform Commission, which he accepted. He resigned this by 1874, doubting the willingness of the Grant administration to support Civil Service Reform.

President-elect Hayes unofficially offered him an ambassadorship, possibly to England, which he declined after consideration.

In 1880, the New York Civil Service Reform Association was founded and he in attendance was elected president, a post which he kept until his death. The 1884 Republican National Convention which nominated Blaine and at which he was, as usual, a delegate disappointed him. He gave his

support instead to the Democratic nominee, Cleveland, because he believed that Blaine would not support needed reforms. This constituted a complete break with the Republican Party, and in 1888, he supported Grover Cleveland's bid for reelection.

In 1890, he was appointed Chancellor of the Board of Regents of the University of the State of New York, which post he held at the time of his death.

His last lecture on Staten Island was delivered on Charles Sumner at the YMCA Building in Tompkinsville. His last public address, on his dear and late friend James Russell, was delivered in New York. He became seriously ill early in June 1892 and after a period of acute suffering, died at his Staten Island home on August 31st.

SCOPE & CONTENT:

Genealogy: writings on Curtis Genealogy by William Winter, Ida Dudley Dale, Harlow D. Curtis, and William T. Davis. (Folders 1 & 2, box 1)

Letters and Correspondence: This series encompasses the dates 1784 to 1892 and includes family correspondence: Jonathan Arnold, Josiah Lyndon Arnold, James Burrill, and George Curtis; and letters received and sent by George William Curtis on a variety of subjects (civil service reform, abolitionism, women's suffrages, equal rights, Republican Party, "Black Republicanism," national politics; letters to artists, writers, poets, philosophers, as well as to politicians). One letterbook (1869-1875) is filed in Box 2, folder 58. The individual letters are filed chronologically (folders 5-57, 59-113). The scope is national. There is Staten Island material, but it is in the minority in this series.

The series of letters comprise 113 folders in four boxes. The fourth box is shared with a series of Manuscripts (folders 114-127). The subject matter of the manuscripts deals mostly with political history as well as with comparisons between the English and American spoils system. There is one manuscript on Staten Island. All manuscripts, with the exception of two, are undated.

A selection of letter writers follow:

Charles F. Adams	Willard Fiske	Annie A. Longfellow
James P. Allen	W.P. Garrison	Benson Lossing
George Bancroft	Sidney H. Gay	Hugh McCulloch
N.P. Banks	J.R. Gilmore	Frederick Law Olmsted
Francis Barlow	Horace Greeley	Francis Parkman
Henry W. Beecher	Rutherford B. Hayes	Wendell Phillips
Edward Cary	Thomas Hicks	Charles Reade
Lydia Maria Child	Mary J. Holmes	William H. Seward
Cassis M. Clay	William Dean Howells	Elizabeth Cady Stanton

Roscoe Conkling	Daniel Huntington	Lucy Stone
Chauncy M. Depew	Helen Jackson	W.W. Story
Anna E. Dickenson	Henry James	Bayard Taylor
Frederick Douglass	Thomas L. James	Theodore Tilton
Neal Dow	Thomas Starr King	Marcus L. Ward
Samuel A. Eliot	Mrs. O. Langhorne	Thurlow Weed
Hamilton Fish	Samuel Lawrence	N.P. Willis

The balance of Manuscripts (folders 128-143), including those dated 1890 and 1892, begin in box 5. These continue the emphatic treatment of the historical investigation of spoils systems and civic service reform, with the exception of the 1892 eulogy for James Russell Lowell. The rest of box 5 is filled with proofread and annotated Galleys, again mostly dealing with civil service reform.

Christopher Pearse Cranch materials consist of four folders focusing on the 1848 sketchbook by Cranch (who was an artist and poet and translator of Greek and Latin poetry, better appreciated abroad than at home). This sketchbook is a brief record of one year during Curtis' Grand Tour of Europe during which he spent time with Cranch, Cropsey, and W.W. Story. Research notes on Cranch by Mabel Abbott are filed with the sketchbook.

The balance of this box holds the Curtis Family Biographies and Curtis Family Photographs (folders 115-130A).

Mabel Abbott's Curtis Chronology and transcribed letters from the Paulist Fathers and from Harvard, and newspaper articles and speeches about Curtis are continued in Box 7. Miss Abbott's notes on West Brighton, in which locality Curtis lived on Staten Island, are also contained herein.

Box 8 contains further Curtis reference transcribed by Miss Abbott, her original inventories, and the labels for the exhibition. An index and list of the letters and papers of Rutherford Birchard Hayes are filed in this box. The photostatic copies of letters, are chronologically filed in the Letters and Correspondence Series (boxes 1-4).

Sidney Howard Gay was an assistant editor for the New York Tribune and an abolitionist who lived with his wife and family on Staten Island, not far from George William Curtis. The families were friends. The basic collection of Gay Papers is at Columbia University. Box 9 contains a description of this collection, Mabel Abbott's notes on Gay, and transcripts of materials from the Columbia collection: Philadelphia Anti-Slavery Society, Staten Island property inventory, Record of Fugitives; Letters, Biography, obituary; biographical sketch of Gay by James T. White.

Scrapbooks: This is the largest series in this Collection—the collection begins with a scrapbook kept by George Curtis which records Rhode Island Politics and R.I. General Assembly proceedings (1828-1837). Volume II was presumably kept by both father and son and covers the years 1837-1853, continuing R.I. politics, but documenting the New England Society, women's rights

convention; the American Art Union; and published art and music criticism by GWC (annotated). These two are oversize and are filed on the shelf in the cabinet with the boxed scrapbooks.

Volume III is mainly political (election returns, including S.I. , and political conventions), 1856-1864; Volume IV (1857-1893) covers Wendell Phillips, Charles Sumner, the draft riots; Volume V (oversize) covers seven months in 1861 and the Civil War. Volume VI is "Literati" in Curtis' description: Browning, Shelley, Dickens, Disraeli, Carlyle, etc.(1861-1877). Volume VII (1861-1866) covers speeches and campaigns and Congressional proceedings while Volume VIII (1862-1872) covers local politics; abolitionism and "War between the States Journalism."

Curtis kept Volume IX on the Freedmen and the Freedmen's Bureau and reconstruction plans, ending with impeachment. The following two volumes were given over totally to Andrew Jackson and the impeachment proceedings.

The balance of the volumes (XII-XXXII) cover the history of the country and its politics very thoroughly from 1870 to 1892, with the exception of two scrapbooks titled: "clippings anent G.W.C." (Vol. XVI) and the 1892 scrapbook which was kept by his widow, Anna Shaw Curtis and contains notices and stories in newspapers about Mr. Curtis' illness, death, funeral, and memorials.

The Ephemera includes two boxes of pamphlets by, about, or related to George William Curtis and an oversize print box of Occasional Papers issued from the "New England Loyal Publication Society" of which Curtis was a member and contributor.

The dates covered by the collection range from 1784 to 1963, the latter being a gift of published papers based on research in the collection. The entire collection comprises 32 cubic feet.

ARRANGEMENT:

In addition to Letters and Correspondence, Manuscripts, Galleys, Scrapbooks, and Ephemera, the following subgroups have been set up: Christopher Pearse Cranch, lifelong friend of Curtis'; and Sidney Howard Gay, abolitionist friend on Staten Island and New York of Curtis'; chronology on Curtis compiled by Mabel Abbott together with research materials also compiled by Miss Abbott about the Shaw family, West Brighton, Staten Island, and letters about the development and management of the collection; references regarding Curtis transcribed by Abbott and the original inventories. A listing of the paintings from the Curtis Collection, which are in the care of the Art Department, Staten Island Museum, completes the collection description.

RELATED MATERIALS:

Reverend Horace Colpitts, minister of the Unitarian Church of Staten Island (the same church of which Curtis was a Reader), volunteered in 1975-1977 to prepare an index to the series of letters to Curtis. This index on cards is available to the researcher. It is arranged alphabetically and each letter is abstracted. The letters are arranged chronologically.

Miss Abbott prepared inventories to the collection and these were published in the Proceedings of the Institute in 1951-1952. Xerox copies of these inventories are filed with the collection in folders 153 and 154 in box 8/9.

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

"George William Curtis: Orations & Addresses" Harper & Bros. Three volumes

"The Dream of Arcadia..." Van Wyck Brooks

"Theodore Winthrop" Elbridge Colby

"Christopher Pearse Cranch..." F. DeWolfe Miller

"Brook Farm" Lindsay Swift

"The Genteel Tradition"

GEORGE WILLIAM CURTIS COLLECTION
Biography:

1824	Born February 24, Providence, Rhode Island, the second son of George and Mary (Burrill) Curtis. His brother, James Burrill Curtis, had been born in 1822.
1830-1835	He and his brother attended C.W. Greene's boarding school at Jamaica Plan, Massachusetts. His mother had died in 1826.
1835	George's father remarried: the daughter of Samuel W. Bridgham, Providence, Rhode Island. At about this time, the teachings of Emerson began to influence both of the Curtis youths.
1835-1839	George finished his schooling, Providence, Rhode Island
1839	Family moved to New York: Washington Place (north side). George was receiving private tutoring at this time.
1840	Mr. Curtis places George as a clerk in a German importing house in Exchange Place. He was poorly suited to this and did not stay there long.
1842	Beginning of interest in the Transcendental movement, spending the summers of this and the following year at Brook Farm.
1844, 1845	The brother spent the summers of these years studying and farming at Concord, Massachusetts. He became good friends with Emerson, Hawthorne and Thoreau.
1846	George Curtis starts an extended tour of Europe, Africa and the near east. In 1846, he visited Leghorn, Pisa, Florence and spent the winter in Rome.
1847	Tours Italy, visiting Naples and then turning north to Florence and Venice. In the fall, visits Lake Como and through the Tyrol to Vienna and Berlin.
1848	Traveled through Switzerland and Holland. Sailed to Egypt in the fall.
1849	Visits Egypt and the Holy Land.
1850	England and returns to US in August. In these four years, he has acted as correspondent for the Courier and Inquirer in New York and has kept a journal.
1851	Becomes music critic and editorial writer for the New York Tribune. Publishes his first book "Nile Notes of a Howadji." Gives his first lecture.
1852	Publishes "Lotus Eating" and "The Howadji in Syria."
1853	Becomes editor with Parke Goodwin and Charles F. Brigs of Putnam's Weekly and this year and next writes the articles on Emerson, Hawthorne,

	Longfellow and Bancroft, which were included in the work Homes of American Authors. Publishes two more books: "Potiphar Papers" and "Prue & I" (originally serialized in Putnam's).
1854	Becomes Editor of the Easy Chair column in Harper's Monthly Magazine.
1856	Marries Miss Anna Shaw, daughter of Francis G. Shaw of Staten Island. Married November 26 by the Rev. John Parkman at her father's home. The young couple took up residence on Staten Island. Also by this year he had become deeply interested in abolitionism and in politics in general. He campaigned for Fremont in the fall of the year.
1857	First child, a son, born on Staten Island in December. The previous year, Mr. Curtis had become a partner of the publishing firm of Dix, Edwards & Co., the new owners of Putnam's Monthly. In April 1857, the company failed and Curtis accepted a large indebtedness he felt morally, even though he was not legally responsible for. It took him almost twenty years on the strenuous lecture circuit before he was able to repay the debt, forcing him to forego his development as a creative author. He gained great experience in public speaking through his lectures and came to be considered to have been the greatest orator of his time. In autumn of this year, he started a column in Harper's entitled "The Lounger."
1858	His novel "Trumps" was serialized in Harper's Weekly.
1859-1860	Very active in the Richmond County Republican Party Organization, and became chairman of the county Republican Committee, a post he held until his resignation in 1879. In May 1860, he was nominated as a delegate to the National Convention in Chicago where he made a notable speech in favor of the resolution that all men are created equal be endorsed by the Party.
1863	Becomes Political Editor of Harper's Weekly.
1864	Delegate to Republican National Convention, Baltimore. Ardent supporter of Lincoln, and wrote the letter officially notifying Lincoln of his renomination. Active in the campaign which followed. Is elected a member of the Board of Regents of the University of the State of New York. Nominated for Congress from S.I. Was defeated as he expected.
1866	Actively involved in the elections of this year. He was chosen delegate-at-large to the Convention for revising the NYS Constitution.
1868	Elector on the Republican ticket, casting his vote for Grant.
1869	Offered editorship of the NYTimes, which he refused. Nominated for office of Secretary of State for New York State, but declined.

1879	Chairman of the Republican National Convention of 1870.
1871	Nominated Chairman of the Civil Service Reform Commission. In 1873, was very ill and ordered by his doctor to rest. By 1874 had resigned his Chairmanship of the Civil Service Commission because of his doubts of the willingness of the Grant administration to support Civil Service reform.
1876	Delegate to the Republication National Convention.
1877	Unofficially offered an ambassadorship possibly to England by President-elect Hayes which he declined after consideration.
1880	At the founding of the NY Civil Service Reform Association, elected president. Held this post at the time of his death. 1881 President of the newly-formed Civil Service Reform League. 1884 delegate to the Republican National Convention. However, he supported Cleveland (Democrat) because he felt that Blaine, the Republican candidate, would not support needed reforms.
1888	Supported Grover Cleveland's bid for reelection.
1890	Appointed Chancellor of the Board of Regents of the University of NY. Held this position at the time of his death.
1892	Last lecture given on Staten Island was on Charles Sumner at the YMCA Building in Tompkinsville on March 7 and his last public address—on James Russell Lowell—was delivered in New York in May. He became seriously ill early in June and after a period of acute suffering died at his Staten Island home on August 31st.

GEORGE WILLIAM CURTIS COLLECTION
Box Inventories:

PRINTS:

The Print Collection of the Institute, located in the Archives and Library, contains the following prints:

50-167	"The Easy Chair" and "The Residence of G.W. Curtis" from Harper's Weekly
50-170	A political cartoon about Curtis from "The Hour"
50-250	A portrait of G.W. Curtis (large cabinet photograph)
50-904	Engraved portrait of G.W. Curtis by Reich. (Gift of the artist's son)

PAINTINGS:

The Collection received at different times seven paintings and drawings, which are maintained in the Art Department, the Staten Island Museum:

Acc. No.	
4161	Pastel portrait of Mrs. Curtis by S. Laurence, 1812-1884 Gift of Marian Holyoke
4276	Pastel portrait of Mr. Curtis by S. Laurence, 1812-1884 Gift of George William Curtis (grandson)
4241.1	Crayon sketch of G.W. Curtis by Burrill Curtis Gift of Bridgham Curtis and Miss Constance Curtis
4241.2	Portrait of G.W. Curtis by F.A. Perkins, 1887 (oil) Gift of G.W. Curtis
4256	Crayon drawing of G.W. Curtis by Samuel Worcest Rouse, 1822-1901 Gift of G.W. Curtis
60-19	Anna Shaw (Mrs. Curtis as a child), portrait in oil by William Page, 1811-1885 Museum Purchase Fund
62-33	Anna Shaw as a child, pastel drawing by William Page, 1811-1885 Gift of G.W. Curtis

SCRAPBOOKS

Box 1 A Shf CC 2

Dates: 1828-1837 Volume I

George Curtis, father of GWC, scrapbook, indexed with written introduction listing public offices he has held. Includes a loose note, pinned, in his hand (1845) and a loose undated clipping regarding rise of GWC.

Subjects covered: public meets, riot in Providence (R.I.); recordings of the General Assembly; Henry Clay in Providence; Merchants Bank case.

Acc. No. 54-156.1

Dates: 1837-1854 Volume II O.S.-not in box on Shelf CC 1

Anti-slavery correspondence, Rhode Island political articles, handbill "To Freemen of Providence"-Tristram Burges-Daniel Webster letters to the Tribune-GWC letters from Europe; also GWC music and art criticism—New England Society celebrations—Rights of Women Convention; Whig policy

Acc. No. 54-156.2

Dates: 1848-1866 Volume III

General political clippings on local and national elections; political position on slavery, emancipation, rights of labor, Free Soil movement; also, on rights of labor, southern politics, Missouri compromise, People's Union Party. NYS and C votes and statistics on various elections including Staten Island statistics from 1858 to 1861.

Acc. No. 54-156.3

Dates: 1857-1867 Volume IV

Women's day in senate; Andrew Johnson, Wendell Phillips, Charles Dickens, Private Miles O'Reilly, 47th NY Volunteers, plea for Cornell University, Henry Ward Beecher, Charles Sumner, James Buchanan, William Llyod Garrison, Draft riots results and damages. All clippings. Also loose clippings for 1878 including Ralph Waldo Emerson.

Acc. No. 54-156.4

Dates: 1861 Volume V O.S.-not in box on Shelf CC 1

Beginning and progress of the Civil War; politics of the Civil War.

Acc. No. 54-156.5

Dates: 1861-1877 Volume VI Shelf CC 2

"Literati"

Mrs. Browning's last poem; also articles about and poems/articles by: Tennyson, Shelley, James Olcott Brown; Charles Dickens; John Fiske; B. Disraeli; Sumner obsequies; De Witt Clinton; Thomas Carlyle; Emerson on the death of Lincoln; William Cullen Bryan; Horatio Powers; James G. Bennett; Walt Whitman; Harper & Brothers; Fletcher Harper. Loose clippings on Victor Hugo et al.

Acc. No. 54-156.6

Dates: 1861-1866 Volume VII

Mostly orations and/or polemics by Wendell Phillips (preponderance), Edward Everett, John Brown, Jeff. Davis, Frederick Douglass, Thaddeus Stevens, John Van Buren Seward, Henry Ward Beecher; conclusion–articles for impeachment of Johnson.

Acc. No. 54-156.7

Dates: 1862-1872 Volume VIII

Clippings of speeches by Henry Ward Beecher, Wendell Phillips, Thaddeus Stevens, William Lloyd Garrison, Frederick Douglass, Edward Everett. Impeachment of Johnson.

Acc. No. 54-156.8

Dates: 1864-1866 Volume IX

Clippings: constitution of the CSA; Pius IX; Edward Everett obituary; Freedmen in Georgia; General Sherman on the Negroes; Peach Conference (between Union and Confederacy); suffrage for women; Negro suffrage by Lincoln; John Stuart Mill and Robert Dale Owen on peace with the south; ethnic population of NYC; reconstruction; law of bounties; Atlantic cable-laying; the Freedmen; Gen. Andrew Jackson and the Colored Citizen; meeting on Seguine's Point for Quarantine; New Orleans riot; amnesty investigation re. Lee.

Dates: 1865-1867 Volume X

Andrew Johnson

Dates 1865-1889 Volume X – a Not in box. On Shelf CC 1

Ashfield, Massachusetts (summer home of GWC); clippings from Massachusetts papers regarding his political and cultural interests.

BOOK MATERIAL:

Crooke Fund	Memorial to Wendell Phillips from the City of Boston Proceedings at the Centennial Celebration of Concord Fight, April 19, 1875 Cary, Edward – George William Curtis (3 copies)
#1966	The dance of Death at Basle
Davis Collection	"Aquehonga"
	Hogarth, v. 1, 1791 – Illus. by John Ireland
#6999	Sabine, trans. by C.A. Boettiger Curtis, George Wm. – Prue & I
#3947	Curtis, George Wm. – The Howadji in Syria
#3684	Crooke, George Willis, ed. – Early letters of George Wm. Curtis to John S. Dwight
#2011 & 55-43	Curtis, George Wm. – Trumps (2 copies)
64-35	Curtis, George Wm. – Prue & I
	Curtis, George Wm. – Oration on dedication of Statue of Major-Gen. John Sedgwick
#2229	Curtis, George Wm. – Potiphar papers
	Harper's New Monthly Magazine, vol. XVII, June- November 1858

Note: Above are contents of box marked:

GEORGE WILLIAM CURTIS 25.gwC:E
Ephemera
Books

Note: As of October 1989, these books have been placed on the shelves.

GEORGE WILLIAM CURTIS COLLECTION
Box Inventories:

Box 1/9			
	Folders		
	1-2	Genealogy	
	3-12	Autographs and letters	n.d.
	12A-12J	Arnold (Jonathan) correspondence	1784-1796
	13-28	Burrill (James)correspondence	1797-1820
	29-36	Curtis correspondence: Bridgham, Judge, Harris, Thackeray, etc.	1848-1855
Box 2/9			
	Folders		
	36A-48	Curtis correspondence: Beecher, Stoddard, Furness, Gay, Banks, Willis, etc.	1856-1864
	49-58	Curtis correspondence: Dana, Childs, Stedman, Story, etc.	1864-1875
Box 3/9			
	Folders		
	59-72	Curtis correspondence: Fish, Shellabarger, Douglass, Olmsted, Elliott, Barker, etc.	1870-1875
	73-99	Curtis correspondence: Bancroft, Hayes, Freeman, etc.	1876-1885
Box 4-9			
	Folders		
	1-29	Curtis correspondence: Everett, Adams, Bancroft, etc.	1886-1892
		Manuscripts: most of these manuscripts regard American and foreign spoils systems	1876-1885
Box 5/9			
	Folders		
	128-143	Manuscripts	n.d.-1892
	144-153	Proofread and annotated galleys (marked in Curtis' hand)	1885-1892
Box 6/9			
	Folders		
	113-130	Christopher Pearse Cranch, friend of Curtis. Sketchbook, letters; notes Anna Shaw. Elizabeth Burrill Curtis. Photos of Shaw and Curtis family (F 8-10)	1887-1951

Box 7/9			
	Folders		
	131-145	Chronology of the Curtis family and of George William Curtis, including notes on West Brighton, Staten Island. Mabel Abbott	1635-1892
Box 8/9			
	Folders		
	146-149	Mabel Abbott's references for the Curtis Collection	n.d.
	150-155	Inventories of the Collection when it was first assembled	1950-1953
Box 9/9			
	Folders	Subgroup: Sidney Howard Gay	
	157-168	Transcriptions and copies of Philadelphia's Anti-Slavery Society	1836-1892
		Staten Island Property List	
		Records of Fugitives	
	169-172	Curtis artifacts	1833-1875

	SCRAPBOOKS	
Box 1/13	Volumes III, IV, XA	1856-1861
	Volume V – oversize	1860
Box 2/13	Volumes VI, VII, VIII	1861-1866
Box 3/13	Volumes IX, X, XI	1864-1869
Box 4/13	Volumes XII, XIII	1869-1879
Box 5/13	Volumes XIV, XV	1874-1877
Box 6/13	Volumes XVI, XVII	1876-1880
Box 7/13	Volumes XVIII, XIX	1877-1879
Box 8/13	Volumes XX, XXI	1878-1881
Box 9/13	Volumes XXII, XXIII	1881-1882
Box 10/13	Volumes XXIV, XXV	1882-1888
Box 11/13	Volumes XXVI, XXVII	1884-1890
Box 12/13	Volumes XXVII, XXIX	1885-1892

Box 13/13	Volumes XXXI, XXXII	1891-1892
	Shelved after Box 13: Volumes I and II	1828-1853
Box 1/2	Pamphlets, annotated and inscribed	1859-1884
Box 2/2	Pamphlets, annotated and inscribed, including memorials	1885-1902
Box 1/4	Publications by Curtis	1850-1860
Box 2/4	Publications by Curtis	1860-1870
Box 3/4	Publications by Curtis	1870-1892
Box 4/4	"New England Loyal Publication Society" – occasional papers annotated by Curtis, but not by him (in print box)	1863-1866

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GEORGE WILLIAM CURTIS.

MR. CURTIS is known to the American public as author, journalist, and statesman,—for, although he has never held a political office, he has made a profound study of statesmanship, and possesses a knowledge of public affairs second to that of no other man in the country; but his greatest and best work has been achieved in the field of journalism. Starting out on his youthful career as the author of several charming books of travel, and afterward drifting into literary engagements with the New York "Tribune," "Harper's Weekly," and other journals, he was at an early age, and in common with thousands of earnest young men in the North, driven by conviction to take part in the great moral revolution which culminated in the war for the Union and the abolition of slavery in the United States; and throwing himself with fervor into this new field of activity, he abandoned a profession, in which he might have attained high honors, for the one in which he has achieved his great reputation as a leader and teacher of men. It will be interesting to trace the steps by which he came into his chosen career of work.

Mr. Curtis was born in Providence, Rhode Island, February 24, 1824, but he was partly of Massachusetts descent, his father having been born in Worcester, in that State, of which an ancestor was the first settler. His mother was the daughter of James Burrill, Jr., at one time Chief-Justice of Rhode Island, and afterward United States Senator. In 1830 he went to boarding-school at Jamaica Plain, near Boston, where he remained for four years. Pleasant reminiscences of his school-days there are found in the early chapters of his novel, "Trumps," narrated with a freshness and enthusiasm which remind the reader of "Tom Brown at Rugby." Meanwhile he lost his mother; and in 1839, his father, who had married again, removed with his family to New York, and, desirous that his son should pursue a mercantile career, placed him, after a year's study with a private tutor, as a clerk in a German importing house in Exchange Place.

But mercantile life was not agreeable to the youth. His tastes were decidedly literary, and in the course of his reading he became deeply interested in the transcendental movement, in which so many of the best and purest minds of New England were at that time engaged. Accordingly, after about a year of uncongenial drudgery in the importing house, he went to Brook Farm, in company with his elder brother, who shared in his tastes and aspirations. It is unnecessary to repeat the story of failure and disappointment which led to the breaking down of that amiable experiment; but the incident of his taking part in the endeavor to create an ideal society, is interesting as showing the early tendency of Mr. Curtis's mind. He is still called an idealist by those who use the word as a term of reproach, as though it were folly in the youth to believe that society may, in time and by persistent effort, be organized on a higher and purer basis than at present, and still greater folly in the man to retain such optimistic views. The millennium may be far away; but its coming will not be hastened by deriding the principles whose application in social and political life may make it possible, at some distant period; and men who endeavor to bring society into harmony with those principles are prophets and apostles of the Utopia that is to come.

Mr. Curtis and his brother remained at Brook Farm until 1844, and they then passed two years in Concord, Massachusetts, studying and farming. Here Mr. Curtis became very intimate with Emerson, Hawthorne, and Henry Thoreau, forming warm friendships with them which were broken only by death. In his "Homes of American Authors" he has printed some interesting notes of his intercourse with the philosopher, the romancer, and the hermit.

In 1846, Mr. Curtis determined upon making an extended tour in the old world, which, at that time, was a more eventful and important undertaking than it is now, when the "Atlantic ferry" will take you across in a little more than a week. In August of that year he sailed from New York for Marseilles in a passenger packet. The voyage occupied nearly fifty days. From Marseilles he went by steamer to Leghorn, and from that city to Pisa, where he lingered awhile to admire the wonders of the Leaning Tower, the Cathedral, the Baptistery, and the Campo Santo. From Pisa he passed on through the luscious vintage to Florence. The winter was spent in Rome. In the spring of 1847 Mr. Curtis visited Naples and other portions of southern Italy, then made his way slowly northward, back to Florence, where he remained some time, finishing the summer by a long and delightful

Making of America

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sojourn in Venice, in the congenial society of Kensett, Hicks, and other American artists.

In the autumn Mr. Curtis traveled through Lombardy to Como, and over the Stelvio through the Tyrol and Salzkammergut to Vienna, reaching Berlin in the middle of November. The spring of 1848 found him in Dresden, Prague, and again in Vienna, whence he sailed down the Danube to Pesth, returning to Switzerland for the summer.

Mr. Curtis traveled through Switzerland with all the delight of leisure, and not with the modern American frenzy, which counts as lost time every hour consumed in passing from place to place. In the same manner he studied the cities, the people, and the art of Holland,—who, indeed, could hurry through Holland?—and, in the autumn, sailed from Malta to Alexandria.

Mr. Curtis was fortunate in visiting the land of the Pharaohs when the spirit of modern progress had scarcely begun its devastating work within the shadow of the Pyramids. The destruction of the picturesque is surely not an evil necessarily attendant upon social, political, and industrial progress; but progress is very apt, when suddenly aroused, to play sad havoc with things which might better be preserved than destroyed. Were there not quarries of stone in Egypt that temples old as human traditions must be despoiled to build new cities? Doubtless the railroad and the steam-boat are great conveniences for people who are in a hurry, but they have unmade the Egypt of history and the imagination. They had not done so when our Howadji looked upon the Pyramids and sailed slowly up the Nile to the second cataract. The sacred river still flowed

> "through old hushed Egypt and its sands
> Like some grave, mighty thought, threading a dream,"

and the effect of that hushed and dreamy life upon his imagination found delightful expression in his "Nile Notes," which are full of the flavor and perfume of the East. Ten years afterward they could not have been written. Stephens visited the Nile still earlier; but he was a man of merely dry observation. He had no enthusiasm, no imagination, and the record of his journeyings is as dull as a ledger in comparison with the Howadji's dreamy musings and charming descriptions.

A journey across the desert by way of Gaza to Jerusalem, of which he wrote an account in "The Howadji in Syria," ended Mr. Curtis's Eastern travels. He spent the early summer of 1850 in England, and returned home in August. His pen had not been idle during his wanderings. Besides his journals, he had written letters for the "Courier and Inquirer," of which Mr. Henry J. Raymond was then managing editor, and for the New York "Tribune," where his friend, Mr. Charles A. Dana, held the same position. On his return, he entered upon an active literary life. He became musical critic and editorial writer on the "Tribune," and wrote out his "Nile Notes," which were published in 1851 by the Harpers. In the autumn of that year he wrote a series of picturesque traveling letters to the "Tribune," from the Catskills, Saratoga, Trenton, Niagara, Newport, and Nahant, which were published in 1852 as "Lotus-Eating," beautifully illustrated by his friend Kensett. In the same year, "The Howadji in Syria" was published, and Mr. Curtis wrote some sketches of social life for "Harper's Monthly."

The establishment of "Putnam's Monthly," in 1853, opened a new field to Mr. Curtis, who, in conjunction with Mr. Parke Godwin and Mr. Charles F. Briggs, assumed the editorial management of that periodical, which was destined to a brilliant though brief career. Within the first year of its existence he wrote the papers on Emerson, Hawthorne, Longfellow, and Bancroft, in the series on "The Homes of American Authors." To this magazine Mr. Curtis contributed "The Potiphar Papers," a brilliant satire on certain phases of New York society, and "Prue and I," a series of delightful sketches, rather than a story, which was published in 1857. When the magazine passed into the hands of Messrs. Dix and Edwards, Mr. Curtis and Mr. Frederick Law Olmsted became connected with the firm, and were involved in its failure. Considering himself morally, if not legally, responsible for a portion of the indebtedness, Mr. Curtis refused to avail himself of the technicalities of the law, and set himself to the work of paying the creditors. He devoted himself diligently to literary work. The amount of labor he performed was literally enormous. Besides filling the "Easy Chair" of "Harper's Magazine," in which he had just taken his seat, and writing "The Lounger" in "Harper's Weekly," he delivered a long series of lectures, sometimes speaking a hundred nights in a season, and traveling, almost without rest, from place to place at the insatiable call of managers and committees. No man was ever more popular as a lecturer. The charm of his manner was irresistible; he had not only something to say which the people wanted to hear, but knew how to say it with the grace and ease which belong to the true orator. One of the most popular of his lectures was that upon the perfect soldier of chivalry, Sir Philip Sidney. Scarcely less popular were his Lowell lectures upon the

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modern English novelists, which were repeated in New York, Brooklyn, and other places. The physical and mental strain involved in this labor was so excessive that many people wondered that he was willing to undergo it. A few only of his immediate friends knew that the proceeds of all his lectures during a period of almost ten years, and a part of his salary as editor, were devoted to the liquidation of the debt from which the law, but not his high sense of moral responsibility, would have absolved him.

During these years the slavery question had gradually absorbed public attention, and had become the paramount theme in the press, the pulpit, and the lyceum. In his Newport loungings Mr. Curtis had noted the effect produced upon Northern society by the slave power, and his attention had been called to the necessity of combating the evil influence by every popular means. Accordingly in all his lectures, like many of the lyceum speakers at that time, he discussed the subject with great freedom and force. The lecture lyceum, indeed, did much to arouse and enlighten public opinion on this vital question, and to prepare the way for the great revival of anti-slavery feeling in the North which followed the personal assault upon Charles Sumner in 1856. It is necessary to recall these times in order to form a just estimate of Mr. Curtis, and his career in public affairs. He was one of a large number of young men who felt, when that assault took place, that there were more imperative duties than the delights of dalliance in the primrose paths of literature. In the year just mentioned he delivered a college address at Middletown upon the "Duty of the American Scholar to Politics and the Times," in which the situation and the impending crisis were discussed from an anti-slavery point of view. He went upon the stump for Fremont, in that year, speaking in New York, New England, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania, and entered actively into politics on Staten Island, where he lived, and where for many years he was Chairman of the Republican County Committee.

Mr. Curtis was a delegate to the second National Convention of the Republican party, which assembled at Chicago on the 16th of May, 1860. It will be remembered that the construction of a "platform" was a labor of considerable difficulty. There were still many Republicans who wished to conciliate the border states, and when Mr. Joshua R. Giddings moved in convention to add to the first resolution the "life, liberty, and pursuit of happiness" clause from the Declaration of Independence, the opposition was loud and determined. The motion was lost by a large vote, and Mr. Giddings, who had urged its adoption in the most eloquent and impressive manner, proposed to withdraw from the convention; but Mr. Curtis took an early opportunity to renew the motion in a slightly modified form. There were again loud cries of opposition. Mr. Curtis asked whether the party was prepared at its second National Convention to vote against the great charter of American liberty, and cautioned the delegates to beware how, there in the broad prairies of the West, they receded from the position which the party had occupied at Pittsburg, and refused to repeat the words of the Fathers of the Revolution. His eloquent periods acted like magic on the convention. The amendment was adopted unanimously amid wild excitement, the great multitude rising and giving round after round of applause. "Ten thousand voices," says a contemporary report, "swelled into a deafening roar, and for several minutes every attempt to restore order was hopelessly vain. The crowd of people outside took up and re-echoed the cheers, making a scene of excitement and enthusiasm unparalleled in any similar gathering." It was a great popular triumph, and was of vital service to the party, not only in retaining the influence of Mr. Giddings and his followers, but in swelling the enthusiasm which greeted the platform and the candidates.

It was a noteworthy event in the history of American journalism when, in December of 1863, Mr. Curtis became the political editor of "Harper's Weekly." He had been conducting a department called "The Lounger," begun in the autumn of 1857, which consisted at first of essays in the lighter vein on social and literary topics, very much in the manner of the "Easy Chair." After the beginning of the war Mr. Curtis frequently introduced subjects of a national and political character in this department; but his field was comparatively restricted. From the moment, however, that he took his seat in the editorial chair, his discussions assumed a wider scope, embracing all the great issues before the country. Thoroughly equipped for his new position by mental training and political experience, and in full sympathy with his audience, he made "Harper's Weekly" a power in the Republican party. He was hampered by no office restrictions. The publishers knew the secret of a real responsibility, and, giving him their confidence, gave it unreservedly. There was, of course, entire harmony of principle and purpose between Mr. Curtis and his publishers; and while there were also, of course, occasional differences of judgment as to men and measures, there was never any

Making of America

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interference with the course pursued by Mr. Curtis, nor any attempt to dictate the tone of the paper. This unrestricted independence gave Mr. Curtis a commanding influence in Republican councils and over his readers. He won, and has kept the enthusiastic personal support and admiration of his audience, as no other editor has succeeded in doing, with the single exception of Horace Greeley. The relations between Mr. Curtis and his readers are, in fact, almost personal in their nature, and he has never seriously entertained proposals, however brilliant and tempting, that would interrupt those relations. Thus, although he could serve as a Regent of the University, and as non-resident Professor at Cornell University for four years, he declined, in 1869, upon the death of Mr. Henry J. Raymond, who had previously asked him to become assistant editor, an invitation to the chief editorship of the New York "Times."

No other man has done more than Mr. Curtis to create and maintain a healthy popular sentiment on the subject of Civil Service Reform. In "Harper's Weekly," and in his public addresses, he has expounded and advocated this important measure with a persistency which has drawn upon him the wrath and ridicule of those who are pleased to style themselves "practical" politicians. "Sentimentalist" and "visionary" are among the mildest names applied to him by his political opponents; and he has been accused frequently of treachery to party allegiance because of the outspoken manner in which he has exposed and denounced obnoxious measures within the party. But Mr. Curtis acknowledges no party allegiance, in the sense that "machine" politicians understand the term; his only allegiance is to right, to high principle, to honor. He has the loftiest conceptions of the duty of the citizen. He holds that it should be the aim of every man, not only to keep himself pure, but to assist in the purification and elevation of politics; that it is the duty of every respectable citizen to take part in civil affairs, and to keep them out of the control of the baser elements of society. Between "sentimental" politics like this, and "practical" politics, which implies pandering to those baser elements, there can be no room for choice. As Charles Sumner once said, in his imperious way, to one who asked him to consider the other side of the slavery question: "Sir, in a matter of this sort there is no 'other' side!"

That the views which Mr. Curtis holds will win in the end admits of no doubt. Many a failure may yet be in store for their advocates, but, unless free institutions are destined to go under, Civil Service Reform must ultimately triumph. Mr. Curtis was not discouraged by its failure under President Grant's administration. He accepted the Chairmanship of the Civil Service Commission, in 1871, with sanguine hopes of success. The President was sincere and earnest in his desire to thus signalize his administration; but, in 1873, becoming convinced that, yielding to the pressure of "practical" politicians, General Grant had changed his views, Mr. Curtis resigned, and the next year the President formally abandoned the project. It had been well for the President, and for the Republican party, had he listened to wiser counsels. Even those who have always sneered at "Sunday-school" politics begin now to discern the signs of the times; and the President's recent recommendations in his annual message, and the various bills hurriedly introduced in Congress, favoring reform in the Civil Service, show that the views which Mr. Curtis advocates have taken a stronger hold on the public than was dreamed of by his opponents.

Mr. Curtis has never accepted a political office, although often pressed to do so. By Mr. Seward he was offered the Consul-Generalship to Egypt; President Hayes urged him to accept the post of Minister to England, and afterward that of Minister to Germany; but he could not be tempted away from his editorial position. Once he accepted the nomination for Representative to Congress, knowing that his district was hopelessly Democratic, and that there was no prospect of his election. In 1867 he served in the State Constitutional Convention, in which he was chairman of the Committee on Education. He frequently took part in the debates, and made an elaborate speech in favor of the extension of the franchise to women,—a measure of which Mr. Curtis has been for years a consistent advocate.

Mr. Curtis was married in 1857 to a daughter of Mr. Robert G. Shaw, the eminent philanthropist, recently deceased. For many years he has resided in West New Brighton, Staten Island, except during the summer months, when he seeks rest and relaxation in a pleasant, old-fashioned country home in the village of Ashfield, Massachusetts.

His devotion to journalism and political affairs has prevented Mr. Curtis from pursuing authorship as a profession, if we are to regard authorship as the writing of books; but although he has put forth no volume since the publication of "Trumps," the readers of the "Easy Chair" in "Harper's Magazine," and of "Manners Upon the Road" in "Harper's Bazar," will recognize in him the most charming essayist of the day. The delicate,

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old Staten Island Map of New Brighton Tompkinsville Stapleton & Clifton 1845

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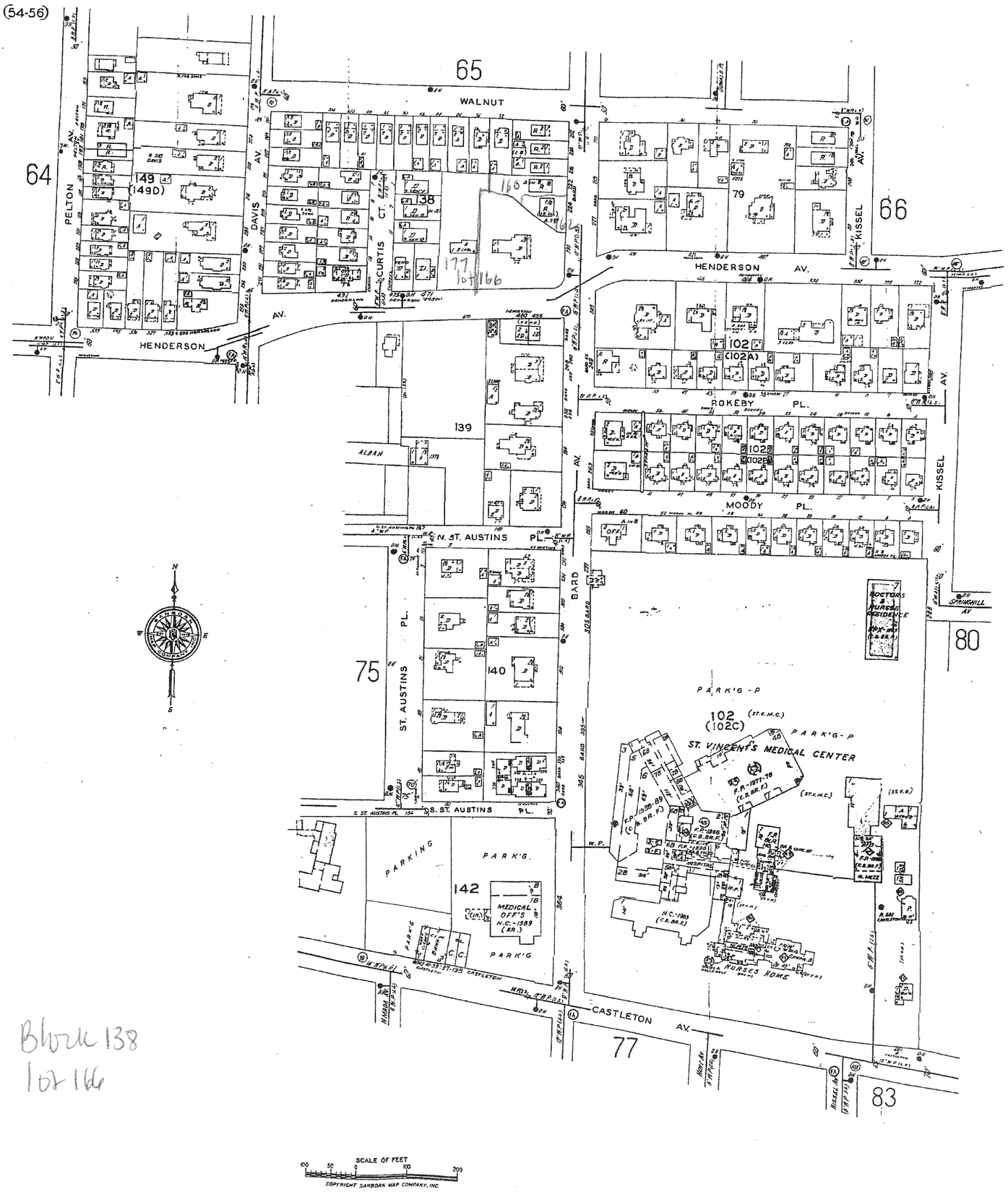

Block 138
lot 166

SCALE OF FEET
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sessed the right to control slavery in the territories, and that consequently the Act of 1820 was constitutional. He entered politics as a Whig and a friend of Webster, serving in the Massachusetts House from 1840 to 1843. He declined reëlection, and is said to have declined the ministry to Great Britain. In 1852, as United States Commissioner, he facilitated the return to slavery of Thomas Sims, under the Fugitive-Slave Act of 1850, thereby incurring the hostility of the Abolitionists. As was the case of many of the Webster "Cotton" Whigs, he became a Democrat. In the Civil War he was a Unionist, but keenly critical of the administration, setting forth his position in a Fourth of July oration at Boston in 1862. In New York he was for some time associated with Tammany Hall, but refused all office. He exerted a certain political influence, nevertheless, through pamphlets and magazine articles, impressive because of his legal learning and impartiality. The first was an argument in favor of compensation for the Ursuline Nuns whose convent at Charlestown, Mass., was burned by a mob. In 1885 he engaged in a controversy with John W. Foster [*q.v.*], publishing in that year *International Arbitrations and Awards.* In 1886 and 1887 he published defenses of Gen. George B. McClellan.

Living as he did in an atmosphere of scholarship and literary effort, including many of the leading authors of both America and Europe, Curtis naturally turned early to writing. His first work was the production of legal studies, which came to cover a wide field. In 1839 he published a *Digest of Cases Adjudicated in the Courts of Admiralty of the United States, and in the High Court of Admiralty in England*; in 1841, a *Treatise on the Rights and Duties of Merchant Seamen*; in 1847, *A Treatise on the Law of Copyright*; in 1849, *A Treatise on the Law of Patents*; in 1850, *Equity Precedents*; in 1854 and 1858, two volumes of *Commentaries on the Jurisdiction, Practice, and Peculiar Jurisprudence of the Courts of the United States.* These and other legal contributions were much used and went through many editions. Gradually he turned his attention to work less closely connected with his profession. In his late years he wrote a novel, under the pseudonym, Peter Boylston, *John Charaxes: A Tale of the Civil War* (1889); and *Creation and Evolution? a* [illegible] his reputation, however, will [illegible] on his studies of the history of the Constitution of the United States. In 1849–50 he delivered a course of lectures at the Lowell Institute of Boston, on the history of the Constitution of the United States, on which he had the advice of Webster. An elaboration of these lectures was published as *History of the Origin, Formation, and Adoption of the Constitution of the United States* (two volumes, 1854–58). In 1889 he published the first volume of a revision and extension, entitled *Constitutional History of the United States from their Declaration of Independence to the Close of the Civil War.* In 1896 the second volume, edited by J. C. Clayton, was published. This work is the classic treatment of the Constitution from the Federalist, Websterian point of view. Curtis's historical work is of the old school. He used but few sources and his conception of history, as of the forces of public life, was distinctly limited. Particularly after leaving Boston his life was spent almost entirely in his office, his study, and with his family, and many of his judgments reflect this somewhat cloistered existence. Within these limits he worked with exactitude, independence, and fine intelligence. His style is cumbrous, though with some Victorian elegance. His *Buchanan* and his *Constitutional History* are likely to remain standard.

[A number of Curtis's letters are among the Geo. B. McClellan MSS. in the Lib. of Cong. The *Memoir of Benj. Robbins Curtis* referred to above contains some family history. See also Catherine P. Curtis, "Genealogy of the Descendants of Wm. Curtis," MS. in Lib. of Cong.; *Quin. Cat. of the Law. Sch. of Harvard Univ.* (1915); obituaries in *Harvard Grads. Mag.*, June 1894; *N. Y. Times* and *Boston Transcript*, Mar. 29, 1894.]

C. R. F.

CURTIS, GEORGE WILLIAM (Feb. 24, 1824–Aug. 31, 1892), author, orator, was born in Providence, R. I., of an old New England family, being the son of George Curtis and Mary Elizabeth Burrill, daughter of James Burrill [*q.v.*]. He lost his mother while he was still an infant, and it was his elder brother James who thereafter exerted for many years the strongest influence on his life. As boys they spent five years together at a school in Massachusetts, and then returned to Providence where their father had re-married. In 1839, when Curtis was fifteen years old, the family took up residence in New York City, and here, for a few

the possibilities of literary fame because of the inner urge toward what he considers to be the highest duties of citizenship. The most potent influence upon him during that period was Emerson, and even after Curtis had left Brook Farm, and had returned to New York, he would frequently visit Concord in order to benefit by conversations with the benign philosopher and poet. The Puritan strain in Curtis thus became at an early age affected by the consciousness of the brotherhood of man, while the charm of his own nature never swerved him from fearless adherence to conviction.

In 1846 Curtis left New York for a four years' stay in various countries of Europe and in Egypt and Syria. His wanderings were to bring forth two books of travels—*Nile Notes of a Howadji* (1851) and *The Howadji in Syria* (1852). These books, based on letters sent to the *New York Tribune,* with whose staff Curtis was connected, display engaging fancy and graceful descriptive powers, traits manifest also in *Lotus-Eating* (1852) and in *Potiphar Papers* (1853), a volume which, with its gentle satire of the social life of New York, was a direct descendant of Irving's *Salmagundi.* Shortly after Curtis's marriage, on Thanksgiving Day, 1856, to Anna Shaw of Staten Island, *Putnam's Monthly,* of which he was an associate editor, went into bankruptcy, and he assumed a debt from which by process of law he could have escaped, a debt that taxed his resources until, after a considerable number of years, it was met in full. His final work in the Irving tradition, *Prue and I* (1857), established him firmly in the hearts of his readers. Here the sentimental yet manly and philosophic observer of life gives his most ambitious portrayal of that happiness which is not dependent upon wealth.

The second half of Curtis's career was made memorable by a series of noble orations. The first, delivered to the students of Wesleyan University at Middletown, Conn., was entitled *The Duty of the American Scholar to Politics and the Times* (1856). The scholar, for Curtis, was not the closeted specialist, but that "priest of the mind," dedicated to the elevation of public thought and action, devoted to the eternal interests of his own community and of the community of mankind. Curtis adjured his youthful his gallantry, his *flair* for the graces of life, the Cavalier; he showed himself in his stern adherence to the obligations of life, the Puritan.

The services of Curtis in the four or five years that were to pass before the Civil War disrupted the country, and the influence of his voice during the war period, can hardly be overestimated. His speeches gave new impetus to patriotic fervor, and his writings as the editor of *Harper's Weekly,* an office assumed in the critical period of the conflict in 1863, were so fair, so keen, so persuasive, that their author created for himself a position in the public mind commanded by probably no other literary publicist. Hundreds of thousands of hearers and readers looked upon him as their mentor, and regarded him with respect due to the cogency of his unprejudiced argumentation, and with affection due to the modest human courtesy of his approach.

Keenly in touch with the practical working out of affairs and, throughout his life, an exemplary member of numerous civic committees, Curtis, from youth to old age, opposed with tact as well as with fervor, and with cheering optimism, the tendency to look upon the highest moral principles "as something too visionary, too abstract and impracticable for working men in actual life." In his Phi Beta Kappa oration at Harvard in 1862, "It is as sure as sunrise," he said, "that men and nations, either in their own lives and characters or in those of their descendants, will pay the penalty of injustice and immorality." His lecture entitled "Political Infidelity," and delivered more than fifty times, in different states from Maine to Maryland, in 1864 and 1865, maintained, in memorable phraseology, that "whatever in this country, in its normal condition of peace is too delicate to discuss is too dangerous to tolerate. Any system, any policy, any institution, which may not be debated will overthrow us if we do not overthrow it."

When the Civil War had ended new problems engaged the attention of Curtis. He opposed all caste usurpation, and advocated the necessity of a better understanding between capital and labor. He was among the first to fight for the enfranchisement of women, feeling that "the spirit of society cannot be just, nor the laws equitable, so long as half of the population are

since its incipiency, but when James G. Blaine, in the eyes of Curtis a corrupt man, ran for the presidency, Curtis urged the election of Grover Cleveland and became the most influential of Independents in national affairs. He gave his most careful thought and many of his hard-pressed days to educational activities, and, as chancellor of the University of the State of New York, he engaged in matters of detail while he continued, in and out of season, to insist on that public duty of educated men which, at Union College in 1877 and at Brown University in 1882, was the theme of orations that continued and deepened the inspirational argument of his first great address in 1856. Underlying all his talks, all his writings, were the free-minded citizen's appreciation of the mental processes of others, the student's analysis of history (and especially deeply was Curtis versed in the history of his own country), and the gentleman's graciousness in winning sympathetic attention. If in his casual papers as editor of "The Easy Chair," in *Harper's Magazine,* he often, and of necessity, engaged in topics of the day, in his more elaborate addresses he expounded in illuminating manner the permanent principles of American progress.

A lover of music and of art, happy in his home on Staten Island, rich in friendships—with James Russell Lowell and Charles Eliot Norton as his two intimates, and his brother, James Burrill Curtis, as the nearest and dearest of his friends—he was never tempted by the more obvious lures of wealth or position. He was the adviser of Presidents, but when he could have had from Mr. Hayes the mission to England, he decided that he could be of more use to his fellow citizens in his capacity with the Harpers than he could possibly be at the Court of St. James's. He acted as delegate to Republican state conventions, but he desired no political advancement for himself, and he withstood with calm temper the attacks of those who, when he turned Independent, accused him of political infidelity. Political infidelity was for him disloyalty to the principles, and not to the behests, of any party; and one of his most memorable sentences is that wherein he adjures the youth of the country that "if ever one of you shall be the man so denounced, do not forget ner, Wendell Phillips, and President Garfield but also, with keen knowledge of literary values, to Robert Burns, to William Cullen Bryant, to James Russell Lowell. The Lowell address delivered first in 1892, on Feb. 22, the birthday of both George Washington and Lowell, and repeated at New York in May, closed Curtis's career as an orator. One remembers this final public appearance of the firm and sweet-souled leader of the public conscience—the charm of his voice, the beauty of his looks, the graciousness of his manner. He had nothing of the dramatic orator, nothing of the sensational actor, but the simplicity of his gestures, the music of his tones, and the utter sincerity of the man won every audience he addressed. He remains a fragrance in the record of American letters and one of the thoroughly fine forces in the development of American civilization.

[Edward Cary, *Geo. Wm. Curtis* (1894); John W Chadwick, "Recollections of Geo. Wm. Curtis," *Harper's Mag.,* Feb. 1893 and *Geo. Wm. Curtis* (1893); E. E. Hale, "Curtis, Whittier and Longfellow," in *Five Prophets of Today* (1892); Parke Godwin, *Geo. Wm. Curtis; A Commemorative Address Delivered before the Century Asso., N. Y., Dec. 17, 1892* (1893); Wm. M. Payne, *Leading Am. Essayists* (1910); Wm. Winter, *Geo. Wm. Curtis, A Eulogy* (1893); *Orations and Addresses of Geo. Wm. Curtis* (1893–94), ed. by Chas. Eliot Norton; *Early Letters of Geo. Wm. Curtis to John S. Dwight* (1898), ed. by Geo. Willis Cooke; *Memorials of Two Friends* (1902); Edward M. Merrill, "Geo. Wm. Curtis, A Tribute to his Life and Public Service," *Jour. Social Science,* Jan. 1894; Chas. E. Fitch, *Address in Memory of Chancellor Geo. Wm. Curtis* (1892); Carl Schurz, "Geo. Wm. Curtis, Friend of the Republic," *McClure's Mag.,* Oct. 1904; H. H. Chamberlain, *Geo. Wm. Curtis and his Antecedents* (1893); *Colburn's New Mo. Mag.* (London), Aug. 1853; *Putnam's Mo.,* Apr. 1857; *Galaxy,* Mar. 1869; *North Am. Rev.,* July 1868; *Appleton's Jour.,* Sept. 13, 1873; *Critic,* Dec. 6, 1884, Sept. 10, 1892; *Nation* (N. Y.) Sept. 8, 1892; *Rev. of Revs.* (N. Y.), Oct. 1892; S. S. Rogers, "Geo. Wm. Curtis and Civil Service Reform," *Atlantic Mo.,* Jan. 1893; A. Cassot, "Geo. Wm. Curtis," *Chautauquan,* May 1893; Geo. Willis Cooke, "Geo. Wm. Curtis at Concord," *Harper's Mag.,* Dec. 1897; Geo. Wm. Curtis, "An Autobiographical Sketch," *Cosmopolitan,* Oct. 1894.]

G. S. H.

CURTIS, JOHN GREEN (Oct. 29, 1844–Sept. 20, 1913), physiologist, was the son of George [*q.v.*] and Julia (Bridgham) Curtis. He was born in New York the year that his father became president of the Continental Bank, and like his brother, Dr. Edward Curtis, and his half-brother, George William Curtis [*q.v.*], derived from his parents a love of scholarly pursuits and a faith in high ideals which he carried

lege he decided to study medicine and in 1870 he received the degree of M.D. from the College of Physicians and Surgeons of New York. On Oct. 20, 1871 he married Mrs. Martha (McCook) Davis. After graduation he entered at once upon the practise of his profession, at the same time serving as assistant demonstrator of anatomy in the medical school and as assistant physician in Bellevue Hospital. Practise of medicine, however, did not appeal to him, and his scholarly taste and interest in science gradually drew him into teaching in the medical school. Here, under Prof. Dalton he became deeply interested in physiology and was soon appointed adjunct lecturer, later adjunct professor of physiology at the College of Physicians and Surgeons. On the retirement of Dr. Dalton he became professor of physiology and head of the department, serving in that capacity from 1883 to 1909, when he retired as professor emeritus.

Curtis was a man of singularly pleasing personality. From 1890 he was secretary of the faculty of the medical school at Columbia, which position brought him closely in contact with the student body, and to him they turned freely for guidance and counsel. In physiology he had two special interests, one being the development of a truly scientific laboratory for the teaching of experimental physiology, so well equipped that it would furnish likewise every opportunity for physiological research. This he accomplished in such fashion that the laboratory became one of the centers of American physiology. The other interest was the early history of physiology, the origins of physiological conceptions, as contrasted with modern physiological thought. For years he studied in the original texts the writings of Aristotle, Hippocrates, Galen, lesser Greek and Latin writers, and especially the writings of Harvey. Among the manuscripts he left was one published in 1915 by his colleague, Dr. Frederic S. Lee, under the title *Harvey's Views on the Use of the Circulation of the Blood,* a most scholarly work revealing many new points of view of great interest to students of the early history of physiology. Curtis was a contributor to the *American Textbook of Physiology* in 1896; he was likewise one of the group of physiologists who founded the American Physiological Society.

[Frederic S. Lee, "John Green Curtis," in *Columbia*

Jared Curtis, who was afterward for many years chaplain of the state prison at Charlestown, Mass. In the private school kept by his father he prepared for Williams College, from which he was graduated in 1827. Three years afterward (October 1830), he went to Wilmington, N. C., as tutor in the family of Gov. Dudley. In 1833 he returned to Massachusetts, where he began to study for the ministry. On Dec. 3, 1834 he married Mary de Rosset of Wilmington; in the following year was ordained in the Episcopal Church; and immediately took up missionary work in western North Carolina, with headquarters at Lincolnton. From 1837 to 1839 he taught in the Episcopal School at Raleigh, which he left, on account of his health, to recuperate in the mountains, where he acquainted himself more thoroughly with the flora of the montane region of the state than any one had ever done. In 1840 he was called to mission work in Washington, N. C., and early in 1841 removed to Hillsboro where he lived till his death, with the exception of the years 1847–56 when he took the pastorate at Society Hill, S. C.

His botanical interests were, he hints, first awakened by Prof. A. A. Eaton's lectures at Williams. It is not clear how he acquired the training necessary to have produced so remarkable a paper as his first, the "Enumeration of Plants Growing Spontaneously Around Wilmington, N. C." (*Boston Journal National History,* May 1835). This survey of the coastal plain vegetation within two miles of Wilmington revealed that he in a very short time had discovered almost as many flowering plants as were then known from the entire state of Massachusetts; but included only the higher or flowering plants. At that time the lower phyla, especially the fungi, algæ, lichens, etc., were receiving scant attention. As early as 1845 Curtis had begun to collect lichens for Tuckerman of New England, and his lichen studies soon led into the wider field of all the fungi. Before long he was in communication with Fries of Upsala, Sweden, with Ravenel of South Carolina, and with A. W. Chapman, who dedicated to him his *Flora of the Southern United States.* He lived in and explored precisely the same country that had been known to Schweinitz only a few years before, yet he was able to discover a large number of new species,

from many sources. Although he still looked for "*peculiar* spiritual significance in the Bible" and believed "*portions* of the Old Testament too devout and sublime to be omitted in any Bible for the human soul,"[70] he turned to other, nonbiblical sources for truth. "I can understand your liking for the grand utterances of devout & wise men in Psalms & Proverbs," he told McKim. "But many modern books seem to me much more 'profitable' than the Epistles."[71]

Every Sunday, all the Shaw daughters, accompanied by their children, gathered at Frank and Sarah's house for lively get-togethers and play on the lawn. By 1875, the senior Shaws had thirteen grandchildren, six of them provided by Susie alone. Despite these regular visits, the couple experienced the melancholy of increasing age, which brought with it the death of many of their friends. "Our circle is closing fast," Frank sadly told Elizabeth Gay. "We shan't last much longer at that rate—when the places that have known us will know us no more & will be filled with others." Many of the Shaws' friends had left Staten Island, and he reported that "our dear old house is still empty—I am afraid that our days of travel for pleasure have passed & that Sarah & I are henceforth fixtures, to be displaced only by sad necessity."[72]

The world had changed—friends were gone, the house was empty, and life beyond the family circle was undergoing rapid transformation. Frank Shaw's dejection about his age and the changes it brought must have paralleled his feelings about a society that was vastly different than the one he experienced as a child. This society was still ripe for reform, and despite some of the disappointments of Reconstruction, he and the members of his reform circle were determined that the sacrifices of the Civil War would not be in vain. Ultimately, the legacy of the war carried these reformers through the next decades and drove the reform impulse of a younger generation.

"What do the lives of our friends teach us?"

Postwar Reformers

In 1890, Henry Lee Higginson donated land to Harvard and requested that the ground be designated Soldier's Field in memory of Robert Gould Shaw, Charles Russell Lowell, James Jackson Lowell, and three other young comrades killed in action during the Civil War. In his dedication speech, Higginson spoke of the men who "gave their lives in the cause of virtue and good government, and to save our nation from the great sins of disunion and of slavery." They had lived in happy homes and had high hopes for the future, noted Higginson, but at the first call, they went straight to the front with "not a thought of themselves, except to serve: and they did serve to the end." Higginson wanted all future Harvard scholars to recognize the lesson of the young men's sacrifice. "Now, what do the lives of our friends teach us?" he asked his audience. "Surely the beauty and the holiness of work and of utter,

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company's business practices to be inherently unscrupulous, and his conscience began to gnaw at him. Shaw continued to work hard for his father's firm but was unable to reconcile in his mind the misery and distress of African slaves and poor laborers with his father's relentless quest for wealth. Nor did he enjoy the long hours—poring over his ledger was tedious and tiresome work, sapping precious hours from his favorite pastime, reading.

Whenever he was home, Shaw poured out his dissatisfactions to his sympathetic half first cousin Sarah Blake Sturgis. He had known her from childhood; they were both grandchildren of Samuel Parkman—Frank through Parkman's second marriage and Sarah through his first marriage to Sarah Shaw.[6] The younger Sarah, the eighth of twelve children, was born 31 August 1815, the daughter of a successful merchant. Her family commanded much of Boston's wealth through its participation in the lucrative East Indies trade, and it was welcome in the nation's most elite circles. As a little girl, Sarah knew John Adams, and she had recently met Andrew Jackson in the White House. "A rough old fellow, wearing carpet slippers," she described him.[7] Intelligent and principled, Sarah understood Shaw's growing discontent. Increasingly, he found he could talk comfortably with her about his concerns.

The young people's friendship deepened at Francis Parkman's New North Church, attended by both families, where an occasional sermon by Ralph Waldo Emerson stirred Sarah's soul. In discussing their thoughts after church, Frank and Sarah found they had much in common, including doubts about Christianity. They shared similar interests, delighting in literature, music, art, and European culture. Sarah began to spend more time with Shaw's family, and early in March 1834, she accompanied her uncle Robert and some of her cousins on a pleasure trip to the South.[8]

By then, Shaw was in love with Sarah. A good friend and companion, charming and beautiful, she liked the unconventional thoughts he shared with her and could envision life with a merchant's son who was not comfortable in the merchant's world. With the full approval of both families, they married on 9 June 1835, apparently cementing a traditional union between related members of Boston's elite. The happy relationship, however, reinforced Frank and Sarah's deviant attitudes toward the customary social practices of upper-class Boston. Encouraging each other in a minirebellion, they gravitated toward movements that undermined the conservative cultural beliefs of their parents.

Raised in the Unitarian environment of elite Boston in a family

circle that included several liberal theologians, the couple's religious training was already unorthodox by the standards prevailing in America at the time. But for Frank and Sarah, the Unitarian faith was stifled by its own orthodoxy, dominated by conservatives, and unable to grasp the radical implications of liberal thought. Conservative Unitarians in the early nineteenth century emphasized reason; they believed that through unassisted reason, a person could establish the essentials of natural religion, which were the existence of God and the obligations of morality. Thus, Unitarians rejected creed and doctrine, claiming toleration within the church was essential to true Christianity. Unlike Deists, however, Unitarians insisted that natural religion had to be supplemented with a special revelation of God's will. The Bible was that special revelation, and much of its authority rested on the miracles of Jesus, who was not God but was of a higher rank in creation than mere men and women.[9]

Around the time of Frank and Sarah's marriage, a controversy over Transcendentalism rocked the Unitarian Church in Massachusetts. Emerson, who brought divisive issues into the open with his 1838 address at the Harvard Divinity School, rejected the conservatives' reliance on the miracles of Christ to support revealed religion. Claiming that miracles and supernatural assistance were irrelevant to real religion, Transcendentalists advocated the human ability to intuit all truth and insisted that God communicated directly with the individual soul.

The most radical Transcendentalist ministers, men such as Theodore Parker and George Ripley, explicitly rejected revealed Christianity as a special revelation. All religions had some truth, they asserted, and since the original source of truth was in the heart, faith was independent of the Bible. Transcendentalists worshiped God, but next they worshiped humans, asserting the self-sufficiency and supremacy of each individual. Christ was merely a man who was more sensitive than others to intuition, and his inspiration was no greater than that available to any other human. He had simply announced religious truths that would have been equally valid had someone else proclaimed them.[10]

Frank and Sarah Shaw were among the first to embrace this radical Transcendentalism. They attended Emerson's sermons and other lectures and befriended Margaret Fuller. This controversial woman would have great influence over Shaw's evolution as a reformer, and he and Sarah would, in turn, encourage her development as a feminist, Transcendentalist, and literary figure.

Margaret Fuller was an unusual woman in antebellum America,

since she had received a rigorous classical education from her father, a middle-class lawyer and politician in Cambridgeport, Massachusetts. After having stimulated her intellect, her father became concerned that he had educated her too aggressively for her future role as wife and mother and halted her lessons. But the damage had been done: Fuller felt pulled apart by her intellectual ambition and the limited scope for employing it that real life offered women. She became self-conscious and isolated, especially after her family moved to the country in 1831. But there, Fuller, deep in personal crisis, experienced her Transcendentalist epiphany. She later recalled that, as she walked alone in a deserted field, the "truth came to me."[11]

Out of this moment in nature, Fuller developed a vision of the unity of the masculine and feminine natures within each individual and within God. To achieve true self-culture, the goal of all Transcendentalists, Fuller believed a person had to fully develop each nature: what society labeled the masculine (or intellect and critical judgment) and the feminine (or spirituality, empathy, and intuition). As the divided self evaporated, a person would experience true wholeness. Fuller later articulated these ideas in *Women in the Nineteenth Century*, where she argued that this internal reform was a necessary predecessor to institutional or political reform. Once individuals experienced this transformation, gender domination in society would evaporate and men and women could experience true marriage. She cautioned that this revolution could not begin unless women challenged the assumption that they could not lead or teach.[12]

For the rest of her life, Fuller sought what she called wholeness—the unity of the "masculine and feminine," "empathy and critical judgment," "beauty and power," "thought and action," and "individualism and social consciousness." She developed close ties with Transcendentalists such as Emerson, but she found that few men even in that circle embraced her view of the creative power of women.[13]

Fuller struggled to find her voice and the forum to spread her critique. After her father's death, she endeavored to support herself and aid her family, but there was little career opportunity for an educated, single woman in nineteenth-century America. At first, she tried the most popular option for Northern women in her situation—teaching. But her duties at Bronson Alcott's experimental Temple School in Boston and then Greene Street School in Providence, Rhode Island, left her little time to write, which was her chief ambition. In December 1838, she left teaching to

women's rights and precipitated a crisis in their relationship. His public stand in October 1845 may also have been a personal offering to Sarah. The *Harbinger* article is a fascinating window into a radical couple's attempts to negotiate the narrow confines of America's emerging Victorian society. As participants in and critics of that society, Frank and Sarah would both adhere to and deviate from early-nineteenth-century gender roles in their marriage.

A pattern within the Shaw marriage that was typical for the period was Sarah's constant concern with her health. For the next few years, she incessantly complained of her suffering. Although her health problems were real, society's understanding of womanhood reinforced her attitudes. Early Victorian ideology associated suffering and self-sacrifice with motherhood and thus labeled these traits as inherent in females. Mothers, responsible for the child's character formation and preparation for eternal life, were encouraged to devote constant, selfless care to their children. Lydia Maria Child's domestic advice manuals admonished women to embrace self-renunciation as a total lifestyle and to remember that suffering was a characteristic of good motherhood. Sarah embraced this view of herself as a suffering, self-sacrificing mother and instilled it in her children. Her son Rob, as an adult, would tell his fiancée about "the sacrifices [my mother] has made for me, and for which I can never repay her."[14]

While American ideology certainly contributed to the pervasive sense of "suffering motherhood," historian Nancy Theriot considers the idealization of female suffering to be partly a product of physical experience. For many women, the experience of childbirth had changed. Middle- and upper-class women now employed physicians rather than midwives, and these practitioners used intrusive instruments and methods, such as bleeding and purging, that were dangerous and produced pain. Sarah's generation of women associated pain with childbirth more than their grandmothers did.[15]

Sarah's suffering was based on genuine ailments as well. Her health grew worse after the birth of Ellen in 1845. She developed a severe lung illness and was nearly blind. Shaw sent her to Staten Island, New York, for treatment by physician Samuel MacKenzie Elliott, the first eye specialist in the United States; he practiced at Elliotsville, a residential treatment neighborhood that attracted a wealthy and distinguished clientele.[16] In early 1847, Lydia Maria Child accompanied Sarah to Elliott's hospital for eye surgery while Shaw stayed in West Roxbury with the children. Not only did Sarah regain her vision but her overall physical condition also improved in the bracing climate of Staten Island. Child reported that she became "*very* cheerful; even full of fun."[17]

Because of her improved spirits, the Shaws decided on a permanent move to the island. Sarah's health seemed to require it, and Frank conceded there was nothing to keep him in West Roxbury. The Association experiment at Brook Farm faced its dire crisis, and its collapse seemed inevitable in early 1847. Shaw knew he could pursue his reform efforts from New York City just as successfully.

Staten Island was the perfect place to refresh his and Sarah's spirits. New York City's expansion had not yet marred the island's rural beauty. Fuller had described its charms to Sarah two years earlier: the "long woodwalks," the hills with "glimpses of the sea," the "Narrows with the processions of ships gliding through," and "its long strip of silvery sand that cleaves the waters with such beautiful effect."[18] While connected to all the advantages of New York City, Staten Island reminded Shaw of the rural ideal he had sought when he took his family to West Roxbury.

Despite Sarah's health problems and the personal crisis that precipitated the move to New York, contemporaries reported that the Shaw family remained close-knit and happy. Frank spent more time with the children than many other nineteenth-century fathers, and Sarah remained a devoted mother who lavished attention and love on her son and four daughters. The Shaw children were given wide latitude in self-expression and behavior, which created an attractive atmosphere of freedom and gaiety, and the Shaw home was a popular place to visit for this very reason.[19]

The freedom of expression friends such as Fuller noted in the Shaw children was not unique to this radical family. By the 1830s, middle- and upper-class Americans had largely repudiated the prerevolutionary view of children as sinful and depraved beings. Frank's father, Robert Gould Shaw, had endured harsh discipline from his uncle William, but there was little of this treatment from Frank's own generation. Children were now seen as innocent and loving, and parents recognized that childhood was an extremely important phase of life.

The new goal of parental discipline in the 1830s and 1840s was character formation: instilling morals and self-government in children. In a shift that paralleled changes in the larger society, Americans expected individuals to be governed by internalized values rather than patriarchy and authority. Parents strove to develop a child's conscience using love and reason rather than corporal punishment. Advice manuals encouraged mothers to use their "influence," obtained through their capacity for self-denial

their children. Sarah, she reflected, educated her daughters "*not* after the usual manner of wealthy people." Although glad for them to benefit from the advantages Paris offered for intellectual education, Sarah was anxious "they should not be tainted by the worldliness and the love of dress so often fostered by residence there." Sarah spoke with pity to Gaskell of wealthy American girls who spent great sums on themselves, a habit that "always produced a self-indulgent character, and really often became an obstacle to marriage of true love." Sarah said that she and Frank "feared the adoption of riches as a comparative standard of worth," but Gaskell noted that "she was fully alive to the real advantages that might be derived from wealth." Gaskell also learned what Sarah loved about her husband: "Mrs. Shaw spoke of her husband as the true and faithful descendant of one of the Pilgrim Fathers who had left everything for conscience' sake."[44]

Although Sarah spoke of Frank leaving everything, his connections with his father's financial enterprises had not really been severed. Shaw's trip to America, one of many he made during the extended stay in Europe, was necessitated by his continued responsibility to the extended family's financial interests. As father to his children, Frank was concerned with their moral and intellectual development; as eldest son of Robert Gould Shaw, he was concerned with maintaining his kin's interests, especially after his father died in May 1853.

Frank's retirement from his partnership in Robert Gould Shaw & Company did not erase his obligation to share in the family's financial support. His upbringing had instilled the elite Bostonian kinship ethos, and his role as eldest son prescribed certain duties that he could not abandon. Robert Gould's will left him a wealthy man in control of numerous investments in blatantly capitalistic enterprises, but Frank saw no contradiction between his belief in Association and his management of a great share of the company's stocks and property after his father's death. He received substantial property of his own, but his father also required him to oversee some of his brothers' and sisters' assets. Shaw inherited $94,500, two stores on Commercial Wharf, and a lease and shares of stock in three of his father's companies. Along with his brother-in-law George R. Russell, Frank possessed deeds to real estate and buildings all over the city, which the two men managed for equal division among the siblings. He and Russell also controlled stock in several manufacturing companies, banks, and railroads in order to pay dividends to Robert Gould Shaw's daughters (the money was made free from the control of their husbands). These responsibilities required Frank to maintain buildings, invest money, collect rent, and make sure the income was kept in account for each family member.[45]

Shaw's financial efforts on behalf of his family helped maintain its position in the center of Boston's social elite. His younger brothers and their cousins would become prominent industrialists, scientists, philanthropists, and Gilded Age reformers. Thus, in both his roles—as father and eldest brother—Frank participated in the development of postbellum reform.

The inheritance from Robert Gould Shaw enabled Frank and Sarah to make preparations for their return to Staten Island, where the couple had decided to build a luxurious home. Shaw's close friend Sydney Howard Gay, the abolitionist editor of the *Anti-Slavery Standard,* had arranged the initial land deals. The Shaws bought property between Bard and Davis Avenues in West New Brighton, Staten Island, and hired a Parisian architect to draw up plans for the house. When Frank left Sarah and the girls in Paris for the winter of 1854–55, he returned home to oversee the start of construction.[46]

Shaw could reconcile his plans for elegant living with his commitment to the principles of Association because he saw no contradiction between his beliefs and his lifestyle. Gay, who knew Shaw as well as anyone outside the family, suggested that Shaw considered his wealth as an estate in trust, but "he was too wise to suppose that the breakers in which the ship was tossing could be stilled by throwing overboard his little cask of oil." Shaw enjoyed his prosperity as an "unquestionable personal right, the sacrifice of which would not advance one jot the general good he had so much at heart."[47]

Shaw used his time in New York to arrange for the publication of another of his translations. A scholar at heart, he had studied Swiss history while in Europe. He felt there was dearth of information on the subject in the United States, so he brought home his version of Heinrich Zschokke's popular work, *The History of Switzerland, for the Swiss People.*[48]

Shaw returned to France in May 1855, picked up his family, made a short excursion to England, then returned to America in June. The house was not quite ready, so the family spent July in Newport, Rhode Island, before moving home.[49] The new residence awed the Gays' young daughter, who marveled at its "elaboration of detail quite foreign to us."[50] The outside was simple yet elegant, with a square front porch flanked by two large wings. Inside, a winding circular staircase dominated the entry, which opened into Shaw's large library and a drawing

James Roosevelt, Theodore Roosevelt, Sr., Frederick Law Olmsted, and Charles L. Brace. The audience was similarly sprinkled with distinguished members of the city's social and political elite, and they all leaned forward eagerly to hear Charles O'Conor and Joseph H. Choate, distinguished lawyers and two of the best speakers in New York, describe the accomplishments of the SCAA. In between the speeches of O'Conor and Choate, the audience was treated to extracts of Lowell's work, commended by Choate as a "masterly report."[2]

Governor Tilden was also impressed by the crisp and authoritative assertions of the young charity volunteer. He wondered aloud to his friend Louisa Lee Schuyler, president of the SCAA, if Mrs. Lowell would consider filling a current vacancy on the SBC. He had already been turned down by one worthy citizen, and it occurred to him that a person with Lowell's impressive credentials might be just right for the SBC.[3] Tilden later waffled a bit when it was pointed out to him that no woman in New York had ever been appointed to an official state position. Nevertheless, Schuyler's enthusiasm and the empty commissioner's seat kept Tilden's interest piqued, and in the end, he offered Lowell the appointment.

With the governor's offer firmly secured, Schuyler went to the Shaws' house on Staten Island to inform her friend:

> I remember so well my interview with Mrs. Lowell; the arguments I turned over in my mind on the Staten Island ferryboat to induce her to look favorably upon the proposition, the sweet smile and friendly greeting of the young widow in her simple black dress. I stated the object of my visit, and was proceeding to argue why it was so important that she should consider it, when she said very quietly: "If the Governor and the Senate wish to appoint me, I will gladly serve." "Do you wish to think it over?" I asked. "No," she said, "I know what the work of the Board is. I shall try to do it."[4]

Evidently Schuyler was very much surprised at Lowell's eager acceptance of what was clearly a groundbreaking appointment for women in public service. This move would distinguish her not only from her friends in private charity but from her mother and sisters and other female relatives in the reform-minded Shaw family. Now Lowell would self-consciously embrace a career that gave her a unique public visibility. When viewed in the light of family tradition and personal ambition, however, Lowell's acceptance of Governor Tilden's offer was less out

of character than Schuyler assumed. To begin with, the mise-en-scène described by Schuyler very much followed the Shaw family's dedication to the public good. When duty called for Lowell, then, could she do any less than her husband and brother? "I will gladly serve" was in keeping with her family tradition.

Second, while Lowell, at thirty-two, maintained the shyness and simplicity of manner that had charmed so many in her youth (and would continue to enchant the friends and colleagues of her adult years), the fact is that she had developed an aggressive and vigorous approach to her work for the SCAA. She never overtly challenged gender boundaries, preferring to use tact and discretion to preempt male co-workers who might otherwise be offended by her intellectual and practical accomplishments. Lowell's ambition was real, but it served a higher purpose. Thus, even while Lowell was enlarging the realms in which women might act, she was always aware that as one of the first women in a high-profile public position, she could advance her policy goals more effectively by being "every inch a woman" than she could by insisting on equality of the sexes in all areas.[5]

The Family Circle

There is also no doubt that Josephine Shaw Lowell's early career was nurtured by a network of friends and family who approved of her ambitions. "*Of course* Effie made a good impression," wrote Lydia Maria Child in reply to Sarah's proud letter announcing Josephine's appointment as state commissioner. "How could it be otherwise, with her dignity, and gracefulness, and good sense, and thorough knowledge of what she was talking about?"[6] And earlier, when Lowell took up her duties with the Richmond County visiting committee, she had not only the comradeship of her close friends from the Sanitary Commission (Lou Schuyler, Gertrude Stevens Rice, and Ellen Collins) but also the visible support of her family. Two of her brothers-in-law, George Curtis and Francis Barlow, were on the SCAA's advisory board, and her sister Anna and father, Frank, served on the visiting committee with her. The affirming atmosphere she enjoyed within her family circle remained a constant throughout her life, and must be considered a major factor in explaining her success in public work. Lowell cherished her family, and they, in turn, returned her devotion in full.[7]

In 1869, Francis and Sarah sold their large homestead on Bard Ave-

nue to their daughter and son-in-law, Susanna and Robert Minturn. The elder Shaws then purchased a more modest residence on the shores of the Kill Van Kull, where they lived with Josephine and Carlotta. Although small by their previous standards, the Shaws' new three-story house was still generously proportioned with an attractive verandah looking out over a beautiful lawn with trees and with a view of a "broad expanse of water, shimmering in the sunlight, with vessels and steamboats constantly passing their bright flags fluttering in the breeze."[8]

An intimate portrait of the Shaw family life was provided by their lifelong friend Lydia Maria Child. An inveterate letter writer and acute observer of social customs, Child stayed as a guest in Frank and Sarah's home after the death of her husband, David Lee Child, in late 1874, just a few months before Josephine and Carlotta's move to a house in New York City. Child's visit coincided with one of the most bitter winters on record, and thus provided her with ample opportunity to comment on her fellow shut-ins at close range. The Shaws installed their friend in a large bedroom that contained all of Rob's old furniture. Child relished sitting in Rob's favorite chair and using his table to write letters from where she could look out the window and enjoy a lovely panorama of Staten Island scenery. The exterior pleasantries were more than matched by the graceful elegance of the interior, which was "adorned with every form of artistic beauty," including valuable books and works of art.[9]

The running of the four-member household was facilitated by the labor of seven servants, including a coachman, who was always available to take Child anywhere she wished to go in the gleaming Shaw carriage. This unaccustomed luxury alternately irritated and amused Child, whose self-imposed exile and penurious existence in Wayland, Massachusetts, had ill prepared her for the Shaws' "luxurious" lifestyle. Nevertheless, she obviously relished her inclusion in their activities and recorded them with warmth and in detail. Every morning, Child recalled, the Shaws would gather in the pretty breakfast room, where the food was accompanied by much lively banter, which included heated discussions of current issues. Particularly memorable was Josephine, fair and comely, with "the becoming little cow-lick on each side of the forehead, laying down the law, moral and scientific to her father." And if Frank dared to disagree with his daughter, he would

humorously be declared "an infidel, to be [illegible]
Progressive Scientific Church, and consigned to the dark, moss-covered chapel of holy St. Fogg."[10]

The invigorating morning discussions undoubtedly fueled the Shaws' busy days, which were filled with the running of the homestead, paying social calls, and "innumerable charitable missions, (to which they devote a vast deal of personal attention, as well as money)."[11] Weather permitting, Frank and Sarah would go into New York two or three times a week, to take care of business affairs or to enjoy the many social and cultural attractions that the city had to offer. Josephine, of course, was constantly coming and going, attending to her duties for the SCAA. And ten-year-old Lotta, dressed in her "wide-stiff skirts and broad-sash," would be picked up in her cousin's carriage in the afternoons to attend dancing school. Every Sunday the whole family would walk a mile to the Gothic-style Unitarian church where they would enjoy a simple service. As there was at that time no minister, son-in-law and neighbor George Curtis would read "so finely" from the best of recent American and English sermons. The small congregation also enjoyed listening to excellent organ music while they prayed together in the church where Josephine and Charley were married.

After the service, there was a gathering of the four Shaw daughters and their families at Sarah and Frank's for dinner. The Curtises, the Minturns, the Barlows, and the Lowells all mingled happily and boisterously on that special day. The Shaws' numerous grandchildren were especially dear to them, and much of the socializing done was devoted to children's activities. Even so, Child found the adult company more to her liking, and she particularly enjoyed the "pleasing and profitable" conversation of Curtis, whose "highly cultured presence" added to the cosmopolitan atmosphere exuded by the family. One occasion was fondly remembered by Child in a letter to Sarah:

> I see dear Frank's pleasant smile, his soft, silky ringlets, his snow-white collar and kerchief, his prismatic diamond, and his golden cross. I see your smiling face, looking anything like a grandmother. I see Anna's great innocent, honest eyes, through which the sincere soul looks so earnestly. I see Susie Minturn's handsome face, radiant and smiling. I see Effie's noble fair countenance, and graceful figure,

ing cry of opposition to anarchy and sectionalism." Many were moved by his eloquence; N. P. Willis, for one, after hearing him at Newburgh, New York, resolved to cast the first vote of his life—and for Frémont, of course. Before the campaign wound up, Curtis left the field, content in the belief that whatever the election's outcome, the anti-slavery movement could not be stopped.[2]

At the moment he had a more important personal matter to attend to—his approaching marriage. In writing Charles Norton to thank him for his "most affectionate letter and most beautiful gift for my Nan," he told of his wedding plans. Anna and he were to be married, probably on November 25th, "very quietly and privately in the morning and in the pretty little Unitarian Church upon Staten Island. One day," he added, "you will know my wife, so shy and still and so lovely that, as I wrote your mother, I wonder everybody does not love her as I do!!"

The wedding actually took place on November 26th, Thanksgiving Day. The ceremony, performed in the presence of a few close friends,[3] went off very smoothly. Curtis later described the event to his old companion, Pearse Cranch:

> Your last letter . . . came into my hands upon my wedding day, and even as I stood robed and ready for the happiness that was waiting. There had been a chilly storm all the day before and night, but about nine in the morning of the 26th of November, June came back again,—the windows and doors were open. There might have been roses upon the lawn, as there were in the cheeks of my bride, and in the softest summer sunshine and among a few of our nearest and dearest, your letter in my pocket all the time, to represent you and Lizzie, we were married. Perhaps there was never a wedding with so little cloud, and if I can blow it off, there will never be any more in the married life than there was in the marrying.[4]

After a week's honeymoon, the Curtises returned to Staten Island, moving temporarily into the Shaws' roomy home near the Sailors' Snug Harbor. Though it was not without a pang that George left the lovely old "brownstone front" at 27 Washington Place which had been his home since 1839, he was content to settle amidst the congenial people and pleasant country surroundings of Staten Island. Soon Anna and he were to build a home of

their own, on the corner of Bard and Henderson Avenues, not far from the Shaws', and to settle there permanently.

The winter and spring of 1856-57 were devoted mostly to duties for *Putnam's Monthly*. The magazine had begun to encounter financial difficulties, and when the publishers Dix and Edwards failed in April, 1857, Curtis, with new partners, took over the reins. They were able to carry on until August and then had to suspend publication with the September issue. Curtis explained the situation to Norton:

> They [Dix and Edwards] failed in April last, and I was responsible as general partner. To save the creditors (for I would willingly have called quits myself) I threw in more money, which was already forfeited, and undertook the business with Mr. Miller, the printer, who wanted to save himself. Presently Mr. Shaw put in some money as special partner. But what was confessed to be difficult when we relied upon the statements given us [i.e., by Dix and Edwards], became impossible when those statements turned against us, and last week we suspended. In the very moment of arrangement it appeared that, by an informality, Mr. Shaw was held as a general partner. The creditors, led by your mayor, swarmed in, to avail themselves of the slip, and we are now wallowing in the law.
>
> Of course, I lose everything, and expected to, but there is now, in addition, this ugly chance of Mr. S.'s losing 60 or $70,000, and all by an accident which the creditors fully comprehend.[5]

Though guided by the best motives, Curtis would seem to have been too trusting of Dix and Edwards, who, apparently taking advantage of a loophole in the bankruptcy laws, escaped from under, leaving Curtis to face the creditors. It was certainly a crashing failure, and he, with a new bride, had lost all his money and a substantial sum of his father-in-law's too.

But his wife smiled in spite of the storm, and so did Mr. Shaw. Fortunately, the latter was sufficiently wealthy to settle affairs with the creditors, and he was content to do so, having faith that his son-in-law would repay him—as Curtis did, over a period of years. George himself was not at all dismayed, for he had his wife—"Dear Nannie, how can I remember that I am 'ruined' when I think of you?"—and they were eagerly expecting their first child.[6] Moreover, he had confidence in his ability to make good the losses.[7]

was so much occupied with politics and public speaking. For the monthly "causerie" is filled with discussions of literary subjects, drama, poetry, oratory (then still an important literary form), and fiction. Though inclined to be sketchy, "conversational" remarks rather than formal criticism, the discussions, especially of the novel, are often very shrewd, and one can listen with interest and respect to what Curtis has to say about Jane Austen, Charlotte Brontë, George Eliot and "Henry James, Jun."[7] His comments on them have historical value; he reflects the temper of the period, for instance, in his tremendous enthusiasm for George Eliot, whose strong moral note he approved, although he recognized that artistry should not be sacrificed to the "message." On the other hand, his esthetic sensitivity is revealed in his defense of James's technique.

The Easy Chair columns also contain charming and valuable reminiscences of such literary figures as Thoreau and Hawthorne and Poe and of such literary movements as Transcendentalism. Curtis was at his best in the reminiscent sketch, and his little essays are worthwhile from the standpoint of literary artistry as well as subject matter.[8]

Curtis's recollections of literary figures appeared in places other than the columns of the Easy Chair. An article on "Mr. Emerson and the 'Dial' " was published in the *Literary World* in 1880, one on "Longfellow" in *Harper's Monthly* in 1882, and a third on "Irving's 'Knickerbocker' " in the *Critic* in 1883.

Calling the *Dial* a "most interesting and remarkable publication" and one unique in periodical literature, Curtis discussed its role in the Transcendental movement, then went on to talk about its editor, Emerson. "Those who have felt throughout their lives the purifying and elevating and liberalizing power," Curtis said (and he was one who had), "and who have seen in his inspiring career the perfect sanity of true genius, can never think without affectionate reverence of Ralph Waldo Emerson." He likewise spoke of Longfellow with affection, and commended the skillful workmanship of his poetry, its universality and its moral strength, though he was realistic enough to grant that Longfellow's genius did not show great creative force. The quite different figure of

Irving commanded Curtis's respect also, and he praised him as "the spirit which first broke the primeval literary silence of our colonial life and began our literature." The Irving sketch dealt particularly with Irving's treatment of New York life in the early part of the 19th century, and with his role as the leader of the Knickerbocker school. Curtis had always shown sympathy for that period—and for Irving, whom he had known in the 1850's. "Those who recall his own quaint figure in the little Talma cloak, with the springing step and cheery twinkle of the eye as he passed along Broadway, seem to have seen the very genius of the old city and of the hearty life that he imagined."

Except for such reminiscences and incidental criticism, little of a literary nature came from Curtis's pen in these years. Time was too short. When Charles Dudley Warner, as the editor of the American Men of Letters series, asked him in 1881 to write the life of Bryant, Curtis regretfully refused. "As to the Bryant," Warner had written, "the consensus on you is now practically universal, and I shall be quite at a loss what to do if your final decision is unfavorable. You know that the success of our enterprise depends upon the men engaged in it." Though able and willing to offer advice, he did not feel equal to tackling the job himself. When the life of Bryant for the Men of Letters series was finally written by John Bigelow in 1890, Curtis, so far as we know, did not have a hand in it. However, he had earlier lent considerable assistance to Parke Godwin, his good friend, and Bryant's son-in-law, who published a life of the poet in 1883.

Curtis also willingly offered advice to another friend who was working on a literary project in the early '80's, Epes Sargent. Sargent was putting together *Harper's Cyclopedia of British and American Poetry*, and Curtis, at his request, made suggestions, advising the inclusion, among others, of Walt Whitman. When Sargent inquired about Curtis's own poetry, the latter replied, "My muse has not been very prolific. But if you will tell me which of her waifs you have sheltered, I will see if there is another." Five of his poems, all written many years earlier, were included in Sargent's collection, which appeared in 1882. Curtis may have been thinking of his own work—he should have been—when he

occasions he usually worked at a desk in the composing-room, either writing, reading, or correcting proof, or, often as not, chatting with those around him. Since he wrote his editorials rapidly (having thought them out carefully beforehand), there was always time for the chats, which—an eminently social person—he much enjoyed.

The Easy Chair essays, the orations and articles, and the infrequent poems were usually written at home on Staten Island. Sitting in his quiet study, surrounded by his books, perhaps finding inspiration from glancing at the Stratford portrait of Shakespeare or the busts of Emerson, Webster, and Homer which lined the walls of the room, he composed in a leisurely, reflective manner. It was his practice to sit in his easy chair, literally and figuratively, and write, resting his writing pad on his knee. If the resulting scrawl sometimes proved illegible, his wife was at hand to transcribe it for him. Mrs. Curtis often acted as his amanuensis, and "after excessive writing had produced author's cramp, so that he rarely wrote with anything but a stub of a pencil, she always typed his essays or articles."

When his day's stint of writing was done, Curtis might watch his children at play. Their home, on the North Shore of Staten Island, had a country setting, and the children could romp in the surrounding fields or wade in the brook nearby. Often in the afternoon Mr. and Mrs. Curtis took long drives behind a pair of "spanking bays" belonging to, and driven by, Mrs. Curtis. She was a great horsewoman, and, indeed, very fond of all animals, bestowing on them the affection which her shyness often prevented her from giving to men and women.

Nan Curtis helped her husband in many ways. He often talked over difficult situations with her and relied on her frank honesty and clear judgment. Not enjoying society's distractions, she avoided public functions whenever possible and by virtue of this deliberate detachment preserved a certain freshness of viewpoint which George often found useful. She was also very capable and ran their large and attractive home and superintended the grounds and stables with comparatively little assistance from her busy husband.

From the early days of their residence on Staten Island, the

Curtises took a definite interest in local affairs. Nan, like all her family, devoted much time to the poor and unfortunate, and George was equally conscious of social welfare. He served in such organizations as the Staten Island branch of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, of which he was President for many years. He also acted as a Director of the Staten Island Academy, and, on Sunday mornings, as a lay preacher in the Unitarian Church on Clinton Avenue. He was always ready, too, to address meetings of the Robert Gould Shaw Grand Army of the Republic Post, or local political meetings and celebrations, such as the opening of the Wyandotte Hook and Ladder Company's new station in West Brighton.

The Curtises, especially George, enjoyed the cultivated and stimulating society which Staten Island then afforded. The group included the Sidney Gays, the Winthrops, Judge William Emerson, the Shaws, and, for a time, Francis Parkman and Pearse Cranch. Many a gathering was enlivened by George's detailed accounts of public dinners or meetings he had attended. On afternoon walks with Sidney Gay and Mr. Shaw, he discoursed on political matters of the moment, and on many winter evenings, he sat contentedly at the piano in the Gays' parlor, playing dance music for his children and the neighbors'.

If Staten Island had a drawback, it was the ferry boat ride, across New York Harbor from the Island to the City. The trip was slow, and always irksome to Mr. Curtis. On the other hand, Staten Island, *because* it was an island, possessed decided advantages. It remained isolated, and consequently rural, long after the rest of the New York area had been urbanized, and it enjoyed, thanks to the surrounding water, a cool climate. The water proved an especially pleasant feature in the summer time, for one could go boating, and even swimming, in the Island coves.

The Curtis family seldom had a chance to enjoy Staten Island's summer-time advantages, however, for after 1865 they went anually to Ashfield, Massachusetts in the Berkshire hills for a long vacation. Their friends, the Nortons, provided the lure which drew them to this "Arcadian" spot. Having spent a pleasant vacation in Ashfield in 1864, Norton bought a house there the next spring and persuaded Curtis to take his family up for the summer.

told Sargent, ". . . there is not much American Poetry which really enriches our literature, or which would be felt necessary to any collection by an Englishman."

That unfailing source of pleasure, the family group and his intimate friends, afforded Curtis many happy hours. His retirement from the lyceum circuit permitted him to spend the winters at home from 1873 on, and as he wrote to Charles Norton on December 28, 1873, ". . . it is in every way delightful." To his friends he proved as charming a companion as ever. Though growing older—"the winter has got into my whiskers, but my hair still gives play on top, and my head is not yet an ostrich egg"—he did not lose his resilient spirits and capacity for enjoying life.

Much of Nan and George Curtis's contentment in these years came from watching their children develop. Though they had lost their younger daughter, Sally, "peculiarly dear because of the cloud that had always shrouded her mind," in April, 1874, Frank and Lizzie remained well and matured rapidly. In the fall of 1875, Frank—"as large as I am," said his father—went off to Harvard. There he spent a somewhat indolent four years marked chiefly by a tendency to overcut, especially prayers.[9] He was admitted to Columbia Medical School, however, and received his M.D. in 1883, thus following in the footsteps of two of his uncles, Ned and John Curtis. Lizzie, meanwhile, grew into a "tall girl," so her father reported in 1880, "who plays [the piano] charmingly."

Most of the Curtis and Shaw households had settled close to one another, either at Staten Island or in New York City, and there was a constant and cheerful intercourse among them. In the fall of 1874 the Curtis clan gathered at the marriage of George's youngest brother, John, to "Mrs. Davis, née Miss Martha M. Cook of Ohio." All five brothers, Burrill, George, Sam, Ned, and John, were assembled at their mother's home in New York City at the time of the wedding. It was a happy occasion, and fortunately timed, for Mrs. Curtis died the following winter. Her sons had cause to grieve at her death; her kindness and thoughtfulness had made her an ideal mother, her vivacity and intelligence, a perfect companion.

Burrill Curtis, after his short visit in 1874, returned to England, and George, though reluctant to see him go, felt that he did well to return:

> . . . for he would not be satisfied here. He said that it would be a very, very long time before he could feel at home here. But he never would—he never did. He was born a foreigner.—I have been very happy with him. He is singularly pure and unselfish; no man that I know has a more absolute love of truth or is so free from personal ambition.[10]

Of all his brothers, George was probably on the best terms, in later years, with John. Living near one another and sharing mutual friends such as John's college roommates, Thomas Sergeant Perry and Moorfield Storey,[11] they found their ten year age differential no bar to cordial relations. An amusing letter from John to George, inviting him to deliver an address at the graduation exercises of the Columbia College of Physicians and Surgeons, suggests their intimacy:

> As inducements to this [i.e., delivering the address], I may briefly set forth the following: 1. The pleasure of hearing yourself speak. 2. The gratification of seeing Capt. William clubbing the populace at the rear end of the hall, who want seats and can't get 'em. 3. The bliss of hearing me call the roll of the class. 4. Applause. 5. Family pride. 6. The pleasure it will be to Anna to occupy a box. 7. A cheque for $100. 8. The free use of a carriage. 9. An invitation to sup with the Faculty and graduating class without being expected to 'throw in' a second speech gratis. 10. The opportunity to meet so many eminent practitioners. 11. The chance to get off a number of thoughts with which you are bursting. 12. The fact that you will give a great deal of pleasure, to many worthy people. 13. The chance of spending the night at my house . . . The thing would bore you awfully, of course, but I should be delighted if you could accept.[12]

Just as the winter days amidst family and friends in Staten Island and New York provided many moments of pleasure for Curtis, so, too, did the summer days at Ashfield. Settled at their "farm" for long vacations regularly after 1873, the Curtises enjoyed the rural life and their Ashfield neighbors. Except for occasional trips to his old summer haunt, Newport—"the woman has not lost her wiles"—visiting his friends, the Edmund Tweedys, and participating in meetings of the Civil Service Reform League, George Curtis "stayed put." Charles Norton was always glad when such was the case, for, as he told James Lowell, "My vacation does not really begin till he comes to share it."

and the next spring he visited Cambridge again. The latter occasion was an unhappy one, however, for Curtis went to attend the funeral of Longfellow. Curtis later wrote to William Winter:

> . . . Fortunately I was able to go on Saturday evening and stood by his coffin as the lid was closed forever. His face was perfectly peaceful and the right arm was laid across his breast. It was in the large library in which I saw him living, for the last time, on the first of last July. No man living was so widely loved, no author was ever so personally lamented. How spotless his life, how pure and sweet his character! the most famous of Americans, and wholly free from envy, malice and all uncharitableness.[16]

He concluded sadly, "The fathers are separating. I saw Emerson stand by the coffin and look at the dead face. But in his broken state the dead seemed happier than the living."

XV

The Last Years

GEORGE CURTIS had several more active years of "living" ahead, and continued his busy pace until the final months of his life. In the period from 1883 to 1892, while sustaining his interest in literary and social affairs, he was chiefly occupied with the civil service problem and with defending his independent political views.

The climactic moment in his political career occurred in 1884 when, together with Carl Schurz, E. L. Godkin, R. H. Dana, III, Richard R. Bowker, and others, he "bolted" the Republican Party and formed a group known as the Independent Republicans, or, more familiarly, the "Mugwumps." There had been a schism in the Party for several years, the old line politicians opposing the "independents," who placed public service before party politics. No formal revolt transpired, however, until James G. Blaine won the presidential nomination at the Republican National Convention in June, 1884. The golden-voiced Senator from Maine, whose political career had not been free from scandal and whose known sympathy toward the spoils system and the high tariff made him anathema to men with principles like Curtis's, had been denounced by the Independents several months before the Convention. Curtis and other Independents who had been chosen as delegates to the Convention still opposed Blaine's nomination in June.

It was a stormy Convention. First, John R. Lynch, a Negro from Mississippi, was chosen as Convention Chairman through the

efforts of Henry Cabot Lodge, Theodore Roosevelt, and George Curtis. Curtis looked upon this as a revolt against machine domination. But then an attempt was made to pass a resolution declaring that every delegate who took part in the Convention was "bound in honor to support the nominee." Curtis immediately rose to declare that he was one Republican who carried his sovereignty under his hat. "A Republican and a free man I came to this Convention; by the grace of God a Republican and a free man will I go out of this Convention." The resolution was not passed.

When the balloting began, considerable jockeying took place among three candidates, Senator George F. Edmunds of Vermont, President Arthur, and Blaine, but on the fourth ballot the latter won out. The customary motion was offered to make the nomination unanimous and was carried. Curtis refrained from voting, however, wishing to make clear his refusal to support Blaine.[1] A few days after the Convention ended he went on record in *Harper's Weekly* in opposition to Blaine's nomination. "I should be recreant to my conscience," he said, "and I should bitterly disappoint all those who are accustomed to look to me, if, after all that I have said about political morality, I should now support for the presidency the one man who is most repugnant to the political conscience of young Republicans."

This rank heresy of "bolting" the Party brought down on the heads of Curtis and the other Independents vitriolic comments from both press and public. Satirical songs taunted them:

> Sing ho! the political flirts!
> The moral immaculate few!
> There's Curtis and Godkin and Corporal Schurz
> And the Boston Tiger too!
>
> Sing bah! you political flirts!
> You dubious dudish few!
> Sing bah to you all, especially Schurz
> And calico Curtis too.[2]

Poems, and bitter letters—"Go soak your head—you old Copperhead"—abused them.[3]

On the other hand, Curtis and his fellows received many expressions of appreciation and confidence. Said an anti-Blaine man:

> As one who has always been a republican, since the party was formed, but who would not vote for Mr. Blaine for any office, under any circumstance, believing him thoroughly corrupt in using public office for private gain, and a political trickster, charlatan, and a demagogue, lacking every element of an honest man and a statesman, I take the liberty of writing you this letter.[4]

Curtis found the sting of the "steady batter of blackguardism and angry and contemptuous denunciation" lessened by "such cordial words of sympathy."

His bolting from the Republican Party had not been a sudden gesture. He had always believed that one should be a faithful party man only so long as the aims of the party did not offend one's conscience, and thus he had been an "independent Republican" long before 1884. He had advised "scratching" the ticket in the New York gubernatorial race in 1879, had sanctioned both "scratching" and "bolting" if unworthy candidates were presented by the Party, in speeches in 1880 and 1883. Though his action in 1884 may not have conformed to the conventions of American political practice, it was consistent with his own principles.

The Independent Republicans, determining upon a common course of action after the split at the Convention, threw their support to the Democratic nominee, Grover Cleveland. Some of them, chiefly Curtis and Schurz, spoke in behalf of Cleveland throughout the summer and fall preceding the election. Addressing a meeting of the Independent Republicans in Brooklyn in October, Curtis was given "three times three," according to a contemporary newspaper, "and the audience rose to its feet in the wildest enthusiasm." His endorsement and those of his fellow Independents were instrumental in securing the victory for Cleveland.

Among the Independent Republicans were many proponents of civil service reform, and one of their reasons for rallying behind Cleveland had been their belief that he would continue the reform. As Curtis said, ". . . the reform will never be accomplished until a President can be found who can stand fast upon his convictions and that is precisely what I hope from Mr. Cleveland." When he asked Cleveland for a statement of his civil service policy, the latter replied promising reform, making it clear, however, that one could not expect the impossible.[5]

For sweet, easy, daily pleasantness George has no rival. It is perpetual summer with him. There is no change in him, except each year makes his good still better.[13]

Norton and Curtis often combined, as has been suggested, to foster projects for the benefit of the village of Ashfield. The chief of these were the "Academy dinners." Each August from 1879 on an outdoor picnic was held, attended by Ashfield natives, and by people from surrounding communities, the proceeds from which benefited the local Sanderson Academy. The Ashfield women prepared the "feast," and Curtis and Norton arranged for the program of speakers, which always highlighted the affair. Their list included such men as William Dean Howells, Charles Dudley Warner, John W. Chadwick, James Russell Lowell, Pearse Cranch, Hamilton Mabie, and George Washington Cable, an impressive array, whose presence brought to the dinners a nation-wide prestige. Norton acted as master of ceremonies each year, and Curtis always wound up the speaking program. As John Chadwick put it, Norton's "elaborate introduction ending with a friendly 'George?' always apprised the impatient company that the best wine had come at last." One year when a shower broke up the picnic before Curtis's turn came, the crowd, unwilling to lose his speech, rushed to the Town Hall; they "had no idea of adjourning without an address from Mr. Curtis . . . An Ashfield audience could hardly disperse without his eloquent benediction."

Curtis's circle of friends grew even wider in the years from 1873 to 1883, and it included many distinguished men of the time. All were drawn to him by mutual interests,—national affairs, history, or literature. Thomas Bailey Aldrich, knowing Curtis's love for the latter, and presuming upon a friendship of some years' standing, frequently sent him the latest Aldrich opus, a volume of poems, or a collection of stories.[14] Curtis acknowledged the gifts with pleasant notes and, in turn, sent work of his own. On one occasion he gave Aldrich an autographed picture. "You are not required to think this to be a good likeness," he said. "It is only a token of constant and most friendly regard." This practice of bestowing photographs of himself upon his friends was one of Curtis's few

vanities. His friends did not mind. Said John Jay, on receiving a Curtis picture, "It will recall pleasant memories of a valued friend—of a gracious presence—of a kindly listener—of noble thoughts and a brave career."

The historian George Bancroft was another who turned to Curtis for companionship. Writing, in January, 1876, that he was desirous of seeing "old friends before I die," he urged Curtis to go to Washington for a visit. The latter obliged and spent a week in February with Bancroft and his wife. The historian had fifteen more years to live, as it happened; though he seldom saw Curtis during those years, he always thought of him with affection—"You have been longer than almost any man alive my faithful friend."

Another long-time acquaintance, Pearse Cranch, corresponded with Curtis regularly, and the friendship cemented during their years abroad together remained a firm one. They always wrote one another on August 1st, the date on which they had sailed for Europe in 1846. "I have never ceased to be glad that my first sight and feeling of Italy were with you," Curtis said many years later, and Cranch shared his fond memories of those happy days.[15]

Among the Curtis correspondents were, on the one hand, Francis J. Child, with whom he discussed balladry; on the other hand, R. H. Dana, Jr., whose talk ran to political affairs. Curtis reminisced with James T. Fields about the lyceum circuit and the death, in 1880, of one of its stellar attractions, Edwin H. Chapin. "How often we enjoyed and repeated—in the days when I went lecturing (you young fellows keep it up still!), Chapin's hearty humor, and were quickened by that abounding and overflowing vitality." With Tom Hicks he talked about family matters, and with the English humorist, Edward Lear, about books. Your *Nile Notes*, Lear told him, "gave me the greatest possible delight in two voyages up the Nile, and . . . I often re-read [it] in these later days." And with Dr. Holmes he discussed his career. "I hope to live to address you as Your Excellency," said the poet.

Curtis saw Holmes and the other Boston authors less often now that his lyceum days were over, but there were visits now and then. In the summer of 1881 he went on to Cambridge to receive an LL.D. degree from Harvard, "an hour that pleased him greatly,"

in place, few Northerners cared to hear more about African Americans.[52]

Sarah wrote Cairnes, "Our own country I suppose is taking the backward step that follows all great movements."[53] Her husband's New York Branch of the AFUC struggled to meet its expenditures, and the other societies suffered similar financial reverses. As the board of the New York Branch met in July 1868 to address its deficit, Abbott reported to McKim that "they are now discussing whether to go on another year . . . if we abandon the work it will be abandoned all together . . . the denominational societies will not & cannot do our work."[54] Two months later, Shaw and McKim were the only members of the executive committee present at the board meeting. They included in the minutes of their meeting the statement that it was the unanimous conviction of the secretaries and board that the AFUC would terminate its existence at the end of the school year. The committee held its last meeting in the spring of 1869, and the AFUC officially disbanded in July.[55]

A few local branches continued operating individual schools into 1870. Frank Shaw and his daughter Josephine served on the New York Branch's continuing committee, which endeavored to maintain a few key schools until other branches, the local freedpeople, or the county governments could operate them. Their priorities were evident in their choice of emergency support. Of 55 teachers who continued into 1870, 42 were black (most of them teachers at country schools removed from the major cities), and the rest of the funds went to normal schools. "We wished to leave nothing undone that could make them efficient in their noble task of preparing young colored people as teachers for their race," the committee's report stated.[56]

Frank and Sarah's wartime efforts to convert the American people to abolition had failed after all. They had won freedom for African Americans but not the inner conversion of the Northern heart. Child summed up the situation well: "All our troubles originate in the fact that the American people, North or South, never really felt the enormous wickedness of slavery. *They* never emancipated the slaves; events too strong for them to control accomplished it."[57] She consoled Frank Shaw, "It seems too bad that we should be cheated out of the benign results of emancipation. But, after all, we could not reasonably expect things to work more smoothly, in the beginning. When such a malevolent disease as slavery had lasted for generations, it must unavoidably produce disastrous effects on the character of both masters and slaves."[58] Blacks in the South would soon be tied to the land as sharecroppers, working for whites in the condition of forced

laborers; with redemption would die abolitionist hopes for even a modicum of civil rights for blacks. Shaw's work with the AFUC was not in vain, however, for the rudiments of an educational system for blacks remained and would produce great fruit in the future.[59]

With the end of the AFUC, Frank resigned from his service as U.S. marshal for New York and withdrew into the privacy of his home for a time.[60] Ellen, his youngest daughter, had married Francis Channing Barlow in 1867, and the large house now seemed lonely to Frank, Sarah, and the widowed Josephine. In December 1869, Frank sold the house to his son-in-law Robert Minturn and moved his wife and daughter to a smaller house on Richmond Terrace and Davis Street, on the shore of the Kill Van Kull River. This still ample home had a large screened porch overlooking the water. Shaw's study, lined with bookcases from floor to ceiling, dominated the lower level. Sarah decorated the drawing room, carpeted with thick red velvet, with old family furniture. The Shaws preserved the memory of their Civil War sacrifices in the house and grounds: Rob's sword and furniture adorned the guest room, and Red Berold, Charles Russell Lowell's warhorse, roamed in the back pasture.[61] The property had stunning views that reminded Lydia Maria Child of "the best old Dutch sea-pictures," and she described the shore as "being all alive with sea-gulls, sloops, and steam-boats."[62]

The Shaws retained several servants even though their own number was reduced to four. On a visit to Frank and Sarah, Child complained, "If I could wait upon myself more, it would be better suited to my habits and my inclinations." There were "seven domestics, well drilled in their various departments."[63] "I smiled to see you class yourself, and Mrs. Barlow, and Mr. Curtis, with the *middling* class," Child told Sarah. "Certainly none of you have aristocratic airs; but all of you have luxurious habits, and are unaccustomed to wait upon yourselves. If you were to find yourselves suddenly in the surroundings of the middle class, you would be like fishes out of water."[64]

Child reported that the family's days were now occupied with "household superintendence, calls, and innumerable charitable missions (to which they devote a vast deal of personal attention, as well as money)."[65] At the start of every month, Frank went to Boston to take care of Shaw family business.[66] When home, he returned to the scholarly pursuits he had enjoyed before the war and published a translation of George Sand's *Monsieur Sylvestre, A Novel* in 1870.[67] He also engaged in real estate transactions on Staten Island, buying land in the neighborhood of West New Brighton and building small rental cottages.[68]

The Shaws continued their regular attendance at the Unitarian

by birth and Unitarian by faith, they lived in a Democratic city where proslavery sentiment was rampant. Their closest friends, the Gays, whose home was a stop on the Underground Railroad, encountered ridicule and harassment for their public friendship with prominent African American middle-class families.[57]

Sarah faced the situation with her characteristically negative outlook but also a bustle of activity. She helped organize fund-raising for the cause, worked on behalf of fugitive slaves, and offered advice to the abolition movement's leading speakers. On hearing that Wendell Phillips was coming to New York for a lecture, she sent him a letter advising him to tone down his remarks. "I hope you won't think me a coward, or a fool, or what is worse than either, a traitor to the cause, if I tell you of what the Staten Island Community is composed," she wrote. "It is not yet able to hear strong sentiment, and will probably be sick at its stomach and throw off everything if it is offered too soon." Sarah wanted a "sweet, innocent" lecture "to disappoint the rascals who long for an opportunity to insult you and to reassure the timid beings who are half afraid of you already. . . . I am worldly wise and wish not to have any mobs and also for you to get the ear of the people and then another year, make them hear what we like."[58] Sarah's request did not emanate from fear of standing up for her principles, as she proved when Phillips spoke in front of a large mob that threatened violence. After the speech, Sarah, together with Anna and George William Curtis, calmly walked Phillips through the dense crowd and into the family's carriage.[59]

Sarah increased her public involvement by taking a more active role in the antislavery organization than she had in the past. Working with her old friend Maria Weston Chapman and her sisters-in-law Sarah Shaw Russell and Anna Shaw Greene, she helped organize the American Anti-Slavery Society's national bazaar. The bazaar committee's purpose was to raise funds for the "primary work of arousing and engaging the public mind; which, as fast as it awakens, never fails to find a way to work its will."[60] Sarah and Maria Chapman also induced the executive committee of the American Anti-Slavery Society to participate in a public protest against France's scheme to export ten thousand Africans to its colonies in the West Indies.[61] Sarah and her daughters set up a local fair on Staten Island, but Sarah considered it a failure—she furnished over $100 of articles, but few of them were sold. In despair, she wrote Chapman, "How do you feel about your country now? Shall we (this generation) live to see any change?"[62]

In their appeal for items for the fair, Chapman and her colleagues

had pursued many avenues, including political and economic action, by which the public could express opposition to slavery. They also endorsed "the protection of fugitives," a call that Sarah and Frank took very seriously. Frank had long given money to Theodore Parker's Vigilance Committee in Boston, a group committed to protecting and aiding fugitive slaves.[63] Now, after establishing themselves on Staten Island, the couple cooperated with the Gays in their efforts to channel escaped slaves farther north. Sarah used her contacts with abolitionist women to find homes for African American orphans.[64]

Sarah and Frank modeled the devotion to duty they wanted to instill in their children, but it was still unclear if their son had absorbed the lesson. Immature and restless, Rob struggled with his calling and his purpose. Not a scholar like his father, he disliked school and never rose above the lower half of his class during his three years at Harvard. Adrift in terms of his professional future, Rob was well liked in Cambridge, where his pleasing manner won him many friends. Though his comrades admired his steady, strong moral sense, Rob still did not share his parents' passion, even if he agreed with their principles, and he complained to his mother, "Because I don't talk and think Slavery all the time, and because I get tired . . . of hearing nothing else, you say I don't feel with you, when I do." Rob withdrew from Harvard and took a job with Henry P. Sturgis and Company at his uncle's insistence. Living back at home and riding the ferry into Manhattan every day, Rob became bored and fought depression. As Sarah recalled, "He did not love his new life in the office, feeling that he had not much talent for business."[65]

The Shaws' eldest child, Anna, made a decision in 1856 that brought another son into the Shaw family, one whose reform and literary efforts exemplified service, even if his ideas did not exactly match the family's. Anna had absorbed her parents' message well. On Thanksgiving Day 1856, she married George William Curtis, a young writer and orator with great ambition. The wedding was a seminal event in terms of the family's public influence, for Curtis would achieve national notoriety as a writer, reformer, and prominent player in the Republican party.

Curtis, born in 1824, was the son of a Unitarian bank president who had moved from Rhode Island to New York. As a boy, he studied mostly at home, but when he was eighteen, he lived briefly at Brook Farm. By that point, Curtis was dabbling in Transcendentalism, and his devotion to Emersonian individualism created a distrust of organized reform. He enjoyed Brook Farm for its charm, not its social goals, and he never agreed

float by, like some Lady-Abbess, of a royal line; and I see Lotta flitting about, with her cavalier-cap and feather, ready to plunge into the midst of whatever is going on, and keenly desirous to have everything in the universe explained to her.[12]

Carlotta, described by her proud mother as "a very pretty girl," flourished in the center of an affectionate circle of grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins. From a very early age, she was aware of her father's sacrifice in the Civil War. Every year mother and daughter would journey to Massachusetts to visit Charley's parents and sisters. But there was another tangible reminder of Charley at her Staten Island home. This was Berold, her father's now aged war horse. Tenderly cared for by Josephine, observed Child, "the horse knows Effie's voice, and step, and always expects a caress from her. When he stands harnessed at the door, I often see her kiss him before she enters the carriage."[13] The burden of this history may have rested rather heavily on Carlotta's shoulders as the years wore on. As her cousins grew up, and one by one married and raised their own families, she chose to remain with her mother and grandmother, often working and traveling alongside Josephine, which had its own excitements and rewards. During the last few years of Josephine's life, when she was periodically debilitated by illness, Carlotta served loyally as her amanuensis.

Their pleasant life in Staten Island existed until early 1875, when Josephine decided that Carlotta should attend Miss Brackett's School in New York City. Frank then bought her an attractive brownstone at 120 East 30th Street between Park Avenue and Lexington. Josephine's new home was much more convenient for her work as well as beneficial to her daughter's education. They continued to spend most weekends and holidays at Frank and Sarah's. At this time, there were no bridges connecting Staten Island with the city, and so Josephine and Carlotta would take the Staten Island Ferry to New Brighton, and from there a brisk five-minute walk (weather permitting) would bring them to the corner of Davis Avenue and Richmond Terrace, their home near the river. This time-consuming commute was frequently interrupted or made impossible during the winter storms, and weather, along with a better education for Carlotta, was a determining factor in Josephine's permanent move into the city. From her brownstone on 30th Street, she would begin a new phase of her career, that of a commissioner on the New York State Board of Charities.

On April 30, 1876, Josephine Shaw Lowell's appointment to the SBC was printed on the front page of the *New York Times*. Announcement of her appointment also appeared in the *New York Tribune*, which offered a lengthy and flattering portrayal of Lowell as a young and idealistic philanthropist who had already achieved an enviable and impressive service record with the SCAA. The press placed great emphasis on the fact that Lowell would occupy an unusually public position for a woman and would presumably bring to her board duties a distinctly feminine sensibility. The *Tribune* described her as "the first woman . . . who has ever received an office from the state of New York."[14] Lowell herself was very much aware of this kind of attention. Her appointment underscored the catalytic role Gilded Age women were beginning to play in moving philanthropy toward its more modern outlines. As the issue of poverty moved to center stage in the 1870s and 1880s, female charity workers were especially well placed to redefine and reorient the private and public relief systems. This power that women were starting to exercise in 1870s New York State was demonstrated by their prominence in the SCAA and the ties that were being forged between that organization and the SBC, now visibly symbolized by Lowell's appointment. Any discussion of Lowell's thirteen-year service as commissioner on the SBC must begin with a consideration of her pioneering role for women in this arena.

It might be helpful to provide a job description for a commissioner, which was then a new position for both men and women. First and foremost, Lowell and her fellow appointees were required to "visit and inspect" each social welfare institution receiving public money in the state of New York every two years. This included prisons, reformatories, county poorhouses, orphanages, and asylums for the mentally incapacitated. This was a tall order, and not unexpectedly many institutions went unreported on by the overburdened commissioners and their staff. As one of the two commissioners representing New York County, Lowell was also expected to (and did) produce reports on the institutions under the aegis of the New York Department of Charities and Corrections, the public agency responsible for the city's dependent populations.

Commissioner Lowell was also required to attend the board's public meetings, held at various times during the year in different locations.

New York lawyer, "one time she almost broke it up. I remember Mr. James Jackson Higginson was a member and threatened to resign, and several others did, because she declared in her calm and beautiful voice that a deficit was an excellent thing for a society of that nature. That was too much for them."[19]

Bannard, however, did put his banking experience to good use for the COS when he served as treasurer and trustee of the "Penny Provident Fund," an innovative program (first put into practice by the Baltimore COS) that encouraged savings among poor children. Bannard's example shows that Lowell was comfortable working with people who did not always agree with her agenda. She was never, nor did she desire to be, the sole controlling power behind the COS. A good executive, she early on realized that the sharing and delegating of powers, responsibilities, and honors would be the key to the organization's success.

Other bankers and lawyers dominated the ranks of COS officers. Constant A. Andrews, the treasurer, was president of the U.S. Savings Bank. Later that post would fall to J. P. Morgan. Henry B. Anderson, who worked closely with Lowell in restructuring the COS's district committee system, was a lawyer, as were George Rowell and Charles Stebbins Fairchild. Lowell especially wanted Fairchild, the recipient of her first letter of recruitment, within the charity organization fold. New York–born but of New England origin, Fairchild was working for the railroads when Governor Tilden lured him into politics as part of his reform team to combat the corrupt Democratic machine in 1875. Lowell had met and immediately liked Fairchild when, as the attorney general, he served as an ex officio member of the SBC in the 1870s. Their shared interest in charity reform extended into the national political arena after he was appointed secretary of the treasury under President Grover Cleveland in 1885.[20] It was especially pleasing to Lowell that Fairchild, like Tilden, and the president he served, supported the goals of civil service reform and thus represented the reform wing of the Democratic party. In New York, Fairchild was a leader of the "Swallowtail" Democratic faction opposing machine politicians in city and state elections.

A year after Fairchild assumed leadership of the Treasury Department, Lowell teased him "to come out of your disreputable party, as we have come out of our disreputable party, and let us all join to make a

to remember that you . . . for party reasons, [illegible]
with [David B.] Hill for governor for three years!"[21] Lowell's correspondence with the Fairchilds (both husband and wife) remains a testament to her vital interest in politics and reminds us of her deeply held belief in the interconnectedness among charity, reform, and the healthy political life of the state. Through Fairchild, she established a friendly relationship with President Cleveland and considered herself to be one of his greatest supporters.

George William Curtis, Lowell's brother-in-law, was now the national leader of the Mugwumps, the disaffected Republicans who "bolted" their party in 1884 to support Cleveland and civil service reform. Curtis was also active in the New York effort to reform its own political machines.[22] Lowell's earnest attempts to improve civil service in the state and city in the charitable arena complemented Curtis's on the national level. Her desire to make the COS a fiscally sound entity did not mean she wanted it to be a conservative organization in its policy objectives as well. In fact, Lowell guided the COS to progressive reform advocacy, in both the charitable and political arenas, especially in its advocating of civil service reform, which placed it in the forefront of the groups agitating for municipal reform in the 1890s.

Lowell also wished to preserve the strong ties between the SBC and the COS, which was, in a sense, the SBC's step-child. These ties were personified in her close relationship with her colleague on the board, William Rhinelander Stewart. Stewart, another descendant of a venerable New York family, gave up his law career when a young man to serve the public interest.[23] He was appointed by Governor Cornell in 1882 to the SBC, where he remained for the next forty-seven years, serving as its president for twenty-four of those years. Lowell cultivated Stewart as an ally and a friend from the beginning of their work together as commissioners for New York City. He regarded her as his mentor and, in a touching gesture of respect and affection for her memory, carefully collected her letters, papers, and reports into a memorial volume after her death in 1905. Stewart served, alongside Lowell, as an ex officio member of the SBC for the COS. Lowell's continuing experience as commissioner sharpened her perceptions on which welfare functions should be under the control of the state and which should be taken over or preserved by private charities.

The fact that so many of Lowell's colleagues were men cannot conceal that much of the society's work was done by women, and they, too, were present from the beginning of the organization. Lowell playfully described one of the earliest meetings as being attended by "the clergy," "the laity," and "the femality."[24] The "femality" on this occasion included Gertrude Stevens Rice, Ellen Collins, and a Mrs. Lockwood. Rice, already an officer with Louisa Lee Schuyler's SCAA, would be especially important as a liaison between that organization and the COS, just as Lowell served in that role between the COS and the SBC. In 1892 Rice became the first woman to serve as a COS vice president.[25] Her intelligent and perceptive advice must have lightened Lowell's executive load considerably. Collins served all three of the above organizations simultaneously in her role as a volunteer visitor for the SCAA to the SBC, and as a member of the COS District Board. Organizational interaction was facilitated by their proximity: after 1886 the SCAA and the COS shared office space when they rented a large house at 21 University Place.[26]

Homer Folks of the SCAA later dramatized the complex relationships between these women and the organizations they founded and served:

> One day I was there and Mrs. Lowell said (it was always Gertrude, Louisa and Effie; it was of great interest to me to see their intimacy and friendship); "Oh about that matter of taking care of the mother and babies. It worked well in Boston and it was useful in Philadelphia and I think we ought to try it in New York and, if so, why don't we get ready and start." The other agreed and she said "I don't think it could be done by the COS. We have all we can undertake at the moment. Why doesn't the State Charities Aid do it?" They nodded. "It will cost some amount. I'll be glad to contribute so much." And the others enrolled some more and it was all settled there on the spot.[27]

Especially interesting in Folks's observation is the way in which Lowell and her colleagues drew on their practical experience to devise solutions to problems that confronted them in new settings. This pragmatism was an outstanding feature of Lowell's thinking about reform and charity.

world of nineteenth-century upper-class philanthropy. The men and women who comprised the leadership of the COS, however, should not be confused with the new generation of fabulously wealthy New Yorkers, such as the Astors, whose excesses have helped to give the Gilded Age its bad name. As David Hammack has conclusively shown, elites in the city were divided into competing groups whose disparate economic, cultural, and political goals belied their shared class position. Lowell was born into an upper class with long-standing commitments to public service and whose family ties with Protestant churches and reform organizations stretched back across the decades to the very settlement of America. So it was with de Forest, Stewart, Schuyler, Seth Low, Theodore Roosevelt, Sr., and the many others who constituted the bulk of the supporters of the city's charitable and reform establishment. "Among the 43 male officers and directors of the COS," Hammack observed, "only one had been invited to Mrs. Astor's 1892 ball for the '400,' and only one was among the 'patriarchs' of New York society."[28]

This undoubtedly was a point of pride for Lowell, who despised the well-publicized frivolity of the new wealth. Her family tradition dictated that benefits that accrued from money and privilege were to be used discreetly. This philosophy suited her personally as well. Always plainly dressed (in black, of course), she preferred walking or using a streetcar in favor of the more ostentatious carriage. Her brownstone at 120 East 30th Street was comfortably, but not richly, furnished. The first floor of her home contained two spacious rooms from where she conducted her business and social life. One was a pleasant sitting room where she entertained her many guests and visitors and from where she often set off to attend the opera or other musical concerts, which were her favorite form of entertainment. A letter written to Annie Shaw in 1888 records the more social side of her days: "I am going to give you a list of the friends we had here yesterday. Friday, Howard White [a cousin raised by Frank and Sarah] slept here so he was at breakfast. At 10—young lady from Iowa on business; at 11—Amy White and Lucy Russell [cousins]; at 1—Rose Howard . . . she and Amy to lunch; at 4 Nannie Codman; at 4:30—Mrs. Wister and two young cousins of hers, McAllisters; at 5—May Minturn and at 6—G.W.C. (Nannie, May and George to dinner); at 8—Rob Minturn; at 8:30—Mrs. and Mrs. Burlingham."[29]

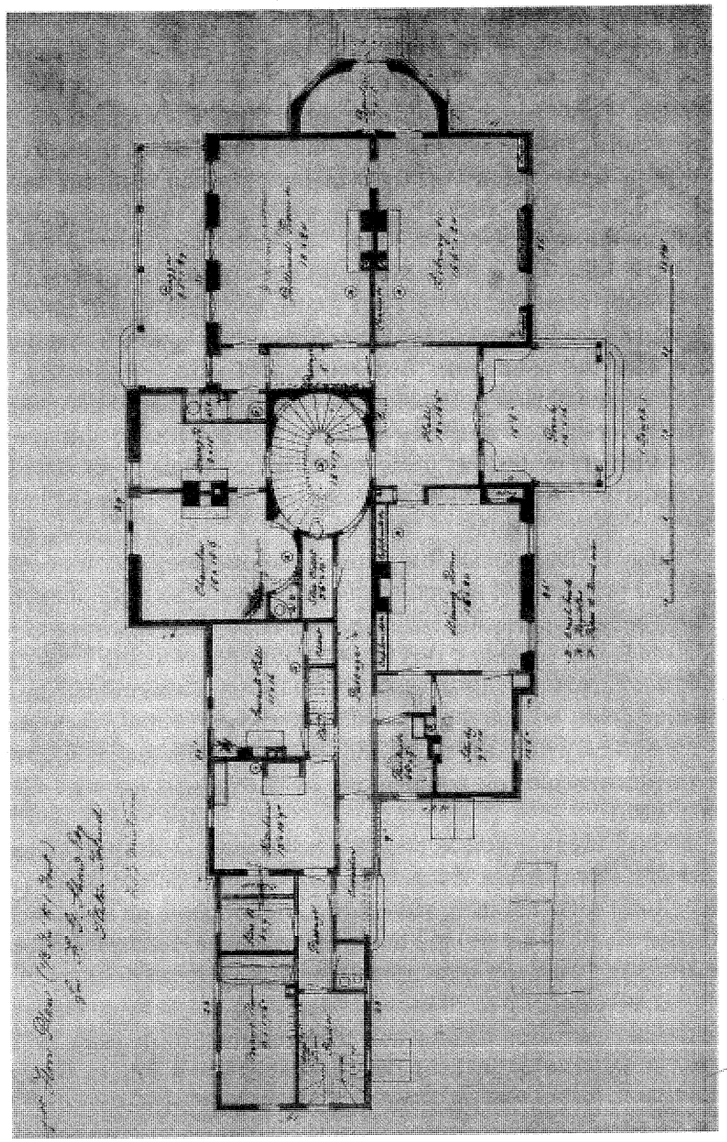


Figure 3.2 Floor plan for the ground level of the Shaw home on Staten Island. Designed by a Parisian architect, the home dazzled neighbors when it was finished in the summer of 1855. From the Collection of the Staten Island Institute of Arts and Sciences, New York.

room. The latter faced a back piazza, as did Sarah and Frank's bedchamber (complete with two water closets). The second story was devoted to the children. The Shaws intended to share the home with their children's friends—Rob and the girls each had two bedrooms of their own that opened into private sitting rooms. Behind the house a large stable, decorated with a small spire and arched doorway, housed the carriage, horses, cows, and hens.[51]

The $80,000 Shaw home, filled with art treasures collected during five years of travel, was the second largest in the neighborhood of West New Brighton. Living with the family were five servants, all Irish: cook Catharine Divine, chambermaids Bridget Divine and Hannah Ryne, laundress Alice Healey, and waitress Bridget Kennedy.[52] Bridget Divine had been with Sarah from the late 1840s, and the relationship between the women had been rather stormy. In 1850, Sarah and Frank, returning briefly to Massachusetts from New York before their trip abroad, had allowed a young black man, whom they were helping find employment in Boston, to stay in their home. His presence so disturbed Divine and another servant that they threatened to leave. Sarah wrote that the incident had "made me dislike them both. . . . It shows Bridget in quite a new light."[53] The two women smoothed over this difference, but the memory of it colored Sarah's attitudes toward all her Irish servants.

Once the family had settled in, Rob rejoined them. He spent the summer studying for his Harvard entrance exams under the tutelage of Francis Barlow, a friend from Brook Farm, and left for college in August. Susie joined him in Cambridge to attend a girls' school there, while Josephine studied at Miss Gibson's School in New York, later to join her sister in Boston.[54]

The Shaws reestablished their life much as it was before the trip. They joined the Unitarian Church, where they continued their exploration of Swedenborgianism and Spiritualism, and Frank stepped back into his role as civic leader.[55] But life in Staten Island was different for Sarah; with her children older, she was able to resume her activities in reform and join Frank in launching what Joan Waugh has called a "shared career."[56] Before and during the Civil War, Sarah was active in the abolition movement and, as the next chapter will show, in promoting and propagandizing the Union cause. In the maturity of their relationship, Frank and Sarah formed an equal partnership.

The Shaws were in the center of a small group in West New Brighton whose lifework was devoted to abolition. Mostly New Englanders

by birth and Unitarian by faith, they lived in a Democratic city where proslavery sentiment was rampant. Their closest friends, the Gays, whose home was a stop on the Underground Railroad, encountered ridicule and harassment for their public friendship with prominent African American middle-class families.[57]

Sarah faced the situation with her characteristically negative outlook but also a bustle of activity. She helped organize fund-raising for the cause, worked on behalf of fugitive slaves, and offered advice to the abolition movement's leading speakers. On hearing that Wendell Phillips was coming to New York for a lecture, she sent him a letter advising him to tone down his remarks. "I hope you won't think me a coward, or a fool, or what is worse than either, a traitor to the cause, if I tell you of what the Staten Island Community is composed," she wrote. "It is not yet able to hear strong sentiment, and will probably be sick at its stomach and throw off everything if it is offered too soon." Sarah wanted a "sweet, innocent" lecture "to disappoint the rascals who long for an opportunity to insult you and to reassure the timid beings who are half afraid of you already. . . . I am worldly wise and wish not to have any mobs and also for you to get the ear of the people and then another year, make them hear what we like."[58] Sarah's request did not emanate from fear of standing up for her principles, as she proved when Phillips spoke in front of a large mob that threatened violence. After the speech, Sarah, together with Anna and George William Curtis, calmly walked Phillips through the dense crowd and into the family's carriage.[59]

Sarah increased her public involvement by taking a more active role in the antislavery organization than she had in the past. Working with her old friend Maria Weston Chapman and her sisters-in-law Sarah Shaw Russell and Anna Shaw Greene, she helped organize the American Anti-Slavery Society's national bazaar. The bazaar committee's purpose was to raise funds for the "primary work of arousing and engaging the public mind; which, as fast as it awakens, never fails to find a way to work its will."[60] Sarah and Maria Chapman also induced the executive committee of the American Anti-Slavery Society to participate in a public protest against France's scheme to export ten thousand Africans to its colonies in the West Indies.[61] Sarah and her daughters set up a local fair on Staten Island, but Sarah considered it a failure—she furnished over $100 of articles, but few of them were sold. In despair, she wrote Chapman, "How do you feel about your country now? Shall we (this generation) live to see any change?"[62]

In their appeal for items for the fair, Chapman and her colleagues

had pursued many avenues, including political and economic action, by which the public could express opposition to slavery. They also endorsed "the protection of fugitives," a call that Sarah and Frank took very seriously. Frank had long given money to Theodore Parker's Vigilance Committee in Boston, a group committed to protecting and aiding fugitive slaves.[63] Now, after establishing themselves on Staten Island, the couple cooperated with the Gays in their efforts to channel escaped slaves farther north. Sarah used her contacts with abolitionist women to find homes for African American orphans.[64]

Sarah and Frank modeled the devotion to duty they wanted to instill in their children, but it was still unclear if their son had absorbed the lesson. Immature and restless, Rob struggled with his calling and his purpose. Not a scholar like his father, he disliked school and never rose above the lower half of his class during his three years at Harvard. Adrift in terms of his professional future, Rob was well liked in Cambridge, where his pleasing manner won him many friends. Though his comrades admired his steady, strong moral sense, Rob still did not share his parents' passion, even if he agreed with their principles, and he complained to his mother, "Because I don't talk and think Slavery all the time, and because I get tired . . . of hearing nothing else, you say I don't feel with you, when I do." Rob withdrew from Harvard and took a job with Henry P. Sturgis and Company at his uncle's insistence. Living back at home and riding the ferry into Manhattan every day, Rob became bored and fought depression. As Sarah recalled, "He did not love his new life in the office, feeling that he had not much talent for business."[65]

The Shaws' eldest child, Anna, made a decision in 1856 that brought another son into the Shaw family, one whose reform and literary efforts exemplified service, even if his ideas did not exactly match the family's. Anna had absorbed her parents' message well. On Thanksgiving Day 1856, she married George William Curtis, a young writer and orator with great ambition. The wedding was a seminal event in terms of the family's public influence, for Curtis would achieve national notoriety as a writer, reformer, and prominent player in the Republican party.

Curtis, born in 1824, was the son of a Unitarian bank president who had moved from Rhode Island to New York. As a boy, he studied mostly at home, but when he was eighteen, he lived briefly at Brook Farm. By that point, Curtis was dabbling in Transcendentalism, and his devotion to Emersonian individualism created a distrust of organized reform. He enjoyed Brook Farm for its charm, not its social goals, and he never agreed

capturing its protecting forts and batteries. He ordered the regiment to James Island as part of a diversion from an assault on Morris Island's Fort Wagner.

The Fifty-fourth was on picket duty beside white soldiers when a Confederate force attacked on the morning of 16 July. The regiment retreated in good order, holding ground to permit the other units to rally and repulse the attack. A captain of the Fifty-fourth recalled, "The dark line stood staunch, holding the front at the most vital point. Not a man was out of place."[60] Rob was ecstatic at his men's performance and wrote his wife, "We have at last fought alongside white troops. . . . The Tenth Connecticut were on their left, and say they should have had a bad time, if the Fifty-fourth men had not stood so well." Gen. Alfred H. Terry sent word he was highly gratified, and Rob reported that "the officers and privates of other regiments praise us very much."[61]

Word of the Fifty-fourth's triumph was much-needed news for Frank and Sarah. The Shaws had just survived personal danger during the New York City draft riots, a brutal reminder that racism and antiwar sentiments ran deep in the nation's vital city. At first a working-class response to the start of the draft, which opponents claimed favored the rich, the protest soon turned into a chaotic melee that destroyed businesses and homes all over the city. The draft riots exposed class cleavages within New York that had hardened as the war accelerated the North's industrial economy. Symbolically, rioters attacked both the machines that had replaced manual labor and the African Americans who were competing for low-wage jobs.[62]

The mobs targeted black men, women, and children for brutal assaults and lynchings. In some ways, the riots were a backlash against the increased public acceptance of abolition during the war. Rioters attacked abolitionists and any other whites suspected of harboring friendly feelings toward the black race. On Staten Island, rumors flew that a mob was coming to burn out all the so-called Black Republicans on the island. Curtis took Anna and their two children to Boston, while Frank Shaw, arming his gardener and coachman as well as himself, prepared to defend his house and family. The Shaws were not disturbed, but in those days of terror, they could hear the sounds of the mob as it wreaked havoc on the homes and lives of black families living in New Brighton.[63] Afterward, Shaw wrote Edward Pierce that "the riots here and the hatred manifested towards the poor negroes show that we need still more suffering and purging."[64]

The Shaws may have feared the mob not only because of their abolitionist activity but also because of Frank's membership in the Union League Club of New York, a nationalist organization that was an offshoot of the United States Sanitary Commission. Composed of patrician merchants who could trace their metropolitan roots back to the 1820s, members of the learned professions, and intellectuals recently arrived in New York, the club opposed New York's conservative elite who were generally pro-South and supported localism and the Democratic Party. Its several hundred members included George William Curtis, Sydney Howard Gay, Robert Minturn Jr., George Bancroft, John Jay, George Cabot Ward, and members of the Van Rensselaer family. These men wanted conscription enforced at all costs. Viewing blacks as patriotic, in contradistinction to working-class immigrants, the club members started a subscription campaign to aid African American families injured in the riots and moved forward on a plan to recruit a black regiment for the city.[65]

As New York City lay smoldering from its own battle, the shells of Union gunboats pounded Morris Island in preparation for another assault on Fort Wagner. Just a few hours after their battle of 16 July, the Fifty-fourth withdrew from James Island and made a rain-soaked march across the mudflats of Cole Island to a waiting transport that would take them to Morris Island. There, the exhausted, famished men rested on the beach while Rob reported to General Strong's headquarters. Strong's brigade would lead the assault on Wagner, which Gillmore assumed the Union bombardment had crushed. Strong asked Rob if the men of the Fifty-fourth would like to lead the charge on Battery Wagner. Rob leaped at the opportunity; this was the test that white supporters of the regiment longed for, and he knew what he had to do.

That afternoon, the Fifty-fourth moved to the front past thirteen white regiments, many of them cheering the men they had fought with on James Island. As the regiment moved into position, Rob calmly walked up and down the line. One observer recalled, "His manner, generally reserved before his men, seemed to unbend to them, for he spoke as he had never done before. He said, 'Now I want you to prove yourselves men,' and reminded them that the eyes of thousands would look upon the night's work."[66] Rob's mouth quivered slightly as he spoke, and when the formation was nearly complete, he declared, "We shall take the fort or die there."[67]

As it neared dusk and time for the assault, General Strong, addressing the men, called the color-bearer to step forward. "If this man should fall, who will lift the flag and carry it on?," he asked. Rob quietly

in place, few Northerners cared to hear more about African Americans.[52]

Sarah wrote Cairnes, "Our own country I suppose is taking the backward step that follows all great movements."[53] Her husband's New York Branch of the AFUC struggled to meet its expenditures, and the other societies suffered similar financial reverses. As the board of the New York Branch met in July 1868 to address its deficit, Abbott reported to McKim that "they are now discussing whether to go on another year . . . if we abandon the work it will be abandoned all together . . . the denominational societies will not & cannot do our work."[54] Two months later, Shaw and McKim were the only members of the executive committee present at the board meeting. They included in the minutes of their meeting the statement that it was the unanimous conviction of the secretaries and board that the AFUC would terminate its existence at the end of the school year. The committee held its last meeting in the spring of 1869, and the AFUC officially disbanded in July.[55]

A few local branches continued operating individual schools into 1870. Frank Shaw and his daughter Josephine served on the New York Branch's continuing committee, which endeavored to maintain a few key schools until other branches, the local freedpeople, or the county governments could operate them. Their priorities were evident in their choice of emergency support. Of 55 teachers who continued into 1870, 42 were black (most of them teachers at country schools removed from the major cities), and the rest of the funds went to normal schools. "We wished to leave nothing undone that could make them efficient in their noble task of preparing young colored people as teachers for their race," the committee's report stated.[56]

Frank and Sarah's wartime efforts to convert the American people to abolition had failed after all. They had won freedom for African Americans but not the inner conversion of the Northern heart. Child summed up the situation well: "All our troubles originate in the fact that the American people, North or South, never really felt the enormous wickedness of slavery. *They* never emancipated the slaves; events too strong for them to control accomplished it."[57] She consoled Frank Shaw, "It seems too bad that we should be cheated out of the benign results of emancipation. But, after all, we could not reasonably expect things to work more smoothly, in the beginning. When such a malevolent disease as slavery had lasted for generations, it must unavoidably produce disastrous effects on the character of both masters and slaves."[58] Blacks in the South would soon be tied to the land as sharecroppers, working for whites in the condition of forced

laborers; with redemption would die abolitionist hopes for even a modicum of civil rights for blacks. Shaw's work with the AFUC was not in vain, however, for the rudiments of an educational system for blacks remained and would produce great fruit in the future.[59]

With the end of the AFUC, Frank resigned from his service as U.S. marshal for New York and withdrew into the privacy of his home for a time.[60] Ellen, his youngest daughter, had married Francis Channing Barlow in 1867, and the large house now seemed lonely to Frank, Sarah, and the widowed Josephine. In December 1869, Frank sold the house to his son-in-law Robert Minturn and moved his wife and daughter to a smaller house on Richmond Terrace and Davis Street, on the shore of the Kill Van Kull River. This still ample home had a large screened porch overlooking the water. Shaw's study, lined with bookcases from floor to ceiling, dominated the lower level. Sarah decorated the drawing room, carpeted with thick red velvet, with old family furniture. The Shaws preserved the memory of their Civil War sacrifices in the house and grounds: Rob's sword and furniture adorned the guest room, and Red Berold, Charles Russell Lowell's warhorse, roamed in the back pasture.[61] The property had stunning views that reminded Lydia Maria Child of "the best old Dutch sea-pictures," and she described the shore as "being all alive with sea-gulls, sloops, and steam-boats."[62]

The Shaws retained several servants even though their own number was reduced to four. On a visit to Frank and Sarah, Child complained, "If I could wait upon myself more, it would be better suited to my habits and my inclinations." There were "seven domestics, well drilled in their various departments."[63] "I smiled to see you class yourself, and Mrs. Barlow, and Mr. Curtis, with the *middling* class," Child told Sarah. "Certainly none of you have aristocratic airs; but all of you have luxurious habits, and are unaccustomed to wait upon yourselves. If you were to find yourselves suddenly in the surroundings of the middle class, you would be like fishes out of water."[64]

Child reported that the family's days were now occupied with "household superintendence, calls, and innumerable charitable missions (to which they devote a vast deal of personal attention, as well as money)."[65] At the start of every month, Frank went to Boston to take care of Shaw family business.[66] When home, he returned to the scholarly pursuits he had enjoyed before the war and published a translation of George Sand's *Monsieur Sylvestre, A Novel* in 1870.[67] He also engaged in real estate transactions on Staten Island, buying land in the neighborhood of West New Brighton and building small rental cottages.[68]

The Shaws continued their regular attendance at the Unitarian

Church on Staten Island, where Curtis, in the absence of a minister during the 1870s, read the congregation sermons from the best English and American preachers.[69] In his spiritual quest, Frank sought inspiration from many sources. Although he still looked for "*peculiar* spiritual significance in the Bible" and believed "*portions* of the Old Testament too devout and sublime to be omitted in any Bible for the human soul,"[70] he turned to other, nonbiblical sources for truth. "I can understand your liking for the grand utterances of devout & wise men in Psalms & Proverbs," he told McKim. "But many modern books seem to me much more 'profitable' than the Epistles."[71]

Every Sunday, all the Shaw daughters, accompanied by their children, gathered at Frank and Sarah's house for lively get-togethers and play on the lawn. By 1875, the senior Shaws had thirteen grandchildren, six of them provided by Susie alone. Despite these regular visits, the couple experienced the melancholy of increasing age, which brought with it the death of many of their friends. "Our circle is closing fast," Frank sadly told Elizabeth Gay. "We shan't last much longer at that rate—when the places that have known us will know us no more & will be filled with others." Many of the Shaws' friends had left Staten Island, and he reported that "our dear old house is still empty—I am afraid that our days of travel for pleasure have passed & that Sarah & I are henceforth fixtures, to be displaced only by sad necessity."[72]

The world had changed—friends were gone, the house was empty, and life beyond the family circle was undergoing rapid transformation. Frank Shaw's dejection about his age and the changes it brought must have paralleled his feelings about a society that was vastly different than the one he experienced as a child. This society was still ripe for reform, and despite some of the disappointments of Reconstruction, he and the members of his reform circle were determined that the sacrifices of the Civil War would not be in vain. Ultimately, the legacy of the war carried these reformers through the next decades and drove the reform impulse of a younger generation.

CHAPTER SEVEN

"What do the lives of our friends teach us?"

Postwar Reformers

In 1890, Henry Lee Higginson donated land to Harvard and requested that the ground be designated Soldier's Field in memory of Robert Gould Shaw, Charles Russell Lowell, James Jackson Lowell, and three other young comrades killed in action during the Civil War. In his dedication speech, Higginson spoke of the men who "gave their lives in the cause of virtue and good government, and to save our nation from the great sins of disunion and of slavery." They had lived in happy homes and had high hopes for the future, noted Higginson, but at the first call, they went straight to the front with "not a thought of themselves, except to serve: and they did serve to the end." Higginson wanted all future Harvard scholars to recognize the lesson of the young men's sacrifice. "Now, what do the lives of our friends teach us?" he asked his audience. "Surely the beauty and the holiness of work and of utter,

promote the general welfare and ameliorate conditions of an industrial age. These reformers were different from advocates of scientific charity in that many of them, especially within the social gospel movement, attacked some of the foundations of the industrial system and recognized some of the larger social forces to blame for poverty. Many sought the moral transformation of society. But like individuals of the Lowell school, they also advocated what the earliest antebellum reformers hoped to avoid—a strong state and efficient modern institutions.[33]

Not all postellum reformers advocated a stronger state. But historians who study liberal reform tend to agree that those who did not nonetheless abandoned radical antebellum efforts. As a group, the scholars' argument goes, postwar liberals were prewar abolitionists and social reformers. During Reconstruction, they became disappointed with African Americans, and they disavowed the more egalitarian precepts of abolitionism and often embraced social Darwinism. Promoting laissez-faire economics, individualism, and the moral leadership of society's "best men," liberal reformers such as Curtis and Lowell meekly advocated civil service reform, lower tariffs, and government economy. They abandoned the utopian elements of antebellum reform that envisioned a classless society and sought a just basis for the community. Asking for moral individuals to lead business and government, they did not question whether capitalistic society itself was moral.[34]

Other historians have taken issue with aspects of these interpretations. James McPherson, for instance, disputes the notion that abolitionists abandoned African Americans. He argues that most abolitionists continued the struggle for equal rights after 1870. His study on this topic focuses only on the issue of race, but he finds that the substantial majority of abolitionists stayed on the radical side of this issue. Garrisonians, for whom the whole structure of American society was flawed, especially retained their antebellum radicalism and activism. This group founded the African American educational institutions that were necessary for eventual black advancement, and when the political and civil status of blacks declined after 1890, the children and grandchildren of abolitionists founded the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), another reform group based on immediatism and egalitarianism.[35]

Frank Shaw and his circle of reformers provide an interesting test of the different schools of thought about postbellum reform. Certainly, this group's experience partially supports McPherson's interpretation. Among the members of this circle, those reformers who were central in

the Garrisonian efforts of the 1830s retained their egalitarianism and their interest in civil rights after Reconstruction. But those reformers who seemed to retreat were the individuals who were never in abolition's inner circle and whose commitment to reform had always been tenuous. They were the men and women who had supported emancipation and black soldierhood more to advance the Union cause rather than for any long-standing commitment to equality. In this, we can contrast the wartime and postwar activities of Lowell and Forbes with those of Child, McKim, and Frank Shaw, for example.

Shaw and McKim founded and participated in organizations that advocated land distribution and education for all freedpeople. Shaw's influence helped ensure the widespread distribution of Child's *Freedmen's Book*, a work that encouraged racial pride among African Americans. Child's continued output on behalf of the freed blacks included many of her favorite antebellum themes. Her 1867 novel, *A Romance of the Republic,* developed her usual plotline of interracial marriage through two mulatto sisters who found acceptance in Boston. Child also poured out political articles on black suffrage, woman suffrage, and Native American rights. She spent her last years in rural isolation (but was reunited and finally happy with her husband, David) and no longer participated in organized reform movements. However, her prestige gave her access to important periodicals, and she lent her respected voice to the cause of racial and social equality.[36] Lowell and Forbes, whom abolitionists never considered among their own, used their time differently. Although Forbes was a prime force behind the black regiments, he devoted equal attention to other measures deemed necessary for a "vigorous prosecution of the war," and most of his lobbying in Washington dealt with Union finances. And all along, Lowell had only conceded emancipation because he considered it a necessity, and he was careful to distance himself from "revolution."

Curtis fits less neatly into either of these categories, since his racial egalitarianism was so genuine before the war. Though too young to be an original Garrisonian as Frank Shaw was, Curtis heartily took up many of the radicals' positions. But he was also never as radical as his father-in-law. Leslie Butler's framework provides the best context for explaining Curtis. During the war and Reconstruction, he had a specific conception of democracy in mind, which informed his approach to racial issues and reform. His true goal had always been political democracy based on an educated and informed popular will. For a time, aristocratic slaveholders had been the greatest threat to that goal, but when they were destroyed, other

enemies, such as party corruption, surfaced. His evolution as a reformer reflected not a retreat from old ideals but rather a shift in focus.

If McPherson is correct about the continuity among Garrisonian abolitionists on the race issue, what about the arguments that reformers abandoned antebellum social redemption for the institutions of scientific charity or the decidedly unrevolutionary efforts of the liberal movement? Fredrickson and Ginzberg are partially correct in their interpretation of second-generation reformers such as Josephine Shaw Lowell. There is no doubt that her scientific charity was a far different type of reform than her parents' abolition or her father's Association. This fact does not imply a complete rejection of antebellum influences, however. Joan Waugh has amended Ginzberg and read Lowell's life as an effort to continue the social redemption begun during the war. Josephine's later work for labor reform and anti-imperialism have stronger parallels with antebellum reform than her work with the charity aid associations. But certainly, the strand of reform with which Lowell is mainly associated was more institutional than utopian and more interested in state laws than in structural reform.

What some historians ignore is the continuation of utopian social reform among abolitionist reformers such as Frank Shaw. Even as some in the younger generation embraced new methods and others who were never central to abolition moved into genteel liberalism, another group maintained the search for the moral transformation of society. Older reformers, Shaw among them, and some from the younger generation joined together in movements that had explicit links to antebellum radicalism. No single, overarching framework explains the postbellum reform world. Some historians tend to see late-nineteenth-century reformers as living in one big house. But in reality, there were many different houses, though they often shared occupants. Institutional reform such as scientific charity was one of the houses, and it had been recently built. But not all elite abolitionist reformers moved into it. There were also reform houses, recently built but out of older materials, in which the antebellum architecture of perfectionism, utopianism, and communalism persisted.

This truth is obvious in the life of Frank Shaw, who occupied several reform houses. Sometimes, Shaw worked with liberal reformers in societies devoted to political efforts. Through contacts made in the Union League Club, he became vice president of both the Personal Representation Society and the American Free Trade League. The former was dedicated to changing electoral practices in the United States. Members of the society believed that a winner-take-all system was not representative, since those who had voted for the losing party in a district would not be represented in the legislature. Consequently, they proposed a plan whereby all candidates with a certain number of votes would be elected. Shaw's support for the American Free Trade League was based on his concern for American workers. The league's pamphlet of 1869 emphasized that protection granted prerogatives to capitalists above other producers and workers, who had to pay a high cost for the "protection" of American industry. A busy manufacturing center with humming factories was not an indication of universal welfare—"faulty legislation may have forced thousands of poor consumers to contribute their painful share to create this pleasing hum."[37]

Shaw also joined his daughter Josephine's institutions and worked on the visiting committee for the State Charities Aid Association. But he did not feel totally at home in his collaboration with either Josephine or Curtis. His reform impulses were not satisfied in either scientific charity or liberalism. Indeed, Josephine's strong advocacy of scientific charity led to lively family arguments in the Shaw household: the first thing in the morning, Frank, Sarah, Josephine, and her daughter Carlotta assembled for breakfast, where "discussions on the 'eternal fitness of things' were sure to arise."[38] On a visit to the Shaws, Child was amused to see Josephine "laying down the law, moral and scientific, to her father."[39] Shaw found scientific charity and the new organizational reform inadequate because they did not address what he considered to be the underlying faults in the economy that caused poverty and distress. His background as an Associationist and an advocate for land reform in the South during Reconstruction prohibited an easy acceptance of any reform that remained linked with the industrial capitalistic structure. Before the war, Shaw had infused French socialism into the mix of ideas that made up antebellum reform, and he maintained this vision of a classless, cooperative society as an alternative to capitalism.

As he expressed his dissatisfactions with scientific charity to his daughter, he came to believe that the failures of Reconstruction in terms of the freedpeople and the heightened class tensions apparent in the North were symptomatic of capitalism's failures. Association had argued that white laborers and black slaves alike were exploited, and the developments of postwar America confirmed this for Shaw. How could he have expected Northern victory to accomplish justice for the masses when the victorious society was itself unjust? The only remedy for the evils of American society, in his mind, was to restructure it along lines of cooperation,

Shaw Lowell; Containing a Biographical Sketch of Her Life Together with a Selection of Her Public Papers and Private Letters (New York: Macmillan, 1911), 5.

30. SBS, "Robert Gould Shaw," 176.

31. RGS to FGS, 5 and 6 March 1856, Robert Gould Shaw Papers, shelf mark bMS Am 1910 (28-58), HL, by permission of the Houghton Library, Harvard University.

32. Waugh, "It Was a Sacrifice," 62–64.

33. Martin Duberman, *James Russell Lowell* (Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1966), 5–43, 47–67.

34. Ibid., 73–88, 92–93, 102–107; Edward Wagenknecht, *James Russell Lowell: Portrait of a Many-Sided Man* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1971), 174.

35. Duberman, 92–93.

36. Ibid., 118–151, 155–179, 184–197.

37. Elizabeth Barrett Browning to Sarah Blake Shaw (SBS), 14 October 1854, Shaw Papers, shelf mark Autograph File, HL, by permission of the Houghton Library, Harvard University.

38. Catherine Clinton, *Fanny Kemble's Civil Wars* (New York: Simon and Schuster, 2000), 15–48, 49–62, 83.

39. Ibid., 72–82, 90, 113–124.

40. Ibid., 128–136, 137, 154–169.

41. FGS to Sydney Howard Gay, 21 December 1853, Sydney Howard Gay Papers, Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Columbia University.

42. SBS to James Russell Lowell, 9 October 1854, James Russell Lowell Papers, MHS. Lowell wrote Sarah at the end of their lives that he had been in love with her for years, and his letters to her were certainly filled with flattery, to the extent that Sarah was embarrassed to show them to her husband. In September 1854, he had written her: "But you know very well how delightful the thought of you is to me, for you always seem to me to possess your nature as sweetly and unconsciously as a rose."

43. Edgar Wright, "Elizabeth Cleghorn Gaskell," Web version of article in *Dictionary of Literary Biography*, vol. 21, available at "The Gaskell Web," http://www.lang.nagoya-u.ac.jp/~matsuoka/EG-DLB.html (25 March 2002).

44. Elizabeth Gaskell, "Robert Gould Shaw," *Macmillan's Magazine* 50 (December 1863): 113.

45. Robert Gould Shaw and Elizabeth Willard Shaw, *Testamentary Papers of Robert Gould Shaw and Elizabeth Willard Shaw* (Boston: John Wilson and Son, 1854), 9–10, 28–33.

46. FGS to Sydney Howard Gay, 7 May 1854 and 6 August 1854, Sydney Howard Gay Papers, Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Columbia University.

47. Sydney Howard Gay, "Francis George Shaw," *Staten Island Gazette and Sentinel*, 18 November 1882, 2.

48. Francis George Shaw, trans., *The History of Switzerland, for the Swiss People*, by Heinrich Zschokke (New York: C. S. Francis, 1855), v.

49. FGS to Sydney Howard Gay, 29 May 1855 and 20 July 1855, Sydney Howard Gay Papers, Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Columbia University.

50. Charles Gilbert Hine and William T. Davis, *Legends, Stories and Folklore of Old Staten Island* (New York: Staten Island Historical Society, 1925), 50.

51. Photograph of Shaw home, Box OS1, Folder 1, Architecture Survey, Staten Island Institute of Arts and Sciences (hereafter SIIAS); Floor Plan of FGS Home, Box OS1, Folder 1, Architecture Survey, SIIAS; Gaskell, "Robert Gould Shaw," 113.

52. U.S. Census, Eighth Census (1860), New York, Richmond County, Castleton, 152.

53. FGS and SBS to Elizabeth and Sydney Howard Gay, 21 June 1850, Sydney Howard Gay Papers, Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Columbia University.

54. SBS, "Robert Gould Shaw," 179–182; Burchard, *One Gallant Rush*, 19; Steward, *Philanthropic Works*, 7.

55. Receipt for rent of pew, Church of the Redeemer, Curtis Collection, SIIAS; LMC to Anna Loring, 23 July 1859, *Collected Correspondence*, 41/1115; Elizabeth Barrett Browning to SBS, 1 April 1858, Shaw Papers, shelf mark Autograph File, HL, by permission of the Houghton Library, Harvard University; Richard M. Bayles, *History of Richmond County, (Staten Island) New York, From Its Discovery to the Present Time* (New York: L. E. Preston, 1887), 572–573.

56. Waugh, "It Was a Sacrifice," 59–61.

57. Hine and Davis, *Legends*, 64–67.

58. SBS to Wendell Phillips, n.d., shelf mark bMS Am 1953 (1103), HL, by permission of the Houghton Library, Harvard University.

59. George William Curtis (GWC) to W. D. O'Conner, 5 November 1859, GWC Collection, Box 7, Folder 6, SIIAS.

60. "The Twenty-Fourth National Anti-Slavery Bazaar," *Liberator*, 17 July 1857, 114.

61. William Lloyd Garrison to Maria W. Chapman, 23 July 1857, in Louis Ruchames, ed., *The Letters of William Lloyd Garrison*. Vol. 6, *From Disunionism to the Brink of War, 1850–1860* (Cambridge, Mass.: Belknap Press, Harvard University, 1975), 459–460.

62. SBS to Maria Weston Chapman, 15 January ?, Anti-slavery Collection, MsA.9.2, V. 16, No. 62, BPL/RBD. Courtesy of the Trustees.

63. FGS to Sydney Howard Gay, 1 November 1850, Sydney Howard Gay Papers, Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Columbia University.

64. LMC to SBS, 3 December 1857, Shaw Papers, Folder 52–55, shelf mark bMS Am 1417 (16-173), HL, by permission of the Houghton Library, Harvard University.

65. SBS, "Robert Gould Shaw," 172, 182; Duncan, *Blue-Eyed Child*, 11–13.

66. Edward Cary, *George William Curtis* (Cambridge, Mass.: Riverside Press, 1894), 6–93; Gordon Milne, *George William Curtis and the Genteel Tradition* (Bloomington.: Indiana University Press, 1956), 16–89.

67. Cary, *George William Curtis*, 102–104, 126–139; Milne, *Genteel Tradition*, 85–86, 130–131; Hine and Davis, *Legends*, 51.

68. LMC to SBS, 3 December 1857, Shaw Papers, Folders 52–55, shelf mark bMS Am 1417 (16-173), HL, by permission of the Houghton Library, Harvard University.

69. RGS to FGS, 24 March 1858, Robert Gould Shaw Papers, shelf mark bMS Am 1910 (28-58), HL, by permission of the Houghton Library, Harvard University.

70. Cary, *George William Curtis*, 106–107; Milne, *Genteel Tradition*, 95.

71. To the Legislature of the State of New York, Memorial of Citizens of Richmond County, n.d., Box 2, Folder 1, Quarantine Collection, SIIAS; Clippings, Quarantine Hospital History, Box 2, Folder 42, Quarantine Collection, SIIAS; Public Meeting Notice, 13 September 1858, Box 2, Folder 26, Quarantine Collection, SIIAS.

CHAPTER FOUR

1. Subscription for Rifles for Kansas Settlers, 1855, Amos A. Lawrence Papers, Massachusetts Historical Society (MHS), Boston. Howland did not share Shaw's democratic principles. Of him, Lydia Maria Child wrote Sarah, "If I should encounter his Highness, Howland Shaw, ten chances to one I should break one of his ribs; and if I didn't, I should afterward reproach myself for having failed in my duty." LMC to SBS, 7 September 1866, in *The Collected Correspondence of Lydia Maria Child, 1817–1880*, ed. Patricia G. Holland and Milton Meltzer (Millwood, N.Y.: KTO Microform, 1979), 65/1738.

2. For Republican ideology in the 1850s, see Eric Foner, *Free Soil, Free Labor, Free Men: The*

The Philanthropic Work of Josephine Shaw Lowell; Containing a Biographical Sketch of Her Life Together with a Selection of Her Public Papers and Private Letters (New York: Macmillan, 1911), 48–49.

43. AFUC, *The Results of Emancipation in the United States of America* (New York: AFUC, 1867), 10–12.

44. FGS, "Special Notice to the Public," *National Freedman* 2 (15 September 1866): 226.

45. Rose, *Rehearsal for Reconstruction,* 357; Claude F. Oubre, *Forty Acres and a Mule: The Freedmen's Bureau and Black Land Ownership* (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1978), 31.

46. Eric Foner, *Reconstruction: America's Unfinished Revolution, 1863–1877* (New York: Harper and Row, 1988), 517; Kenneth M. Stampp, *The Era of Reconstruction, 1865–1877* (New York: Vintage Books, 1965), 129–131; William F. Messmer, *Freedmen and the Ideology of Free Labor: Louisiana, 1862–1865* (Lafayette: University of Southwestern Louisiana, 1978). For the politics of Reconstruction within Congress, see Michael Les Benedict, *A Compromise of Principle: Congressional Republicans and Reconstruction, 1863–1869* (New York: W. W. Norton, 1974).

47. AFUC, *Fifth Annual Report, New York Branch Freedman's Union Commission* (New York: AFUC, 1867), 3–4.

48. J. M. McKim to Rueben Tomlinson, 4 September 1866, McKim Letterbook, vol. 2, 190, May Anti-slavery Collection, Collection no. 4601, DRMC–CNL.

49. AFUC, Freedmen's Pamphlets 3, no. 2, May Anti-slavery Collection, Collection no. 4601, DRMC–CNL; *Fifth Annual Report, New York Branch,* 11; "An Appeal," *American Freedman* 2 (December 1867): 330; *Results of Emancipation,* 32.

50. *Results of Emancipation,* 30–31.

51. Eliphalet Whittlesey to FGS, 13 December 1867, Whittlesey Folder, Box 26, May Anti-slavery Collection, Collection no. 4601, DRMC–CNL; *Fifth Annual Report, New York Branch,* 8–9; *Results of Emancipation,* 31.

52. Butchart, *Northern Schools,* 89–95, 204–205. Although Shaw was one of the more egalitarian reformers, he was willing to compromise with other elites in order to make small gains for the cause. He wanted African Americans to enjoy full political equality, but in debates over the question of black suffrage in the South during 1869, Shaw apparently considered a proposal that based voting qualification on those who currently possessed the franchise, those who had served in the U.S. army or navy, and those who had property in the amount of $250 and who could read the Constitution. Proposed Constitutional Amendment, FGS, 13 December 1869, Shaw Folder, Box 23, May Anti-slavery Papers, Collection no. 4601, DRMC–CNL.

53. SBS to JEC, 8 February 1868, NLI–MC.

54. Lyman Abbott to J. M. McKim, 29 July 1868, Abbott 1868 Folder, Box 9, May Anti-slavery Collection, Collection no. 4601, DRMC–CNL; FGS to J. M. McKim, 11 July 1868, Shaw Folder, Box 23, May Anti-slavery Collection, Collection no. 4601, DRMC–CNL.

55. MBEC–AFUC, 21 September 1868 and 29 March 1869; "Discontinuance," *American Freedman* 3 (July 1869): 1.

56. *Report of the Continuing Committee, for the Year Ending July 1st, 1870* (New York: AFUC, 1870), 3–4; FGS to J. M. McKim, 8 September 1869, Shaw Folder, Box 23, May Anti-slavery Collection, Collection no. 4601, DRMC–CNL.

57. LMC to SBS, 28 December 1879, *Collected Correspondence,* 93/2486.

58. LMC to FGS, 26 October 1879, *Collected Correspondence,* 93/2475.

59. Foner, *Reconstruction,* 564–601; Stampp, *Era of Reconstruction,* 186–215.

60. George William Curtis to FGS, 26 September 1869, Shaw Family Letters, Manuscripts and Archives Division, New York Public Library; Bayles, *History of Richmond County,* 574.

61. Interview of Mrs. W. G. Willcox by Mabel Abbott, 6 July 1929, Mabel Abbott Papers,

Box 7, F30, Staten Island Institute of Arts and Sciences (hereafter SIIAS); LMC to John B. Wright, 12 December 1874, *Collected Correspondence,* 84/2204 ; Stewart, *Philanthropic Work of Josephine Shaw Lowell,* 49; Charles Gilbert Hine and William T. Davis, *Legends, Stories and Folklore of Old Staten Island* (New York: Staten Island Historical Society, 1925), 53.

62. LMC to John B. Dwight, 12 December 1874, *Collected Correspondence,* 84/2204.

63. LMC to Emily F. Damon, 22 December 1874, *Collected Correspondence,* 84/2206.

64. LMC to SBS, 25 August 1877, *Collected Correspondence,* 88/2338.

65. LMC to Martha Wright, 24 February 1874, *Collected Correspondence,* 85/2223.

66. FGS to Sydney Howard Gay, 1 November 1871, Sydney Howard Gay Papers, Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Columbia University.

67. Francis G. Shaw, trans., *Monsieur Sylvestre, A Novel,* by George Sand (Boston: Roberts Brothers, 1870).

68. FGS to Sydney Howard Gay, 1 March 1871, Sydney Howard Gay Papers, Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Columbia University; West New Brighton Property Map, 1874, SIIAS; LMC to SBS, 6 December 1875, *Collected Correspondence,* 86/2250.

69. LMC to Emily F. Damon, 22 December 1874, *Collected Correspondence,* 84/2206.

70. LMC to FGS, 6 December 1870 and 25 May 1875, *Collected Correspondence,* 74/1964 and 80/2104.

71. FGS to J. M. McKim, 20 February 1873, Anti-slavery Collection, Ms.A.1.2, V. 37, P. 28, Boston Public Library/Rare Books Department. Courtesy of the Trustees.

72. FGS to Elizabeth Neall Gay, 8 August 1870, Sydney Howard Gay Papers, Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Columbia University; LMC to Sarah Parsons, 8 December 1874, *Collected Correspondence,* 84/2203.

CHAPTER SEVEN

1. Henry Lee Higginson, *Four Addresses* (Boston: D. B. Updike, Merrymount Press, 1902), 10, 22.

2. Sydney Howard Gay, "Francis George Shaw," *Staten Island Gazette and Sentinel,* 18 November 1882, 2.

3. Lydia Maria Child (LMC) to Sarah Blake Shaw (SBS), 19 December 1877, in *The Collected Correspondence of Lydia Maria Child, 1817–1880,* ed. Patricia G. Holland and Milton Meltzer (Millwood, N.Y.: KTO Microform, 1979), 89/2352.

4. Eric Foner, "Free Labor and Nineteenth-Century Political Ideology," in Melvin Stokes and Stephen Conway, eds., *The Market Revolution in America: Social, Political, and Religious Expressions, 1800–1880* (Charlottesville: University Press of Virginia, 1996); Eric Foner, *Reconstruction: America's Unfinished Revolution, 1863–1877* (New York: Harper and Row, 1988), 460, 512–515, 584–585; Phillip Shaw Paludan, *"A People's Contest:" The Union and Civil War, 1861–1865* (New York: Harper and Row, 1988); W. E. Burghardt DuBois, *Black Reconstruction in America: An Essay toward a History of the Part Which Black Folk Played in the Attempt to Reconstruct Democracy in America, 1860–1880* (Cleveland, Ohio: Meridian Books, 1964).

5. LMC to SBS, 1873, *Collected Correspondence,* 80/2099.

6. According to Lydia Maria Child, Shaw approved of President Hayes's decision to sustain Wade Hampton's government in South Carolina. With no explanation available from Shaw, it is only necessary to say that his own reason could not have been any agreement with the political or social views of South Carolina's redeemers. LMC to SBS, 1877, *Collected Correspondence,* 89/2356.

7. G. R. Agassiz, ed., *Letters and Recollections of Alexander Agassiz with a Sketch of His Life and Work* (Cambridge, Mass.: Riverside Press, 1913), 13–53.

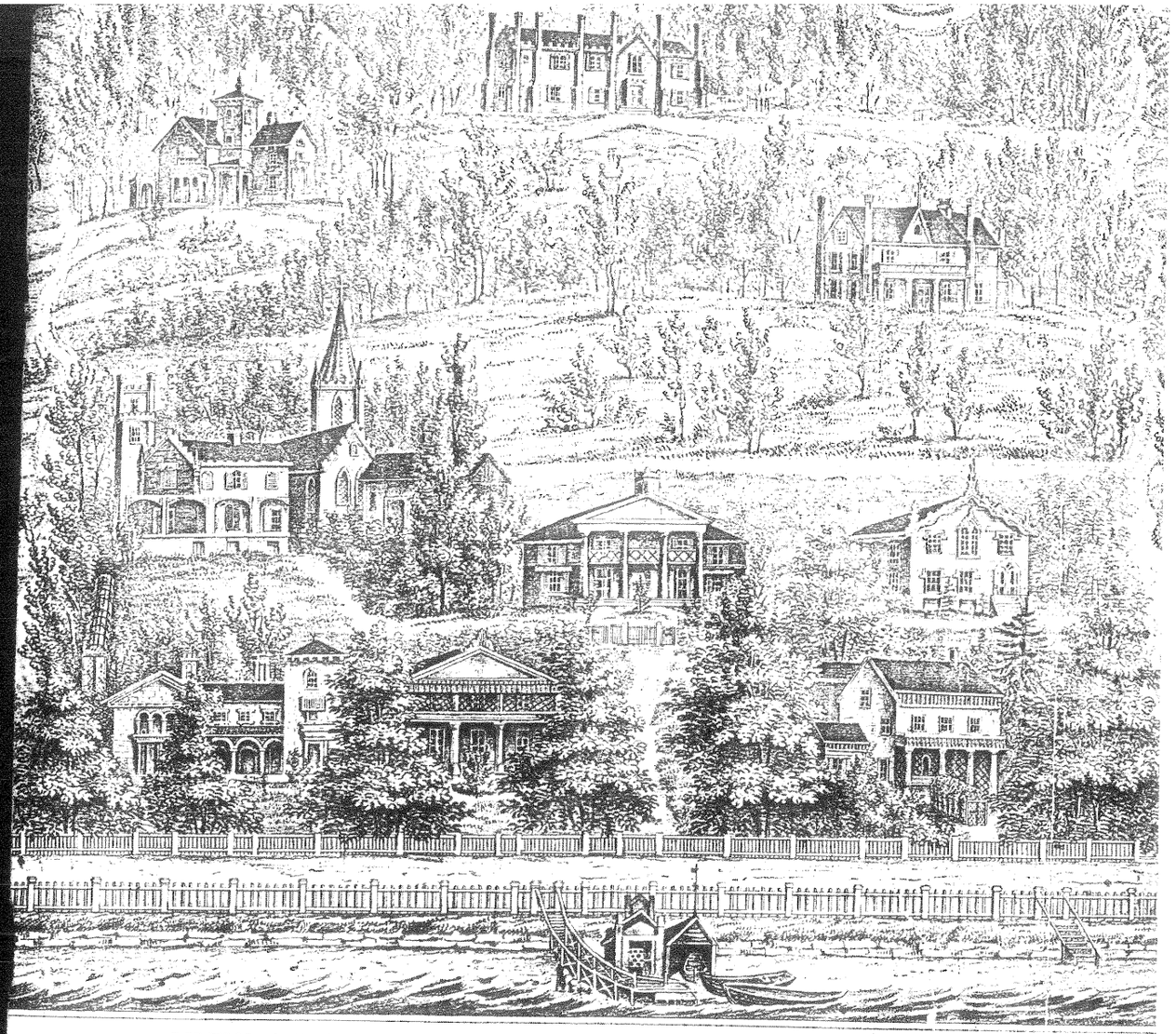
FRESH POND
Logan Springs
WOOD BROOK
CLINTON AVENUE
LAFAYETTE VUE
CEDAR PERSE
NEW BRIGHTON COTTAGES
FRANKLIN AVENUE
Hall
NEW BRIGHTON SCHOOL
NEW BRIGHTON HOUSE
HARBOUR
SAILORS SNUG
AQUEDUCT
J. Anthem
CASTLETON HEIGHTS
C. Y. Cebra
C. T. Ward
Hessian Springs
G. Griswold
C. G. Carlton
Hazard
Mr Trippe
MARBLE HOUSE
T. E. Davis
G. Griffin
CATHOLIC
Steam Boat Dock
Richmond
TOMPKINS
NEW BRIGHTON
PLETON
NILLE
B
A

war-time task of doing "what we can to maintain the public sentiment at the right height"—the editorial pages of *Harper's Weekly*. In December, 1863, suspending the Lounger column, he took on the job of political editor of the *Weekly*, a post which he held until his death, and by means of which he reached, for many years, a vast audience. The *Weekly*, since its inception in 1857, had steadily grown in circulation, thanks to its happy faculty of appealing to the greatest body of readers, the average men who liked the week's news rather simply presented and supplemented with pictures and cartoons. By the end of 1861 it was being read by 120,000 people. The circulation continued to rise when Curtis took over the editorial page, even though he transformed the paper "by a gentle but continuously brave pressure" from a "semi-Secession" journal "into an anti-slavery and Republican" one.[17] The influence of his editorials and articles during the war years was enormous. His calm and reasoned analysis of the course of events, his presentation of both sides of a question, his faith in the Union's cause and courage in upholding it won him the confidence of the North. Even the wounded soldiers in the hospitals were comforted and encouraged by his writing. The biographer James Parton spoke for all when he wrote to Curtis on July 15, 1864, "I know not how you could be more serviceable to the public than you are."

Though pleased that Parton and others considered his writing and lecturing a service to the country, Curtis could not find much comfort in it when he saw so many men give a far greater service, their lives. The tragedy of untimely death which the Civil War brought to so many promising young men was felt by Curtis time and again, for he lost many relatives and close friends in the struggle.

Soon after the war began, his Staten Island neighbor, Theodore Winthrop, was killed at Great Bethel, and the next year his half-brother, Lt. Col. Joseph Curtis, was cut down at the battle of Fredericksburg. Curtis wrote to Norton in December, 1862:

> On Saturday afternoon my brother Joe fell dead at the head of his regiment—ending, at 26 years, a stainless life in the holiest cause and the most heroic manner. God rest his noble soul and grant us all the same fidelity.[18]



VIEW OF ELLIOTTVILLE the Property of Dr S. M. ELLIOTT.

DAVID BENTON JONES DEAD.: Prominent Capitalist Was Founder of Zinc Industry in Amer
I Special to TJte New York Times.
New York Times (1923-Current file): Aug 24, 1923;
ProQuest Historical Newspapers: The New York Times (1851-2010)
pg. 11

DAVID BENTON JONES DEAD.

Prominent Capitalist Was Founder of Zinc Industry in America.

Special to The New York Times.

CHICAGO, Aug. 23.—David Benton Jones, one of the founders of the zinc industry in America, died at his home in Lake Forest last night, aged 75 years. Mr. Jones was taken ill last May, when he was stricken at his Winter home near Los Angeles and was rushed back to the care of his physicians here by a special train. The train, which cost more than $11,000, made the trip twenty-four hours faster than regular scheduled time.

Mr. Jones was one of the leading capitalists of the Middle West. He founded the Mineral Point Company, which owns a whole town in Wisconsin, about thirty years ago and merged it with the New Jersey Zinc Company in a nation-wide organization in 1897.

Mr. Jones was born in Pembrokeshire, North Wales, in 1848. He came to this country as a boy and received his education here, graduating from Princeton University in 1878. He was a close friend of ex-President Wilson. He is survived by Thomas D. Jones, a brother, who was his classmate at Princeton, and by his sons and two daughters.

MRS. ANNA SHAW CURTIS.

Editor's Widow, an Officer of Children's Society for 30 Years, Dies.

Mrs. Anna Shaw Curtis, widow of George William Curtis, died Wednesday at her home, 234 Bard Avenue, Staten Island, after an illness of three months. She was born April 7, 1836, a daughter of Francis G. Shaw of Boston, who moved to Staten Island more than seventy years ago. Colonel Francis Gould Shaw, who was killed at the head of his negro regiment in the Civil War, was her brother.

Shortly after the Brook Farm enterprise she married Mr. Curtis, and she is credited with having helped his early work as editor of Harper's Weekly. She shared, too, his interest in civil service reform and woman suffrage. Mayor Low appointed Mrs. Curtis to the Board of Education, and she served until comparatively recently in Staten Island. For thirty years she was a trustee or Vice President of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children. She left a son, Dr. Francis G. Curtis of Newton, Mass., and two sisters, Mrs. Francis C. Barlow and Mrs. Robert S. Minturn of this city.

CIRCUS 'BLUE MAN' BURIED.

Former Associates and War Veterans at Funeral of Fred Walters.

The funeral of Fred Walters, known to patrons of the Barnum & Bailey circus and Coney Island as the "blue man," was held yesterday from the undertaking establishment of Charles J. Boyle, 245 East Ninetieth Street. The services were conducted by the Rev. F. C. G. Schumm, pastor of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, Lexington Avenue and Eighty-eighth Street, and burial was in St. Michael's Cemetery, Astoria, Queens.

Representatives of the British Great War Veterans' Association attended, as Walters was at one time a captain of the Seventeenth Lancers, known as the Duke of Cambridge's Own. Former associates in the circus and side show business also were there.

Funeral of Papal Princess.

Services were held in St. Patrick's Cathedral yesterday morning for the Princess Spottiswood-Mackin, widow of State Senator James Mackin of Fish-

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kill, N. Y. Her title was conferred on her by Pope Benedict XV. The celebrant of the requiem mass was the Rev. Father John M. J. Quinn, who was assisted by the Rev. Henry F. Hammer and the Rev. Francis A. Fadden. Among the honorary pallbearers, all members of St. Catherine's Welfare Association, were Miss Sarah McPike, President; Miss Anna O'Shea, Vice President, and the Misses McGrath and Celia and Theresa Gaffney. Burial will be in St. Louis.

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circle that included several liberal theologians, the couple's religious training was already unorthodox by the standards prevailing in America at the time. But for Frank and Sarah, the Unitarian faith was stifled by its own orthodoxy, dominated by conservatives, and unable to grasp the radical implications of liberal thought. Conservative Unitarians in the early nineteenth century emphasized reason; they believed that through unassisted reason, a person could establish the essentials of natural religion, which were the existence of God and the obligations of morality. Thus, Unitarians rejected creed and doctrine, claiming toleration within the church was essential to true Christianity. Unlike Deists, however, Unitarians insisted that natural religion had to be supplemented with a special revelation of God's will. The Bible was that special revelation, and much of its authority rested on the miracles of Jesus, who was not God but was of a higher rank in creation than mere men and women.[9]

Around the time of Frank and Sarah's marriage, a controversy over Transcendentalism rocked the Unitarian Church in Massachusetts. Emerson, who brought divisive issues into the open with his 1838 address at the Harvard Divinity School, rejected the conservatives' reliance on the miracles of Christ to support revealed religion. Claiming that miracles and supernatural assistance were irrelevant to real religion, Transcendentalists advocated the human ability to intuit all truth and insisted that God communicated directly with the individual soul.

The most radical Transcendentalist ministers, men such as Theodore Parker and George Ripley, explicitly rejected revealed Christianity as a special revelation. All religions had some truth, they asserted, and since the original source of truth was in the heart, faith was independent of the Bible. Transcendentalists worshiped God, but next they worshiped humans, asserting the self-sufficiency and supremacy of each individual. Christ was merely a man who was more sensitive than others to intuition, and his inspiration was no greater than that available to any other human. He had simply announced religious truths that would have been equally valid had someone else proclaimed them.[10]

Frank and Sarah Shaw were among the first to embrace this radical Transcendentalism. They attended Emerson's sermons and other lectures and befriended Margaret Fuller. This controversial woman would have great influence over Shaw's evolution as a reformer, and he and Sarah would, in turn, encourage her development as a feminist, Transcendentalist, and literary figure.

Margaret Fuller was an unusual woman in antebellum America,

since she had received a rigoro
middle-class lawyer and politi
After having stimulated her int
he had educated her too aggr
mother and halted her lessons.
felt pulled apart by her intellec
employing it that real life offere
isolated, especially after her fa
there, Fuller, deep in personal
epiphany. She later recalled tha
the "truth came to me."[11]

Out of this moment in
unity of the masculine and fem
within God. To achieve true sel
ists, Fuller believed a person ha
ety labeled the masculine (or
feminine (or spirituality, empa
evaporated, a person would ex
ticulated these ideas in *Women i*
that this internal reform was a
political reform. Once individu
der domination in society woul
experience true marriage. She
begin unless women challenge
or teach.[12]

For the rest of her life,
the unity of the "masculine an
ment," "beauty and power," "thc
social consciousness." She dev
such as Emerson, but she found
her view of the creative power o

Fuller struggled to find
tique. After her father's death, s
her family, but there was little c
woman in nineteenth-century A
option for Northern women in
Bronson Alcott's experimental
Street School in Providence, R
which was her chief ambition.

A few years earlier, Shaw had shocked the Boston establishment by retiring from his father's mercantile firm while in the "full tide of success." He could have been one of the richest men in New England, but he told a friend that "he has made money enough & he thinks a greater accumulation in his hands would be oppression & injustice to the poor!"[2] Shaw was already active in the abolition movement, and his 1845 speech would inaugurate the commitment to broader social reforms that would characterize the rest of his life.

Contemporaries enjoyed poking fun at Robert Gould Shaw for his unconventional son. A book detailing Boston's wealthy men even claimed that the elder Shaw's children "do not all of them conform exactly to his notions of aristocratic propriety, nor seem to be entirely persuaded that the great art and duty of life is to make money and to keep it. One of them is an 'Associationist,' a great friend and supporter of the Brook Farm Phalanx."[3] Close family friends and members of Boston's elite, however, knew that Robert Gould Shaw fully supported, though he did not share, his son's unconventional attitudes. He had given Frank utter freedom to follow his convictions, even to the point of leaving the family business.

Frank initially worked hard for his father's interests and had traveled all over the world on behalf of Robert Gould Shaw & Company. Robert bragged that his son "has managed his business quite to my satisfaction and promises to make a Man. He is well liked by all who know him."[4] During the 1820s, young Frank Shaw had grown up like so many other eldest sons among Boston's first families. He attended Boston Latin School, studied with private tutors for the Harvard entrance exams, passed them, and then left college early in 1828 to join his father's mercantile firm. Robert expected Frank to learn the trade and accordingly sent him abroad to conduct the company's business. Frank spent a great deal of time in the West Indies, particularly Havana, and in Europe, often stopping by the port towns of the American South on his way home.[5]

The quiet, gentle-mannered young man learned a different lesson from his apprenticeship than other Boston sons did, however. What he saw in Havana and Charleston and the countinghouses of Massachusetts deeply disturbed him. His trade companions in the West Indies appeared to be greed-driven men. Few of them cared about moral principles, and most were oblivious to the poverty, suffering, and human loss that Shaw increasingly noticed around him in the streets of every commercial area he visited. Although he admired his father's personal honesty, he considered many of the

company's business practices t
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Nor did he enjoy the long ho
tiresome work, sapping precio

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Frank through Parkman's sec
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including doubts about Christ
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her uncle Robert and some of

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lies, they married on 9 June
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conservative cultural beliefs of

Raised in the Unitari

7. ■ 463 Henderson Avenue - Marian Fontana

This house goes unnoticed by most passersby. It was built in 1859 as a stable for the Curtis house next door. Now it is nearly hidden from view behind landscaping and a small hillock. Forty years ago, architect Joe Colli remodeled the stable into a house and artist's studio, the sort of place one expects to find in Connecticut, not New York City.

The lot is 220 feet deep, with one of the few remaining open streams left on Staten Island. Walk to the rear of the property and enjoy the gazebo and mature landscaping. The former owner left several sculptures on the grounds.

The interior has a modern layout with handsome exposed beams and an open stairway. What are now the bedrooms was once the hayloft. The enormous fireplace is a the rough-hewn personal expression of the artist who built it. Notice the roofing slates that are used to cover a portion of the living room ceiling.

Writer and performer Marian Fontana has recently purchased the house and will move in with her son as soon as kitchen alterations are completed.

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02/08/00        PUBLIC ACCESS PROPERTY PROFILE OVERVIEW                BISPIQ70
234..... BARD AVENUE..................... 5 STATEN ISLAND 10310 BIN# 5003544

BARD AVENUE          234 - 234            HEALTH AREA : 03     TAX BLK: 138..
                                          CENSUS TRACT:   97   TAX LOT: 166..
                                          COMMUNITY BD: 501    CONDO  :
                                          MULTI STRUCT: 1      CUI NO :
================================================================================
DOB SPECIAL PLACE NAME :                                  1   PROPERTY RECORD(S)
DOB BUILDING REMARKS   :
FINANCE OCCUPANCY CODE : B3-2 FAMILY DWELLING  LANDMARK STATUS: NO

  COUNTS FOR THIS BIN                                  RECORD VERIFIED : YES
  ACTIONS          : 8     , 0     JOBS/FILINGS (PF4)    SPECIAL STATUS :
  VIOLATIONS DOB   : 0     , 0     OPEN                       LOCAL LAW : NO
             ECB   : 0     , 0     OPEN    (PF12)                   SRO : NO
  COMPLAINTS       : 0     , 0     OPEN    (PF11)

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                                        PF 5/6/7 = NEW    ADDR/BIN/BLK-LOT
ENTER KEY= ACTIONS, (TYPE : ....  )     PF 9/10  = BROWSE  BIN/BLK-LOT
  PF  3  = ELEVATORS   PF8 = BOILERS    PF 15    = BROWSE 1   PROPERTY RECORDS
  PF 14  = LPC/HPD/LOFT USE ONLY        PF 16    = ADDTN'L PROPERTY INFO
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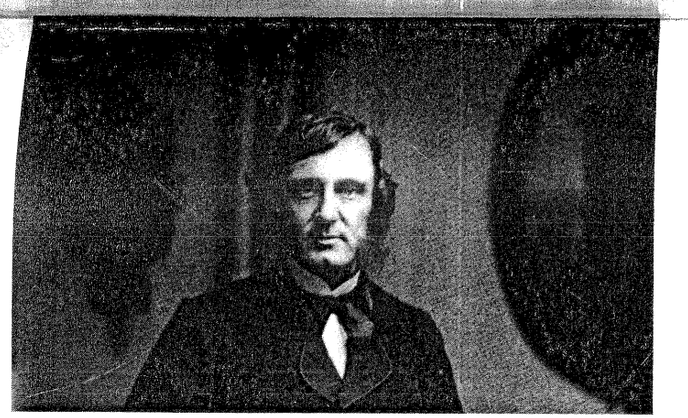
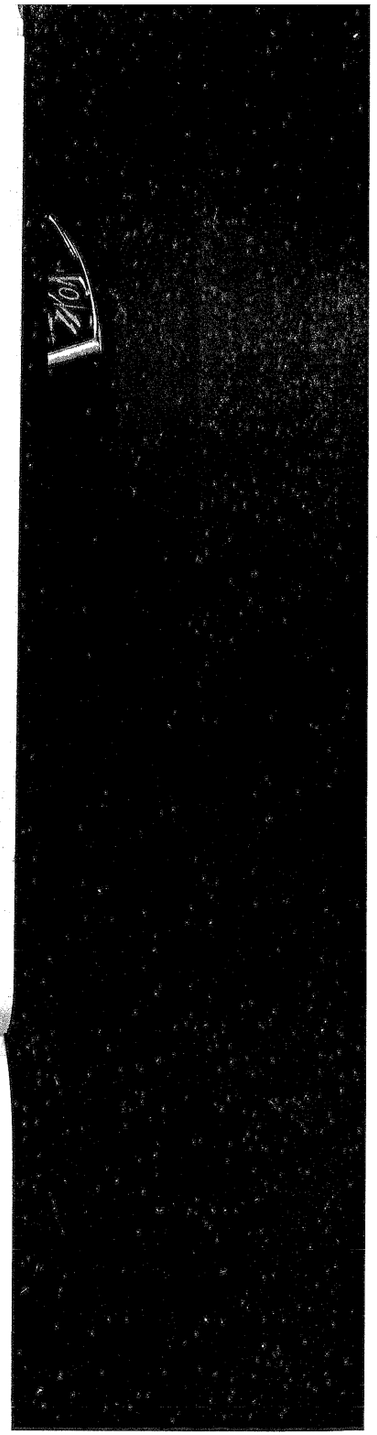
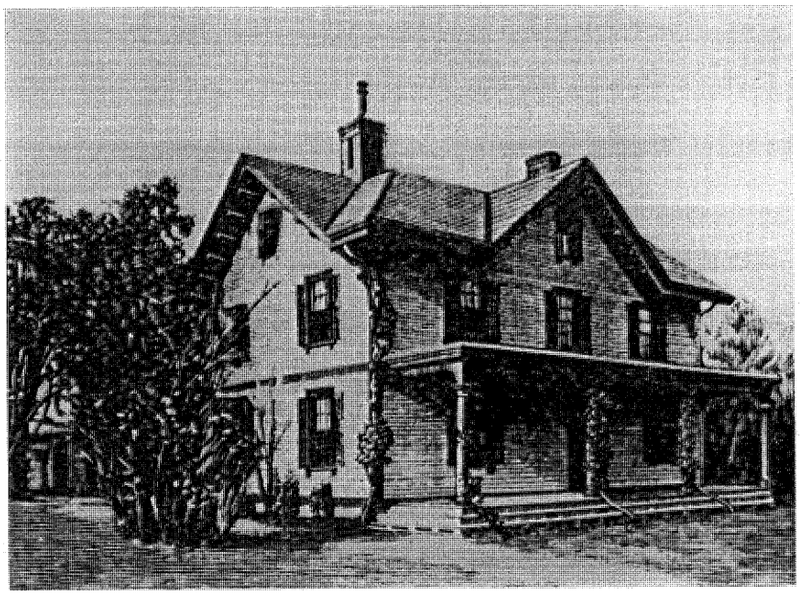
GEORGE WILLIAM CURTIS IN 1854

ANNA SHAW CURTIS







THE CURTIS HOME ON STATEN ISLAND

THE CURTIS SUMMER HOME AT ASHFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

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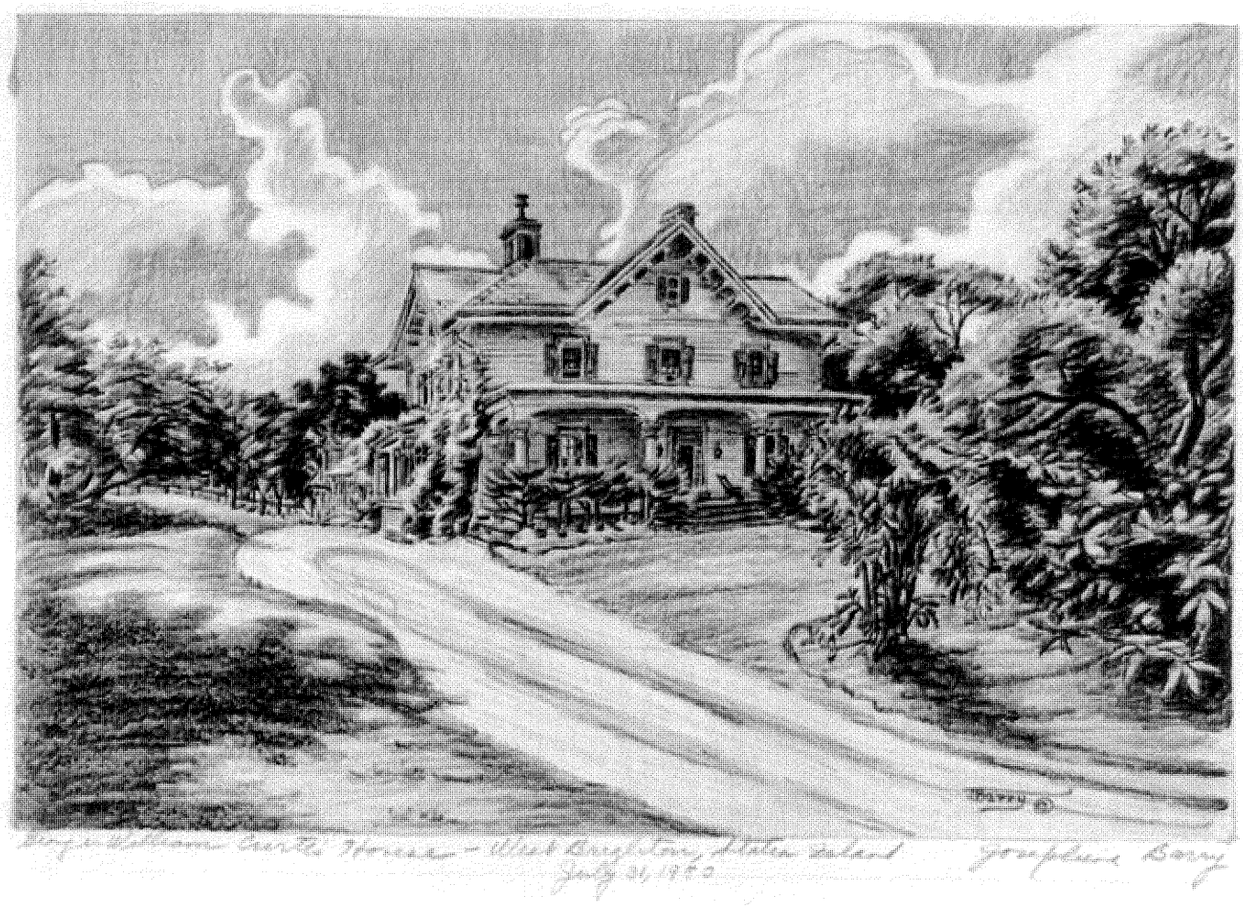
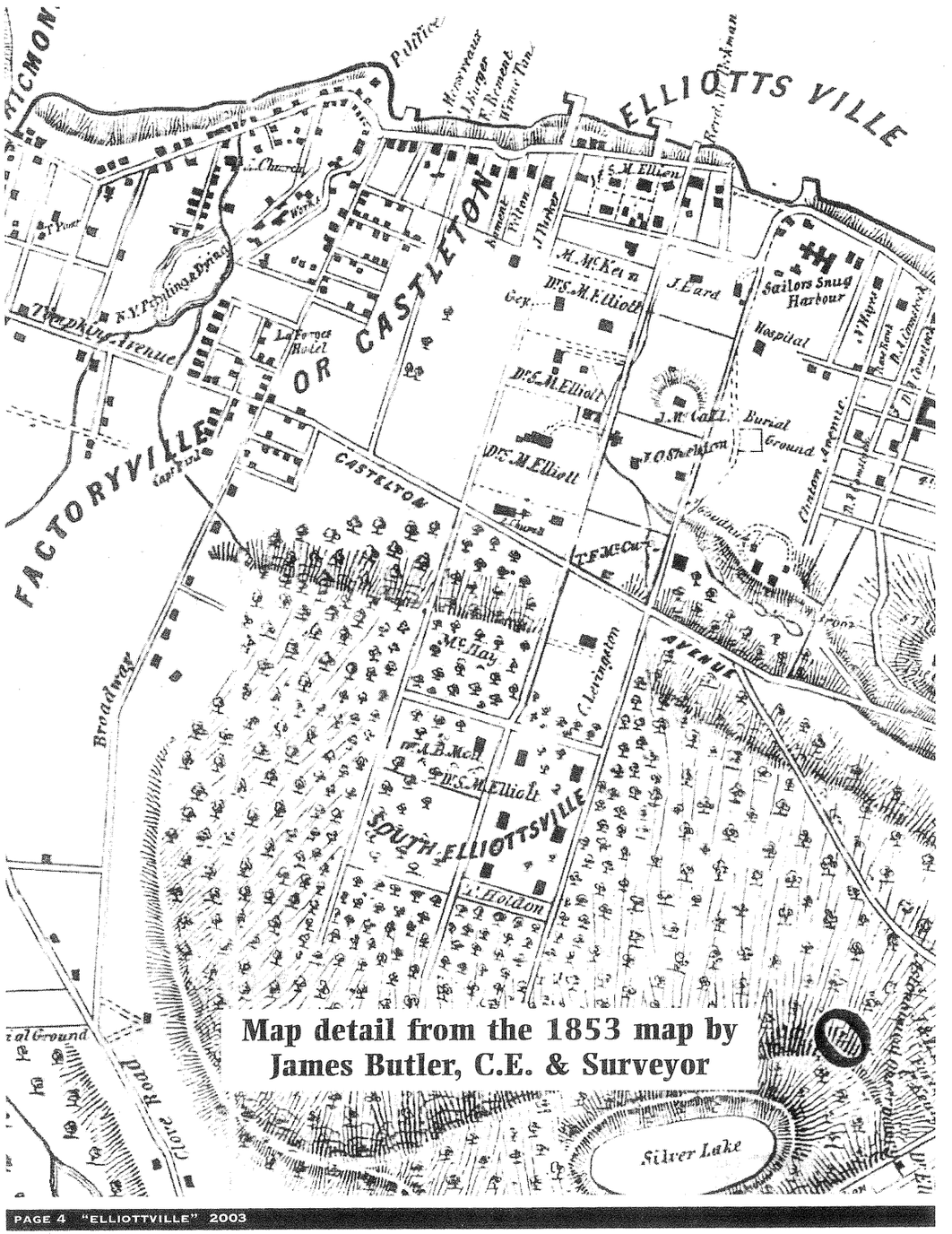


George William Curtis House - West Brighton, Staten Island. July 31, 1950.

Main photographer:
Accession number: 75.43.99
System identifier: M3Y33876



Map detail from the 1853 map by James Butler, C.E. & Surveyor

George William Curtis

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

George William Curtis (February 24, 1824 - August 31, 1892) was an American writer and public speaker, born in Providence, Rhode Island, of old New England stock.

George William Curtis

Contents

- 1 Biography
- 2 Works
- 3 Notes
- 4 References
- 5 External links

Biography

Curtis was born in Providence on February 24, 1824,[1] and his mother died when he was two. At six he was sent with his elder brother to school in Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts, where he remained for five years. Then, his father having again married happily, the boys were brought home to Providence, where they stayed till, in around 1839, their father moved to New York. Three years later, Curtis, fell in sympathy with the spirit of the so-called Transcendental movement. He joined the communal experiment known as Brook Farm from 1842 to 1843.[2] He was accompanied by his brother, James Burrill Curtis, whose influence on him was strong and helpful. He remained there for two years, and met many interesting men and women. Then came two years, passed partly in New York, partly in Concord in order mainly to be in the friendly neighborhood of Emerson, and then followed four years spent in Europe, Egypt and Syria.

Curtis returned from Europe in 1850, attractive, accomplished, and ambitious for literary distinction. He settled on Staten Island and instantly plunged into the whirl of life in New York, obtained a post on the *Tribune*, became a popular lecturer, started work on *Nile Notes of a Howadji* (1851), and became a favorite in society. He wrote for *Putnam's Magazine*, of which he was George Palmer Putnam's. He became an associate editor along with Parke Godwin and managing editor Charles Frederick Briggs; the three also collaborated on a gift book called *The Homes of American Authors* (1853).[2]

Curtis produced a number of volumes, composed of essays written for *Putnam's* and for *Harper's Weekly*, which came in rapid succession from his pen. The chief of these were the *Potiphar Papers* (1853), a satire on the fashionable society of the day; and *Prue and I* (1856), a pleasantly sentimental, fancifully tender and humorous study of life. In 1855 he married Anna Shaw, daughter of abolitionist Francis Shaw and brother of Robert Gould Shaw of the famed 54th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry. Not long afterwards he became, through no fault of his own, deeply involved in debt owing to the failure of *Putnam's Magazine*; and his sense of honour compelled him to spend the greater part of his earnings for many years on discharging the obligations for which he had become responsible, and from which he might have freed himself by legal process. In the period just preceding the Civil War, other interests became subordinate to those of national concern. He was involved in the founding of the Republican Party, and made his first important speech on the questions of the day at Wesleyan University in 1856; he engaged actively in John C. Fremont's presidential campaign of that year (the Republican campaign headquarters were located not far from his Staten Island home), and was soon recognized not only as an effective public speaker, but also as one of the ablest, most high-minded, and most

Cromwell, George, 106–107, 151, 158, 160, 187, 219
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Crooke Point, 147
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Cropsey House, 27
The house, built in 1750, stands at 1922 Arthur Kill Road in Greenridge. Many members of the well-known Cropsey family have lived there throughout the years. They include Harmon B. Cropsey, first County Superintendent of Schools in Richmond, and Jasper Francis Cropsey, a Hudson River School landscape artist. Several teachers from this family served in local schools. (E.H.)
Crown, the, 39
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Cunard Line, 65
Cunard Mansion, 65–66, 223
This building was the home of Sir Edward Cunard son of Samuel Cunard (1786–1865) of Nova Scotia, founder of the first transatlantic passenger line. The land on which the house stands is filled by ship ballast. Note the Victorian Romanesque style of architecture. The building is now Cunard Hall, part the campus of Wagner College, *q.v.*, on Grymes Hill. It commands excellent views of the surrounding area and of New York Harbor. (E.H.)
Curtis, George William, 61, 75, 80–82, 88, 91, 132, 146
Curtis (1824–1892) lived at 234 Bard Avenue at the corner of Henderson Avenue. Note the carriage shed in the rear. P.S. 19 and Curtis High School were named for this editor of *Harper's Magazine* and advocate of reform, especially the abolition of slavery. Curtis's wife, the former Anna Gould Shaw, long a member of the local school board, often visited P.S. 19. The Staten Island Institute of Arts and Sciences once owned a portrait of her.
Curtis High School (New York City Landmark), 75, 81, 109, 112, 160, 220, 239; *see also* public high schools

D

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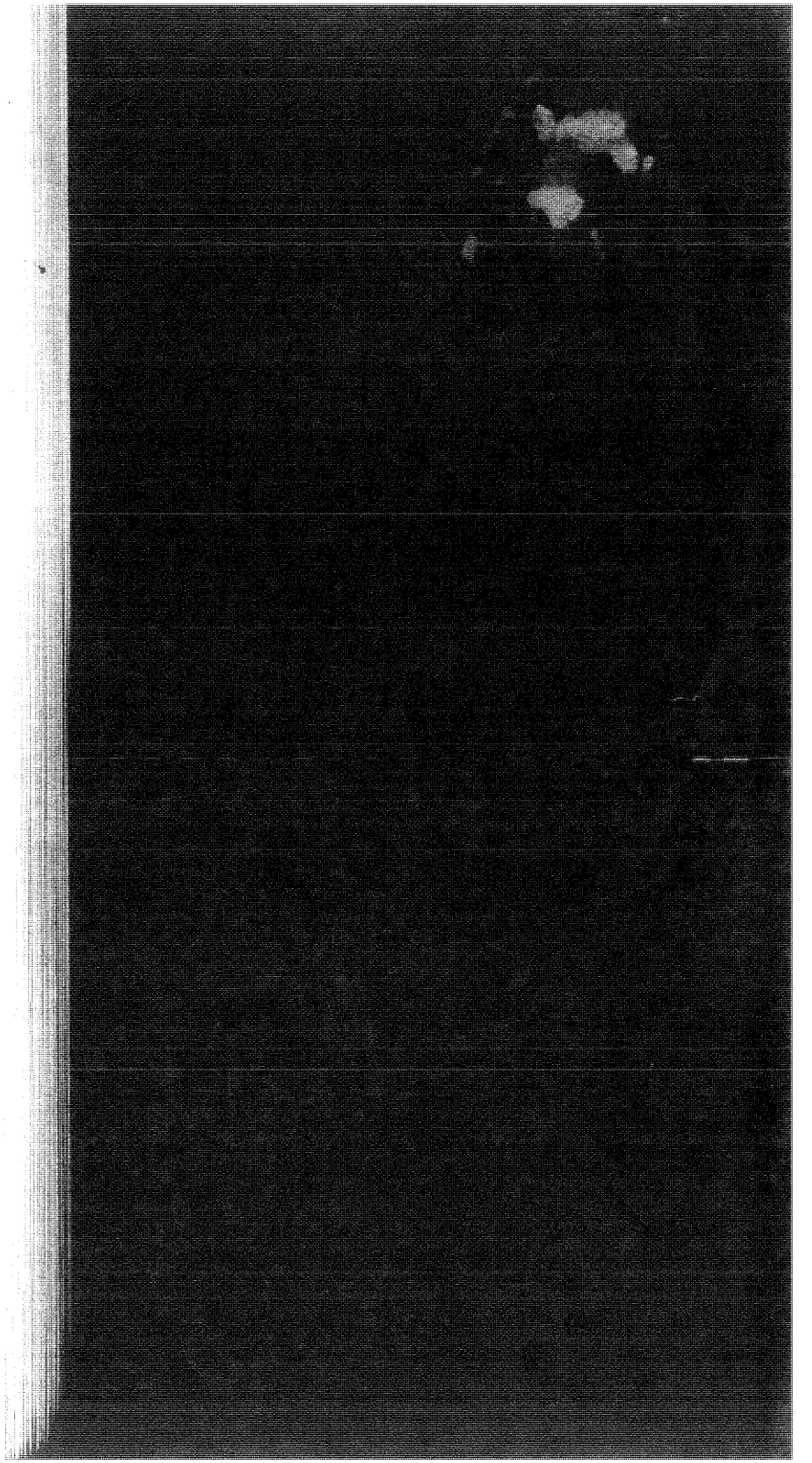
Davis, Thomas E., 53, 65
Davis, William Thompson, 44, 147–148, 189, 191, 219, 240
Davis was a self-taught entomologist, a leader of groups of supporters of natural history, local history, and genealogy on Staten Island, and co-author, with Charles Leng, of *Staten Island and*



8. ■ 234 Bard Avenue – Loriaine and Roy Danshchewski
The George William Curtis House 1859

When this home was on the PLSI 1999 home tour, Loriaiane and Roy and their family had just moved in and unpacked. You will enjoy seeing the changes and improvements they have made. They have added a new door to the dining room, stripped old wall paper and added some suitable lighting to the interior. When asked about the metal siding, they said "It's coming down – absolutely!"– a major project involving replacement of windows and the front door.

On Thanksgiving Day in 1856 Francis Shaw's oldest daughter, Anna married George William Curtis. The Curtises lived with the Shaws until 1859 when Shaw built this Italianate style house for them.

Curtis was, successively, the editor of Putnam's Monthly, Harper's Monthly and Harper's Weekly. He wrote his weekly column, "Editor's Easy Chair" in the study. Curtis was a famous orator and an uncompromising opponent of slavery. During the 1863 draft riots, the mob threatened to burn his house down. Fortunately, they did not.

Print
Serial: The Century; a popular quarterly Volume 0025 Issue 4 (Feb 1883)
Title: ***George William Curtis*** [pp. 578-582]
Author: Conant, S. S.
Title: Making of America
Table of contents | Add to bookbag

those who know where to look, there are signs of a neighborhood's evolution.

The start of the great estate period came around 1835 when a land-buying group, the New Brighton Association, acquired tracts of land on the island's north shore. Walker Park itself was since vanished, the tour proceeds to No. 312 Bard Avenue. William Mercereau, a Staten Island architect who designed the Fraunces Tavern restoration, was its designer. A 20th-century Beaux-Arts adaptation of the Georgian style, its front is ornamented with dormers and pediments and delicate curlicued wooden detail on the front. Inside (but closed to the public) the main hall opens to

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Walking the Ferry's Far Side
By JENNIFER DUNNING
New York Times (1923-Current file); May 6, 1977;
ProQuest Historical Newspapers: The New York Times (1851-2010)
pg. 63

Walking the Ferry's Far Side

By JENNIFER DUNNING

To many New Yorkers, Staten Island is that place where the ferry docks. And there are probably quite a few Staten Islanders, too, who would be surprised to hear that the island contains examples of important architecture as old as a 1640 stone farmhouse and as modern as a Frank Lloyd Wright home on Lighthouse Hill.

In an effort to change all that, Barnett Shepherd, an architectural historian at the Staten Island Institute of Arts and Sciences, has been conducting architectural tours all over the borough. This Sunday he will lead an exploration of the Livingston area on the island's north shore, a tract approximately four blocks wide running along Bard Avenue from Richmond Terrace. Everyone is welcome.

"This was a popular residential area in the 19th century," Mr. Shepherd said the other day. "People were attracted by the natural beauty of the setting—its hills, the river. And the architectural tastes of the time are all represented here, especially Gothic and

'A Great Deal Worth Preserving on S.I.'

Colonial Revival cottages, and an Italianate estate house. There's a great deal worth preserving on Staten Island and people here are becoming aware of that."

Two such aware islanders are Donna Anne Harris and Kathy Klein, the young architectural historians who will join Mr. Shepherd as guides Sunday. The three will meet tour members at 2 P.M. at Walker Park, in the center of Livingston at Bard Avenue and Delafield Place. They will begin the two-and-a-half hour tour with a short general history of Staten Island from its settlement in the 17th century and its long days as a sleepy rural area, to the mid-19th century, when as transportation became easier and cheaper, the island grew more desirable for recreation and as a site for suburban homes. With the growing demand for homes, Livingston became more popular until, by the 1940's, its large estates had been completely subdivided into small lots.

A Neighborhood's Evolution

The tour covers those gradual changes as it proceeds south along Bard Avenue, the main thoroughfare of Livingston, which at first looks like any pleasant suburban street with its comfortable mix of new and old homes, its lilacs and dogwood trees. But for once part of Elliotsville, named after a tract-owner Dr. Samuel Mackenzie Elliot, a pioneering eye surgeon whose patients included Francis Parkman, James Russell Lowell and Francis George Shaw, who was a philanthropist. The area thus became known as an enclave for liberal thinkers. Lives were gracious there. Where children now play baseball in Walker Park, their great-grandparents played cricket and tennis, a new sport introduced to the United States at the site of the St. George Ferry Terminal by the Staten Islander Mrs. Elizabeth Outerbridge. At the foot of Bard Avenue, rowing teams like the Neptunes and the Kittens plied the Kill Van Kull.

Dr. Elliot was also an amateur builder and constructed 14 picturesque cottages on his 80-acre tract, all of which he lived in for a breaking-in period. One of them may be found at 69 Delafield Place, a landmark house of cut and fitted gray stone with Carpenter Gothic decorative wood trim, erected around 1850. Tour members will be taken inside this house and others along the route. Like most of the tour houses, while it is not an extraordinary architectural example, No. 69 is representative of the local Gothic Revival style building and it has been carefully maintained by its owner.

"The houses here have been adapted to modern uses but preserved by people of average means with a love for their historical character," Mr. Shepherd observed. "These Staten Islanders have done so much to preserve their heritage."

Architectural Eclecticism

East of Bard Avenue lay the mid-18th century Henderson Estate, like Elliotsville, a long, thin tract of 80 acres. Only a graceful old beech remains from that estate. But along the avenue are many traces of its original elegance, such as implacable stone estate gates or double-arched white brick chimneys. At 101 Bard Avenue, one of a cluster of 1890's houses, tour members will find a good example of the architectural elecliciism practiced at the time in this Colonial Revival house with Palladian windows and pilasters to mark the house corners.

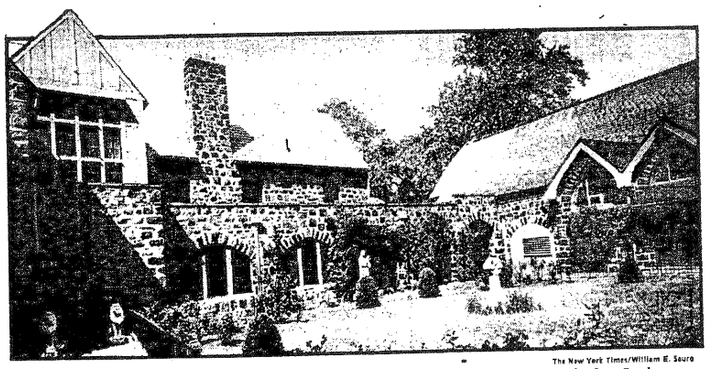
At 234 Bard Avenue, the tour stops at the George Curtis House, a home built in 1859 for the son-in-law of Francis Shaw. Mr. Curtis was an editor and columnist at Harper's Weekly and wrote novels in the ground-floor study visited by the tour. He was so staunch an abolitionist that he was called a "black Republican" and was for a time a conscience of the party. During the draft riots of 1863 he had to smuggle his family out of the neighborhood, but his home was never burned as threatened and it survives today, a well-preserved Italianate house with simple, graceful lines.

After brief stops to inspect a pretty 1870's carriage house and an 1865 gate house, both survivors of estates long the top of the house, with a balcony winding around it.

One of the grandest estate houses was the Italian villa-style Garner House, now the administrative offices of St. Vincent's Hospital. Built in the 1860's for $400,000 by Charles Tabor, a New York broker nicknamed the "Cotton King," the massive, towered stone house was nearly purchased by the just-retired President Ulysses S. Grant. President Grant was dissuaded by his wife after she was attacked by mosquitos while visiting the house.

After a side trip to two odd-shaped, shingle-style McKim, Mead & White homes on St. Austin's Place, the tour ends at St. Mary's Protestant Episcopal Chuch on Castleton and Davis Avenues. Tour members will move past a pair of handsome grillwork gates into a charming, hidden garden and through a tiny chapel, designed in 1917 by Ralph Adam Cram. The church itself, designed in 1853 by Wills & Dudley, was part of an architectural reform movement in the Episcopal Church. In an attempt to move back to the traditional formality of the liturgy, reform architects styled churches after the 14th century English country parish church, in Gothic style with exposed beams and replicated proportions considered appropriate for Episcopal worship. St. Mary's is the only such reform church on the island.

On May 15 the palatial Todt Hill estate of the architect Ernest Flagg will be explored, and a walking seminar on Frank Lloyd Wright will be held on May 22, with a visit to Lighthouse Hill. The tours are sponsored by the Staten Island Museum and cost $2 each. For transportation information and reservations—which are required—call the museum at 727-1135.



The New York Times/William E. Sauro

The garden of St. Mary's Protestant Episcopal Church, part of an architectural tour of Staten Island on Sunday

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George W. Curtis's Funeral To-Day
New York Times (1857-1922); Sep 2, 1892;
ProQuest Historical Newspapers: The New York Times (1851-2010)
pg. 9

George W. Curtis's Funeral To-Day.

There were only a few callers at the home of George William Curtis on Bard Avenue, Livingston, S. I., yesterday, and they were close friends of the family or neighbors. A large number of telegrams and letters expressing sorrow and condolence with the family were received. Dr. F. G. Curtis, son of the deceased, said that the only telegrams received from persons other than family friends were from Bishop Potter, Whitelaw Reid, G. Stanley Hall, President of Clark University, Worcester, Mass.; Parke Godwin, and C. C. Allen of the Missouri Civil Service Reform Association.

The funeral arrangements are now all completed. The services will be held to-day at the residence on the arrival of the 11:30 boat from New-York. Only the relatives and a few friends who have been invited will attend. The services will be conducted by the Rev. John W. Chadwick of Brooklyn, a warm personal friend of Mr. Curtis. The burial will be made at the Moravian Cemetery, New-Dorp, where the family has a plot.

Suit Against Young Stephani.

A suit to recover $300 has been begun against Alphonse J. Stephani, the young man who killed his mother's lawyer about two years ago and who is now serving a life sentence for that crime. The suit is brought by Charles W. Packard as assignee of Dr. J. W. Packard, and is for professional services rendered by the doctor as an expert at Stephani's trial.

Dr. Packard appeared before the commission appointed to inquire into Stephani's sanity. He was summoned by the young murderer's lawyers, and gave it as his opinion that Stephani was irresponsible at the time the crime was committed.

Judge Patterson of the Supreme Court yesterday appointed Josephine Stephani, mother of the young convict, as guardian for the purposes of the action. The motion for the appointment was made by the defense and was not opposed by the plaintiff.

Gambling Got Him into Trouble.

CHEYENNE, Wyoming, Sept. 1.—A young man who gives his name as Roland Warring, and says his father is a business man of Greeley, Col., tried to hold up the bartender in one of the leading saloons here late Tuesday night. He drove the crowd out at the pistol's point, and then drew on the bartender, who invited him to come around and tap the till.

Warring used both hands in getting the money and the bartender downed him and held him until an officer arrived. Warring had lost some trust money in gambling and was desperate.

Settlers for Canada.

OTTAWA, Ontario, Sept. 1.—Jacob Silver of Philadelphia was here to-day on behalf of fifty-five families from Bessarabia, who are living at present in Pennsylvania, but are desirous of taking up homesteads in some part of Canada. Mr. Silver is authorized by them to select a locality in which to live. He says that they are all agriculturists and are worth from $1,000 to $100,000 per family.

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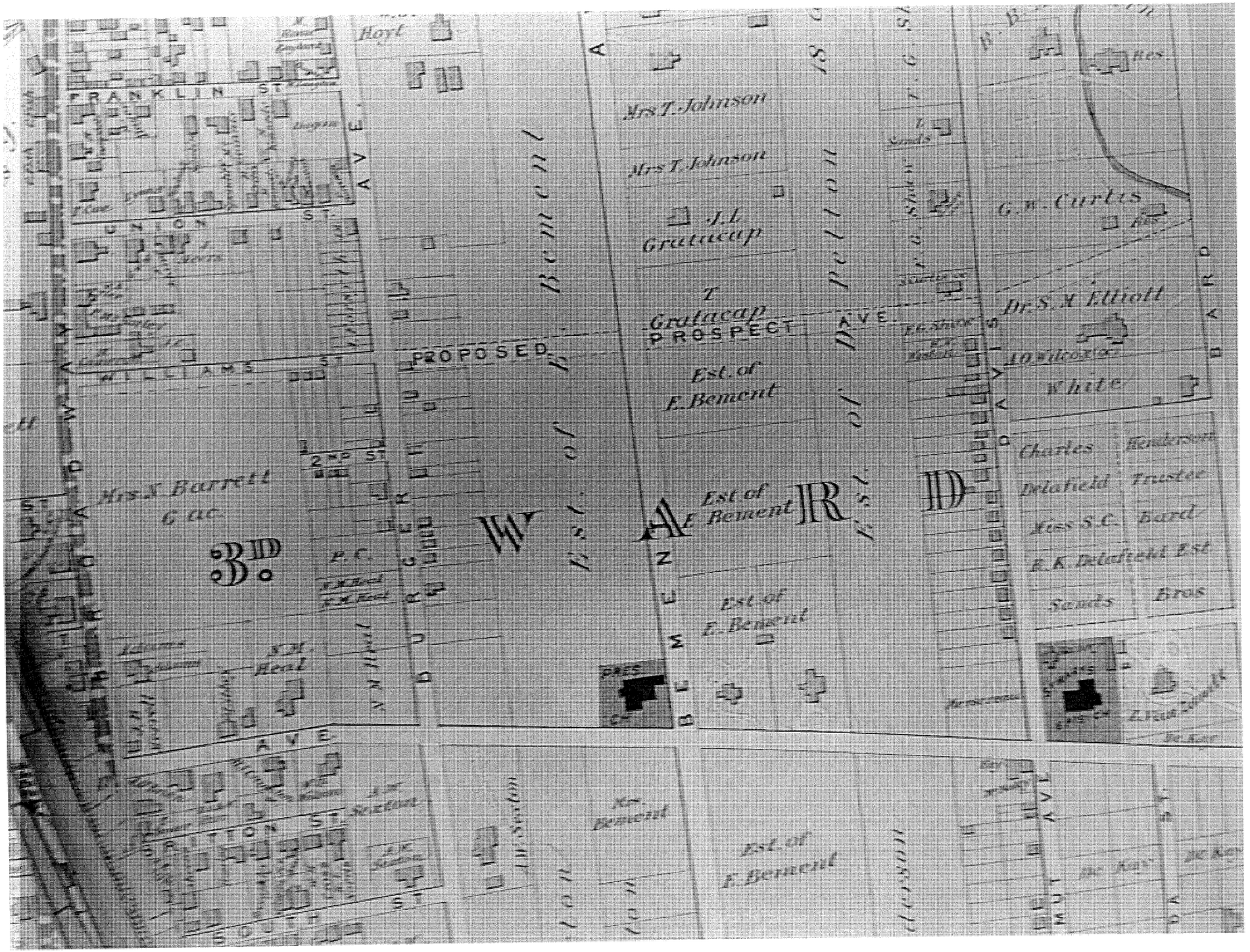


FRANKLIN ST
UNION ST
WILLIAMS ST
2ND ST
BURGER AVE
BRITTON ST
SOUTH ST
Hoyt
Mrs T. Johnson
Mrs T. Johnson
J.L. Gratacap
T Gratacap
PROPOSED
PROSPECT AVE
Est. of E. Bement
Est. of E. Bement
Est. of E. Bement
Est. of E. Bement
Est. of E. Bement
Est. of E. Bement
Est. of Pelton
Mrs N. Barrett
6 ac.
3D
P.C.
N.M. Heal
N.M. Heal
N.M. Heal
W A R D
PRES. CH.
G.W. Curtis
Res.
Dr. S.M. Elliott
White
Charles
Henderson
Delafield
Trustee
Miss S.C.
Bard
R.K. Delafield Est
Sands
Bros
Mrs. Bement
A.W. Sexton
Mersereau
De Kay
De Kay

Welcome to "ELLIOTTVILLE"

According to the *AIA Guide to New York City*, Dr. Samuel MacKenzie Elliot built some fifteen houses in the Staten Island town now known as Livingston. Elliottville stretched from Richmond Terrace to beyond Forest Avenue, from about Kissel Avenue to the westside of Davis Avenue.

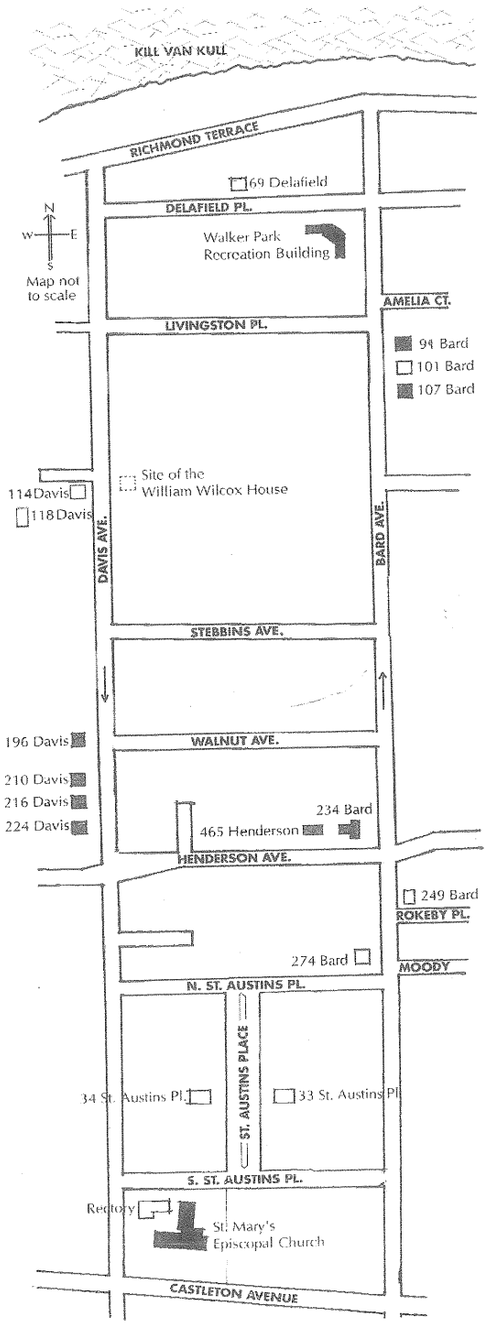
The drawing on the cover is a detail from an illustration on an 1853 map by James Butler, C.E. & Surveyor on file in the Map Room of the Main Research Library on 42 Street. The second house up from the bottom right on the cover resembles 69 Delafield Place, a New York City Landmark.

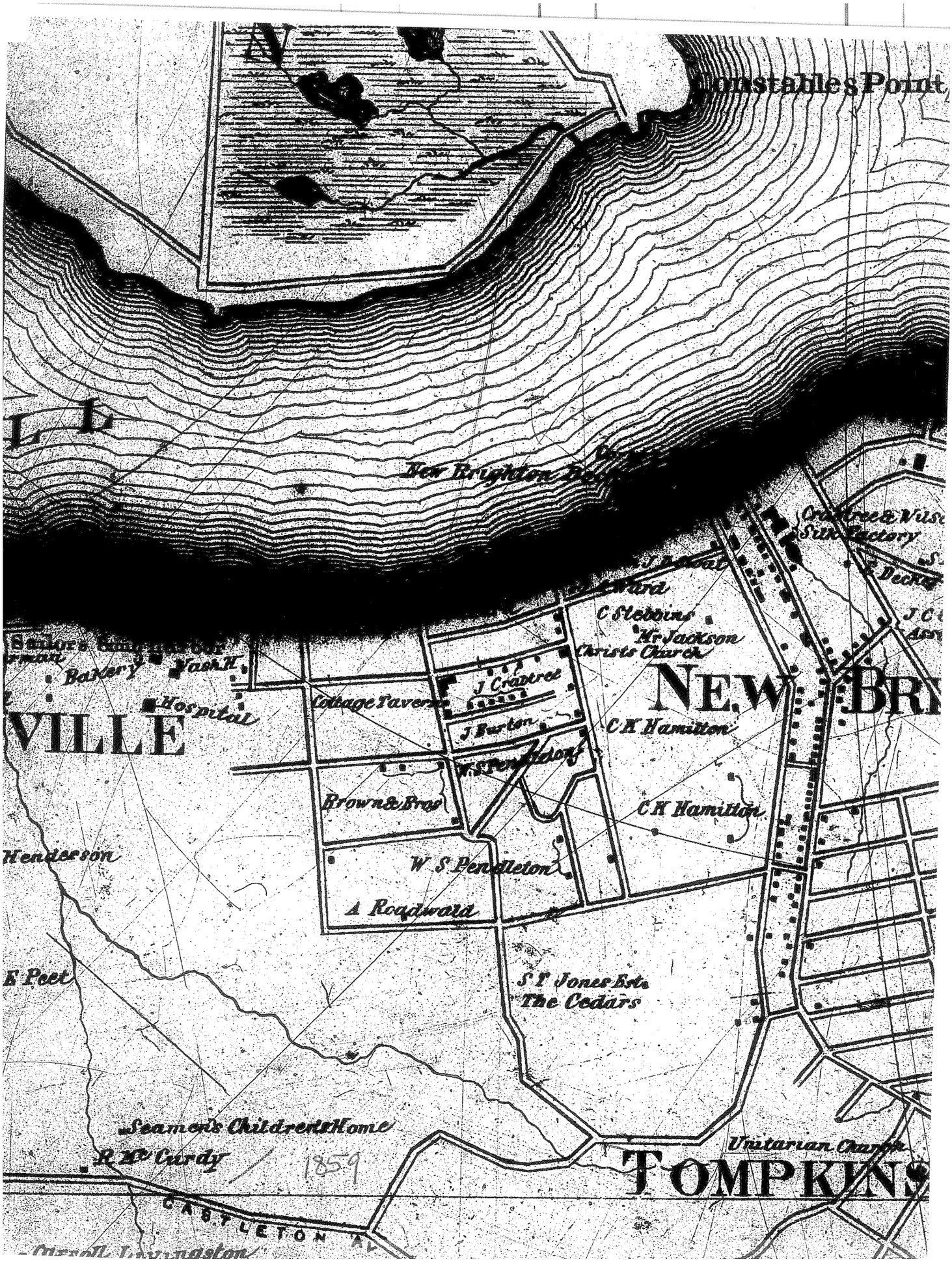
The PLSI 2003 Home Tour:

1. ■ 9T Bard Avenue.
2. ■ 107 Bard Avenue
3. ■ 198 Davis Avenue
4. ■ 210 Davis Avenue
5. ■ 216 Davis Avenue
6. ■ 224 Davis Avenue
7. ■ 465 Henderson Avenue
8. ■ 234 Bard Avenue
   - □ 69 Delafield Pl.
   - □ 101 Bard Avenue
   - □ 114 Davis Avenue
   - □ 249 Bard Avenue
   - □ 274 Bard Avenue
   - □ 33 & 34 St. Austins Place

■ = Homes open for the tour.
□ = Homes listed for information only.

Don't miss the PLSI Awards Program at St. Mary's Episcopal Church, on the corner of Castleton & Davis Avenues 5:00 PM TODAY




Constables Point
New Brighton
Silk Factory
C Stebbins
Mr Jackson
Christs Church
Bakery
Hospital
VILLE
Cottage Tavern
J Crabtree
J Burton
NEW
C K Hamilton
Brown & Bros
C K Hamilton
Henderson
W S Pendleton
A Roadwald
E Peet
S T Jones Est.
The Cedars
Seamen's Children's Home
R Mc Curdy
1859
Unitarian Church
TOMPKINS
CASTLETON AV

Westfield which ran hourly between 7 A.M. and 6 P.M. The Staten Island Railroad Company purchased the ferry to Manhattan in 1865, combining these two transportation methods.

PERSONALITIES CONNECTED WITH STATEN ISLAND

About 1836, Dr. Samuel MacKenzie Elliott, the eminent eye specialist, purchased property around Bard Avenue and Richmond Terrace. Within ten years he had built some of the grey square stone houses still standing in that section, then called Elliottville (now Livingston), which became quite a literary colony. This was the Dr. Elliott to whom James Russell Lowell, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, N. P. Willis, and other famous men came for treatment.

To him also came Mrs. Francis George Shaw. Finding the climate agreeable, Mr. Shaw bought property between Bard and Davis Avenues, north of Henderson Avenue. He was a prominent philanthropist and civic leader, serving as a trustee of the Seamen's Retreat (now U.S. Public Health Service Hospital) and of the S. R. Smith Infirmary (Staten Island Hospital). After the Civil War, Mr. Shaw was influential in the establishment of the Staten Island Savings Bank which opened in 1867. All the Shaws were abolitionists. A daughter, Mrs. C. R. Lowell,* widowed by the Civil War, tried the first plan of organized charity on the Island (16). Another daughter was married to George William Curtis, noted editor.

Francis Parkman, also a patient of Dr. Elliott, lived with the Shaw family for two years. His *Conspiracy of Pontiac* was published when he was a Staten Island resident (13).

Staten Island often has been a quiet retreat for literary figures who have written glowing descriptions of its natural beauty. Judge William Emerson, county judge of Richmond from 1841 to 1843, lived in that section now called Emerson Hill, Concord, then known as Dutch Farms. He was visited by his brother, Ralph Waldo Emerson,* and many friends, including Henry James, father of the novelist of the same name. Henry David Thoreau came to Staten Island as a tutor for the children of Judge Emerson. In a letter of 1843 he wrote: "the whole island is like a garden and affords very fine scenery." He spoke of the beautiful cedar, gum, tulip, peach, and cherry trees and of the woods of honeysuckle (28, 63). In another letter, he spoke of the beautiful sight from Madame Grymes'

house looking into the Harbor. Grymes Hill and Emerson Hill still afford excellent views of the New York Harbor.

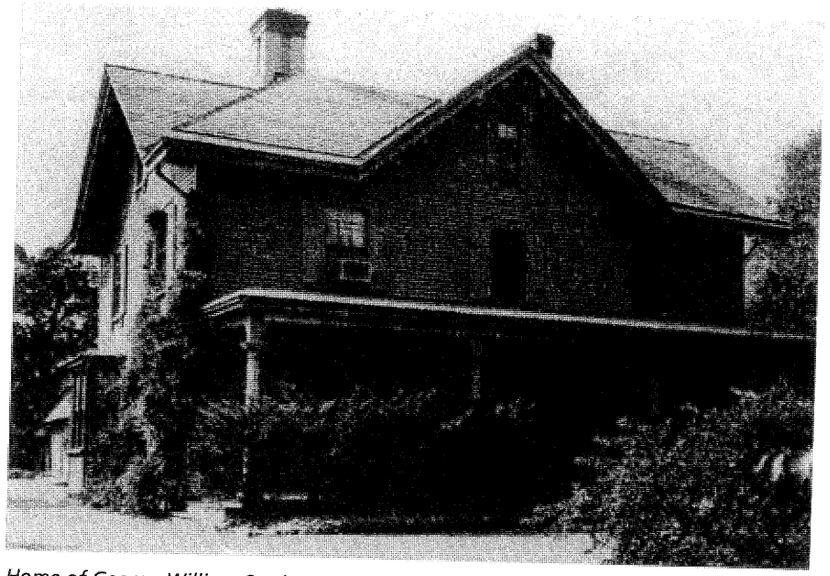
Prior to the Civil War and during the struggle, some well-known abolitionists were active on the Island (13). Among them was Sydney Howard Gay who lived in a cottage in West New Brighton. This little home was used as a station on the Underground Railroad, aiding runaway slaves to escape to Canada. During the War, Gay was the managing editor of the *New York Tribune*. His writings helped the success of the Republican Party and Lincoln's election in 1860. Among the prominent men who visited at the Gay home were John Greenleaf Whittier, James Russell Lowell, and William Lloyd Garrison. Other abolitionists who lived on the Island were Albert Oliver Willcox and his sons. Mr. Gay's daughter, Mary Otis Gay, married one of the Willcox sons (13). After the War, Gay became editor of the *Chicago Tribune*, but returned to Staten Island in 1872 to live on Davis Avenue, West New Brighton, until his death in 1888.

George William Curtis, famous essayist, editor, and lecturer, came to Staten Island in 1856. His novel *Prue and I* was written in his home at 234 Bard Avenue where he lived with his wife, the daughter of Francis George Shaw. This was the old Shaw Homestead and is still standing at the corner of Bard and Henderson Avenues.* Curtis' praises of Staten Island were many. Perhaps the most famous is "God might have made a more beautiful spot than Staten Island, but He never did." Curtis was interested also in politics and became a delegate to the Republican National Convention in Chicago which nominated Lincoln. During the 1863 "draft riots," Curtis hid Wendell Phillips and Horace Greeley, both ardent abolitionists, in his Bard Avenue home to protect them from the angry mobs. He and Sydney Howard Gay were very close friends.

Curtis was a prominent figure in the Unitarian Church on Staten Island, often occupying the pulpit in the absence of the pastor. Curtis High School was named after him, as were Curtis Avenue, Curtis Court, Curtis Place and P.S. 19, Richmond.

Two well-known artists also made their home on Staten Island before the Civil War. One of these was William Page* who came to the Island in the 1840s and lived in an octagonal house on Page Avenue, Richmond Valley. He was famous as a portrait painter. Jasper Francis Cropsey who

lived at 1922 Arthur Kill Road, was the "first Staten Islander to attain international reputation in art." He was a landscape artist and also an architect of note (59, 27).*



Home of George William Curtis

Frederick Law Olmsted (1822-1903), one of the first landscape architects, made his home in Eltingville, Staten Island, from 1848 to about 1860 in the Woods of Arden House near Hylan Boulevard. Olmsted turned the property into a wheat farm and also planted many fruit trees there. During a trip to Europe in 1850 he ordered 5,000 trees which he planted around his Eltingville home (5). Two Cedars of Lebanon and many other unusual trees stand today as a tribute to Olmsted's interest in agriculture and landscaping. He is best known as the designer of several parks, including Central Park, Manhattan; Prospect Park, Brooklyn; Fairmount Park, Philadelphia; and Franklin Park, Boston. The Woods of Arden House has a most interesting history dating back to 1700.*

Commodore Cornelius Vanderbilt (1794-1877) was born on Staten Island, began his interest in transportation in a small sailboat venture, became a railroad magnate and millionaire, and maintained an interest in

the Island, contributing to many philanthropies. The Vanderbilt home was in Stapleton, not far from the site of the present Paramount Theater.* His oldest son, William H. (1821-1885) was left the bulk of his father's estate, a sum of 90 million which he was able to double before his death. He had a successful farm on the site of the present Miller Field. The Vanderbilt name is remembered in the beautiful Vanderbilt Mausoleum which overlooks Moravian Cemetery,* in the name of Vanderbilt Avenue, Clifton and in the many charities to which members of the family contributed.

Captain Jacob Hand Vanderbilt,* locally known as Captain Jake, brother of Commodore Vanderbilt, owned a large mansion on the hill above Clove Valley on the site of the Augustinian Academy. His property was adjacent to that of Sir Edward Cunard. Captain Jake was in command of a steamboat at the age of eighteen, and rose to the presidency of the Staten Island East Shore Railroad and Ferry (3). He was well-known on the Island for his fast trotting horses.

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Town of Northfield
District School:
No. 1 – Richmond*
No. 2 – New Springville (new building about 1821) (school on that site since early 1700s)
No. 3 – Long Neck (Linoleumville)
No. 4 – Graniteville* (Port Richmond) (built 1855)
No. 5 – Mariners Harbor*
No. 6 – Port Richmond Village (later Free School No. 6)
No. 7 – Near Mallet's Mill (Summerville) (near site of present toll booth of Goethals Bridge)
No. 9 – Wach Oaks (Watchogue)

Town of Southfield
District School:
No. 1 – Clifton (Rosebank)
No. 2 – Near New Dorp* (Bayles records this school as in Concord) (1)
No. 3 – Head of Giffords Lane (Bayles records this as in New Dorp) (1)

Town of Westfield
District School:
No. 1 – Richmond Valley*
No. 2 – Bloomingview (Huguenot)
No. 3 – Fresh Kills (Greenridge)
No. 4 – Rossville
No. 5 – Tottenville*
No. 6 – Lemon Creek (Pleasant Plains) (built 1852)
No. 7 – Between Rossville and Tottenville* (Kreischerville – built 1856)

Town of Castleton
District School:
No. 1 – Four Corners (Manor Road) (School on that site as far back as 1784)
No. 2 – Factoryville (West New Brighton)
No. 3 – New Brighton (school built in 1843 – a free school – Boehm Mentioned need of a new school in 1861 and by 1886, No. 4 had been added in New Brighton, now Tompkinsville)

Town of Middletown
District School:
No. 1 – Tompkinsville (site of P.S. 15)
No. 2 – Stapleton (erected 1855 – became Union Free School No. 2)
No. 3 – Near New Dorp (Boehm indicated this as near Joseph Egberts – Morris records that Joseph Egbert lived on corner of Richmond Road and Liberty Avenue, Dongan Hills. This, then, must have been the old school on Richmond Road, near foot of Four Corners Road, Garretson's)

VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATIONS

During the Civil War many volunteer groups were organized on Staten Island to care for the needy and to supply the encamped soldiers with clothing, bandages, blankets, and similar items. Typical of these were the "Mariner's Harbor Soldiers' Relief Society," the "Ladies' Relief Society of

New Springville," and the "North Shore Soldiers' Aid Society at Factoryville" (1). As reported in Chapter V, the Samuel R. Smith Infirmary (now Staten Island Hospital) also served community needs.

Finally, peace came to this war-torn country and Richmond County resumed its tranquil way of life and prepared for future growth.

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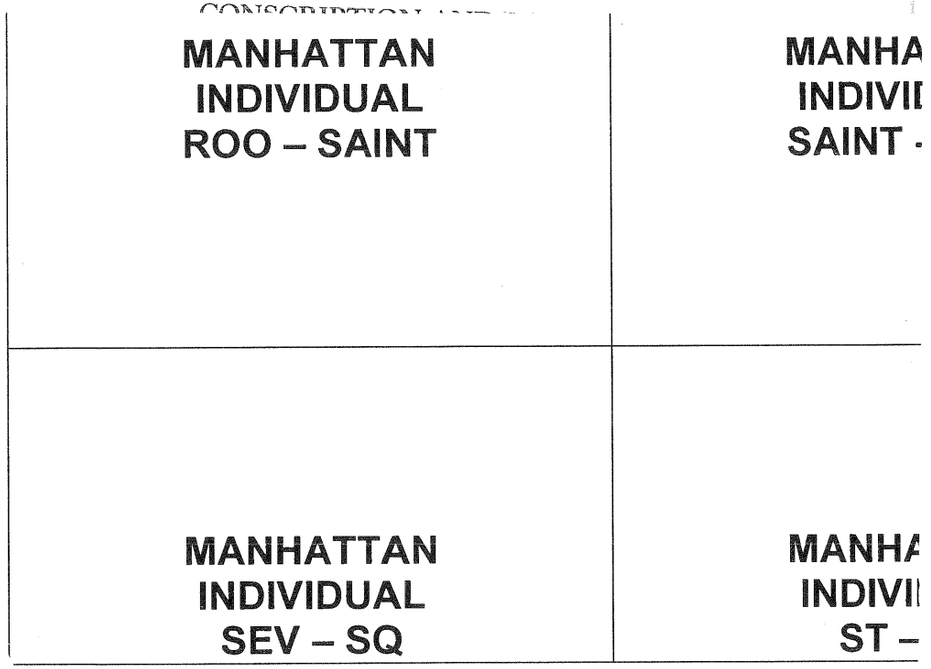


end of the Civil War (1).

Between 1861 and 1864, 2,279 Staten Islanders volunteered or were drafted. About 180 were mortally wounded or died as a result of war injuries or illnesses. Several Civil War Memorials have been erected on the Island. One of the largest is a marble shaft at Bethel Cemetery, Tottenville.*

STATEN ISLAND FERRIES IN THE WAR

Staten Island ferries played an important role during the Civil War. In December 1861 the Government purchased four ferries, the *Clifton*, the *Westfield*, the *Southfield*, and the *Hunchback* for use as gunboats and troop carriers (2).

The *Westfield*, flagship of the Union Forces, ran aground during the Battle of Galveston Bay in January 1863. Unable to get the flagship afloat, despite the efforts of the *Clifton* to do so, the Union Forces blew her up.

Later the Confederates salvaged the main shaft of the *Westfield* and made a "60-pounder rifled gun" which eventually found its way to the Annapolis Naval Academy gun-park (2).

The *Clifton* participated in several engagements before running aground at Sabine Pass, Texas, in September 1863. Later a second Staten Island ferryboat named the *Clifton* was purchased by the Government and commissioned as a naval gunboat. The *Southfield*, flagship of the Union vessels at the time, sank April 1864 (2).

Bayles reports that President Lincoln enlisted the aid of Commodore Cornelius Vanderbilt in combating the success of the ironclad *Merrimac*. The Commodore sent his large, well-appointed steamboat, the *Vanderbilt*, up the James River in search of the *Merrimac*, but was unsuccessful in the search. He then loaned the boat to the Government for the duration of the War (1).

THE NARROWS FORTIFICATIONS

The fortifications at the Narrows, begun in 1847 by the Federal Government, were completed by August 1861 and troops from the 5th Regiment New York Volunteers Artillery were garrisoned there. On November 7, 1865 the United States War Department ordered the name of the post changed from Fort Richmond to Fort Wadsworth* in memory of Brigadier General James S. Wadsworth who was killed in the Battle of the Wilderness, Virginia, May 6, 1864 (8).

MILITARY LEADERS

Several famous Civil War military leaders came from Staten Island and others resided there after the conflict. Major General Francis Channing Barlow, a hero at Gettysburg, Yorktown, and other battles, had been a private tutor with a family on Grymes Hill before the War. He frequently visited the Island thereafter, and in 1867 married Ellen Shaw, daughter of Francis George Shaw, the philanthropist mentioned in the previous chapter. His name is remembered in Barlow Avenue, Eltingville (6).

Major General Richard Delafield was appointed Colonel of Engineers at Ft. Wadsworth in 1863 when the fortifications at the Narrows were being strengthened. He lived on Bard Avenue, West New Brighton. Delafield Place, West New Brighton and Delafield Avenue, Port Richmond com-

GEORGE WILLIAM CURTIS IN 1862

ROBERT GOULD SHAW, CURTIS'S BROTHER-IN-LAW

graceful humor of these papers, the purity of style, the wide range of culture and observation which they indicate, but which is never obtrusive, give them a distinctive character of their own. The "Easy Chair" is the first part of the magazine to which the reader turns. The author of "Trumps," "The Potiphar Papers," and "Prue and I," could hardly have failed as a novelist, had he chosen to pursue that path of literature; but we will not regret his choice, for while we have many novelists, where shall we look for another name like his in the field of American journalism?

S. S. Conant.

THE LADY OF THE EAST.

(ON A DRAWING BY JOHN LAFARGE.)

WHO art thou, Lady of the East,
Whose day of eyes and night of hair
The daughter of a king, at least,
Proclaims, so brightly, darkly fair?
Thy life is a perpetual feast,
With but a single shadow there.

What is it, Lady? Some sweet thing
Which once was thine, but now is fled?
Thy lute hath lost its golden string?
Thy rose its freshest odor shed?
The bird thou lov'st has taken wing,
And to another sings instead?

What is it, Princess, that hath cast
This sudden sadness on thy brow?
The shadow of what loving Past?
The memory of what broken vow?
Girlhood hath gone from thee at last,
And thou art perfect woman now.

I see thee as thou standest there
With those mysterious eyes of thine,
And all that midnight length of hair,
Like Dis's pall on Proserpine:
I only know that thou art fair;
I only wish that thou wert mine!

What Earth's first women were, thou art,
Glorious and gracious to behold,
With greater steadfastness of heart,
Though cast in less heroic mold;
And yet with tears that sooner start,
And smiles that were not known of old.

Thou hast no need to wear a crown,
So royal in thyself art thou:
And whether Fortune smiles, or frowns,
Thou hast the same unruffled brow;
Content if only men bow down
And worship thee—as I do now.

Richard Henry Stoddard.

trustworthy leaders of public opinion.

In 1863 he became the political editor of *Harper's Weekly*, which was highly influential in shaping public opinion. Curtis's writing was always clear and direct, displaying fairness of mind and good temper. He had high moral standards. From month to month he contributed to Harper's Monthly, under the title of "The Easy Chair," brief essays on topics of social and literary interest, charming in style, touched with delicate humour and instinct with generous spirit. His service to the Republican party was such, that he was offered several nominations to office, and might have been sent as minister to England; but he refused all such offers, preferring to serve the country as editor and public speaker.

In 1871 he was appointed, by President Ulysses S. Grant, to chair the commission on the reform of the civil service. Its report was the foundation of every effort since made for the purification and regulation of the service and for the destruction of political patronage. From that time Curtis was the leader in this reform, and its progress is mainly due to him. He was president of the National Civil Service Reform League and of the New York Civil Service Reform Association. In 1884 he refused to support James G Blaine as candidate for the presidency, and thus broke with the Republican party, of which he had been a founder and leader. From that time he stood as the typical independent in politics. In April 1892 he delivered at Baltimore his eleventh annual address as president of the National Civil Service Reform League, and in May he appeared for the last time in public, to repeat in New York an address on James Russell Lowell, which he had first delivered in Brooklyn on the 22nd of the preceding February, the anniversary of Lowell's birth.

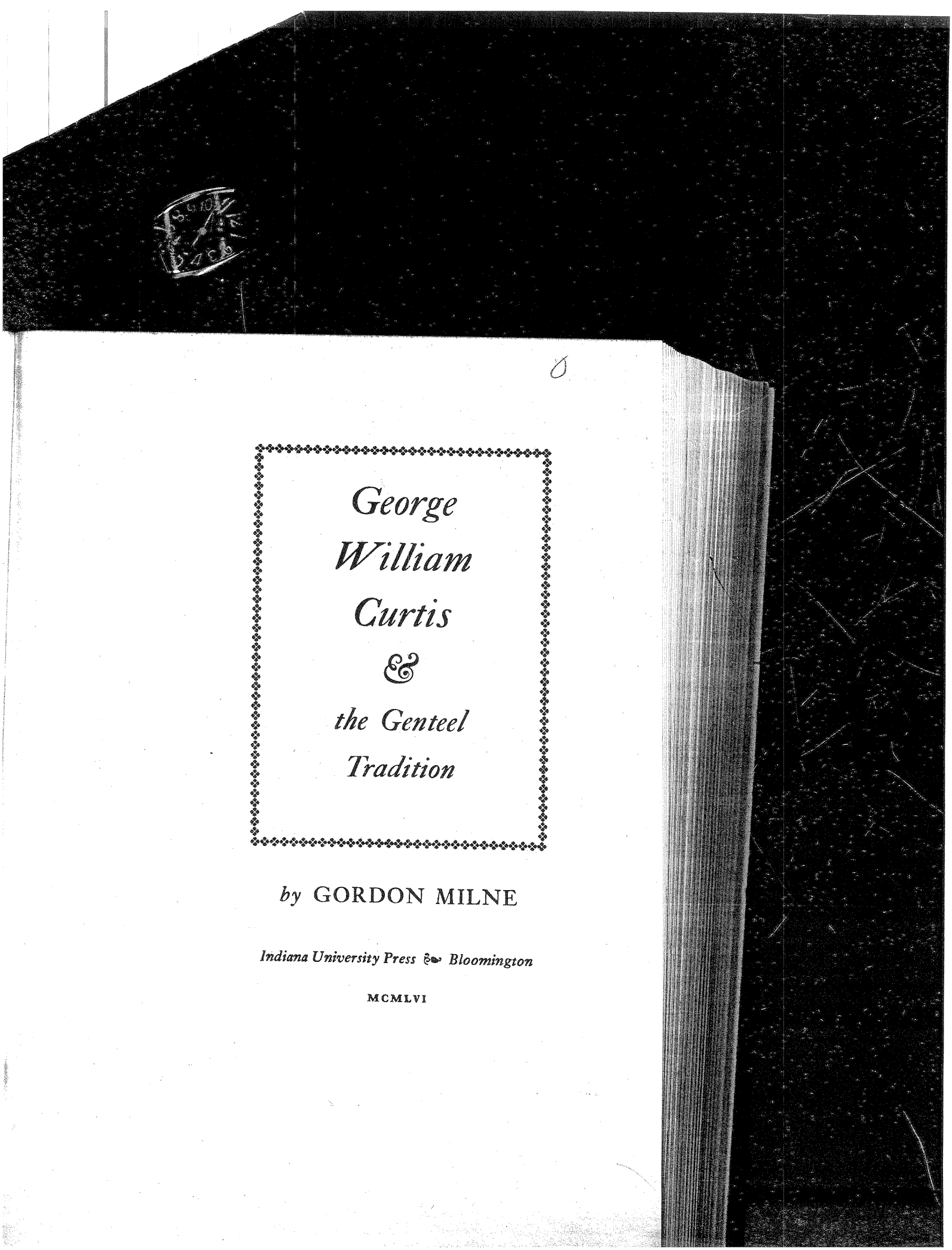
Curtis was one of the original members of the Board of Education for what would become New York City, and advocated educational reforms. He was a member of and frequent speaker at the Unitarian Church on Staten Island (the congregation still meets in the same building). A high school not far from his home is named for him.

Works

- Nile Notes of a Howadji (1851)
- The Howadji in Syria (1852)
- Lotus-Eating (1852)
- Potiphar Papers (1853) (Project Gutenberg text (http://www.gutenberg.net/etext04/8ptph10.txt))
- Prue and I (1856) (Project Gutenberg text (http://www.gutenberg.net/etext05/8prue10.txt))
- Trumps (1862)
- Washington Irving: A Sketch (1891)
- Essays from the Easy Chair (1893) (Project Gutenberg text (http://www.gutenberg.net/etext05/easch10h.htm))
- Orations And Addresses (1894)
- Literary and Social Essays (1895) (Project Gutenberg text (http://www.gutenberg.net/etext05/8lits10.txt))
- Early Letters of George Wm. Curtis to John S. Dwight: Brook Farm and Concord (1898) (Project Gutenberg text (http://www.gutenberg.net/etext05/lcurt10.txt))

Notes

1. ^ Ehrlich, Eugene and Gorton Carruth. *The Oxford Illustrated Literary Guide to the United States*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1982: 71. ISBN 0195031865



George William Curtis & the Genteel Tradition

by GORDON MILNE

Indiana University Press ❧ Bloomington

MCMLVI

Curtises took a definite interest in local affairs. Nan, like all her family, devoted much time to the poor and unfortunate, and George was equally conscious of social welfare. He served in such organizations as the Staten Island branch of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, of which he was President for many years. He also acted as a Director of the Staten Island Academy, and, on Sunday mornings, as a lay preacher in the Unitarian Church on Clinton Avenue. He was always ready, too, to address meetings of the Robert Gould Shaw Grand Army of the Republic Post, or local political meetings and celebrations, such as the opening of the Wyandotte Hook and Ladder Company's new station in West Brighton.

The Curtises, especially George, enjoyed the cultivated and stimulating society which Staten Island then afforded. The group included the Sidney Gays, the Winthrops, Judge William Emerson, the Shaws, and, for a time, Francis Parkman and Pearse Cranch. Many a gathering was enlivened by George's detailed accounts of public dinners or meetings he had attended. On afternoon walks with Sidney Gay and Mr. Shaw, he discoursed on political matters of the moment, and on many winter evenings, he sat contentedly at the piano in the Gays' parlor, playing dance music for his children and the neighbors'.

If Staten Island had a drawback, it was the ferry boat ride, across New York Harbor from the Island to the City. The trip was slow, and always irksome to Mr. Curtis. On the other hand, Staten Island, *because* it was an island, possessed decided advantages. It remained isolated, and consequently rural, long after the rest of the New York area had been urbanized, and it enjoyed, thanks to the surrounding water, a cool climate. The water proved an especially pleasant feature in the summer time, for one could go boating, and even swimming, in the Island coves.

The Curtis family seldom had a chance to enjoy Staten Island's summer-time advantages, however, for after 1865 they went anually to Ashfield, Massachusetts in the Berkshire hills for a long vacation. Their friends, the Nortons, provided the lure which drew them to this "Arcadian" spot. Having spent a pleasant vacation in Ashfield in 1864, Norton bought a house there the next spring and persuaded Curtis to take his family up for the summer.

Though made proud by the hero's funeral accorded his brother in Providence later that month, Curtis for a long time felt the pain of the loss of "his sweet presence."

Unfortunately, the deaths of other relatives followed. Nan Curtis's brother, Robert Gould Shaw, was killed leading his regiment (the first all-Negro regiment to see service in the war) at the storming of Fort Moultrie late in the summer of 1863.[19] In October, 1864, Charles Lowell,[20] who had been married the previous November to Josephine ("Effie") Shaw, died of wounds received at the battle of Cedar Creek.

An incident occurring in the summer of 1863 brought the war home to Curtis and his family as vividly as anything could. At that time New York City was troubled by a series of draft riots. The turmoil threatened, early in July, to extend to Staten Island. Curtis heard rumors one day that some of the rioters planned to go to his home in search of Horace Greeley and Wendell Phillips, who were reportedly concealed there. The rumors seemed quite plausible to him, for he knew that the mob included many Southern sympathizers and, in an inciting capacity at least, some members of New York City's Democratic administration, all of whom were angered at such outspoken Republican leaders as Greeley, Phillips and himself. When a later rumor was noised about that a mob was coming to burn Mr. Shaw's house and his, Curtis acted to safeguard his family. "As there was no police or military force upon the island," he later recounted to Norton, "and my only defensive weapon was a large family umbrella, I carried Anna and the two babies to James Sturgis's in Roxbury. Frank was with Mrs. Shaw at Susie Minturn's up the river." Then he returned to Staten Island and joined with others in the neighborhood for mutual defense. But the rioters, rumors notwithstanding, confined their violence to New York City, and were finally suppressed by troops from Pennsylvania and West Point. While passing off happily, the incident gave evidence that even the stay-at-home civilians felt the "Sturm und Drang" of the war years.

July 26, 1930

THE EVENING WORLD,

Historic Staten Island

Series of Rare Photographs to Be Published Daily in The Evening World
No. 25

BY VERNON B. HAMPTON

No. 234 Bard Avenue, West Brighton, was famous in the last century as the home of George William Curtis, friend of President Lincoln, leader in the fight for civil service reform in the United States; editor, author and lecturer. It was the home here pictured that Curtis depicted when he wrote to a friend: "Your note reached me at sunset this evening as I stood upon the lawn, in the midst of green trees, blooming flowers and the fairest fair." Curtis also immortalized his homeland in declaring "God might have made a more beautiful spot than Staten Island, but He never did." The Curtis home is now occupied by Mr. Fred M. Linder, New York banker.

West Brighton has been called the literary centre of the East. Here came James Russell Lowell to spend several years with the beautiful "wife of his youth"; Longfellow and Francis Parkman. The latter wrote "The Conspiracy of Pontiac" at the "Colony," as the literary coterie designated the locality. Other literary lights made the place their rendezvous—Dana, Ripley, Willis, and Sidney Howard Gay. Ralph Waldo Emerson lived for some time with his brother, Judge William Emerson, at Concord, Staten Island, which they named for the famed spot in New England, whence they had hailed and to which eventually they returned. On Staten Island Emerson penned his famous essay on "Representative Men." Henry David Thoreau was for two years a member of the Judge Emerson household at "The Snuggery" and the noted naturalist and author, besides collecting Indian relics on the island, took time to write ecstatically, "The whole island is like a garden. Here I have found cedar, gum and tulip trees abounding, large red honeysuckle in full bloom and the magnolia flowering in July."

Monday: The Continental Hotel.

Newspaper photograph of George William Curtis's residence at Staten Island.

2. ^ *a b* Baker, Carlos. "Parke Godwin: Pathfinder in Politics and Journalism", *Lives of Eighteen from Princeton (http://books.google.com/books?id=djBWgPsvr6wC&printsec=copyright&dq=Parke+Godwin+journalist#PPP15,M1)*. Willard Thorp, editor. Princeton University Press, 1946: 220. ISBN 0836909410

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- *This article incorporates text from the* Encyclopædia Britannica *Eleventh Edition, a publication now in the public domain.*
- *George William Curtis*, by Edward Cary, in the *American Men of Letters* series (Boston, 1894), an excellent biography
- *An Epistle to George William Curtis*, by James Russell Lowell (1874-1887), in Lowell's *Poems*
- *George William Curtis, a Commemorative Address delivered before The Century Association, 17 December 1892*, by Parke Godwin (New York, 1893)
- *Orations and Addresses by George William Curtis*, edited by Charles Eliot Norton (5 vols. New York, 1894).

External links

- Works by George William Curtis (http://www.gutenberg.org/author/George+William+Curtis) at Project Gutenberg

Retrieved from "http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_William_Curtis"
Categories: American essayists | American magazine editors | American satirists | 1824 births | 1892 deaths
Hidden categories: Wikipedia articles incorporating text from the 1911 Encyclopædia Britannica

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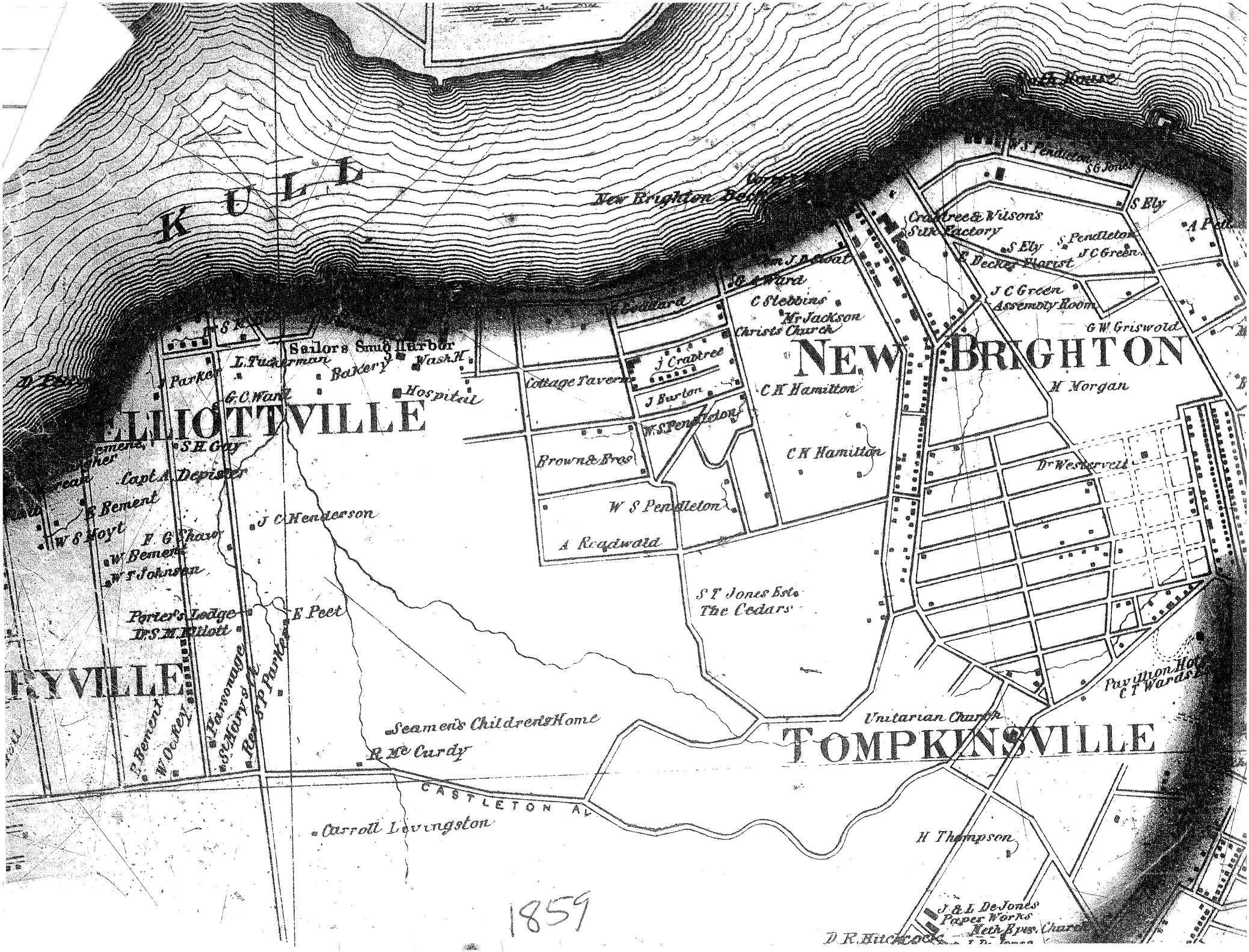

KULL
New Brighton Dock
Sailors Snug Harbor
L. Tuckerman
Bakery
Wash H.
Hospital
G. C. Ward
S. H. Gay
Capt. A. Depister
E. Bement
W. S. Hoyt
F. G. Shaw
W. Bement
W. T. Johnson
J. C. Henderson
Porter's Lodge
Dr. S. M. Elliott
E. Peet
Parsonage
St. Mary's Ch.
Rev. S. P. Parker
E. Bement
W. Ockey
Seamen's Children's Home
R. McCurdy
CASTLETON AV
Carroll Livingston
Cottage Tavern
J. Crabtree
J. Burton
W. S. Pendleton
Brown & Bros
W. S. Pendleton
A. Roadwald
C. Stebbins
Mr. Jackson
Christs Church
C. K. Hamilton
C. K. Hamilton
S. T. Jones Est.
The Cedars
NEW BRIGHTON
W. S. Pendleton
S. G. Jones
S. Ely
Crabtree & Wilson's Silk Factory
S. Ely
S. Pendleton
J. C. Green
E. Decker Florist
J. C. Green
Assembly Room
G. W. Griswold
M. Morgan
Dr. Westervelt
Pavillion Hot
C. T. Wards
Unitarian Church
TOMPKINSVILLE
H. Thompson
J. & L. De Jones
Paper Works
Meth. Epis. Church
D. R. Hitchcock

1859

[illegible] 11, 12, 15, 16, 17, 19, and 20 are to be answered [illegible] merely by an affirmative mark, as /.

SCHEDULE 1.—Inhabitants in The Town of Southfield, in the County of Richmond, State of New York, enumerated by me on the 2d day of June, 1870.

Post Office: New Dorp

Washington Dill, Ass't Marshal.

296

Line	Dwelling-houses, numbered in the order of visitation	Families, numbered in the order of visitation	The name of every person whose place of abode on the first day of June, 1870, was in this family.	Description: Age, as of last birthday, if under 1 year, give months in fractions, thus, 1/12	Description: Sex, Male (M.), Female (F.)	Description: Color, as of last birthday, if under 1 year, give months in fractions, thus, 1/12	Profession, Occupation, or Trade of each person, male or female.	Value of Real Estate owned.	Value of Personal Estate owned.	Place of Birth, naming State or Territory of U. S., or the Country, if of foreign birth.	Parentage: Father of foreign birth.	Parentage: Mother of foreign birth.	If born within the year, state month (Jan., Feb., &c.)	If married within the year, state month (Jan., Feb., &c.)	Attended school within the year.	Education: Cannot read.	Education: Cannot write.	Whether deaf and dumb, blind, insane, or idiotic.	Constitutional Relations: Male Citizens of U. S. of 21 years of age and upwards.	Constitutional Relations: Male Citizens of U. S. of 21 years of age and upwards, whose right to vote is denied or abridged on other grounds than rebellion or other crime.
1	90	90	Cole Ann	50	F	W	Keepshouse			New York										
2			Mary A	70	F	W				"										
3			Bedel Susan	30	F	W				"										
4			Wood Carrie P	21	F	W				"										
5			Engleberth Jane H	50	F	W				"										
6			Jackson Maria	25	F	B				"										
7			Bedell Joseph	12	M	W	Attends School			"					1					
8	91	91	Butt Susana	46	F	W	Keeps Store	4000.		Darmstadt	1	1								
9			— Charles	21	M	W	Farmer			New York	1	1							1	
10			— Amelia	15	F	W	Attends School			"	1	1			1					
11			Edward	11	M	W	"			"	1	1			1					
12			Raurur Joseph	54	M	W	Clerk in Store			France	1	1								
13	92	92	Pryer James	42	M	W	Butcher	2,000.		New York									1	
14			— Ellen J	31	F	W	Keepshouse			"										
15			— Andrew	10	M	W	At School			"					1					
16			— Ella	7	F	W				"										
17			Wm H	5	M	W				"										
18			Redden Washington	25	M	W	Butcher			"									1	
19	93	93	Connelly Martin	40	M	W	Stone Mason	2,500.		Ireland	1	1							1	
20			Margarette	30	F	W	Keepshouse			"	1	1								
21			Taylor Susan	60	F	W				New York										
22	94	94	Conner Richd	75	M	W	Retired	2000.		"									1	
23			— Ann	60	F	W	Keepshouse			"										
24			— Crowl M	37	M	W				"									1	
25			Smith Julia	20	F	W				"										
26	95	95	Ketcham George	45	M	W	Farmer			"									1	
27			— Louise	32	F	W				"										
28			Osborn Sarah R	11	F	W				"										
29	96	96	Guyon Jacob	62	M	W	Tin Smith			"									1	
30			— Ann	62	F	W	Keepshouse			"										
31			— Oscar	26	M	W	Tin Smith			"									1	
32	97																			
33	98	97	Curray Silvester	27	M	W	Farm Laborer			Ireland	1	1								
34			— Margarette	27	F	W	Keepshouse			"	1	1								
35	99	98	Young John L	57	M	W	Painter			England	1	1							1	
36			— Susan	37	F	W	Keepshouse			New York										
37			— Ellenor	8	F	W				"	1									
38	100	99	Stephens Stephen D	62	M	W	Retired	1,000.		"									1	
39			— Elizabeth	59	F	W	Keepshouse			"										
40			— James W	34	M	W				"									1	

No. of dwellings, 11 No. of white females, 19 No. of males, foreign born, 4

" " families, 10 " " colored males, 0 " " females, " " 3

" " white males, 19 " " " females, 1 " " blind, 0

No. of persons, 0

GEORGE WILLIAM AND ANNA CURTIS HOUSE
234 BARD AVENUE
BOROUGH OF STATEN ISLAND

- Apparently one of only two surviving houses from an enclave of homes occupied by prominent abolitionists in Livingston in the pre-Civil War period (the other is the already designated Samuel McKenzie Elliott House at 69 Delafield Place).

- Residence of the noted literary figure and abolitionist George William Curtis (1824-92) and his wife the former Anna Gould Shaw. Erected in 1859 for the Curtises by Nan Curtis's father, the prominent businessman and abolitionist Francis George Shaw. Nan Curtis's brother, Robert Gould Shaw, was killed in 1863 while leading the first African-American regiment to see service in the war in an attack on Fort Sumter.

- C. 1859 frame house designed in a transitional Italianate-style with some Greek Revival elements; notable architectural elements include cross-gabled roof, Greek Revival entry with side lights and columned porch. The present owners are in the process of removing non-historic siding and have replaced the exposed rafters on the front gable and some moldings. The house remains a largely intact example of early suburban architecture on Staten Island.

- Curtis was editor of *Putnam's Magazine* and later of various Harper Brothers publications including *Harper's Weekly, Harper's Magazine, and Harper's Bazaar.* A famous lecturer and writer, Curtis's speeches and essays in favor of Abolition and in support of Union cause were vastly influential. He was also a strong supporter of Women's Suffrage and Civil Service Reform and was president of the National Civil Service Reform League, 1881-92. This house was a gathering place for leading figures in the arts, politics, and social reform movements of the period.

Est. of D. Pelton 18 ac
AVE.
E. G. Shaw
E. G. Shaw
DAVIS
AVE
Charles Henderson
Delafield Trustee
Miss S. C. Bard
R. K. Delafield Est.
White
Dr. S. M. Elliott
G. W. Curtis
BARD

3D WARD
FRANKLIN ST
UNION ST
WILLIAMS ST
2ND ST
BURGER AVE
PROPOSED PROSPECT AVE
BEMENT AVE
AVE
SOUTH ST
FULTON ST
BARD AVE
Hoyt
Mrs T. Johnson
Mrs T. Johnson
J.L Gratacap
T Gratacap
Est. of E. Bement
Est of E Bement
Est. of E. Bement
Est. of E. Bement
Est. of E. Bement
Est. of Bement
Est. of Pelton
Mrs. Bement
Mrs N Barrett 6 ac.
N.M. Heal
P. C.
G.W. Curtis
Res.
Dr. S. M Elliott
White
Charles Delafield
Henderson Trustee
Miss S.C. Bard
R.K. Delafield Est
Sands Bros
PRES CH
Dugan
A.W. Sexton
A.W. Sexton
Res
De Kay
De Kay

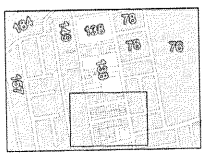
FINANCE
NEW YORK
MARTHA E. STARK
COMMISSIONER

N
W E
S

NYC Digital Tax Map

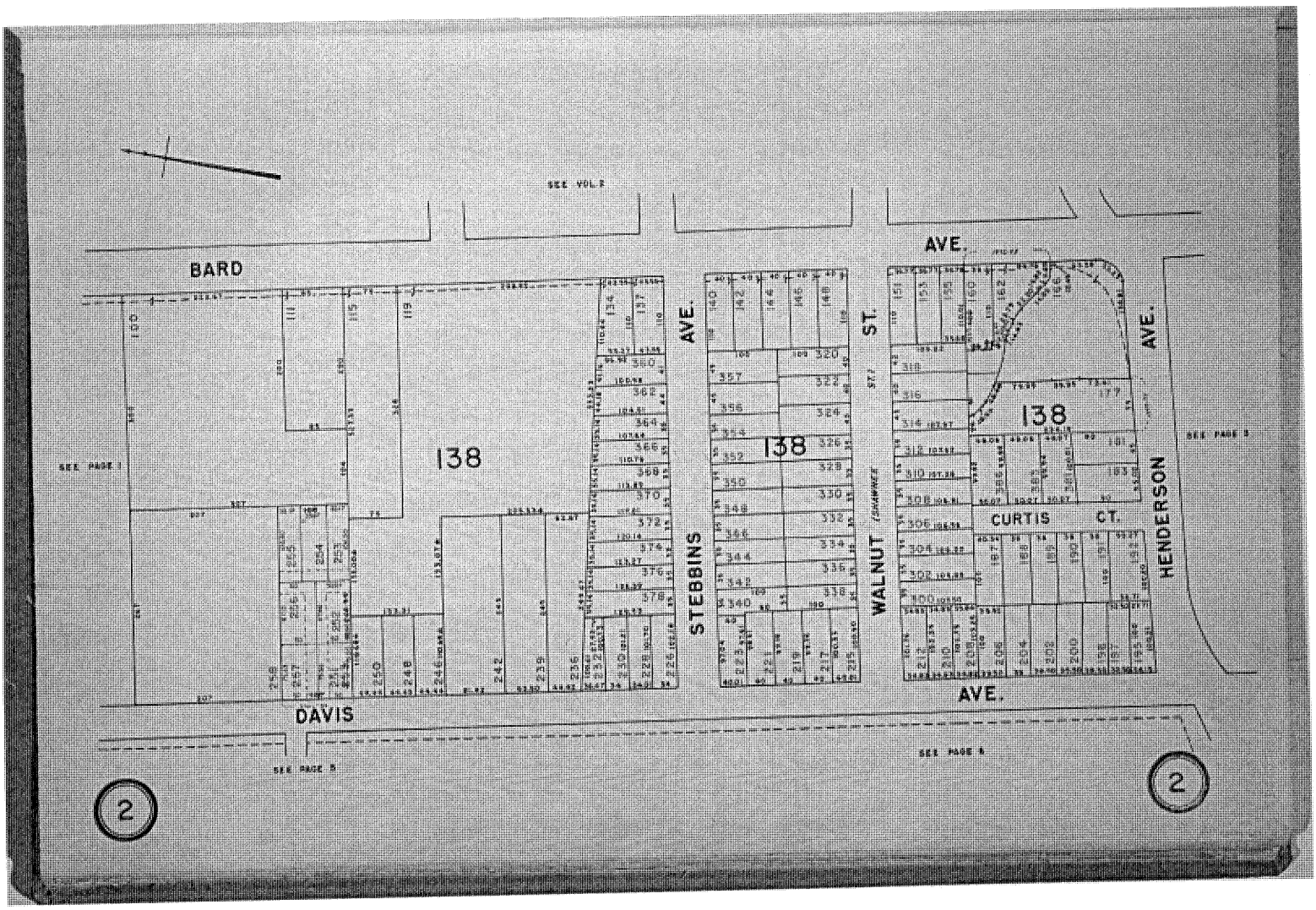
Effective Date : 12-10-2008 00:47:32
End Date : Current

Staten Island Block: 138 Inset: 2



Legend

- Streets
- Miscellaneous Text
- Possession Hooks
- Boundary Lines
- Lot Face Possession Hooks
- Regular
- Underwater
- Tax Lot Polygon
- Condo Number
- Tax Block Polygon


SEE VOL. 2
BARD
AVE.
STEBBINS
AVE.
WALNUT
ST.
(SHAWNEE ST.)
CURTIS
CT.
HENDERSON
AVE.
DAVIS
AVE.
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138
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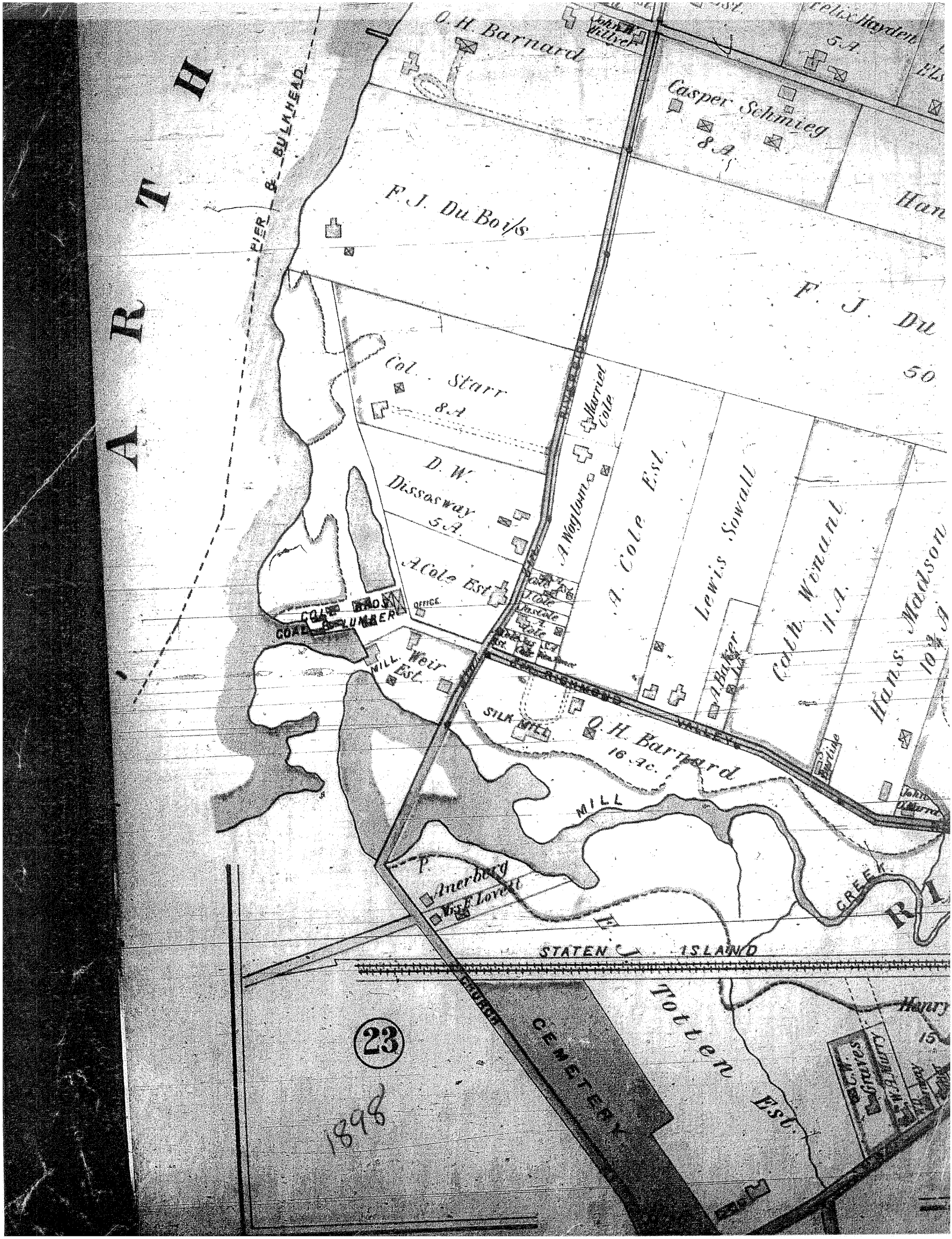
SEE PAGE 1
SEE PAGE 3
SEE PAGE 5
SEE PAGE 6
2
2



A R T H
PIER & BULKHEAD
O. H. Barnard
Casper Schmieg
8 A.
Felix Hayden
5 A.
F. J. Du Bois
F. J. Du
50
Col. Starr
8 A.
Harriet Cole
D. W. Dissosway
5 A.
A. Cole Est.
A. Woglom
Cole Est.
Lewis Sowall
Cath. Winant
11 A.
Hans. Madson
A. Baker
COAL & LUMBER
OFFICE
MILL
Weir Est.
SILK MILL
O. H. Barnard
16 Ac.
MILL
CREEK
Anerberg
Mrs. F. Lovett
STATEN ISLAND
CHURCH
CEMETERY
Totten Est.
Henry
23
1898

K 617 Photograph

Copyright Staten Island Museum

Description

Description of Photograph: A black and white photograph showing the George W. Curtis House, located in Livingston. The left side and front of the house are visible in the image, and both have many windows enclosed by shutters. On the left, there is also an elevated window jutting out from the home's lower level. Two chimneys can be seen on the roof. One has a small, skinny extension on its top. The porch is supported by several columns. The house is surrounded by numerous trees and greenery. One power line can be seen extending along the top of the photograph. A fire hydrant is also situated in front of the home.

Front of Photograph: N/A

Back of Photograph: N/A

K Card: "George W. Curtis House, Livingston, photo by Hamilton Supaglos. 19 ---- (LIVINGSTON)."

Samuel Mackenzie Elliott

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Samuel Mackenzie Elliott[1] (1811–1875) was a Scottish-American Medical Doctor, pioneer of American ophthalmology, abolitionist leader, and a Union soldier who served as Lieutenant Colonel of the 79th New York Volunteer Infantry.[2]

Contents

- 1 Early career
- 2 Elliotville treatment community
- 3 Civil War commander
- 4 Later life
- 5 References

Early career

Born in Inverness (Scotland) 9 April 1811, Elliott was the son a British Army officer. He graduated from the Glasgow Royal College of Surgeons in 1828 as a physician, practicing in London, and perusing scientific study of the physics and biology of light and sight. In 1833 he traveled to the United States as surgeon on a British ship but remained in the country. Studying with physicians and lecturing in Cincinnati, and Philadelphia, he eventually settled in New York City, practicing as what he called an *Oculist*, as his medical degree was not recognized in the United States until he graduated from the New York Medical College in 1851. At the time he was known as "the nation's premier eye-specialist",[3] and one of the first American ophthalmologists.

Elliotville treatment community

Following considerable success in treatment of previously unknown procedures at his Manhattan clinic, Elliott moved to the north shore of Staten Island, then mostly farmland, but home to a number of summer homes and resorts of well to do New Yorkers.[4] Elliott settled in what is now West New Brighton, and began building a series of gothic revival cottages nearby, here in what is today Livingston, which then became known as "*Elliotville*". His patients, traveling from across the nation and abroad, included Francis Parkman, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow,[5] Charles Dana, George Ribley, John James Audubon, William H. Prescott, Edward L Youmans, and others. One of the 22 cottages, now called the Dr. Samuel MacKenzie Elliott House (1840), remains today and is on the National Register of Historic Places. In these residences Elliott provided housing for his prominent patients while they received treatment, and gathered around him a circle of intellectuals, writers, and abolitionist activists.[3][4]

Elliott was an ardent abolitionist, and described as a leader in the New York abolitionist movement.[4] Elliotville attracted a social circle which included writers and abolitionists like Sidney Howard Gay, Ralph Waldo Emerson, Lydia Maria Child, and James Russell Lowell. Francis G. Shaw.[6] Abolitionist and father of Civil War commander Robert Gould Shaw—became close friends with Elliott after moving to the neighborhood in 1847 for the treatment of his wife [Sarah Shaw's illnesses.[3][7] president of the National Freeman's Bureau [8][9] Later accounts claim that both Elliot's own home and a number of his cottages were used to house runaway slaves traveling the Underground Railroad. His home's basement fireplace and apartment were alleged to be for this purpose.[10]

Civil War commander

Elliott was also famous in the late 19th century as organizer and commander of a Civil War volunteer unit, the 79th Regiment New York Volunteer Infantry.[11][12] Known as the Highland Brigade, the unit was funded by prominent Scottish New Yorkers, and fielded kilted infantrymen, many of whom were immigrant veterans of the British Army.[12] In his writing, Elliott purposely tied his unit to the British 79th Highlanders, a unit that had distinguished itself in the then recent Crimea War, and with which he claimed some of the New York Volunteers had fought.[12] As Lieutenant Colonel, Elliott led them at first, but quickly handed over command to Colonel James W. Cameron, in part due to illness. He had recovered enough to fight at the Battle of Bull Run, where his horse was killed, falling on him and so injuring him that he never recovered full use of his legs.[2][12] He resigned his commission due to these injuries in August 1861.[12] For his service, on 13 March 1865 Elliott was awarded the honorary rank of Brigadier-General by President Abraham Lincoln[13]

Later life

After the Civil War, Elliot's interests provided support or popularized many intellectual fields. He was a founder of the "Popular Science Monthly" magazine, promoted and championed the writings of Herbert Spencer, and built a large domed astronomical observatory in his hill top home.[14] He Died in 1875.[2]

References

1. ^ note spelling of middle name, as in his published work on the Highland Brigade and his 1875 New York Times obituary, is "'*Mackenzie*", not "MacKenzie", as the official name of the Dr. Samuel MacKenzie Elliott House.
2. ^ [a] [b] [c] OBITUARY.; SAMUEL MACKENZIE ELLIOTT, M.D (http://query.nytimes.com/gst/abstract.html?res=F30E13FA355D1A7493C3A9178ED85F418784F9). The New York Times. May 01, 1875, Page 7.
3. ^ [a] [b] [c] Russell Duncan. Where Death and Glory Meet: Colonel Robert Gould Shaw and the 54th Massachusetts Infantry. University of Georgia Press, 1999 ISBN 9780820321363 p.8
4. ^ [a] [b] [c] Jean Zimmerman. Love, Fiercely: A Gilded Age Romance. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2012. ISBN 9780151014477

5. ^ Andrew R. Hilen (introductory matter) in The Letters of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, 1814-1843. Harvard University Press. ISBN 9780674527287 p.488
6. ^ 'Sconset-born Charles Frederick Briggs: Early New York Novelist and Editor (http://www.nha.org/history/hn/HNsummer08-briggs.html). BETTE S. WEIDMAN. Historic Nantucket, Vol. 57, No. 3 (Summer 2008)
7. ^ Norval White, Elliott Willensky, Fran Leadon. Aia Guide to New York City, 5th edition. Oxford University Press, 2010 ISBN 9780195383867 p.896
8. ^ Staten Island's role in the Civil War (http://blog.silive.com/memories_column/2011/09/staten_islands_role_in_the_civil_war.html). Thomas Matteo for the Staten Island Advance. September 25, 2011,
9. ^ George Whitney Martin. Ccb: The Life and Century of Charles C. Burlingham, New York's First Citizen, 1858-1959. Macmillan, 2005 ISBN 9780809073177 p.94
10. ^ Kenneth M. Gold, Lori R. Weintrob. Discovering Staten Island: A 350th Anniversary Commemorative History. The History Press, 2011 ISBN 9781609491703 p.45
11. ^ John Gilmary Shea. A child's history of the United States, Volume 2. McMenamy, Hess & co., 1875. p.330
12. ^ *a b c d e* Samuel Mackenzie Elliott. The Highland Brigade (http://books.google.com/books?id=dK_ffVMFhZkC) Civil War unit histories: Union -- Mid-Atlantic. S.M. Elliott/Gale Cengage, 1861. ISBN 9781432808693
13. ^ See List of American Civil War brevet Generals (Union) and United States War Department, The Military Secretary's Office, Memorandum Relative to the General Officers in the Armies of the United States During the Civil War, 1861–1865 (https://archive.org/stream/memorandumrelati05unit#page/29/mode/1up) (Compiled from Official Records.) 1906. p.30
14. ^ Richard Mather Bayles. History of Richmond County (Staten Island), New York: From Its Discovery to the Present Time. L.E. Preston, 1887. p.632

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Categories: People from Staten Island | American abolitionists | American people of Scottish descent | 1811 births | 1875 deaths | American ophthalmologists

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NYC Parks

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Walker Park

Walker Park

This text is part of Parks' Historical Signs Project (/sub_your_park/historical_signs.html) and can be found posted within the park.

Walker Park holds a distinguished place in the history of New York cricket and tennis. Initially known as Livingston Park, the name was changed in 1934 to honor Lieutenant Randolph Walker Jr., who died in World War I. Walker was a distinguished member of the local cricket club, and was a good friend of Eugenius H. Outerbridge (1860-1932), the first chairman of the Port Authority (served 1921-1924). The change was the result of a petition sent to Alderman Dennis V. Corcoran by the officers of the Randolph Walker Post of the American Legion.

This property was once the grounds of the Staten Island Cricket and Tennis Club, founded in 1872 as the Cricket and Baseball Club. Originally established in St. George, the club relocated to this site in 1885. Over the years, it featured international matches with England, Australia, and Ireland. The club hosted Mary Ewing Outerbridge (1852-1886), sister of Eugenius, when she brought the game of lawn tennis from Bermuda in 1879. The game caught on quickly, and the first national tennis tournament, the Davis Cup, was played here in 1880. Many cricket legends have played these grounds, including W.G. Grace (1848-1915), Englishman Colin Blythe (1879-1917), the Indian Prince K. S. Ranjitsinhji XI (1872-1933), and the Australian Sir Donald Bradman (1908-2001).

The Cricket Club grounds were sold to the Staten Island Academy in 1925, and then purchased by the City in 1930 at a cost of $110,000. The property was transferred to Parks in June of 1931, and given the name Livingston Park. It opened in August of that year with tennis courts and playground facilities. A clubhouse with lockers and showers, a refreshment building, and three tool sheds graced the facilities. The clubhouse burned in 1932, and was replaced in 1934 by the Tudor-style structure still standing today. This edifice is made of stone and red brick, with a red slate roof, exposed-brick interior walls, and wooden beams.

The Livingston area's history dates back to the 1668 plantation of Governor Francis Lovelace (1621-1675). Additional farms were operated in the vicinity by the Cruser, Crocheron, and deGroot families. In 1836, the respected eye surgeon Samuel MacKenzie Elliott bought much of the land along today's Richmond Terrace and Bard Avenue. For the next 50 years, the area bore the name of Elliottsville. In 1886, when the North Shore Railroad bought the mansion of resident Anson Livingston and opened a station nearby, the growing neighborhood became known as Livingston. From the 1880s until World War I, the neighborhood of Livingston was known for its elegance. Bard Avenue was called the "Fifth Avenue of the Island," and attracted the well heeled.

Walker Park, located on Delafield Place between Bard and Davis Avenues, still enjoys extensive use by sporting enthusiasts. The large softball field is also used for football and cricket, and the park remains a home to cricket leagues and tournaments. A $196,000 renovation completed in 2001 revitalized the basketball courts and reconstructed the paths and fencing. New swings and play equipment were also added. Walker Park additionally features flagstone walkways, benches, a drinking fountain, and many attractive plantings. These include evergreen trees and shrubs, London plane trees (*Platanus x acerifolia*) and sweetgums (*Liquidambar styraciflua*). Hexagonal paving, a red brick and granite wall capped with bluestone, a chain link fence, and a flagpole with yardarm completes the facilities.

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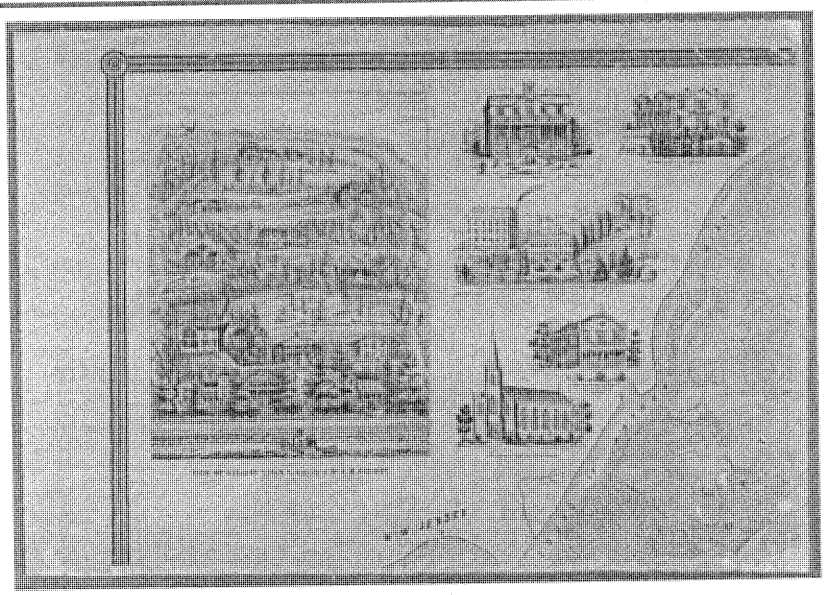

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From: Susan Halpert via RT <houghref@help.hmdc.harvard.edu>
Sent: Friday, January 23, 2015 10:35 AM
To: Gale Harris (LPC)
Subject: [hmdc.harvard.edu #192074] George William Curtis Collection
Attachments: KIC Image 1.jpg; KIC Image 2.jpg; KIC Image.jpg

<See all of this ticket: https://help.hmdc.harvard.edu/Ticket/Display.html?id=192074 >

Dear Ms. Harris,

I am attaching scans of ta clipping and a photograph from George William Curtis's scrapbook (our MS Am 1124.8) for your reference. There is no charge for these scans, but please fill in and submit the photoduplication form at https://hcl.harvard.edu:8001/forms/requests/houghton_photo.cfm citing RT # 192074 as your "existing request." If you find that you need a high-resolution image for publication, please let me know so I can arrange for one to be made by Imaging Services.

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Gale Harris (LPC)

From: Gale Harris (LPC)
Sent: Monday, December 22, 2014 11:27 AM
To: 'CDellatte@StatenIslandMuseum.org'
Subject: request for appointment

Hi Cara,
I have been assigned to prepare a draft designation report for the George W. Curtis house on Bard Avenue and would like to set up an appointment to look at the Curtis papers. I am in town Monday and Tuesday this week, then back in New York next week.
Hope you have a splendid Xmas,
Gale Harris
Landmarks Preservationist 2
New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission
Office 212-669-7805; Mobile 347-752-7611

Gale Harris (LPC)

From: cara dellatte via Dropbox <no-reply@dropbox.com>
Sent: Friday, January 09, 2015 10:43 AM
To: Gale Harris (LPC)
Subject: cara dellatte shared "Images for Lorraine Danischewski" with you

Cara used Dropbox to share some files with you!

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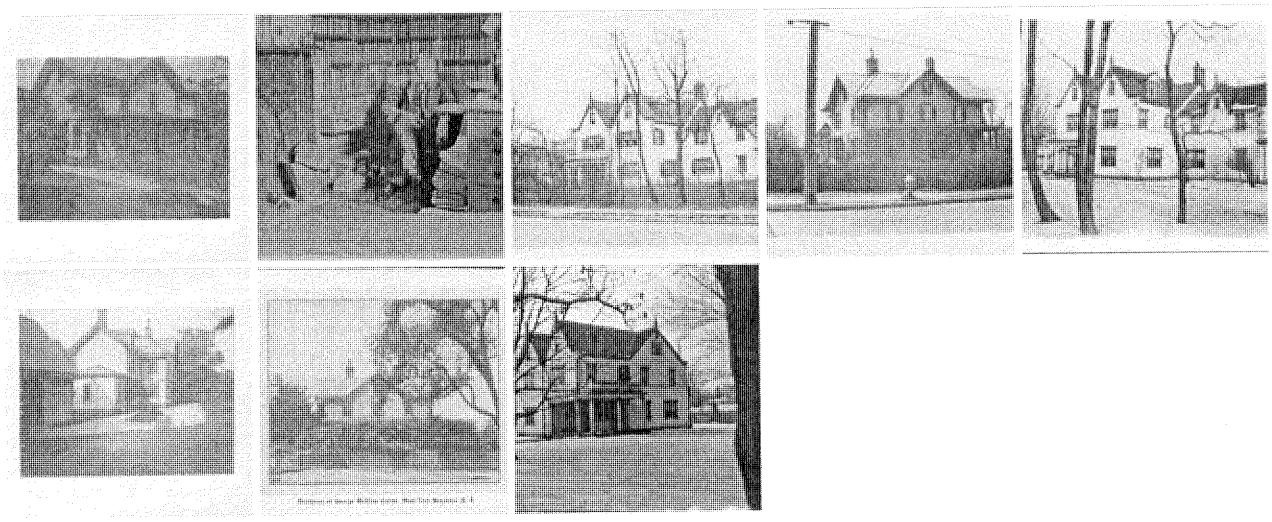
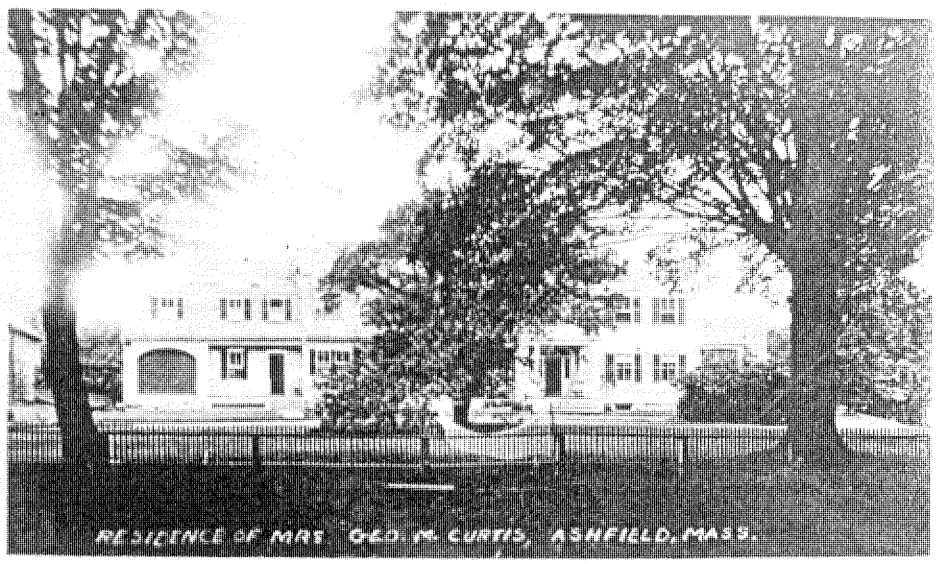




Photograph of Mr. George William Curtis's residence at Ashfield, Mass.

Home of George William Curtis at Staten Island, N.Y.

Edward Cary
George William Curtis

pg 6 Curtis son of George Curtis
born Worcester 1796 moved to Provid
mother Mary Elizabeth Burrill,
daughter James Burrill Jr, Chief
justice of RI, one time Senator
~~Plaintiff~~ opposed Missouri
Compromise She died 1824
2 sons James Burrill Curtis b
Geo William Curtis b 2/24/1
second wife

educated in Boston & Providence unti
1839 when George Curtis moved
family to NYC to work for the Bank
for Commerce home on 95 Washin
Pl

as teenagers Burrill & George becam
boarding students at Brook Fa
Burrill having fallen under the
spell of the Transcendental Move
1842-44 at Brook Farm

in 1844 boarded at farm at Concord
Mon. evenings gatherings of their club Mr Alcott
Mr Emerson, Mr Hawthorne, Ellery
Channing, Henry Thoreau George
Bradford Burrill & I at Emerson
Library
1846 50 in Europe and ~~Near~~ Mid East

p57 Curtis one of the buddies of
American literature, and that's
he began to write the authority asked

55 1850 published Nile Notes of a
Howadji

74 (with publication Nile Notes
began lecturing career)
began lecturing for W. Tudor

77 Curtis formed close connection w
Harpers & Bros - who had published
books, wrote sketches & social
notes for magazine & the Weekly
became associate editor of Putnams
Magazine

p87 Spent 3 months at Newport 1854

Polyphar Papers & Prue & I
91 out of work for Putnam's grew

02 Dec 1855 at close of year in an
Prue & I was begun, Curtis
became engaged to Anna Sha
daughter Francis G Shaw of Staten I
Married thanksgiving day 1856
guests at wedding included
John C Frémont
10 Father died in Jan 1856
106 spring 1856 put some money into
publishing firm Dix Edwards &
which owned Putnam's Mag
It failed in Apr 1857
Curtis responsible as general pa
put in money there his father
in law put in money as timated par

only chance of Mr Shaw's losing $60 - $70,000. Curtis assumed debt spent a dozen years working it off through lecture circuit

p110 Curtis's marriage into the Shaw family reinforced his own opposite to slavery

p118 Mr Curtis married Nov 1856 went to live on Staten Island where his wife's family had a spacious home w/ large ground 1st child a son born Dec 1857

Roy A Danuskewski & Lorraine Dan
234 Bard Ave

Deed 15 Nov 1999 L 9961, P169
Robert Corpus & Nancy Corpus
Salvator & Maria Corpus,
162 Raymond Plugh St
→ Roy Danuskewski & Lor

being same premises conveyed to
said grantors 9/9/94 recorded 9/2
reel 5700 P154
(L 5700, P154
Irene Miller → Robert Corpu
& Nancy Corpus Salvador Corpu
& Maria Corpus residing 31 Sil
Lake Road & 100 others

some premises conveyed par
1st part by deed 10/1/65 recorded 10/2
L 1422 P367 & deed 7/8/68

L 1653 P49
Irene Miller surviving
spouse William Shanley Jr

died Richmond Co 11/29/81

Long ~~Lo~~ Obt Francis Geo Shaw by Sidney
Howard Gay Rich Co Gazette
Nov 11 1882
Nov 18 1882

June 23 1869 Anna Curtis ←
Oscar Wyeneu L 81, p 49

Oct 14 1870 Anna S Curtis
Francis G & Sarah B S

L 89, 236

Mar 9 1876 Anna S Curtis ←
Diana Elliott

May 11 1876 114, 335
Anna S Curtis
Samuel R
Amy D Elliott 115, 2
et al

L 67 p 236

deed 28 Sept 1870 between
Francis G Shaw, Castleton Co
of Richmond & Sarah Blake Shaw
his wife + Anna Shaw Curtis
wife of George Wm Curtis
Francis & Sarah in consideration
love & affection for daughter &
for $1
Grant all parcel in Village
W Brighton Regenning US
Bard Avenue at point intersec
of Fn line of lot now or lately
belonging to Dr S M Elliott
running northerly along US Bar
Ave 215' 4" to south line
of land this day conveyed to Robert
B Minturn thence west & at right
angles or nearly so to Bard Ave
along the said last mentioned
line 175' 6" to E S Davis Av
thence southerly along E S Davis
Avenue 233' to north line prop
containing 2 acres 966/100 2.9
acres

L114 p 335
Diana Elliott of Irvington
Essex Co → Anna S Curtis
for $1 releases dower rights
to parcel conveyed by Shaw's
Anna Curtis in 1870

Index 1923 - 1943

Francis George Curtis → Agnes PO
Ruth Davidson Curtis Linder
Apr 5 1928 L 661 p154

Genealogy

Box 1 folder 1 genealogy

Box 1 folder 2 W T Davis notes on Curtis

Box 2 folder 1 letters 1856

folder 2 letters 1857

folder 3 letters 1858

folder 4 letters 1859

folder 5 letters 1859

folder 6 letters 1860

folder 19 letters 1867 E S

folder 14 letters 1864

folder 11 letters 1863

1872 letters re Mr Minturn

Box 3 letters W W Story Frederick Massey FLO

folder 10

Box 3 folder 26 Chas Dudley Warner E Sa

Box 4 Curtis on Staten Island

folder 16

Box 6 photos & family bios

Box 7
folder 3 newspaper articles hunn
folder 6 curtis letters at Hurwy
folder 8 Mabel Abbot Chr
1845 - 59
9 1860 — 69
10 1870 — 81
11 1881 — 1888
12 1888 — 1891
13 1889 — 97
-1892 14 Shaw West Brighton
1823-92 15 West Brigton

Box 19 Staten Isl scrapbook

Box 17 scrapbook re GWC

Box 14 scrapbook Freedman's bureau

Wm Winter recollections
met Curtis at home of Longfellow

Descendants of Hon George Wm Curtis
sent to Harlock D Curtis by Geo Wm
Curtis of Zephyr Hills Fl. 19

Dr Francis George Curtis
Son Geo Wm & Anna Shaw Curtis
b Dec 5 1857, 234 Bond Ave
WNB 52
d ~~dec~~ Aps 17, 1937 Ashfield Mass
m Feb 21 1887 Ruth Dawes
(b 5/26/1860 - d 2/3/1942)
Daughter of Edw J. & Charlotte
White Davidson
Dr Curtis grad Harvard 1879
Columbia College of Physicians & Surgeons practiced Newton

Children
1) Frances Shaw Curtis
b June 10, 1888 d ?

2) Margaret Burrill Curtis
~~dec~~ 4/27/1890
d 12/18/1915

3 Edward Davison Curtis
b ~~9/1~~ 12/20/1891

married

1 Francoise Gsunotte in Belg
9/6/1919 annulled 1925

2 Nancy Hoyt 1927 annulled 19

3 Hope —

4 — ?

4 Geo William Curtis
b Mar 29 1893

M Eleanor H Belding no child

Children of Edw Davison Curtis & Francoi
Gsunotte

1) John Francis Curtis b 8/1/1920
M Oct 22, 1945 Madeleine Pacquaire

2) Robert Gould Shaw Curtis b 4/26/1922

3) Geo Wm Curtis b 3/9/1925

4) Edwena Hoyt Curtis b 6/10/1928

5) Nancy Anthony Curtis

Leslie Butler The Ohgwa
Odenwa

Miss Elizabeth Burrill Curtis
Memorial
Mar 15, 1914

funeral at Church of Redeemer
reps of committees in which
she had been active St Cece
Singing Soc, Samaritan Circle of
Kings Daughter Political Equality
Club Women's Alliance
born on day 1st shot fired at
Sumter
Mother still living in hse on Ba
ave - large substantial cheerf
grounds by Brook winding

Sept 2 1857

commenting on article abt his financial difficulties by Mr Hilliard - waiting for proof of oration at 3 speaking at 6

how can I remember that I am reuned when I think of that I am a man with — I kill & a wife whom he loves better than himself

The Springfield Daily Republica
Life of a Gifted Woman
Obit
Gifted daughter of George William Curt
Winters on Staten Island & Summe
Ashfield Mass

Photo Elizabeth Burrill Curtis
aged 2

Samuel B Curtis
half brother of Geo W Cur

SI Museum Curtis Papers
Box 6
Folder 6 transcriptions le
at Harvard
——— 1851
GWC to E E Morton ran ove
to SI to spend day w/ Jo
Parkman & his wife sister o
Mrs Frank Shaw day expand
to 3

Apr 14 1851 Greeley going
Europe shall be assisting
them for a time
GWC to Morton 6/24/51
ran up revere a week
Sunday spent the
day in Mr Downing
~~[illegible]~~ beautiful garden
GWC to George Curtis
Staying w/ Story found
Mr & Mrs Longfellow
Chas Sumner (the senator)
Wm S & wife Francis John
Dwight Chas
Dec 15 1851

GWC to WD O'Connor St Dec 3
1855
announces engagement to
Anna Shaw oldest daughter
of Frances G Shaw translator of
Consuelo & History of Switzerland
Mrs Shaw loveliest of women and
is their child Native Boston all
too sharp for Mrs Shaw have been
traveling in Europe & Egypt
built a superb hse here into
which they have all come
only in time for the holidays
returned from Europe only on
July summer camp in
Newport where I renewed
acquaintance w/ them
Mr Shaw's [illegible] brother
Quincy [illegible] in Egypt &
George
Mrs Russell of Roxbury his older
sister a friend & counsellor

C W C to Norton Northshore
Mar 2 1859 Our plan is to
build a cottage this summer
near Mr S S house, that is
he will build it. The house of
which we thought is not
altogether desirable

C W C to Norton North Shore 19 Sept
1859 The house that
Mr Shew has been building for
Anna is almost done. It is
just over the lawn from the big h
& is a pleasant convenient hou
We have concluded it well w
be wise to move until Spring

Mabel Abbott chronology
According to Long & Davis Wm Pa
came to SI in 1840 close frien
James Russell Lowell built
Octagonal hse at foot Page ave

When Brook Farm organized
1841 they made a second
mortgage secured by George
R Russell, Henry P Sturgis
& Francis Shaw payment
$1500 each
4th Mortgage to Francis St
for 2500

Terris
Greenslet
James Russell Lowell
On 10 Jan 1843 Lowell wa
to N.Y. for treatment by
Dr Elliott also frequented
studio Wm Page
Friendship influence each oth
Wm K

N P Willis [illegible]

was under treatment by Dr Elliott

Lowell & Gay working at Standard

1846 Artis sailed for Europe accompanied by the Cranch family & in the middle cost by Quincy Shaw in home fill in with Kensett & Hicks

Geo W Curtis Julia Bridgeman
5 Stepmother
94 married Nov 26, 1856
weeks honeymoon, returned
to Shaw's home on St leaving
his ~~quarters~~ family home at 27 Washing Pon

109 amendment to Republican platform
1860 affirming principle in Dec
in Dec of Independence that all men
~~are~~ are created equal

112 Concerned w/ fate of freed
slaves following emancipation
proclamation recommended Olm
When Congress passed bill in 1864
he and his father-in-law

118 In Dec 1863 suspended Lounger col
in Harper became political editor
the Weekly

120 Summer trips to RI 1862, Mars.
Vermont 1864
Visitors Charles Norton 9 Sisters June 9

129-30 Much of ~~writing~~ Curtis's done at home
in his Study - Mrs Curtis transcribed
typing his essays articles

[illegible] S.I. Branch
lay preacher Dr Harvan
SI friends Sidney Gay family the
Winthrops, Judge Wm Emerson for
twice Francis Parkman Church
134 Continued lowering Lyceum consults p
1865 - 73
ill in Feb 1873 slow recovery
150 Civil service reform his favorite

Seeking One Great Remedy

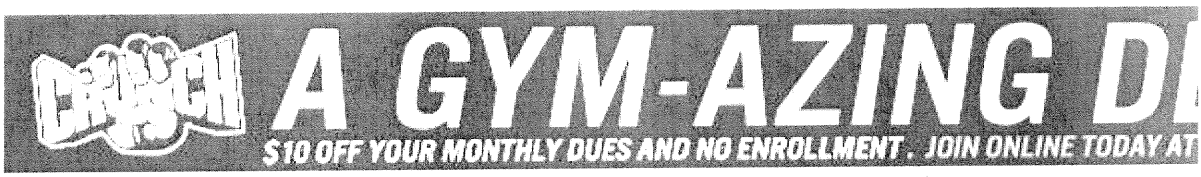
60 Lydia Maria Child accompanied Sarah Shaw to SI to seek treatment from Samuel McKenzie Elliott

62 girls educated in private schools Not at Fordham

63 Sarah failing health whole fam leaves for Italy

70 May 1853 Robert G Shaw dies Francis left with substantial inheritance

71 Family decides to return to Staten Island Sydney Howard Gay, Shaw's friend, in charge of land purchase designs for hse by parisian arch F. Shaw returned to SI winter 1854-55 to oversee start construction



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NEIGHBORHOOD REPORT: LIVINGSTON; Light of Day for an Old Stop on the Underground Railroad

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An 1890 house, pockmarked and nibbled by vines, slumps on the side of an ample lot at 113-115 Davis Avenue. Even its ghosts seem to have fled. But if they were still around, they could tell stories about the Gay and Wilcox families, significant contributors to the American abolitionist movement, who owned the now-abandoned piece of property from about the 1830's to the 1940's.

That history has prompted local civic groups and preservationists to call on a developer, Randy Lee, who owns the lot, to spare the old house before building new houses there, as he apparently plans to do.

Dick Dickenson, the Staten Island borough historian, said the house was one of several formerly on the property. One house belonged to Sidney Howard Gay, he said, who turned it into a headquarters for the abolitionist movement on Staten Island. He said it was an important stop on the underground railroad.

Mr. Dickenson said the Gay house was demolished in 1947. He added that the one that still stands belonged to Gay's daughter, Mary, and her husband, William Wilcox. In the early 20th century, he said, Wilcox was president of the city's Board of Education and on the board of Tuskegee Institute, the black college in Alabama. His wife succeeded him on the board after his death in 1923 and held the post into the mid-1930's.

Mr. Dickenson said the Gay and Wilcox families were part of a tight community of white antislavery families that lived in the area. Evelyn King, a noted local authority on black

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history in the borough, concurred: "Many of those people who lived in that neighborhood were nationally prominent abolitionists."

Edward Josey, president of the Staten Island branch of the N.A.A.C.P., said there was good reason to preserve the Wilcox House. "It's on a very inspirational piece of land," he said.

Mr. Lee would not comment last week. But Richard Brown, the president of the Livingston Community Association, said Mr. Lee had told him that he planned to knock down the house and erect seven two-family homes on the site.

The property's significance might yet be marked. Terri Rosen Deutsch, a spokeswoman for the Landmarks Preservation Commission, said staff members had recently inspected the house.

"We continue to research the potential history on that site," she said. "We have reached out to the developer, who has assured us that he will take steps to commemorate that history respectfully and thoughtfully, if indeed there is a connection to the underground railroad."

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JIM O'GRADY

Photo: Preservationists are trying to protect this house because a prominent antislavery family once lived on the site. (Mary DiBiase Blaich for The New York Times)

Chart: "LEGACY -- A Heroes' Home"
From the 1830's to the 1870's, several prominent antislavery families lived in Livingston.

The Elliotts
Samuel McKenzie Elliott, a renowned eye doctor, moved here with his family around 1833. Their home, still standing on Delafield Place, was a station on the underground railroad.

The Shaws
Francis George Shaw and Sarah Blake Sturgis Shaw lived in a house between Davis and Bard Avenues. One child, Robert Gould Shaw, became the first white commander of an all-black regiment from the North during the Civil War. His story is told in the 1989 movie "Glory.

The Curtises
George William Curtis and Anna Shaw, the Shaws' daughter, lived in a house that still stands at Henderson and Bard Avenues. During the draft riots of 1863, when Irish immigrants attacked blacks and their supporters, the family harbored white abolitionists.

(Source: Dick Dickenson, Staten Island Borough Historian)

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