

# MHS Miscellany

Number 101 / Fall 2011

## ADAMS ONLINE CATALOG

Have you every wondered how many letters John Adams and Thomas Jefferson exchanged over the course of their lifetimes? And how often did Abigail Adams correspond with Jefferson? When did John Quincy Adams write his last letter to his mother? Now, anyone can easily answer these questions and many others with the new Online Adams Catalog (OAC).

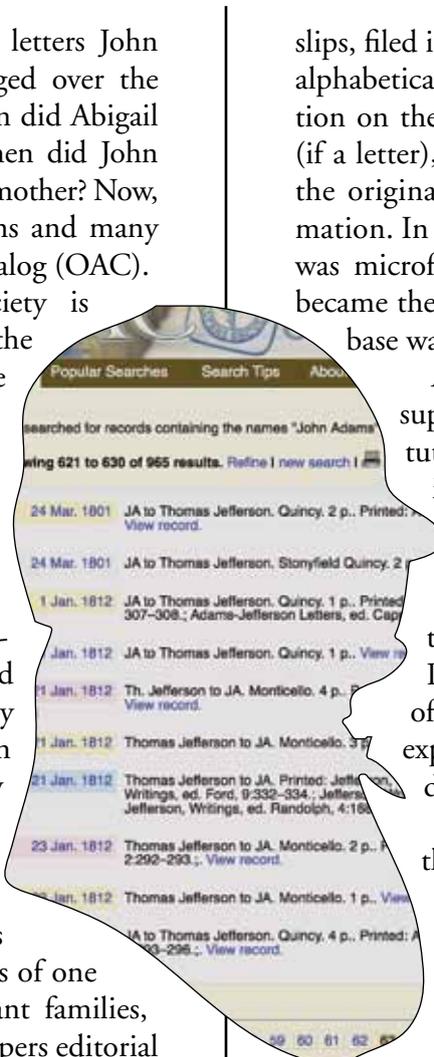
The Massachusetts Historical Society is pleased to announce the launch of the OAC, a comprehensive record of the papers of John Adams, Abigail Adams, John Quincy Adams, and other family members, as well as their extended network of correspondents. Funded by grants from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) and the Packard Humanities Institute, the project converted the Adams Papers' control file of every known Adams family document from 1639 to 1889 into an online database now available at the MHS website: <http://www.masshist.org/adams/slipfile/catalog.php>. The digitization of this important resource provides researchers with an item-level catalog of the papers of one of America's most historically significant families, improves the efficiency of the Adams Papers editorial project, and serves as a model for other data conversion projects.

When the editors of the Adams Papers documentary edition began their work in the mid-1950s, they started by meticulously cataloging all known Adams documents at the MHS, at other repositories, and in private collections all over the world, establishing a color-coded system of paper slips for tracking individual items. The catalog, which has supported the project through the publication of 45 volumes of the family's papers, has grown to contain over 100,000

slips, filed in a series of cabinets in chronological and alphabetical sequences. Each slip includes information on the author of the manuscript, the recipient (if a letter), the date it was written, the location of the original manuscript, and other relevant information. In 2001, the entire chronological run of slips was microfilmed onto 42 reels, and the microfilm became the master copy from which the OAC database was built.

After two years of extensive planning with support from the Packard Humanities Institute, the MHS received an NHPRC grant in the fall of 2008 to make the digital conversion, and work got underway in January 2009. The OAC was a collaborative effort between the library Collections Services Department and the Adams Papers editors that maximized the skills of each staff member, from the cataloging expertise of librarians and archivists to the deep subject knowledge of the editors.

To tackle a digital project of this scope, the MHS devised a step-by-step plan to ensure not a single slip got lost and hired an outside vendor to perform the initial conversion of the slips. The vendor used nonproprietary, open-source XML for the database because of its ability to manage the over 100,000 slip file records and for its flexibility in organizing and manipulating data. MHS staff specializing in encoding text then proofread the vendor's files character-by-character, checking the information against the corresponding paper slips in the catalog. The proofreading stage also served as a complete inventory of the catalog to verify that each paper record was digitally converted and none was lost in the process. The encoders added microfilm information for items in the Adams Family Papers manuscript collection at the MHS to



aid researchers in locating these documents. The addition of information not available on the original slips enriched the data with links to MHS collection guides and the websites of other institutions holding Adams documents. While the encoding work moved forward, project staff populated supporting databases that Adams Papers editors use to manage voluminous supplemental information on people and organizations, geographical locations, institutions holding Adams documents, and sources of printed Adams documents.

The Society's web developer loaded the XML files into a SOLR database, chosen for its ability to search large amounts of data within a fraction of a second. He created two interfaces for the OAC: one fully searchable public interface and a second, dynamic administrative interface that MHS staff will use to create and edit slips. The project leaders worked extensively with reference librarians, editors of the Adams Papers, and scholars working on other documentary editions to create a public interface that is user-friendly and an internal interface that meets the rigorous scholarly requirements of a top-tier editorial project. Building and refining the administrative interface (which is only available to MHS staff members), with its complicated editing functionality, was the most difficult part of the project, and it would not have been possible without a full understanding of the Adams Papers editorial process.

Before the digital conversion, the detailed records of every known Adams document were only accessible by

traveling to the MHS and perusing the metal file cabinets in the Adams Papers offices. Vast amounts of inter-related data are now retrievable with the click of a mouse! To learn more about any Adams-related manuscript, researchers can search by name, date, keyword, holding institution, or any combination of these elements. All of the information about a document is pulled together and displayed in a single record, including the name of the holding repository and any available printed sources. In many cases, individual records also contain links to digitized images and electronic transcriptions of manuscripts at the MHS website. These include over 1,100 letters between John and Abigail Adams, the diaries of John and John Quincy Adams, and other items available as part of the Adams Papers Digital Edition, the Adams Family Papers Electronic Archive, and the Diaries of John Quincy Adams Digital Collection.

The Massachusetts Historical Society is proud to provide this exciting new resource that brings together an unprecedented amount of information about documents that are key to understanding American history. As challenging as it was to translate the intricate procedures of the Adams Papers editorial project into a digital format, the results made the efforts well worth the while. Lisa Francavilla, managing editor of the *Papers of Thomas Jefferson: Retirement Series* at Monticello, concurs, stating, "This must have been a huge undertaking for all of you and it must be satisfying to see it all beginning to come together. This is very exciting!" Serving as a template

**The Massachusetts Historical Society is an independent research library that collects, preserves, makes accessible, and communicates manuscripts and other materials that promote the study of the history of Massachusetts and the nation—a mission it has pursued since 1791.**

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Masthead illustration:  
"Plan & Elevation of the Tontine  
Crescent, now erecting in Boston." From  
the *Massachusetts Magazine*, 1794. All  
images are from the MHS collections  
unless otherwise credited. The MHS  
occupied the Tontine Crescent from 1794  
until 1833.

JQA profile on front page, from  
Silhouettes of John Quincy Adams and  
His Family, by Jarvis F. Hanks, Meridian  
Hill, Washington, 25 March 1859. On  
back cover, Lt. Col. Wilder Dwight, carte  
de visite by John Adams Whipple ca.  
1860–1862. Photo 70.19 from the Wolcott  
Family Civil War Carte de Visite Album.

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Thursdays, and Fridays; 9 AM to  
7:45 PM on Tuesdays; and 9 AM to  
4 PM on Saturdays.

*For more information:*  
Please call ahead or check the website  
for directions, information about col-  
lections, reading room policies,  
holiday hours, and special events.



[massculturalcouncil.org](http://massculturalcouncil.org)

for other projects, the OAC has already been used as a model for a catalog to the Saltonstall family papers at the MHS. Read more about the OAC at <http://www.masshist.org/adams/catalog/about.php>.

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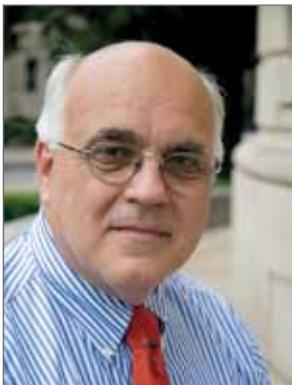
### RECENT ACQUISITION

*Harbottle Dorr, Jr.*

The MHS has obtained the fourth volume of a unique set of Revolutionary-era newspaper clippings collected by Boston shopkeeper Harbottle Dorr, Jr. With the other three volumes already in the Society's collections, volume four, covering the years 1772 to 1776, completes the set as originally compiled. Dorr systematically indexed the contents of the newspapers, and as he was well versed in the heated politics of his day, he often noted the identities of anonymous contributors. The annotated volumes provide insights recorded by an ordinary man as the Revolution unfolded around him. In the introduction to volume four, Dorr writes, "I have thought it worth while to collect them, tho' at considerable expence, and VERY GREAT TROUBLE, in hopes that in future, they may be of some service, towards forming a POLITICAL History of this Country, during the shameful, and abandoned administration of George the third's despotic Ministry." The purchase of this volume was made possible through a combination of gifts to the MHS from anonymous donors and a distribution from the Society's acquisition fund.

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### FROM THE PRESIDENT



This issue of the *Miscellany* is brimming with exciting stories of heightened activity at the MHS, from the Adams Online Catalog and the new Saltonstall Family Collection website to the acquisition of the fourth volume of Harbottle Dorr, Jr.'s newspaper collection, from our first of a series of exhibitions on the Civil War to the publication of the travel diary of Ellen Wayles Coolidge. In addition we launched a new seminar on biography, welcomed a terrific class of research fellows from across the country, and much more. Add to this the completion of one of our most successful fundraising years ever and you have a thriving institution. There is no doubt that an enriched slate of activities and increased giving go hand-in-hand. Most importantly, we are meeting the goals of our Strategic Plan and fulfilling our mission.



*Harbottle Dorr's annotated copy of the Boston Evening-Post, June 26, 1769.*

As we move forward, there is sure to be concern that all of this activity is drawing us away from our core function as a research library or that we may be allowing standards to slip in order to appeal to a larger audience. Certainly not. Our library and its services have been considerably strengthened as part of, and because of, our outreach. With the addition of evening and Saturday hours, the library has increased the availability of the reading room by 25 percent. We also have a more robust and professionalized Reader Services Department. For the first time in the Society's history we have three full-time, professionally trained reference librarians. Our technical equipment, essential for today's historical research, has been significantly upgraded, including digital microfilm readers and workstations that connect to our online library catalog. These improvements, a greater awareness of our collections, and a new openness have led to a boom in the number of researchers. In September and October alone visits were up 30 percent—on a par with the busiest summer months.

On every front we are dedicated to improving the quality of our services, programs, and scholarship. Our

Conversation Series uses the lens of history to provide perspective on our modern world and the challenges we face. Last summer, the MHS hosted over 600 teachers in workshops led by top-notch scholars—an increase from a handful of teachers just a few years ago. Here, educators enrich their classroom experience through the use of primary-source materials in our collections. Even our exhibitions have attracted visits from sister institutions as word has spread of our creative, sympathetic, and effective use of architecturally rich spaces not originally designed as galleries. Collecting has taken on a new allure as we have begun building an endowed acquisition fund and have made significant purchases. Scholars and academics have praised our use of technology, website content, and online catalog.

Change is not always easy. We have a tendency to romanticize the past. If the Society is to meet its goals and achieve its mission, it must open its doors to a growing audience. Doing so will lead to a greater understanding of the Society's role as a cultural and academic institution and help us cultivate much-needed financial support. Today's MHS can boast that it offers excellent scholarly resources and the highest quality activities and services for an ever-widening audience.

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## NEW WEBSITE

### *Saltonstall Family Collection*

The MHS is pleased to announce the completion of a new website that features highlights of the vast Saltonstall family collections held by the Society, new and enhanced guides to the manuscript and photograph collections, and a new online catalog that allows researchers to search for information about more than 3,000 individually described documents in the Saltonstall family papers. The papers, photographs, art, and artifacts of the Saltonstall family, one of the founding families of Massachusetts, chronicle five centuries of family history and involvement in public life, from before the European settlement of America through the 20th century. Saltonstall family collections at the Society include papers of Leverett Saltonstall (1783–1845), mayor and U.S. representative from Salem, Massachusetts; letters Eleanor “Nora” Saltonstall (1894–1919) wrote to her family while she served as a volunteer in France during World War I; and the personal and political papers and photographs of U.S. senator Leverett Saltonstall (1892–1979).

The Saltonstall family papers came to the MHS in several installments beginning around 1935 and were organized in three different arrangements: chronologically in notebooks, topically in folios, and by size in folders and boxes. The collection is now in one systematic arrangement for the first time and described

in a new online collection guide. During processing, the conservation technician repaired numerous fragile documents that had been previously held together with adhesive tape. The Sen. Leverett Saltonstall photograph collection is now organized for the first time as well, and 300 volumes from the multigenerational Saltonstall library are now included in the Society's online catalog, ABIGAIL.

The new website, Highlights from the Saltonstall Family Collections at the Massachusetts Historical Society ([www.masshist.org/features/saltonstall](http://www.masshist.org/features/saltonstall)), provides access to 186 items (letters, documents, photographs) arranged in 10 categories. The online presentations include digital images of original materials, transcriptions of the documents, and contextual essays on each subject that help orient site visitors. The selected items highlight the breadth and depth of the Saltonstall materials held by the MHS. From Oliver Cromwell's military instructions to Saltonstall ancestor John Leverett in 1653 to Sen. Leverett Saltonstall's diary, letters, and photographs that bear witness to the atomic bomb testing in the Bikini Atoll in 1946, the items presented on the website represent a cross section of the family's rich history and dedication to public life.

The website also pays tribute to MHS Trustee, officer, and friend William L. Saltonstall; it was funded by the Richard Saltonstall Charitable Foundation and individual contributors to the William L. Saltonstall Memorial Fund.

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*Croix de Guerre awarded by France to Eleanor “Nora” Saltonstall November 28, 1918, for her role in evacuating civilians from the Noyon and Lassigny regions during German attacks in March 1918.*

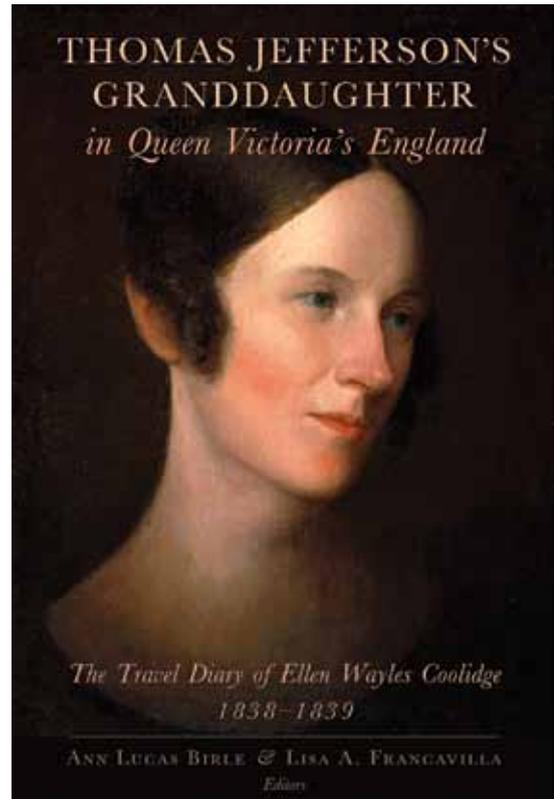
## JEFFERSON'S GRANDDAUGHTER IN VICTORIA'S ENGLAND

For 50 years, the MHS has had in its collections the diary in which Ellen Wayles Randolph Coolidge—a favorite grandchild of Thomas Jefferson—recorded her observations when she lived in London from the summer of 1838 to the spring of 1839. This fall the MHS will make her many rich descriptions, astute observations, and often witty insights available for any reader to enjoy. *Thomas Jefferson's Granddaughter in Queen Victoria's England: The Travel Diary of Ellen Wayles Coolidge, 1838–1839*, a copublication with the Thomas Jefferson Foundation at Monticello, presents a complete transcription of Coolidge's diary alongside comprehensive annotations identifying people, places, and events.

Perhaps by virtue of her personal connection to the rebellion in the colonies, Ellen Coolidge was welcomed into social circles that most Americans would have found difficult to enter. In the diary, she records visits to the usual tourist attractions, but she also documents her social interactions with London's rising merchant class, celebrated figures in English arts and letters, and members of the aristocracy. The editors, Ann Lucas Birle and Lisa Francavilla, have provided the historical context that will allow readers to fully appreciate the venues, events, and personalities that Coolidge describes. A great lover of art and culture, Coolidge writes at length of her visits to the British Museum as well as to artists' studios and renowned collections housed in private homes; the editors have identified some 400 works of art described in the diary. More important than *what* she saw, however, was *how* Ellen Coolidge saw and described the world around her. Everything from attending the young Queen Victoria's opening of Parliament to visiting the warehouses on London's docks becomes fodder for her masterful pen and incisive wit.

Although Coolidge did not intend to keep her diary confidential—she clearly wrote for an audience of family and friends—we are grateful that the foresight and generosity of many generations of her descendants have made it possible for readers to enjoy her words today. The MHS would especially like to recognize the support of Mary and Gerald Morgan, Dr. Katherine and John Lastavica, Frank and M. L. Coolidge, J. Linzee and Elizabeth Coolidge, the Monticello Association, and the law firm of Ropes & Gray. We are grateful to Ellen Eddy Thorndike for her recent gift to Monticello of the Francis Alexander portrait of Ellen Wayles Coolidge, which graces the cover.

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### Excerpt

*Coolidge on an animal trainer's performance at the Drury Lane theater, December 12, 1838:*

There were two cages into which Van Amburgh entered successively. These were occupied by Lions, Tigers and other feline animals. What a degrading passion is Fear! The man has played the tyrant with these lordly monsters until he has brought them into a state so abject as to be pitiable. The Lion sneaks and crouches, the Tigers fawn and flatter. But a day of retribution may come. This seems to me the type of despotic government. The people, the beasts have the real power but they are unconscious of it. They are strong, fierce and ignorant as Van Amburgh's tigers, and like them kept in subjection by an inferiour force.

### To Order

This title is distributed by the University of Virginia Press. Visit their website at [www.upress.virginia.edu](http://www.upress.virginia.edu) or call 1-800-831-3406. It is also available through Amazon or your local bookseller.

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## WINTER EXHIBITION

### *Photography of Clover Adams*

This winter the MHS will open an exhibition showcasing the striking photographs of Marian Hooper “Clover” Adams, the wife of historian and author Henry Adams. Many of Clover’s images, some of which have never been shown before publicly, will be on display, as will Clover’s many letters, the notebook she used to record the chronology and technical aspects of her photographs, Henry’s letters, and other family materials.

At the heart of Clover’s story has been a mystery: just when she found a powerful way through photography to record her life, it started to unravel. On a gloomy Sunday morning in December 1885, Clover committed suicide by drinking from a vial of potassium cyanide, a chemical used to develop photographs. Afterwards, Henry Adams rarely spoke of his wife and never mentioned her in his Pulitzer Prize–winning *The Education of Henry Adams*.

Natalie Dykstra, associate professor of English at Hope College, will act as guest curator of the exhibition. Her forthcoming book, *Clover Adams: A Gilded and Heartbreaking Life* (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, February 2012), which tells the remarkable story of the Adamases’ marriage and Clover’s growth as an artist, serves as the basis for this exhibition.

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## RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS IN FULL SWING

Dust off your letter sweater. The new academic year has ushered a dazzling array of college colors into the Society’s marble foyer. The MHS awarded three dozen research grants in 2011, and we have already welcomed scholars from Clemson, Syracuse, William and Mary, Rutgers, and Washington University, St. Louis, plus the Universities of Florida, Minnesota, Kansas, and California. Joshua Greenberg of Bridgewater State University and Joanne Pope Melish of the University of Kentucky and Brown University, two of our three long-term fellows supported in part by the National Endowment for the Humanities, have also arrived and will be at the MHS into next summer.

Doctoral candidates and tenured professors alike are working on topics ranging from citizenship in the Early Republic to the economic impact of 20th-century deindustrialization. This current cohort of scholars is noteworthy because many of their projects address fundamental questions using new approaches: How did Americans experience winter? How did the colonists use numbers? Research fellows often draw on their backgrounds in other disciplines to answer these questions.



*Mrs. Ellston Pratt, Mrs. George D. Howe, and Alice Pratt.  
Photograph by Clover Adams, 1883. Marian Hooper Adams Photographs, 50.65.*

For instance, Sarah Kirshen of Columbia University holds a public health degree and is studying how the development of marriage statistics reflected the meaning of marriage in the 19th century.

Grant recipients are on a whirlwind schedule. With the help of Library Reader Services, they locate and delve into their sources. Meanwhile, the Research Department arranges brown-bag lunches where the fellows present their work and receive feedback, as well as weekly lunches outside the building where they socialize and network with other scholars. In their final reports, research fellows rave about their MHS experiences.

The Research Department administers three MHS fellowship competitions, thanks to the support of the National Endowment for the Humanities and the many individuals who have endowed short-term fellowships named in their honor. The MHS also grants awards through the New England Regional Fellowship Consortium, which supports scholarship at the Society and other institutions across the region. For more on MHS fellowships, visit our website at [www.masshist.org/fellowships/](http://www.masshist.org/fellowships/) or view the flyers included as an insert to this issue.

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## NEW ENGLAND BIOGRAPHY SEMINAR

The MHS is pleased to announce a new seminar series designed to appeal to a wide audience. The New England Biography Seminar is a forum for writers and readers alike to engage in an ongoing discussion about the historical, literary, and methodological questions that make biography a challenging and rewarding undertaking. By providing an opportunity for those interested in the craft of biography to convene and converse, the seminar aspires to create a community that will support biographical works in progress and serve as a seedbed for future projects.

The MHS presents four other seminar series; as in a university classroom, participants in these seminars meet regularly to discuss a scholarly essay presented by an academic researcher. The New England Biography Seminar is different. This series will feature roundtable discussions rather than focus on pre-circulated papers or formal remarks. Leading authors of the genre—among them Tony Horwitz (*Confederates in the Attic*), George Howe Colt (*The Big House*), Louise W. Knight (*Jane Addams: Spirit in Action*), and Michael Burlingame (*Abraham Lincoln: A Life*)—will offer their insights and inspiration in a setting designed to generate conversation between panelists and the audience. The first session took place November 3 and examined the lives of Abraham Lincoln, John Brown, and Theodore Parker and the challenges of writing about the Civil War from a biographical perspective.

All are welcome to attend the seminar at no charge; however, we encourage those who wish to participate actively to subscribe to the series in order to receive personal reminders of the sessions, as well as supplemental material relevant to each topic. The \$20 subscription fee for the series will also underwrite the light supper that accompanies each program. To attend, please phone 617-646-0568 or e-mail [seminars@masshist.org](mailto:seminars@masshist.org). For more information or to subscribe, visit [www.masshist.org/events/nebs.cfm](http://www.masshist.org/events/nebs.cfm).

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## MHS HOSTS CAMP EDIT

In August, the MHS hosted the 40th Institute for Editing Historical Documents, a week-long immersion in the art of documentary editing funded by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission through a grant to the Association for Documentary Editing. Twenty beginning editors from as far away as Hawaii and Barcelona—and as close as Harvard, Boston University, and the Mary Baker Eddy Library—gathered for sessions that included transcription, anno-

tation, indexing, document control, and digital editing. The opportunity to attend the institute and use the collections of the MHS attracted 40 applications for the 20 available places. Attendees' subjects ranged from the papers of presidents and first ladies (Abraham Lincoln, Eleanor Roosevelt, and Julia Gardiner Tyler) to the diaries of a 19th-century actor and a 17th-century slave-ship doctor.

In the Portrait Gallery, George Washington, John and Abigail Adams, and Peter Chardon Brooks observed lively discussions about whether to correct a subject's spelling, how much annotation is too much, whether digital editions will survive as well as print, and where the funding for our nation's documentary heritage is to come from. Attendees from the Papers of Joseph Smith and the Sermons of Mary Baker Eddy talked of the perils of editing revered religious figures, while those from the O'odham Peeposh and Judd Papers projects discussed the problems of editing documents in native languages with few surviving speakers.

The institute was organized by Beth Luey, an assistant editor at the Adams Papers and the education director of the Association for Documentary Editing. In addition to Adams Papers staff members Margaret A. Hogan, Hobson Woodward, Mary Claffey, and Sara Sikes, faculty members were Beverly Wilson Palmer (Pomona College: Charles Sumner Papers), Cathy Moran Hajo (New York University: Margaret Sanger Papers), Andrew Jewell (University of Nebraska: Willa Cather Archive), and Michael Stevens (State Historian of Wisconsin).

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*Editors attending Hobson Woodward's session on transcription at the Summer Institute examine an Adams document to decipher a mystery word. No one was able to read it that day, but an accurate transcription appears in the Adams Papers edition. (The word in question: assassin.)*

## IN MEMORIAM

*Malcolm Freiberg*

With the death of Malcolm Freiberg, who passed away in Cambridge on June 27, the Society lost one of its best friends. Mr. Freiberg joined our staff as editor of publications in September 1957. Although he retired a little more than 27 years later at the end of 1984, in a sense he never really left 1154 Boylston Street.

Born in Newburyport in 1919, Mr. Freiberg attended Middlebury College, from which he graduated in 1941. After military service during World War II, he entered the graduate program in American civilization at Brown University, where he was the first student of the distinguished early American historian Edmund S. Morgan to complete his Ph.D. Teaching appointments followed at Hampton Institute (now University) and Pennsylvania State University before he returned to Massachusetts and began his tenure at the Society.

From the 1950s to the 1970s, every member of the Society's small staff took on multiple responsibilities. In addition to the editor's obvious obligation to publications, Mr. Freiberg often found himself organizing the annual spring exhibition, which he complemented with a catalog or "Picture Book." By the time of his retirement, a tally of his accomplishments also included dozens of issues of the Society's annual, the *Proceedings of the Massachusetts Historical Society*; more than 20 installments of the *Journals of the House of Representatives of Massachusetts*; and many volumes in the MHS *Collections* and *Sibley's Harvard Graduates* series that he edited and saw through production.

MHS projects continued to fill many of his hours during a long and productive retirement. Always ready to take on an assignment, he wrote the introduction for *Portraits in the Massachusetts Historical Society* (1988), edited volume 6 of the *Winthrop Papers*, and prepared dozens of entries for volumes 19 and 20 of *Sibley's Harvard Graduates*.

In 2008, the Society recognized half a century of dedicated service when it endowed the Malcolm and Mildred Freiberg Fellowship, an annual research grant that also honors Mr. Freiberg's late wife. We extend our condolences to the Freibergs' daughter Sarah, her husband, and children. Most of all, we offer our deep thanks for all his contributions to the life of the Society.

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## MHS WORKSHOPS

This summer, over 500 teachers and history buffs worked with MHS collections in 14 different workshops. Participants investigated documents related to intriguing characters, game-changing events, and issues

that are still relevant today. The workshops focused on a wide range of topics: the dilemmas of colonial governor Thomas Hutchinson; the experiences of those living through the Siege of Boston (1775–1776); the intense drama inherent in the process of ratifying the U.S. Constitution in Massachusetts; how to use local records in historical research; the expectations and realities of army life for Irish Americans and African Americans in the first year of the Civil War; and the changing definitions of citizenship for women, African Americans, and Native Americans. The breadth of the themes covered speaks to the rich and varied collections held at the MHS.

Several workshops took advantage of historical resources found both in and out of the reading room. Connected excursions paired the Society's primary sources with historically significant sites in the Boston area. The Thomas Hutchinson workshop took to the streets of Boston and explored the Forbes House on Milton Hill. Participants learning about the Siege of Boston continued their education at Longfellow House/Washington's Headquarters National Historic Site. Those investigating the debate on the ratification of the Constitution visited the John Adams Courthouse, home of the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court. Fort Warren on Georges Island, part of the Boston Harbor Islands National Park, served as the setting for attendees furthering their understanding of the early days of the Civil War.

Participants also benefitted from the expertise of an array of outstanding historians involved in the programs, including Bernard Bailyn, John Bell, Barbara Berenson, William Fowler, Mary Fuhrer, Pauline Maier, Chris-



*Trustee Peter Spang views a presentation held at Forbes House on colonial governor Thomas Hutchinson.*

tian Samito, and Jim Shea. Jayne Gordon and Kathleen Barker of the Society's Education and Public Programs Department led these workshops, which received major support from colleagues in the Adams Papers, Library Collections Services, Library Reader Services, and Operations. Funding came from such diverse sources as the U.S. Department of Education, Massachusetts Society of the Cincinnati, National Park Service, Gilder Lehrman Institute, Expeditionary Learning Program, and program fees.

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### FUNDRAISING SUCCESS FOR 2011

Thanks to the generosity of its Trustees, Overseers, Fellows, Members, and friends, the MHS celebrated a number of fundraising achievements by the end of fiscal year 2011. The Annual Fund reached an unprecedented level, surpassing the previous year's total by 5 percent. Fellow and Member dues continued their upward trajectory in response to the new membership categories introduced in 2009. Thirty-six donors contributed \$244,457 to the William L. Saltonstall Memorial Fund, which supports work on the Saltonstall family papers and underwrites exhibitions and public programs. This brings the level up to \$468,590, 34 percent over the goal. In November 2010, a new fundraising event, Cocktails with Clio, grossed \$86,425 to benefit the Society's outreach programs. Individuals also contributed to a number of other projects including manuscript conservation and processing, research fellowships, and publications.

All of these gifts, large and small, allow the MHS to fulfill its mission to promote the study of American history. This year, as federal humanities funding faces significant cuts and the state of the economy remains uncertain, the Society increasingly will count on its dedicated community of scholars, teachers, and history enthusiasts to help contribute to its success. To take a lead role, visit [www.masshist.org/support](http://www.masshist.org/support) or call 617-646-0552, and donate today.

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### NEW LIBRARY HOURS

In September, the MHS moved its library's evening hours (4:45 PM to 7:45 PM) from Thursday evenings to Tuesday evenings. The library staff decided to make this change after noting an increase in large public programs requiring the use of Ellis Hall, the library's reading room, on Thursday nights. The staff surveyed the hours offered by other local research libraries and found that Tuesday was the best day to provide evening research hours at the MHS library. By holding extended hours one night a week, the Society provides access to researchers who cannot make use of the rich MHS collections during the work week. This permanent change allows the Society to maintain its commitments both to accommodating the needs of researchers and to providing excellent public programming to growing audiences.

### Library Hours as of September 2011

Monday:	9:00 – 4:45
Tuesday:	9:00 – 7:45
Wednesday:	9:00 – 4:45
Thursday:	9:00 – 4:45
Friday:	9:00 – 4:45
Saturday:	9:00 – 4:00

Exhibition galleries are open Monday through Saturday, 10:00 to 4:00.

Visit [www.masshist.org](http://www.masshist.org) for the latest schedule information.

### What Will Your Legacy Be?

The Honorable James Sullivan, one of the first justices appointed to the Superior Court of Judicature and a governor of Massachusetts, was the Society's founding president and first recorded donor. Through a generous bequest of important historical documents and artifacts, his legacy lives on. Today, friends continue this tradition of giving started over two centuries ago by naming the MHS as a beneficiary in their estate plans. Their gifts help the Society preserve the documents that define America's past for the researchers, educators, and informed citizens of tomorrow. What will your MHS legacy be?

To learn more about the many planned giving opportunities that can help you realize your own philanthropy and ensure the future of the MHS, contact Director of Development Nicole Leonard at 617-646-0552 or [nleonard@masshist.org](mailto:nleonard@masshist.org).

# History Drawn with Light

## Opening Reception

March 10, 2011

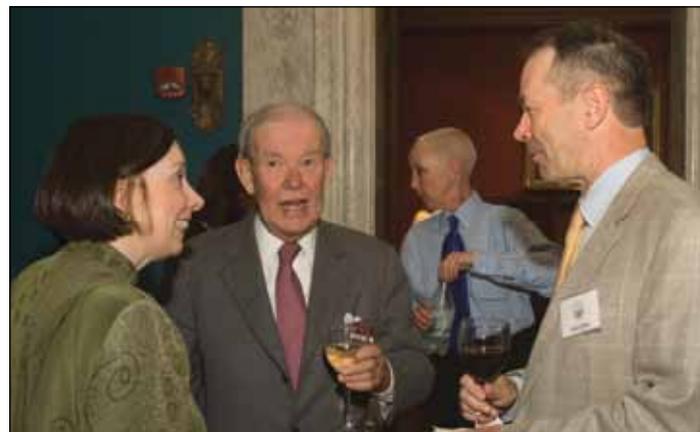


On March 10, the Society welcomed 120 Fellows and Members to the opening of its spring exhibition, *History Drawn with Light: Early Photographs from the Collections of the Massachusetts Historical Society*. After a talk by Stephen T. Riley Librarian Peter Drummey, guests were invited to view images showcased in the exhibition. These included notable figures, artifacts, and landscapes dating back to 1840, the year photography arrived in America. Generous support for this exhibition was provided by Eaton Vance Investment Counsel and the William L. Saltonstall Memorial Fund at the Massachusetts Historical Society.



Upper left: Fellow Joan Krizack, Andre Mayer, and Member Nancy Dwight study the panorama of the Boston waterfront in 1877 with guest curator and MHS Digital Projects Production Specialist Laura Wulf.

Above: Ruth Oliver Jolliffe, descendant of inventor and photographer Francis Blake, stands in front of a portrait of his son Benjamin Blake.



Top: After his talk, retiring Trustee Bernard Bailyn poses for a photo with Chair of the Board Bill Clendaniel.

Bottom: Trustee Fred Ballou and Fellow John Tyler converse with Fellow Désirée Caldwell at the reception.

# MHS Fellows Annual Meeting

May 11, 2011



Above: Fellow John Sears poses in the portrait studio set up as part of the exhibition. Photos by Martha Stewart.

Spring Open House: The Coming of the Civil War  
 March 19, 2011



About 60 Trustees, Fellows, and staff attended the MHS Annual Meeting on May 11. The evening included a reception, business meeting, and remarks by retiring Trustee Bernard Bailyn. Professor Bailyn delighted the audience with stories from his experiences at Harvard University and the MHS, insights into the subject of history, and his interest in the collection of Revolutionary-era newspapers compiled, annotated, and indexed by Harbottle Dorr, Jr.



*Top: Together, Trustee Pauline Maier and Fellow Robert Allison study the June 26, 1769, issue of the Boston Evening-Post in one of the volumes assembled by Harbottle Dorr, Jr.*

*Bottom: Fellows Richard and Jane Nylander read the annotations of Harbottle Dorr, Jr., in a supplement to the Boston Evening-Post from July 3, 1769.*

*Photos by Laura Wulf.*



On Saturday, March 19, the MHS opened its doors to kick off its sesquicentennial commemoration of the Civil War. More than 130 visitors participated in a discussion about the Society's Civil War resources, listened to a gallery talk by Librarian Peter Drummey featuring Civil War photographs, enjoyed the presentation "Oil and Water Are Not More Contrary...than North and South: Three Generations of Adamses on Slavery and Sectionalism," viewed the exhibition *History Drawn with Light*, participated in tours, enjoyed refreshments, and learned about the Society's collections, programs, and services.

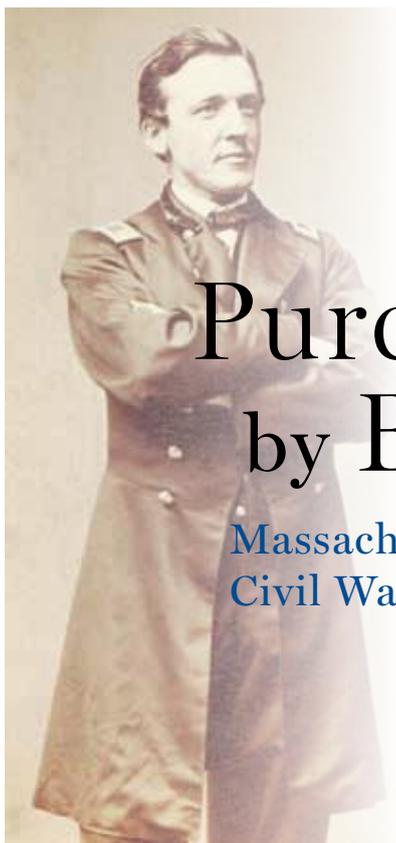
*Top: Open House guests examine early daguerreotype portraits in the exhibition History Drawn with Light.*

*Bottom: Guests—young and old—enjoy the stereoviewer. Photos by Nicole Leonard.*

Massachusetts Historical Society  
1154 Boylston Street  
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## Now on view at the MHS



# The Purchase by Blood

Massachusetts in the  
Civil War, 1861–1862

The Society's fall exhibition follows a group of seven officers—husbands, brothers, and friends of the first families of Massachusetts—through the first years of the Civil War. These young men, like so many, enlisted with a sense of unquestioning patriotism. Not anticipated was the bloody outcome of early conflicts—the Battle of Ball's Bluff, the Seven Days Battle, the Battle of Cedar Mountain, the Battle of Antietam—and the horrifying loss of life and optimism. Because men from the same town, friendship cluster, and even family joined the same regiments, losses in battle fell disproportionately. Showcased in this exhibition are letters, photographs, broadsides, journals, and artwork surrounding one group of men as the cost of war is brought home to Massachusetts. The exhibition, which runs through January 13, 2012, is free and open to the public, Monday through Saturday, 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM.