

DAVID

RANSOME PG1

①
21 NOV
2006

>From: Robert Upchurch
>To: emosnard@hotmail.com
>Subject: Trial email No 2
>Date: Tue, 21 Nov 2006 09:37:12 -0800 (PST)
>
>David,
>
> I am just trying to get the hang of this process. Some emails
>seem to go through and some don't. Let me know when you get this.
>
> Phil
>Upchurch

②
22 NOV
2006

From: "david ransome" <emosnard@hotmail.com>
To: phil.upchurch@sbcglobal.net
Subject: RE: Trial email No 2
Date: Wed, 22 Nov 2006 15:14:29 +0000

Phil,
Delighted to hear from you in the new mode, the first e-mail I have received at my new abode: I moved this morning to : 34 Beatrice Avenue, FELIXSTOWE, Suffolk, IP 11 9HB, England, and my phone number is [from the US] 011 44 1394 283966. I have taken over my aunt's house - which means that it has never been out of the family since it was built in 1929. Obviously I am missing (in both senses) spending Thanksgiving with all the others in New England but I am hoping to get there for Christmas which will be spent not in Woonsocket but in New Hampshire since it is easier for the elderly to travel than for those with children.
Are you entertaining all your families to-morrow or do you travel to one or other of them? Wherever you will be, I hope it will be a happy and festive day; with best wishes to both Sallaine and you, David

③
2 DEC
2006

>From: Robert Upchurch <phil.upchurch@sbcglobal.net>
>To: david ransome <emosnard@hotmail.com>
>Subject: RE: Trial email No 2
>Date: Sat, 2 Dec 2006 11:15:59 -0800 (PST)
>
>David
>
> We have just finished UB Vol 27 Issue No 2. Shall we send
>your
>copy to your address in England or the U. S. ?
>
> Phil U

DAVID

RANSOME

PG 2

④
5 DEC
2006

From: "david ransome" <emosnard@hotmail.com>
To: phil.upchurch@sbcglobal.net
Subject: RE: Trial email No 2
Date: Tue, 05 Dec 2006 14:13:04 +0000

Why not send it to 1202 Brookhaven Lane, Woonsocket, RI 02895? I'll be there by the 12th and am planning to stay till 15 January. I'm sorry you had to phone Joyce to find me. I had taken a brief vacation in London to see the Velazquez and Holbein exhibitions, both very well worthwhile. Excuse the brevity of this; Felixstowe allows me only 30 minutes a session with no pre-booking of time.

Best wishes to you both, David

⑤
6 DEC
2006

Subject: Letter
From: phil@upchurchstory.com
Date: Wed, Dec 06, 2006 3:58 pm
To: emosnard@hotmail.com

David

Re your EMAIL 5DEC06. I have already sent the UB and a letter to you in England with a copy to you in RI. Tomorrow I will send a copy of the UB to RI so you will have a copy at both places. Somehow I could not be sure my EMAIL had gone through to you. From your response of 5DEC06 I can see that my message did go to you. My coach continues to be a big help and I gain confidence every day.

You will note that I am now using phil@upchurchstory.com as my main EMAIL address

Best Wishes
Phil

⑥
17 DEC
2006

Subject: UB27/2
From: "david ransome" <emosnard@hotmail.com>
Date: Sun, Dec 17, 2006 8:35 am
To: phil@upchurchstory.com

Dear Phil,

My time clock didn't catch up with my body as promptly as I could have wished after my arrival in Woonsocket on Tuesday evening. Hence I woke early on Wednesday morning and was able to read your gracious letter of 4 December while waiting for breakfast-time. Then on Thursday UB27/2 arrived, for both of which very many thanks.

You put me in a quandary by suggesting that I bill you for what gives me pleasure. The pleasure is the pleasure of the 'terrier dawg' we were encouraged to resemble by my first headmaster. He wanted us always to be inquisitive, and not merely passively accepting of what was put in front of us. And it is true that I do indeed investigate topics that I would not otherwise look out did you not ask and spend time on matters that I would not otherwise think to research. Would it seem a reasonable compromise to suggest a fee for the year of \$100, which would take care of my time, postage, and any incidental correspondence with other Upchurch descendants?

Indeed I just received an email from Mae Cox in Norman OK telling me that the xeroxes of the four Michael letters had just arrived which I brought with me from England.

My article for the Oxford Dictionary of National Biography has been accepted for posting on the ODNB website. I'm not sure when it will appear, but sometime in the New Year I'm told. And the arrangements for the on-line publication of the Virginia Company transcripts are, I think, concluded. (The college, rather than I, has the contract with the publisher; hence my slight degree of uncertainty.)

CONTINUED

DAVID

RANSOME PG 3

⑥ CONTINUED

Here we are in holiday mode. We collected our 7-year-old granddaughter Emma from New Hampshire on Friday so that she and Joyce could go to a performance in Providence yesterday of The Nutcracker ballet. We return her to-day and then speed home to attend a couple of celebrations at the homes of other members of Joyce's congregation. A lull of a day or two will enable us to finish our Christmas shopping, and then we head for New Hampshire again for several nights.

I am being summoned by Joyce and Emma who have just returned from a bird-watching walk, so I must finish. I trust that you will both have a merry Christmas wherever you celebrate the day, followed by a healthy, prosperous and peaceful New Year.

With best wishes to you both, from David

Subject: Appreciation

From: "david ransome" <emosnard@hotmail.com>

Date: Fri, Dec 29, 2006 8:36 am

To: phil@upchurchstory.com

Dear Phil,

Your letter and its enclosure arrived with a speed which would not have been equalled by the Royal Mail in England; many thanks for them both. They came on the day before we left for New Hampshire where we had a delightful and most unseasonably mild visit. Indeed it was only as we drew in to the driveway in Woonsocket that we saw even a suspicion of a snowflake. The littles had a wonderful time, and we saw almost nothing more of Emma after she had found the video of Mary Poppins among her presents. By now I fancy it may be all but worn out.

Your property transactions make my head whirl. I'm exhausted after the mere handful of lawyer visits necessary to transfer Aunt's house to our daughter Elizabeth, and having seen how nearly painless it was to settle Aunt's estate - her will was simplicity itself - I'm starting to think how to streamline mine so as to give my executors the least trouble.

As for the piece for the ODNB, I'm not sure either when it will come on line or whether it will be generally available. Indeed I'm not certain whether I will be given a print-out of its final form. The last I saw of it was when my ODNB editor proposed a change or two to the opening paragraph. It may be that the best I can do is to send you an all but final draft of what I wrote. The publicity for the on-line edition of the Virginia Company archive is in preparation, and once I hear that it is ready to go I'll let you know how to access it.

Here we have an all but windless day with as blue sky and no sign of frost. Joyce gathered from Bill our son-in-law a cold which emerged yesterday so I will be the one later in the day to meet Charles on Route 495 and bring him here so that he and Joyce can go to a performance of A Christmas Carol to-morrow. We return him on Sunday and return promptly here, but not in order to see the New Year in - we go to bed long before midnight, having faith that 2007 will arrive, whether or not we keep watch for it.

We trust however that it will be a happier year than 2006, for all of us, bringing continued health and a calmer world. Our best to you both,
David

⑦

29 DEC

2006

Subject: Update

From: phil@upchurchstory.com

Date: Wed, May 16, 2007 12:16 pm

To: "David R. Ransome" <emosnard@hotmail.com>

DAVID

RANSOME

PG 4

8

16 MAY
2007

Hi David--

So far my entry into the computer world has allowed me to get behind faster! Hence my excuse for taking so long to communicate with you. In addition other exciting things have appeared. My Spring and Fall trips to North Carolina are now devoted to collecting data for a history of Swift Creek Township in Wake County, NC which is where I was born and grew up. My trip there 22Apr-6May proved very productive. While there I was diverted in that a Cooperator discovered by Internet introduced me to two elderly people who were quite knowledgeable about Franklin County, NC. This is where my ancestor Richard U, II settled about 1755. He was a GGS of Michael U being a member of the fourth generation of the family in America and the progenitor of about half of all American Upchurches. The four of us made a trip to Franklin County. The trip was so productive that I made two more trips back to the area. I had researched this area in great detail in the 1970's but my new contacts gave me new insights. I'll have to do more homework to see what this all means. Perhaps I'll have an article in the next UB about this which UB I need to create next week as the first half of the year is fast disappearing.

I had hoped to send you an update before the NC trip but ran out of time and the note fell into a pile of 20 other deferred items. Now I am just getting all my stuff, past and present, together and in organized fashion. It is good to feel somewhat in "control" again.

Our two week January vacation in Florida went well so we have booked a place for The full month of January next. In doing so I said that I would have to have a Laptop Computer to keep me in touch with the World. Given some presentations planned for the NC trip I decided to get the device sooner rather than later. It went with me to NC but was not completely functional. My Coach comes in tomorrow and she will make it right. I have a new friend in NC who is a computer expert. He transferred my slides to his computer and all went well. He also took a full day trip with me to make an Upchurch presentation. He is an expert on 17th Century coins/medals and history and on DNA analysis and on Land Grant records.

I have signed up for a beginning computer course starting next month. I know enough that I figure I should be able to retain 80% of what is taught. I have just started to tiptoe into the various genealogy data bases that are available but find the pathways are sometimes difficult to follow. This should become easier with time. Perhaps you can sense from my comments that all of this computer stuff has "rocked" my world.

As we interact our daughter Deb and husband Bob and son and daughter are touring your part of the world. Their son Andrew spent the past semester studying in Italy and the family decided to come over to end the experience in grand fashion. They spent time in Italy and are now in London with plans to go on to Paris.

Sallaine and I continue in good health and trust that you and Joyce and the rest of your family are also the same.

Again, I close with expression of deep appreciation for all you have done for the Upchurch family lo these many years.
Phil Upchurch

Subject: Update

From: phil@upchurchstory.com

Date: Sun. Nov 11. 2007 5:56 am

To: emosnard@hotmail.com

9

11 NOV
2007

Hi David--

Thanks for the interesting report of your activities provided in your email of 9 Nov. Our lives continue to be punctuated by many aspects including ones of joy and sorrow. Just night we got the sad news that my favorite niece, Janet house, had passed away. About two months ago she was informed that cancer and other long-standing ailments left her only months to live. She had been in the hospital for a week and the end was expected. When I was in NC last month I acceded to her strong plea to come and spend the night which I did. Even then she was sedated and the visit only provided for a muted exchange. Sallaine and I and our three children will fly down for the services. Janet stayed with my parents for about three years when I was a teenager. We were more like brother and sister and she always called me "Uncle Bro". As we go for the last rites we will focus on the good times in her life.

Just yesterday I was able to complete an arrangement whereby my Computer Instructor, Marilyn, will come to our home periodically to guide us in our quest to continue to progress in our use of this fascinating technology. We do get lost from time to time. So far I have taken five short courses and will take more in 2008. We will be in Florida the month of January. I have purchased a laptop to take with me. Marilyn can make sure I am checked out to use it. She should also review the draft of my website which should be ready to examine in about 10 days. When it is up and running I'll let you know and perhaps you can offer advice about it's efficacy.

I am making good progress in writing my Memoirs "From City Shadows" and have about 100 out of about 1000 expected pages. The Project to collect materials to write a history of the Township in which I grew up in NC is progressing nicely. Internet resources along with Cemetery records, Census records, various published tracts, deeds, wills, and such make this a very doable project. The most interesting part is conducting interviews with older members of the Community. They tell me things about my own family I did not know.

Sallaine and I recall with much pleasure the time you spent with us in England and all you did to make our visit enjoyable and productive. We would like to return the favor. Is there any chance you and Joyce could pop out to see us for a few days in December? It would be a great bonus for our Holiday season.

Last week we took a three day trip to Branson, MO with a church group to see some shows. It was quite enjoyable. We took the opportunity to get to know the retired minister who was along. He is a jolly fellow and sort of a free spirit. We are thinking of asking him to preside over a ceremony to repeat our wedding vows when we celebrate our 60Th in 2008. The date is in August but we are thinking of holding the event at Thanksgiving 08 when it will be easier to gather the family from afar.

Writing the next UB is up next. As the first Honorary Upchurch you will be joined by two more to be enrolled in Vol 28 No. 2.

Til Next Time.

Phil Upchurch

Subject:

From: david ransome <emosnard@hotmail.com> DAVID

RANSOME PG 5

Date: Fri. Nov 09. 2007 12:46 pm

To: Phil UPchurch <phil@upchurchstory.com>

19
9 NOV
2007

Dear Phil.

I suspect, from the appearance of your letter, that by now you are considerably more expert than I at making a computer do what it should; congratulations, and many thanks for the message received a day or two ago when we returned from a very long weekend in Virginia. I'm afraid I don't have anything obviously relevant for the next Bulletin, 2007 having vanished with all too little new accomplished in the way of historical research.

I'm not sure when I last wrote, perhaps even before I was here in the early spring, when I came for Joyce's 75th. I got back to Felixstowe in late March, Joyce reached England in June and left again on 1 October, I following her here on the 23rd. We had a week with my college friends in Gascony in mid-September - warm at last! Though at least Suffolk escaped the floods that swamped the Severn valley and parts of Yorkshire - but other than that were hardly out of East Anglia all summer. For the most part we were yo-yo-ing between Felixstowe and Cambridge where I was finishing up the revisions for the issue on line of the Ferrar Papers. That is planned to take place at the end of this month. Joyce was meanwhile completing her biography of Nicholas Ferrar, and is hunting for a publisher.

Elizabeth arrived with the children in July and spent two brief periods with us between visits to friends in Cambridge and elsewhere before heading for France, where Bill joined her. After Paris, where they did the usual tourist things - Louvre, Eiffel Tower, Napoleon's tomb - they went on to stay in gites in southern France, first in the foothills of the Pyrenees (where they were a mile from the nearest bakery) and then in the Alpes Maritimes, atop what she described as a cupcake hill where the village was the frosting. There the local children at once appeared to carry off Charles and Emma, who consequently began to acquire some French. Thence to Italy: Rome - tourist sites - and Tuscany, where was Bill's conference. The children lived on museums and gelati, Emma sticking to chocolate and Charles trying every flavour available. In the museums he was fascinated by all the various torments of the saints, Emma meanwhile being intrigued by the sculptures.

We meanwhile were much more sedentary. We did go out to Little Gidding a couple of times, and were there for evensong on the evening before Joyce flew back to RI. After the service we went back to the parlour for a cup of tea and a sandwich and met a possible new Warden who was over from the USA to see if relocation from Seattle made sense. Obviously the Hodgsons want to retire, and my brief chat with their possible successor suggested that she and her husband would make a good team. I think I am right in remembering that they are grandparents: she would study, and he has the sort of occupation - I don't recall its exact nature - which could move to Gidding without disadvantage.

We have also heard in the past week or two from Trevor Cooper whom we had first met three or four years ago. We had spent a very interesting afternoon with him and Tony Baggs at Little Gidding trying to make architectural sense of the church. (Tony was the architectural adviser to the Victoria County Histories at the time that I was working on VCH Essex; Trevor is an ecclesiologist and had got in touch with us over the history of the Ferrars and Little Gidding church. Pure chance revealed that we had both been at the same Oxford college at different times; he is in business, and that had distracted him for the past couple of years, and he is now returning to his interest in Little Gidding. In the interval Tony Baggs has died, but fortunately Trevor is in touch with his literary executor, so we hope that it will be possible to see any notes that Tony made as the result of our visit. (I think I probably sent an informal account of that afternoon - which I can't yet amplify or correct.)

In the spring I had thought that I would be going up to London at some point and I had it in mind to return to the Family Records Centre and bring up to date the listing of all the Upchurch births, marriages, and deaths. But, as things turned out, the visit never occurred, and I fear that I won't get there this year at all. I go back to the UK on 27 November, and then return to RI on 11 December. Not ecologically kind, I know; but my need to buy health insurance when I am outside the European Union means that I have to abide by the insurers' terms, and my present policy allows me to be away from England for a maximum of only five weeks at a time. Next year I must see if I can find a different one.

While in Virginia, we were again most enjoyably at Colonial Williamsburg (where we heard a candlelight harpsichord concert in the Capitol). We also visited Yorktown for the first time, and took the ferry over to the south bank of the James. Smithfield (of the hams) was delightful, all the more so from our happenstance meeting, as we looked at the old houses built with peanut fortunes, with the former first woman mayor of the town. She invited us to see her yard, and since her husband was home, we also got a tour of the house (decorated outside like the Painted Ladies of San Francisco, and inside most elegantly added to by just about every owner since 1875). I concluded that I must start buying lottery tickets as the only way to be able to afford the likes of such desirable properties.

I'll look forward to seeing the next Bulletin whenever it's issued. I suggest that you send it here to 1202 Brookhaven Lane, Woonsocket RI 02895, as I shall be here almost non-stop till 15 January, and there's no point in paying international postage unnecessarily.

It goes without saying that we are both well, as we trust you both are. We are looking forward to Thanksgiving when E and her family will be with us (we go to them, we think, for the return match at Christmas), and we hope you will have as happy a holiday as we ourselves anticipate.

Best wishes to you both, David

Subject: RE: Update**From: david ransome <emosnard@hotmail.com>****Date: Sat, Dec 01, 2007 4:00 am****To: <phil@upchurchstory.com>**

(11)

1 DEC

2007

Dear (honorary) Cousin Phil,

I should have replied much more promptly but all of a sudden the last fortnight in Rhode Island became all too busy, climaxing in the arrival for three nights of Elizabeth and family over Thanksgiving. It all went off splendidly; the children were able to get in some skating, which used up their surplus animal spirits, and Joyce cooked the turkey perfectly as usual.

I flew back overnight this past Tuesday/Wednesday, have more or less caught up with my snail-mail (there was a drift of it on the hall mat), and can now think e-mail, at last thanking you for yours of 11 November. I am sorry to hear of your niece's death, all the sadder for being of a member of a younger generation and a former member of the household. I hope the funeral service was a comfort to you all, and that the travel was as little burdensome as could be. You are kind to suggest that Joyce and I should come out for a day or two in December; I fear however that it won't be possible. We are all too clogged with appointments; Joyce has medical check-ups - purely routine - arranged, and I have got myself in a tangle with the tax authorities of the US and UK and have to spend time with the accountant sorting out the mess. We are also playing host to Elizabeth and Emma for a night or two while they are in our neck of the woods for a swim-meet in which Emma is taking part.

Among the items waiting for me on my return was an invitation from Clare College, Cambridge for one or other of us in January to give an address in the chapel on Nicholas Ferrar, who was a fellow of the college until 1631. Joyce and I are trying to figure out how to do it. I'd prefer her that she give it, as she has a much more detailed (and more sympathetic) understanding of NF, but if she can't, I'm hoping that she will write it and I'll deliver it for her. There was also news awaiting me that the Ferrar Papers were due to go online this past week. I hope for Magdalene's sake that there is plenty of interest. And Joyce has just received encouragement for the draft of an article on the posthumous reputation of Nicholas Ferrar. It needs revision, in order to give it more context, but she was cheered to be offered such positive feedback.

I foresee that December will fill rapidly with this that and the other, so I'll start my Christmas messages with one to you both, hoping that you will have a merry Christmas with the family and a healthy and peaceful New Year, beginning warmly with your visit to Florida.

With best wishes to you both, David

Subject: December Events**From: phil@upchurchstory.com****Date: Sat. Dec 01, 2007 7:08 am****To: emosnard@hotmail.com**

(12)

1 DEC

2007

Hi David--

It was a pleasure to have a message earlier today from an Honorary Cousin. It seems there is no danger of either of us "rusting out" due to lack of activity. Fortunately, it does bring a lot of joy. We are sorry you and Joyce will not be able to join us this season. We hope to have that pleasure at some future date.

You two are to be congratulated for your continued activity in academic affairs. I always like to imagine that if I could have a better understanding of the Ferrar Family I could have a better understanding of Michael Upchurch. Anyway, I keep taking a peek at things English. Right now I am 40% through the book "Cromwell The Lord Protector" by Antonia Fraser. It was a bargain at \$4 on our local library surplus shelf. I find the politics of the time and place as contentious as it always seems to be.

The writing of the next UB issue is now proceeding apace and should soon be in the mail.

We have just arranged for our daughter Nelda to fly out from VA and be with us on 21-24 DEC especially so Sallaine and I could have a serious chat with our three children about some estate planning we have just put into place for their benefit and for our eight grandchildren. Having just settled your Aunts estate you will know how complex these matters can be.

With All Best Wishes to you and yours for a Merry Christmas and a great 2008.
Phil Upchurch

Subject: Thanks**From: phil@upchurchstory.com****Date: Thu. Dec 13, 2007 7:43 am****To: "David R. Ransome" <emosnard@hotmail.com>**

(13)

13 DEC

2007

Hi David---

The UB issue Vol 28 No 2 goes in the mail today. Thanks for your input. Quite a few responded to my trial use of emails to get inputs. I will probably use this again. One problem is that it seems I could get more material than I can use. This could make some unhappy.

My Website "UPCHURCH FAMILY" was born on 8 DEC 07. Please take a look at www.upchurchstory.com and send me a message using the contact form if you have time. It would be nice to know that it is working.

All Best Wishes to you and Joyce and all your family for a Merry Christmas!
Phil Upchurch

DAVID

RANSOME

PE 7

(14)
13 DEC
2007

Subject: RE: inar:
From: david ransome <emosnara@hotmail.com>
Date: Thu, Dec 13, 2007 2:21 pm
To: <phil@upchurchstory.com>

I'll look forward to the arrival of UB 28/ii in a day or two, though I suppose it may be delayed a little by the snow that has been falling steadily for the past three hours. Thank goodness I got here earlier in the week in milder weather. We were expecting our daughter Elizabeth to-morrow for a couple of nights so that Emma could take part in a swim-meet; I suspect, however, that this snowstorm will cause them to cancel.

I've had a look at the website and am most impressed, especially with the picture of Yates Mill. Are those various Upchurches who are peopling the scene?

Best wishes to you all for a merry Christmas; Joyce is currently in the kitchen making mince pies; the puddings are already in the fridge. David

(15)
13 DEC
2007

Subject: RE: inar:
From: phil@upchurchstory.com
Date: Thu, Dec 13, 2007 2:38 pm
To: david ransome <emosnard@hotmail.com>

Hi David--

Glad you liked the Website. The names of the people in the 1890 photo of Yates Mill are unknown. They could well be Upchurches. My Aunt Lena is known to have attended a wedding in the home of Phares Yates in 1891 when he would have been the owner of the Mill. My father was ten years old as of 1890. The Upchurch Plantation boundary was 1/2 mile north of the Mill. The restoration of the Mill and the establishment of an historic park there has been a spectacular development. I will wax ever eloquent as my history of Swift Creek township unfolds.

Regards

Phil Upchurch

(16)
3 NOV
2007

Subject: Next Upchurch Bulletin
From: phil@upchurchstory.com
Date: Sat, Nov 03, 2007 7:54 pm
To: "David R. Ransome" <emosnard@hotmail.com>

Hi David--

In about a week I must create UPCHURCH BULLETIN Volume 28 No. 2. If you have any snippet of family information such as births, marriages, deaths, comments, questions or whatever that I might consider including please send me an email or a letter. A number of individuals are being sent this request to see if the electronic world can be used to augment our joint efforts to tell the story of the descendants of Michael Upchurch in America. I hope to place any inputs in the "From The Clans" Section in the Bulletin. It may be necessary to augment, and/or edit inputs for clarity or due to space constraints.

It would be a pleasure to hear from you whether you have anything to include or not.

All Best Wishes!

Phil Upchurch

P.S.

David--

The above is what I am sending to some collaborators to see if this approach will be useful. Actually it is only one of several experimental things I am trying now that I have tip-toed into the computer world. I have taken several mini-courses that have given me some confidence. Still, I am very much a beginner. Life for myself and Sallaine continues to be very full and enjoyable and we trust the same is true for you and Joyce. I'll send you a copy of the UB soon to be prepared to fill you in some more. If you have any input it would be most welcome.

After a slow start on getting a web site underway it seems that it may be up by the end of December. The Upchurch Collection at N. C. State University is progressing nicely. The endowment to support it is now almost \$40,000. This is a good start but more is needed.

It is hard to think that one must plan to slow down. Still, I will be 80 in February and feel it is prudent to have some current projects wrapped up within the next five years. If conditions warrant one can always add on more years after that.

I miss the frequent contact you and I had for so many years and the satisfaction that came from our cooperative endeavors. For these and other reasons I very much look forward to hearing from you.

As Always With Appreciation!

Phil Upchurch

[Print](#) | [Close Window](#)

Subject: Thanks

From: david ransome <emosnard@hotmail.com>

Date: Mon, Dec 29, 2008 1:22 pm

To: Phil UPchurch <phil@upchurchstory.com>

Dear Phil,

What with the excitements of Christmas followed by the need to pack (I leave in an hour or two for the airport), I've failed, I now realise, to acknowledge the receipt both of the latest UB [what energy you have!] and your letter with the delightful picture of all the family. It sounds from your account as if you had a deservedly memorable celebration over Thanksgiving. Many thanks for including us vicariously in it.

In all likelihood I shall be back in New England in mid-February, since my annual health insurance doesn't expire till 25 March. We have no plans to travel, and will probably merely enjoy the coming of spring.

In the meantime, our best wishes to you and Sallaine,

David

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Email: phil@upchurchstory.com



20 DEC 2008

Dear David & Joyce,

I thank you for your Christmas email of 19 DEC which arrived as we are in the midst of sending our message to family and friends. We were delayed in doing so as we concentrated on getting UB Vol 29 No 2 completed. A copy should be in your hands by now.

Harsh weather such as you describe frequently seems to be just around the corner for us. Fortunately, it always seems to hit just north or south of us causing us to claim it fewer as a "garden spot". One day it will catch us unaware.

You, Joyce, Sallaine and I seem to lead charmed lives as the troubles we note for some of our friends and relatives seem to miss us. Then, too, we are blessed with very busy schedules even looking forward to 2009.

For my part I am developing an extended schedule of activities with a glide path that will have me reach age 85 on 9 FEB 2013 with a clean slate on projects I would regret to leave uncompleted. A high priority will be to finish my memoirs

As you know we deferred celebration of our 60th (21 AUG) and my 80th (9 FEB last) until Thanksgiving. As evidence of the grand celebration I enclose a copy of the family photo we had made at that time along with an identification sheet. Barry hosted Thanksgiving in his home. On Friday the prime event was the ceremony in our home to renew our vows. This was followed by dinner at a local restaurant and the opportunity for much speechmaking. Our eight grandchildren presented us with two large framed collections of their parents photos they had worked on since last spring.

The celebration of my 80th came the next day over lunch at another eatery where I took the opportunity to tell some memorable story about each of the grandchildren.

Among other not pictured in the photo are the minister & his wife, ballroom relatives, and "friends" of Andrew and Sandy who came for the event also. There is no definite information but our family thinks we could have 0, 1, or 2 marriages over the next two years.

We wish for you and yours an enjoyable and peaceful Christmas season and all good things for the year ahead

Fondly
Phil Church

[Print](#) | [Close Window](#)**Subject:** Yuletide Greetings**From:** david ransome <emosnard@hotmail.com>**Date:** Fri, Dec 19, 2008 10:50 am**To:** Phil UPchurch <phil@upchurchstory.com>

Dear Phil and Sallaine,

It is not only that we have mistimed our attention to the holiday, but we have now been caught by the weather. We are promised between eight and twelve inches of snow this afternoon and night, with a follow-up storm on Sunday. We therefore doubt very much that our intended card would reach you before the New Year. We have therefore decided to resort to the internet. If Joyce were responsible for the transmission you would no doubt hear from with suitably coloured embellishments. As I'm the one writing while she shops, you must accept in black and white our hopes that you will have a merry Christmas Day wherever you are, whether at home or with the children and grandchildren, and we hope too that 2009 will be more prosperous and peaceful than the year now ending.

I arrived just in time for Thanksgiving, with Elizabeth and the family driving down from New Hampshire. We also had the unexpected pleasure of their company last weekend. New Hampshire was hit by a severe ice storm which annihilated the power in much of the state. Emma had been coming to us in any case; the children like a weekend with Granny when they can have her all to themselves. She was therefore somewhat disgruntled to have to share her special time with all of them. They were however lucky in as much as they got power back in three days, unlike many in their neighbourhood who still lacked power on Wednesday.

We go to them for two or three nights over the holiday but can't stay longer as I fly back to the UK on the 29th. As my Health Insurance doesn't run out till the end of March I'll probably come over again before then. Meantime I'm looking forward to returning to a house in Felixstowe that I hope is now considerably warmer than it has previously been, since the workmen were busy there while I was home in November, improving the central heating and insulation and installing double glazing.

2008 has not been kind to us in looking after our relatives and friends, both here and in England. We continue well, as we hope both of you do. Others that we visited in the spring have not been so lucky: my former pupil with whom we stayed in Chicago has been in hospital ever since July and the prognosis for his ultimate recovery begins to seem poor; and the friend in Kansas City has just suffered a severe heart attack which has put him in hospital too. But let me end on a more positive note. Joyce and I are still happily researching away; she has just had two articles accepted for publication, and we have another Ferrar project in the works which will keep us busy in 2009, and we are sure that you too will be fruitfully employed.

With best wishes from us both to you all, David

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19 DEC 08

mailed David Rousseau 415 Vol 29 No 2 - with invoice
but no note

D. R. Ransome
1202 Brookhaven Ln
Woonsocket, RI 02895

REC'D
10 MAY 2008

Dear Sallaine and Phil,

Joyce and I reached home on Sunday, tired but happy; spent yesterday catching up with three weeks mail & drafting our proposals for papers for the Durham conference; and can now settle back and thank you for our delightful double-visit. We equally enjoyed meeting the family, seeing downtown St Louis, Cahokia, and the botanical gardens, and visiting your farms and properties. Thank you both so much for being such wonderful hosts.

In addition I'm grateful for the copy of Belle Lewter West's book and for the photocopy of the map from Kennisett's Guide to... Surrey. As an expression of our gratitude I have asked Amazon Books to send you, Phil, a copy of Robert Cole's World; it gives the single best picture of Michael Upchurch's world that I know of, even though it is set in neighbouring Maryland rather than Virginia.

We will be stationary, for a change, until the end of the week. A quick trip to see our daughter and family on Saturday will be followed by packing on Sunday and my flying on Monday. Then it's back to the books, writing the paper for Durham. Joyce meanwhile will be here in Woonsocket, writing hers.

I'll take time out, no doubt, from writing - as doubtless Joyce will too - to daydream about our recent holiday in the Mid-West which turned out so well. Thank you both so much for your part in it.

With best wishes to you both
from both of us,

David

G. V. 2008
[6 MAY 2008]

[Print](#) | [Close Window](#)**Subject:** Reply/Thanks**From:** phil@upchurchstory.com**Date:** Thu, Oct 30, 2008 7:49 pm**To:** "David R. Ransome" <emosnard@hotmail.com>

Hi David---

Thanks for the input on Little Gidding. A copy has been put in my options file for the next UB. It will be written after Thanksgiving.

Your travel report including the NC phase was most welcome. Sallaine's three sisters all went to UNCG. Also, my late sister Pat and her husband Bill Alspaugh for years had their home on the fringe of the Campus until it was taken into the UNCG Campus. Pat was a rather successful newspaper writer in the local newspaper. Bill was for years an on air personality for the Public Radio Station based at UNCG. He still lives in Greensboro and we always stop by for NC Barbecue and a chat when we travel that way. Nearby in Elon is Elon College a major repository for Quaker records. Your return well may have taken you through Brunswick County, VA which was an Upchurch stronghold about 1720-1780. A recent Heritage Book on the County failed to mention even one Upchurch.

My current reading has me laboring through a tome on the great influence the Jewish people had on the American scene from 1895-1945 through their efforts on psychology- Freud and his followers. The book has many interesting ideas but it would be helpful if they were not expressed in such a convoluted fashion.

I do have the book by Mae Cox and it is well done. However, she and I have a disagreement. After I declined her invitation to write a chapter for her she decided to make me invisible. I had given her a great deal of information and she appropriated much from the UB with some attribution but with little or no recognition of the huge amount of time and money I have spent on Upchurch history. Then she had the gall to chastise me for not giving a glowing report on her book in the UB. I consider this only a small bump in the road.

To mark our 60th on Aug 21 we took a several day trip to Iowa. Along the way we spent the night in Hannibal, MO in the Garst Mansion (BED and BREAKFAST) and slept in the bed once used by Samuel Clemens. Then we visited the Amana Colony in Iowa. There a Group practiced communal living from about 1850 to 1932. The 20,000 acres is still owned by the follow on Corporation. They accommodate tourists well and explain all the history. Sallaine had always wanted to go there. On the way back we visited Navoo, IL where the Mormons lived large in the 1840's until two Leaders were lynched and they moved on to Utah. Another great history stop.

Our earlier thoughts to bring the family together over Thanksgiving is bearing fruit. There will be two main events and several lesser ones. They start arriving on Wednesday and some stay until Monday. Our son Barry will have all to his home for Thanksgiving dinner. On Friday AM we gather at a Studio for a Family Photo. Then in the late afternoon we gather at our home to renew our vows. Sallaine protested but is every day planning new twists to make the days of celebration memorable. We have enjoyed getting to know the retired Minister at our Church and he and his wife will join in the festivities. After the ceremony I will have some serious comment's. Then we adjourn to a favorite Italian Restaurant where the celebration will continue. I hope to regale those present and to focus on Sallaine and our three children and their spouses recalling special memories. On Saturday noon we gather at The Wild Horse Grill for lunch and to celebrate my 80th. Here I hope to make comments about each of our eight grandchildren. We will have 25 in all including our children and their spouses and one grand son-in-law and another prospective GSIL and one prospective GDIL. All three of Sallaine's sisters will be present one of whom was in our wedding and one sister will have her husband. You can no doubt tell I am very excited about Thanksgiving this year.

Family history work is still going well and the Internet is proving a great asset.

I trust you will have a successful work project and that you will return for an enjoyable

Thanksgiving and Christmas. We think often of you and Joyce and of the most pleasant visit with which you honored us. We continue in good health and trust the same will prevail in your household through the Season and into the New Year and beyond

Phil Upchurch

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Subject: FW: Change at Little Gidding

From: david ransome <emosnard@hotmail.com>

Date: Wed, Oct 29, 2008 10:18 am

To: Joyce Ransome <joyce_ransome@brown.edu>, Phil UPchurch <phil@upchurchstory.com>

From: ferrarhouse1@btconnect.com
To: nigel.abbott@btinternet.com
Subject: Change at Little Gidding
Date: Wed, 29 Oct 2008 13:29:15 +0000

[COPY PLACED IN UB WORKING FILE
- NEXT ISSUE]

We are retiring and moving out on Monday, 3rd November. Our address will be:
9 Trent House, Station Road, Oundle, Peterborough, PE8 DE; tel: 01832 275 343; email:
hodgsons@phone-coop.coop.

As some of you will know, we had very much hoped that our successors would be Kris and Cheri Wilke from Seattle. They spent a lot of time, money and energy here at Little Gidding during the year, getting to know the place and the people. Sadly they were not granted a work permit which was a huge disappointment all round, particularly to them. But they hope to be over for the Eliot Festival next June 27th.

However the Directors have been fortunate in being able to appoint the Revd. Catherine Lack as the new Warden and she will take up her role next Tuesday, 4th November. She first came across Little Gidding whilst a student at Clare College, Cambridge, Nicholas Ferrar's college, and she is also an Eliot person. She is a musician, and will be bringing her grand piano with her, and has had a variety of posts, including ten years as Chaplain at Keele University and, most recently, Chaplain at Yarlswood Detention Centre. She is a very friendly, experienced and open person and we are confident that she will help lead Little Gidding forward to the next stage of its development.

We are in the midst of a variety of emotions, as you would expect, but much look forward to some rest and a new life in Oundle, which we like very much, and has a lot going on. Thank you so much for all your help, support and friendship; we hope you will keep in contact with us and with Little Gidding; we expect to have some degree of involvement with Little Gidding in the future, particularly, probably, via the Friends of Little Gidding and the Eliot Society.

Tony and Judith (Hodgson)

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[Print](#) | [Close Window](#)**Subject:** Little Gidding & NC**From:** david ransome <emosnard@hotmail.com>**Date:** Thu, Oct 30, 2008 10:31 am**To:** Phil UPchurch <phil@upchurchstory.com>

Dear Phil,

I had been meaning to write in any case, but our receiving yesterday the message from Ferrar House that I at once forwarded to you - on the principle that it was better for you to receive it twice than not at all - has pushed me to the computer.

I came over on the last of September so that I could drive with Joyce to the George Herbert conference in Greensboro NC. I was along strictly for the ride; she was giving a paper on Juan de Valdes, a translation of whose work by NF was a matter for consultation between GH and NF. Her piece was well received and may well be published in the conference's record. The campus of UNC at Greensboro was palatial; do you know it? Apparently UNCG was originally the women's college for the state system, but in the last twenty or so years has gone co-ed and had a great deal of state money spent on it - to good effect.

The conference itself, though comparatively small, was exceedingly friendly. There were a good number of participants over from England, and it turned out to provide two examples for me of the Small World syndrome: one participant had a sister living in a village near me in Suffolk, who sends her children to the school attended (a long time ago) by my mother's brothers; and another participant is a curator/docent at a stately home in the western parts of Richmond VA, next door to Parham Hall, transplanted brick by brick, stone by stone, and timber by timber from Suffolk, which hall was the home of three generations of my Keer ancestors, who were the tenant farmers.

The conference over, we drove back to Rhode Island in a less hasty fashion than we had driven down. We stopped to see friends in Williamsburg, Philadelphia, and NYC, and enjoyed the reds and golds of the autumn foliage as we came along the Connecticut Turnpike. Since then we have stayed close to home; Joyce is making suggested amendments to an article on NF's posthumous reputation, which has been accepted by *The Seventeenth Century*; I have been reading variously. I had had great hopes for a book I saw mentioned in the NY Review of Books: *Born Fighting* by Senator James Webb of VA. It purports to be the history of the Scots-Irish, but is in reality autobiographical myth, in which the Scots-Irish subsume all the strands that have gone to make the population of the USA, supported by some very dicey history written by a handful of none too recent historians. Such a pity, as I was hoping I would really learn about those responsible for the westward expansion in the 18th century.

Did you ever receive Mae Cox's latest work on the Upchurches? And was it satisfactory? I imagine that Joyce and I must have driven, if not through, then close to, the parts of NC that your ancestors inhabited as they moved south from Virginia. We turned off the main highways as we entered Virginia and came cross-country through peanut landscapes to take the Scotland-Jamestown ferry across the James on a lovely clear early evening. Unfortunately much of Virginia had had the same thought and we had to queue for an hour for our turn on the ferry. On the other hand it was there that we struck the first gasoline at under \$3 a gallon. (To-day I have just filled the car at \$2.39, a minor blessing at the cost of a major disaster.)

I'm off to Suffolk on Monday, and will spend the next three weeks welcoming the workmen who will, I hope, make the house considerably warmer. Double-glazing, interior insulation, and some improved central heating should do the trick. I'll then return here for Thanksgiving and Christmas, following our usual pattern: Thanksgiving in Woonsocket and Christmas in New Hampshire. Do you play host at Thanksgiving, or is it now the turn of the younger generation? Our greetings whenever you next see them to those that we met in the spring; we are still talking about our travels and how enjoyable they were.

Best wishes to you both; we trust you are keeping as well as we are.

David

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Subject: Hello From St Louis
From: phil@upchurchstory.com
Date: Thu, Jul 24, 2008 7:19 pm
To: emosnard@hotmail.com

Hi David---

I was pleased to learn from yours of earlier today that you and Joyce had successful presentations at Durham. It causes me to recall my salad days when I was heavily involved in professional meetings.

Your comments about the movement of people set me to thinking again about the migration of the descendants of Michael. They gradually worked their way south and west from Surry to Brunswick County on the border of North Carolina by 1750. I think there were a number of factors at work in this migration as well as others that came later. Certainly the increase in population at a given locality made land more expensive and more difficult to acquire. This was in part because it was now improved and therefore more expensive with more buyers than sellers. Then, too, the land became degraded from use. Better land cheaper was available further on. I have noted other factors at work. When the parents died some of the children often would move on. Sometimes one child would be treated unfairly. Sometimes selling an inheritance would provide a grub stake for a move. Then there must have been cases in which a person became persona non grata causing them to move on. Whatever the reason for a move I have noted that there were streams of movement. Kin, friends, and neighbors tended to end up at the same place.

Your comments also cause me to think about how I will treat some issues in my memoirs From City Shadows. For example, I grew up in close proximity to Colored people and can share real life view of that particular world. Also, I have been thinking about the social structure of the community. Recently, I probed Sallaine about her view of this subject in her community.

The projects at Little Gidding sound exciting and I look forward to hearing the results.

Here at home I am enjoying catching up on accumulated matters. I have about 12 piles to conquer.

The summer has been kind to us. Today, in fact, was cool. More important we have continued to have rain which augers well for our crops.

Our big project in the weeks ahead will be planning for a major gathering of our family over Thanksgiving to celebrate our 60th and my 80th. We will have several venues including possibly a renewal of vows in two versions-one serious and one with humour. I am preparing mentally to do some stand up.

Sallaine and I send our best wishes to you and Joyce and trust that your return to the Colonies will be uneventful and that your trip to Greensboro will be a great success.

Phil Upchurch

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Subject:

From: david ransome <emosnard@hotmail.com>

Date: Thu, Jul 24, 2008 4:33 am

To: Phil UPchurch <phil@upchurchstory.com>

Dear Phil,

We are back in Cambridge after our venture North. The Durham conference was, as always, most enjoyable, not least because the college has a new chef and the food was consequently greatly improved. It has been five years since the last conference, and a very great number of the Old Gang turned up. It was well attended, with enough new blood to make it even more interesting than usual. Both Joyce and I gave papers that were received with decorous applause, she on Little Gidding and I on the finances of the Virginia Company. This last, I reckon, owed a great deal to the collections organized by the Anglican bishoprics and the purchase by upwards of half a million people of lottery tickets - a remarkable figure, given that the population of England is unlikely to have exceeded six million at that time. I reckon that between them those two sources provided at least half of the company's funds, and the ending of the lottery signalled the beginning of the end for the company.

Then on to friends in Scotland, with whom we spent a day in Edinburgh, visiting two exhibitions. The first at the Scottish National Gallery featured photographs commissioned by Vanity Fair in its two incarnations. Myself I preferred the earlier sequence before WWII in black and white to those taken since the 1980s. That was interesting, but the exhibition that had just opened at the National Gallery was even better: a survey of Scottish reactions to the French Impressionists, Neo-Impressionists and Post-Impressionists in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Scottish money was buying the French promptly, and Scottish artists were soon learning from the French. In several cases I thought they had improved upon their instructors. If we were nearer to Edinburgh I could happily go back for other visits.

Back in Cambridge I have just been re-reading *Myne Owne Ground* by T.H.Breen and Stephen Innes [Oxford UP, 1980]. It is subtitled 'Race and Freedom on Virginia's Eastern Shore, 1640-1676', and centres on the prosperous free black community. It finds that race was not an issue in that period; what mattered was the amount of property a family owned. It ends with the thought that the free blacks were

"a type of New World peasantry... Similar groups appeared in other plantation societies throughout the Americas and, like the free blacks of the Eastern Shore, many were eventually deprived of their independence. The success of these independent cultivators was in part a source of their undoing... they possessed no technological advantage, no special skill or trade that set them apart from other persons living on the Eastern Shore. This obvious point helps to explain the disappearance of the free black peasantry in this region and, for that matter, of a free white peasantry. The small planters did not establish a distinct niche in the society ... that might have insulated them from far-reaching social change.

"As in several Caribbean societies, the expanding plantation system in Virginia gradually undermined the position of the free planters. Many causes ... contributed to their slow destruction. The great planters achieved greater efficiency as time passed, and as tobacco prices fell over the century, they increased productivity. They secured better, more reliable relations with large English merchant houses. And most important, the local gentry acquired a steady supply of black slaves. To compete against the great planters became increasingly difficult. These powerful people monopolized large tracts of land, forcing marginal cultivators and landless freemen to leave the colony if they wanted to establish independent farms or to obtain fertile acreage to replace worn-out ground. By the 1670s... [t]he doors to economic opportunity were either shut or fast closing... [the marginal cultivators and the landless freemen] lost the possibility to acquire property, the basis of genuine freedom in this society." [pp.113-14]

I have included this lengthy extract because I'm wondering if it provides the explanation for your ancestors' removal to North Carolina. I don't recall the date at which it is reckoned they moved, but I seem to remember that it was in the first half of the 18th century - which would suggest that they were not among the most marginal or the most landless members of Virginia's farming communities.

We go to Little Gidding this weekend. On Saturday the experts are hoping to establish the date of the church's interior woodwork, incidentally comparing it with the woodwork at Leighton Bromswold, where the church was renovated for George Herbert under the supervision of the Ferrars and Arthur Wodenoth. Then on Sunday comes the resistivity explorations for the foundations of the Ferrars' manor house and the mediaeval church. It will take a while to assess the results of that investigation but I would hope to know the outcome before the end of the summer and will let you know the findings once I have them.

For the next month or two we reckon to be stationary - with just the faint possibility of a trip to Kent to see various cousins. Then at the end of September we switch to the New World and will make our way to Greensboro NC for the Herbert conference. We look forward to seeing various friends on the way there and back, and are hoping that the journey will be as enjoyable as our spring visit to the Midwest.

Best wishes to you both, meanwhile; we trust that the summer heat is not too aggressive.

David



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Subject: RE: UB Vol 29 No 1
From: david ransome <emosnard@hotmail.com>
Date: Fri, Jul 04, 2008 3:29 am
To: <phil@upchurchstory.com>

I look forward to the arrival of UB 29/1,; normally mail from the USA takes five days - and longer as the holidays approach - so I'll expect it in a day or two. I am glad you found Robert Cole's World useful; I'm putting a printout of your message with my copy of the book, so that your comments about the tobacco plant gum will now be a learned footnote. And as the library noticeboard here states, "If you liked [that book], you might like [this]" : Darrett B. Rutman and Anita H. Rutman, professors at the U of Florida, in 1984 wrote A Place in Time : Middlesex County, Virginia 1650-1750; it too gives a picture of Virginia, but of the region slightly to the north of the James river valley. He has also done work on the early Virginia militia, as well as on Winthrop's Boston.

Joyce has been good and has her paper all ready to go. I have been malingering. I'm still sorting out my ideas and must get them down on paper in the next few days, as we are off to Cambridge on Thursday. I'm hoping to catch up with another colonial historian of early Virginia. She is normally in Princeton, but has a draft of a paper on the Virginia lotteries which she'd like my opinion on. Then it's on to Durham, and so to friends south of Perth and in Ilkley - both of them displaced Suffolks with whom I grew up. Back at Cambridge we are hoping to be present at Little Gidding when they undertake resistivity investigations to locate the Ferrars' manor house and the medieval church that Nicholas Ferrar would have known. We had hoped to have the task completed by now but it turned out that because the late spring was so wet the grass had not been cut and the farmer wasn't willing to have his hay crop put at risk.

Our visit to Alsace and Lorraine in the car has been put on hold because of the continual increase in gasoline prices. At the moment in Suffolk the price of an American-sized gallon has reached the equivalent of \$8.80. I am consequently learning to use my Old Age Pensioner's free bus pass much more often. After all, being retired I can afford the very much greater time it takes to go anywhere. We gather from RI friends and Elizabeth in NH (who cancelled her intention of bringing the family to Europe this summer because of the increase in airfares) that you in the States are not free of gas hikes. Even so we are continuing with our plans to drive to NC in October, as we plan to stop on the way down to see friends in NYC, Philadelphia, and Williamsburg.

And to end on a positive note, we are at last experiencing a gentle summer: not too much wind, a warm sun, and infrequent showers, giving us temperatures between 75 and 80 degrees, just as I like it since I burn all too easily.

We remember our visit to you fondly and describe it frequently to friends. Our good wishes to all the family, and especially to you and Sallaine - to whom I am particularly grateful for making me aware of Stouffer's Whales. I still have one box left, and am rationing myself, so that their absence till I return to the US won't be too prolonged.

Affectionately, David

From: phil@upchurchstory.com
To: emosnard@hotmail.com
Subject: UB Vol 29 No 1
Date: Tue, 1 Jul 2008 14:06:26 -0700

Hi David---

Yesterday we put the latest issue of the UB in the mail. Included was a copy mailed to you in England as a gift in appreciation for all your help. One article is about the lovely visit we had from the Ransomes. I tried to embrace all of the suggestions you and Joyce made for which thanks again.

I also want to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the book "Robert Cole's World". I have read it with much interest for more than one reason. It does give one a sense of how things were during Michael's time. Also, it gives me some ideas on how I might approach writing my book on Swift Creek Township. The authors seem to have missed one minor point about growing tobacco. As one handles the green leaves a gum becomes attached to your body and especially to the hairs on your arms. This is especially uncomfortable in the hot, humid summer days. On the other hand the description of the horn worms was graphic and correct. I worked for my Uncle Frank in his tobacco crop one year as a teenager so have special knowledge.

I trust that you and Joyce now have your papers for the meeting in Durham in good order.

You may recall that Cousin Peggy Harris was on the trip we made to England and for which you served as an excellent tour guide. She now has a book about her family ready to issue. She recently sent me a few sections to

2

review. She is keeping some of it to be a surprise for me. Her GGF and my GF were brothers and business partners.
And now to process things put aside while I wrote the UB issue.
With fond memories of the visit we had from you and Joyce.
Phil Upchurch

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Subject: UB
From: david ransome <emosnard@hotmail.com>
Date: Sat, Jul 05, 2008 3:29 am
To: Phil UPchurch <phil@upchurchstory.com>

The UB has landed - so I was right in guessing how long it would take to appear. Many thanks for it; I shall read it later to-day with interest, while admiring your energy. Greetings to you both, David

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Subject: UB Vol 29 No 1

From: phil@upchurchstory.com

Date: Tue, Jul 01, 2008 4:06 pm

To: "David R. Ransome" <emosnard@hotmail.com>

Hi David----

Yesterday we put the latest issue of the UB in the mail. Included was a copy mailed to you in England as a gift in appreciation for all your help. One article is about the lovely visit we had from the Ransomes. I tried to embrace all of the suggestions you and Joyce made for which thanks again.

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With fond memories of the visit we had from you and Joyce.

Phil Upchurch

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①

DATA TO RPA
FROM DAVID
RANSOME
25 APR 2008

From: david ransome <emosnard@hotmail.com>
Subject: GRO deaths 2004-05
Date: 19 March 2008 05:27:10 GMT-04:00
To: Joyce Ransome <joyce_ransome@brown.edu>

2004 Deaths

Month registered	Name	Date of birth	District	District Register	Register Number	Entry
02	Bessie Lilian	10 - 5 - 1915	Bedford	3091F	F4D	297
01	Cyril Ernest	5 - 2 - 1913	Huntingdon	3331A	G14A	030
05	William	13 - 3 - 1920	Huntingdon	3331A	G14A	051

Bessie Lilian was the wife of Gerald C Upchurch; married 1940/3
Cyril Ernest married Florence K. Markillie 1934/4
William perhaps married Rose E. L. Reeve in 1938/2

2005 Deaths

07	Doris Eleanor	1 - 4 - 1914	Leicestershire	605/1	E3E	209
05	Emily May	6 - 2 - 1923	Peterborough	335/1	E2G	66
06	Gary David	27 - 12 - 1951	Derby	394/1	A60C	160
12	Gladys Aline B	12 - 7 - 1915	Honiton	410/1	21A	55
03	Ivy Grace	16 - 11 - 1917	Huntingdon	333/1	G16A	54
11	Jean	5 - 12 - 1933	Huntingdon	333/1	G2D	217
09	Kathleen Emily	23 - 7 - 1945	Mid-Warwickshire	775/1	1A	272
11	Mary Ellen	29 - 4 - 1928	Oxfordshire	695/1	H03D	37
01	Nellie Jean	23 - 3 - 1930	Derby	394/1	B54C	57
10	Phyllis	6 - 6 - 1923	Mansfield	687/1	D23D	139
08	Valerie	1 - 10 - 1936	Derby	394/1	A61C	40

Who's friends with who and co-starred in what?
<http://www.searchgamesbox.com/celebrityseparation.shtml>

NATIONAL ARCHIVES ^{AT NEW} (Formerly Public Records office)
GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE
(1837 -> VITAL RECORDS)

From: david ransome <emosnard@hotmail.com>
Subject: GRO Deaths 2006-07
Date: 19 March 2008 05:43:32 GMT-04:00
To: Joyce Ransome <joyce_ransome@brown.edu>

2006 Deaths

Month registered	Name	Date of birth	District	Register Number	Register Number	Entry
12	Eric	13 - 6 - 1913	Honiton	410/1	23A	219
01	Ernest George	2 - 5 - 1915	Huntingdon	333/1	G 8C	14
10	Jacqueline Ann	16 - 4 - 1938	Mid-Warwickshire	775?1	2E	238
09	Martha Mary	12 - 11 - 1915	Peterborough	335/1	D10G	19
11	Sheila June M	24 - 4 - 1924	-Unknown-	488/1	J 1D	182
05	William Aubrey	1 - 11 - 1918	Leicester	600/1	A18D	142

DRR queried the 'unknown' district, but the attendant could neither solve the mystery nor explain.

2007 Deaths

11	Evelyn Gladys	11 - 10 - 1917	Hitchin	534/1	1C002	163
09	Gerald Collyer	15 - 7 - 1909	Leicester	600/1	1J001	233
06	Ivan Terence	7 - 9 - 1929	Southampton	500/1	1F001	22
	[also identically entered as Terry]					
12	Julie Marie	8 - 7 - 1971	-Unknown-	339/1	1C005	86
09	Margaret Celeste	28 - 12 - 1921	Oxfordshire	695/1	1Q001	94

Who's friends with who and co-starred in what?
<http://www.searchgamesbox.com/celebrityseparation.shtml>

From: david ransome <emosnard@hotmail.com>
 Subject: **GRO births 2004-05**
 Date: 16 March 2008 06:26:24 GMT-04:00
 To: Joyce Ransome <joyce_ransome@brown.edu>

 Date: 16 March 2008 06:26:24 GMT-04:00
 To: Joyce Ransome <joyce_ransome@brown.edu>

2004

Month	UPCHURCH	Mother's maiden name	District District	Register Number	Register	Entry
01	Alfie Charlie	Beardmore	Derby	394/1A	A74C	138
01	Ashley Ethan	Bevan	Colchester	469/1C	C89C	262
01	Brandon-Lee	Upchurch	Gt Yarmouth	636/1B	B107B	149
01	Cain Ezra	Bevan	Colchester	469/1C	C89C	261
05	Charles Peter	Kenyon	Truro	370/1B	B36E	121
12	Evie Marie	Milward	Huntingdon	333/1C	G13C	62
06	Maximus Alexander	Ingman	Derby	394/1D	D63C	126

2005

01	Charlie Ryan	Upchurch	Derby	394/1F	F19C	189
03	Evie Jessica	Harding	Rhondda	864/1A	14A	098
01	James Henry	Pearce	E Surrey	755/1F	ESF15	205
08	Joliemay Phyllis L	Upchurch	Nottingham	689/1E	E151A	200
04	Kai Danny	Upchurch	Derby	394/1F	F20C	042
01	Lauren Grace	Mullen	Hitchin & Stevenage	534/1C	28C	260
09	Louie	Williams	Colchester	469/1B	B97C	165
07	Max	Foster	Hitchin & S	534/1C	30C	159
12	Noah Ian	Upchurch	Derby	394/1B	B70C	119
	UPCHURCH-STONE					
02	Oliver George	Upchurch	Derby	394/1E	E69C	013
10	Samuel Gordon	Campbell	Derby	394/1	F21C	124

Get Hotmail on your mobile, text MSN to 63463!
<http://mobile.uk.msn.com/pc/mail.aspx>

From: david ransome <emosnard@hotmail.com>
Subject: GRO Births 2006-07
Date: 16 March 2008 06:55:12 GMT-04:00
To: Joyce Ransome <joyce_ransome@brown.edu>

2006

Month	UPCHURCH	Mother's maiden name	District District	Register Number	Register	Entry
05	Angel Teresa	Machinjike	Brighton	452/1A	A20B	086
02	Ashleigh Poppy	Beardmore	Derby	394/1A	A79C	039
03	Brandon Dominic	Upchurch	Derby	394/1F	F22C	204
10	Brooke Rose	Mullen	Hitchin & S	534/1VC	34C	049
07	Evie Marie	Milward	Huntingdon	333/1B	G21B	292 *
06	Isabelle Grace	Phillips	Portsmouth	497/1E	E135A	020
08	Nathan Paul J L	Upchurch	Derby	394/1F	F23C	288
12	Richard Patrick	Kenyon	Truro	370/1A	A41E	010
07	Sam Gray C	Milward	Huntingdon	333/1B	G21B	293

2007

01	Chloe Laura	Kemp	Cambridge	331/1D	D107C	23
03	David Mark	Beardmore	Derby	394/1E	E74C	27
11	Emily Louise	Upchurch	Mansfield	687/1C	1C003	13
	UPCHURCH COWLEY					
04	Harley Michael	Upchurch	Winchester	502/1A	1A001	71
08	Isabella Ellen G	Bartlett	Portsmouth	497/1E	1E002	221
02	Jake Curtis	Upchurch	Derby	394/1B	B73C	295
07	James Jeffrey	Campbell	Derby	394/1B	1B001	175
07	Joseph Jack	Campbell	Derby	394/1B	1B001	174
06	Jacinda Ann B	Upchurch	Huntingdon	333/1C	1C001	237
	UPCHURCH-BENT					
05	Kurtis Jacob	Upchurch	Peterborough	335/1A	1A001	87
08	Lennon	Foster	Hitchin	534/1C	1C002	163
09	Leon Michael J	Upchurch	Yeovil	726/1A	1A002	21
09	Tyler James	Upchurch	Derby	394/1B	1B002	129

*This is the second appearance of Evie Marie. There is no preceding death of her older sister of the same name; this Evie Marie has a twin brother below, Sam Gray C. I can't account for the oddity, nor could the attendant at the GRO when I drew his attention to it.

I had also been warned that the on-line version of the births were faulty, as 2004 had simply been repeated for 2005 and 2006. I therefore had to see those years on fiches; 2005, it turned out, included two names repeated from 2004. 2007 at present exists only on fiche. You have been warned!

Share what Santa brought you
<https://www.mycooluncool.com>

From: david ransome <emosnard@hotmail.com>
 Subject: **GRO marriages 2006; GRO deaths 2002-03**
 Date: 18 March 2008 10:49:32 GMT-04:00
 To: Joyce Ransome <joyce_ransome@brown.edu>

2006

Month	UPCHURCH	Spouse	District Number	District Number	Register Number	Entry
08	Debbie J	Wayne A. I, Arnold	Haverfordwest	819	1244	76
09	Lindsay A	Paul A. Bass	Sutton	254	31	32
04	Paul	Samantha Walters	Cambridge	331	710	5
05	Peter S. A.	Louise Goodridge	Sutton	254	13	5
12	Wendy A.	Mark R. Dolby	Belper	392	614	188

2002 & 2003 [courtesy of Malcolm Clydesdale] UPCHURCH deaths -

2002

Month registered	Name	Date of birth	District	District Number	Register Number	Entry
07	Betty Joan	27 - 4 - 1928	Cambridge	3311C	C47C	279
09	David George	9 - 10 - 1956	Kettering	6691A	A65D	047
04	Florence Kate	11 - 2 - 1916	Fenland	3381A	E 5A	107
04	Henry Edward	28 - 12 - 1928	Lambeth	2411A	A57	135
10	Jesse Joseph A	26 - 9 - 1922	Fenland	3381B	E 5B	108
11	Joan Mary	30 - 10 - 1924	Sudbury	7521	21F	160
11	Phyllis	17 - 1 - 1916	N. Surrey	7571C	NSC 20	051
10	Sidney	24 - 5 - 1911	Havering	2341D	HD 26	055

2003

02	Doreen May	25 - 11 - 1929	Derby	394//1	C43C	94
10	Douglas Alfred	5 - 5 - 1925	Hitchin & S	534//1	17C	286
01	Raymond Charles	12 - 8 - 1951	Huntingdon	333//1	G11A	296
09	Rose Amelia	30 - 3 - 1921	Hitchin & S	534//1	18A	65
07	William Basil	19 - 5 - 1913	Rhondda	864//1	4A	140

Telly addicts unite!
<http://www.searchgamesbox.com/tvtown.shtml>

From: david ransome <emosnard@hotmail.com>
 Subject: **GRO marriages**
 Date: 18 March 2008 10:20:54 GMT-04:00
 To: Joyce Ransome <joyce_ransome@brown.edu>

2003 [courtesy of Malcolm Clydesdale; no month, and no references given]

UPCHURCH	Spouse	District
Alan Peter	Lilian W. Mugweru Radeka	Reading
Claire	David W. Garnham	Huntingdonshire
Elishea H	David J. Beswick	Derby
Richard Scott	Helene V Mullen	Hitchin & Stevenage
Ross M	Michelle A Foster	Hitchin & S
Sharon L	Nicholas I Cowley	Mansfield

2004 [courtesy of Malcolm Clydesdale]

Deborah A	Andrew K. Bennett	Huntingdon
Donna Maria	Paul R. Vale	S. Somerset
Emma Jane	Paul R. Bray	Bakewell
Francis C	Kenyon	Penzance
Jayne P.	Stephen J. Gatter	E Devon
Louise Anne	Antony Brito	Lincolnshire
Lydia Kathleen	Harris	Leicestershire
Mark Anthony	Jones	N. Devon
Michael D.	Sara H. Workman	S. Warwickshire
Morgan Colin	Leanne L. Gillespie	Wrekin

[DRR reckons : Francis C. Upchurch [b.1950/4] was first m. to Barbara Bradshaw in 1978/3;
 Michael S. Upchurch had married Jayne P. Mathen in July 1997
 Morgan Colin Upchurch had married Charlotte Matthews in Sept. 1997.]

2005

Month	UPCHURCH	Spouse	District	District Number	Register Number	Entry
12	Alison	Tony Chapman	Kent	564	723	183
04	Elizabeth R	John D. Perriman	Huntingdon	333	61	91
10	Emma L	Steven N. Price	Leicestershire	605	442	180
05	Gary C	Marie Brown	Huntingdon	333	125	191
06	Jodie L	Gavin J. Manns	Braintree	465	596	48
10	Johnathan	Mandy L. Upchurch	Fenland	338	219	61
10	Mandy L.	Johnathan Upchurch-Bent	Fenland	338	219	61
04	Lynn T.	Michael P. Upchurch	Fenland	338	364	248
04	Michael P	Lynn T. Upchurch	Fenland	338	364	248
08	Natasha H.	Adrian L. Halsey	Belper	392	1498	42
09	Stuart C.	Louise Campbell	Derby	394	1992	122

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<http://www.searchgamesbox.com>

RANSOME VISIT TO ST. LOUIS, MO

(1)

25-28 APR & 30 APR & 1 MAY 2008

1) 25 APR 2008 FRI

The Ransomes had been invited over the year to visit the Uychurches in St Louis. This would allow us to in some way repay David Ransome for his years of service in documenting the Uychurches of England and also for his kindness in hosting us when we visited England. David and his wife Dr Joyce Ransome arrived about 3:00 PM on Friday April 25, 2008 & begin the visit. We spent some time just in exploring just what they would like to see. I explained numerous options. We had a roast beef dinner at home.

2) 26 APR 2008 SAT

We visited the Arch. SSA & Joyce went up while David and I looked around. We had lunch at the Ryatt Hotel and a brief tour of the Basilica and the Old Court House. Then we had a good visit to Mark's Mounds where David brought a book. Upon returning to Chestnut Hill we had a guided look at Long Road 173 and Deepford followed by dinner at home.

3) 27 APR 2008 SUN

We had a grand tour of Shinn Garden and lunch there - as guests of the Ransomes. Then we had a stop at the Historical Museum in Forest Park where we inspect the World Fair exhibit and the Ludberg exhibit. Then we drove by our Cemetery and by Parkway VCC Cemetery. Had dinner at home - pot pie and left over roast beef.

4) 28 APR 2008 MON

After breakfast the Ransomes left for Kansas City - we went west and showed them the farms.

5) 30 APR 2008 - WED

The Ransomes returned from Kansas City about 4:00 PM. I had prepared an article about their visit for the next UB which they reviewed and offered some good changes see attached copy. Deb, Rob & Jenny came at 5:30 PM for drinks and Sallaine had her usual beautiful feast - this time featuring beef tips over rice. The discussions were stimulating. The 17th left about 8:30 PM and our discussion continued to about 10:30 PM

6) 1 MAY 2008 - THUR

After breakfast the Ransomes left about 9:30 AM for Chicago and on to Rhode Island. They are anxious to get home to prepare for talks they both plan to give at Durham England re the 17th century

RPU comments in retrospect:

1. The Ransomes enjoy red wine - I had an abundant supply of Cabernet Sauvignon of which they took generously.
2. See attached email I sent to Trues re the VA map which David and I discussed in some detail.
3. David says he made on the Ferras paper Mac been completed
4. Joyce is writing a biography of Nicholas Ferras.
5. David will go with Joyce to Greensboro, NC on the present a paper.
6. David explained the Ransome history. In the early 1800's his GGF Ransome was in the feandry business leading to the production of plams. The feandry was named to Ipswich where the family continued to be involved into the

- mid 1900's. David's father was in Uruguay in 1922 at which time his widowed mother would send 5 pound notes. David went to Oxford when he was 21. The family wealth was then diminished by some assets have come down to the family today.
7. Joyce is definitely against Ruth but she and I had a good polite discussion.
 8. I gave David a copy of West Book "Upshur's Family"
 9. Re disposition of Ransome's Upshur's Papers - David is still open as to where they should go - see attached sheet
 10. We had a good chat about Thomas Paine - He is not much respected in England
 11. David gave me copies of Upshur's Vital Records - He has more to send me
 12. David has not encountered anyone in England who will pursue Upshur's history - Malcolm Lydenburg had done his own line but is not inclined to be interactive

Print | Close Window

Subject: Map

From: phil@upchurchstory.com

Date: Thu, May 01, 2008 10:14 am

To: Truex Upchurch <Truexup@att.net>

Cc: "David R. Ransome" <emosnard@hotmail.com>

CROSSFILED: BIOFILES OF:

TRUEX NEWMAN 4

RANSOME/ENGLAND FILE ↑

AS OF 1 JUL 2008 NO RESPONSE

Hi Truex---

Professor David Ransome and his wife, Dr. Joyce Ransome, have just departed our home after being our guests for several days. We were pressed to cover all on our list but did include many chats on Upchurch history. In one brief interlude I showed him a copy of a VA map you had sent to me on 13 MAY 1994 and made a copy for him. This is the map generated by James D Kornwolf dated 1975. It records lands in Surry Co., VA 1614-1666. The map also appeared in his book "Guide to the Buildings of Surry and the American Revolution" Although David and Joyce are both quite familiar with early VA records this particular document had escaped their attention. I have never done anything with the map. However, I had always thought that a study of the names might somehow tell us something about the first generation or two of the Upchurch family in America. Perhaps it is not too late to carry out this study. The Ransomes may also have some interest. A key question is whether or not we might get permission to reprint the map. David hopes to see if the map details are consistent with other details he has.

I send you this message not to disquiet your retirement years but to let you know that your careful attention to our shared heritage for so many years continues to bear fruit. It is also nice to recall the pleasant days we spent together. If it so happens that you have any thoughts about the above matters they would be welcomed.

Trusting that this finds you and yours in good health, I remain, Your Cousin--

Phil Upchurch

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X. ENGLAND (ENGLANDIA)

A. THE RANSOMES VISIT ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI.

Given that Professor David Ransome has been so generous with his time in helping the Upchurch Family to understand its roots in England your Editor and wife, Sallaine, long ago extended an invitation for the Professor and his wife, Dr. Joyce Ransome, to visit the Upchurches in St. Louis. This opportunity unfolded in April 2008 as the Ransomes drove from Rhode Island to Kansas City, Missouri and back to visit a number of friends and relatives. They were with us for four nights and for the full days of April 26 and 27. During this time we were able to show them some of the local sites in which they had a special interest. They were also introduced to our son, Barry Upchurch, and our daughter, Debra Heck, and their families.

During the visit we were energetically engaged in discussing a wide variety of subjects, sometimes as a foursome and sometimes with Joyce, David, Sallaine and Phil paring off in different ways to discuss topics of special interest. Of interest to be reported here are some musings about the life and times of our ancestor, Michael Upchurch I. Readers of the Upchurch Bulletin will already know of Professor Ransom's extensive knowledge of the Upchurches of England and of all things British, including the New World. We now introduce the reader to the interests of Dr. Joyce Ransome who holds a Ph.D. degree in History from The University of California at Berkley. She has a keen interest in American Colonial History but over the years has specialized in elucidating the religious nature of the Ferrar ^{household} Retreat established at Little Gidding in the 1620s. Given these circumstances, one can visualize the virtual conversational feast that took place during the now historic Ransome visit to St. Louis.

R

✓

household

✓

We mused about the fact that the community of Brington, England where Michael Upchurch I is believed to have lived from about 1624 to 1638 is quite near the towns of Huntingdon, Godmanchester, and Brampton. It is known that during the early 1600s the famous English ^{families of} ~~citizens~~ Oliver Cromwell and Samuel Pepys and ~~their families~~ lived in these nearby towns. Since so much has been written about these famous families, one wonders if something can be learned about the economic, cultural or social circumstances which Michael and his family encountered. The answer seems to be "yes" and "no". The interested researcher will certainly learn much about conditions in Huntingdonshire in the 1600s by reading about the personalities involved. However, one must ^{remember} carefully consider that the Cromwells and their ilk were of the ~~Gentry Class~~ ^{belonged to landowning} while the nuclear Upchurch family to which we refer were of the ~~Husbandry Class~~ ^{husbandmen}, ~~reaching to become land free~~ ^{striving again as} holders and, ^{become} thus, Yeomen. Although a case can be made that Michael's father, Richard Upchurch, was a well respected member of the Brington Community their ~~writ as a class~~ ^{status} would not place them ^{in the social circles of} ~~as members of social events~~ ~~crafted~~ by the Gentry. Thus, as we learn about the Gentry ~~Class~~, we learn only tangentially about the circumstances Michael and his family would have faced.

We discussed the fact that the draining of portions of the Fens around Ely caused much unrest in the early 1600s. This area was inhabited by a fiercely independent and ~~unregulated~~ people. Brington was in the elevated rolling country a few miles to the west of the Fens. Perhaps we are fortunate to be able to speculate that the Upchurches would have been little influenced by these rough types.

Our discussions touched on the possible interpersonal relationships that Michael Upchurch I may have had just before and just after he removed to Virginia. We take it as a given that he did not have the six pounds that would have been the cost of passage from

shore-to-shore. One could speculate that as a 14-year old he had reached the age where boys were expected to earn a living often at that age leaving the nest. Possibly he could have found his way to London and there ~~fallen into the clutches~~ ^{come in ~~contact~~, contact with} of recruiters who were enrolling passengers in exchange for seven years of indentured service upon landing in Virginia. ✓

Professor Ransome offers the possibility that Michael might have yielded to entreaties from----- who is known to have been an upper class person who migrated from Huntingdonshire to Virginia. He is known to have been sent the same Ferrar questionnaire that Michael received, which triggered Michael's four letters back to England in the 1650s. By whichever plan Michael followed to arrive in Virginia his sponsor would have received a grant of 50 acres of land then called a Headright.

We must continue to tempt ourselves with the prospects that some of the family names that appeared in Surry County, VA where Michael settled are the same as family names of the upper class that were also known in Huntingdonshire in the early 1600s. Whether there is more significance than proximity as regards our Upchurch interets we are yet to learn.

Our chats also turned to the matter of how the rise of Oliver Cromwell to power in England in the 1640-1660 era might have impacted Michael's Virginia. Certainly we know that the beheading of King Charles I in 1649 would have caused ^{some of} his Royalist supporters to ^{think} ~~have thought~~ about moving to more favorable political climes - such as Colonial America. ✓

We do know that some of them did move to Virginia and possibly close to places where Michael may have lived. These new arrivals would have acquired land but in Virginia it would not have conferred upon them the status that land ownership in England would have bestowed. Anyone could own land in America and most did. Still, one would expect

that these displaced Royalists might have approached their land holdings with a managerial mindset. ^{leaving the manual labor to others.} Richard and ^{Michael in Virginia} his ilk, in contrast, would likely have ^{been} become daily workers on their holdings. So, again we must speculate that the Upchurch family in America had to spend several generations clawing its way to positions of prominence economically, culturally, and politically. Now some 9-15 generations on we continue this process.

in Virginia, like those they had had in England

We also gave thought as to how the Cromwell reign in England might have influenced governance in the American Colonies. The Ransome's' view of this matter is that the Cromwellian government would only have replaced the top leaders in ^{Virginia} America. ^{leaving in place} By ^{the} this time there was already a flourishing bureaucracy in the Colonies with courts, laws, ^{a established in the colonies} deeds, wills and the lot. Michael's day-to-day activities in the 1640-1660 era would most likely have continued without much impact as Cromwell and Parliament gained ascendancy in England creating much angst among the upper classes.

✓
|
x

Given that David and Joyce returned to spend the night of April 30, 2008 in our home on their trip back to Rhode Island from Kansas City, they had the opportunity to briefly review this article. Their suggestions have been embraced. We are indebted to both for sharing their thoughts and for their expertise.

It was our pleasure to serve as hosts for David and Joyce during their stay in St. Louis and, thereby, in some small way to show the appreciation of the entire Upchurch Family for the major infusion of knowledge via the ^{Ransome} intellect regarding our Upchurch heritage, especially in England.

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that these displaced Royalists might have approached their land holdings with a managerial mindset. Richard and his ilk, in contrast, would likely have ^{been} become daily workers on their holdings. So, again we must speculate that the Upchurch family in America had to spend several generations clawing its way to positions of prominence economically, culturally, and politically. Now some 9-15 generations on we continue this process.

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Professor Ransome
November 23, 2001
page 2

If it is convenient would you please send us the address of the motel at Upton so that we might write for reservations. Also, useful would be the names/addresses of any others I should write regarding our visit. This might place us in a better position should you for unforeseen reasons not be able to join us.

Here is an idea I advance most tentatively. I know that the person in charge at Brington has entertained some Upchurch visitors in his home. Such an experience would be a treasure for us but we are reluctant to be so bold as to invite ourselves. In any case, we must plan to make some financial contribution to the work of the church at Brington. Any advice you have on this matter will be welcomed.

It would be really nice if Joyce could be with us on our visit but we realize she, as well as you, have numerous priorities.

I am still waiting for a substantive response from Margaret Butler of New Zealand. She did send us her usual lovely calendar for the year ahead but no message. I have sent her a note of thanks and a reminder that I would like to hear from her regarding my draft of the Master Outline pertaining to her Upchurch roots. A copy of any exchanges you and she have had could be quite useful.

I am glad to respond to the "networking" issue you have raised. When we asked you to help us with modern Upchurch connections in Huntingdonshire it seems we could hope this would turn into a networking venture. I am elated that this happy prospect has unfolded. Please do feel free to charge to the Upchurch Account expenses related to networking including postage. Your fee of \$15/hour seems entirely reasonable. I do not think we can extend this activity to a free research effort for one and all. However, reasonable mutual exchanges and assistance have worked well for me.

Please do send me copies of the road map and of correspondence you think might be helpful to me.

I am touched to think that you would bequeath me the raw materials, notes, etc. pertaining to Upchurch research. Let me do some more exploration before I say yes. It may turn out that the Huntingdonshire Family History Society would be a better repository - but I hope not. I am currently exploring the eventual placement of my materials in an archives in North Carolina at some future date. I would like to firm up these arrangements sooner rather than later - for peace of mind. (Otherwise my wife might just throw them in the dump).

Do you think it feasible, meaningful for me to donate sets of the UPCHURCH BULLETIN and ENGLANDIA to the Huntingdonshire Family History Society?

We will be in North Carolina 29 NOV - 17 DEC 2001 on a family history trip.

DAVID R

RAWSONE - 2008

①

9 FEB
2008

Subject:

From: david ransome <emosnard@hotmail.com>

Date: Sat, Feb 09, 2008 3:33 am

To: Phil Upchurch <phil.upchurch@sbcglobal.net>, Phil UPchurch <phil@upchurchstory.com>

Dear Phil,

Unless I'm mis-remembering, February is the month (I'm unsure of the exact day) when I should be sending you best wishes for your 80th birthday and wishing you many happy returns of the day. Your energy thus far suggests that you are good for at least another score of years, and if only the United States were still the United Colonies you could look forward to a telegram from the Queen (or King Charles) in 2028.

I should have written before this, but all of a sudden 2008 has become busier than I could have anticipated. I was cruising comfortably along in Rhode Island in January, watching the snow come down; then returned to Suffolk on the 15th, and had only a week before Joyce arrived to bring the house up to wifely standards of habitation. She duly arrived, and within days we were off to Cambridge. There, at Clare College, we took part in a choral evensong, during which she gave a (sermon) address on Nicholas Ferrar, "warts and all" as the Chaplain/Dean commented. Next to the Bodleian Library at Oxford, to look at manuscripts; and so to my god-daughter at Cheltenham (who is also my cousin's daughter) and fully as interested in the family tree as I am, and much more skilled at extracting useful information from the internet. On then to Marlborough where A.M. Digital have put the Ferrar papers on line and showed how successfully they have done it. Thence to my god-daughter's widowed mother in Bosham for relaxation before heading back to Suffolk via New Malden where we exchanged information with another Little Gidding enthusiast who is intent on working out the tangled history of the Little Gidding church.

This week has been calmer, but chilly - with bleak winds blowing in off the North Sea. Later to-day we return to Cambridge so that we can go back to Clare on Sunday for another of the Clare sermons/addresses on the college's former members who were also eminent clerics. This time it is Barnabas Oley, who was a friend of Nicholas Ferrar's and a major benefactor of the college.

Joyce returns to the USA on the 18th, after this unusual alteration in our yearly schedule. In the course of the winter we have been wondering whether I too should change the pattern of my year. With Joyce's coming to England in the summers and my flying to Rhode Island for Thanksgiving and the Christmas holidays, we have become stuck in a narrow rut. We have therefore been thinking how we could break out of it and see friends and relatives who are not to be found within a hundred miles of Woonsocket. Can we, we have been asking ourselves, construct a circuit that would allow us to see friends whom we have not set eyes on for several years?

You have been kind enough several times in the [past to suggest that we should visit you in Missopuri, and I'm conscious that my winter journeyings across the Atlantic have caused me to put off acceptance of your gracious invitation. We are now wondering if it would be possible to suggest ourselves for a visit in the early spring. We haven't yet been able to fix dates precisely but if I were to fly over for five weeks at the end of March just after Easter, we are trying to see if we could arrange an itinerary which would have us driving from Rhode Island to Syracuse, to Waterloo Ontario, to Detroit, to Chicago, in all of which places we have former colleagues and cousins. We would then come on to Chesterfield and Kansas City, which is the end of the line for us. Will you be at home in April, and could we split our visit to you into two halves? The friends in Kansas City are my oldest friends in the USA. Both have already had their 80th birthdays; she is diabetic, almost permanently in hospital, and on dialysis three times a week [M,W,F]. We therefore ask about the possibility of coming to you for a couple of nights, going on to them for a similar length of visit (arriving in Kansas City on the evening that she has had dialysis, and leaving on the morning of her next cleansing), and then coming back to you for another two or three nights. Since we think our whole pilgrimage will take three weeks at most, and since I have not as yet made my transatlantic bookings, we have some leeway in the dates in April when we would be with you. Do please say, however, if this is inconvenient and would be too much of an imposition on you and Sallaine.

Meantime we are watching the first crocuses surface to join the snowdrops and look forward to seeing the daffodils and tulips shortly.

With best wishes to you both, David

(2)
9 FEB
2008

Subject: Visit
From: phil@upchurchstory.com
Date: Sat. Feb 09, 2008 3:13 pm
To: "David R. Ransome" <emosnard@hotmail.com>

Hi David---

I overslept by 1-2 hours last night due to a late bedtime following a birthday celebration with our son and his family. At 6:30 AM I was overjoyed to get your most welcome congratulations which arrived on this the 9th my actual 80th. The day was made more joyful by the news that we can look forward to the pleasure of having you and Joyce as our guests in April. The timing is perfect for us and the weather should be nice at that time of the year. We look forward to learning about specific sites you would like to see in our area and will place them on the top of the activity list. We have a mental check list of places we offer to our visitors and over breakfast this morning Sallaine and I reviewed them. She joins me in expressing pleasure that we are to see you in St Louis and that we will at last get to meet Joyce. I also maintain a collection of articles on landmarks in the area. You can peruse them when you arrive in order to finalize our schedule. We can be quite flexible and adjust as we go along. One exception might be events for which tickets might be limited. We will check on Powell Hall where our Symphony performs and on The Fox our grand restored movie house where traveling troupes put on major productions. I don't necessarily presume that these will be high on your list but mention them as illustrative of situations for which we might be well advised to do some advanced planning. Naturally, we would look forward to introducing you to our son Barry and his wife Diane and their children Katie-14, Natalie-13, and Jenna-9 and to our daughter Debra and her husband Robert Heck and their daughter Jenny-14. Their son is a Senior at The University of Maryland. We will be going to his graduation in May.

Your message finds us having just completed a stay for the month of January in Florida. It was most enjoyable as we interacted with relatives and friends who live there part time or have winter abodes there. We also learned more about the southwestern part of the State. We had always thought that it would be nice to spend one vacation at a set location rather than moving about which has been our norm. The norm is better.

I took my laptop and was able to do emails and to look up family history on the Internet. Also, I spent time writing sketches of people I have known which sketches will become part of my Memoirs "From City Shadows". (you must read some samples when you come) The entries, as in the case of Joyce, include warts and all for which some of my reviewers have already taken me to task. Having not taken anything to Florida to read I visited the bookstore and settled on four books on Thomas Paine about whom I had often heard but had never studied or if so the details had not made to my hard drive. Now, part way through, I am more informed about the era in America, Great Britain, and France and some of the main actors.

We now must turn our attention to income taxes which are always dreaded but are really not so bad once they are behind you.

We continue in good health which we trust is the case with you and yours and send all best wishes.
Phil Upchurch

(3)
13 FEB
2008

Subject: RE: Visit
From: david ransome <emosnard@hotmail.com>
Date: Wed, February 13, 2008 3:20 am
To: <phil@upchurchstory.com>

They always said it was better to be lucky than to be rich, so I'm glad I was lucky enough to write to you on the right day. We're delighted to know that we are welcome, and will let you know details as soon as we have dates sorted out. At a guess we would get to you sometime in the middle of April. We look forward to meeting as many of your family as are nearby, and we are in your hands as far as local visits are concerned. My knowledge of your region is nil, and I fancy Joyce's is not much more extensive. And do remember that we are primarily coming to see you both, so that whatever you think of wil, I'm sure, make us happy. Excuse the brevity of this note; I have a slew of messages to pack into my half hour in the library.

Best wishes to you both, David

(4)
13 FEB
2008

Subject: RE: Visi:
From: phil@upchurchstory.com
Date: Wed. Feb 13. 2008 4:41 am
To: david ransome <emosnard@hotmail.com>

Hi David---
We are looking forward to a great visit.
Phii Upchurch

⑤
8 MAR
2008

Subject: Visit
From: david ransome <emosnard@hotmail.com>
Date: Sat, Mar 08, 2008 3:34 am
To: Phil UPchurch <phil@upchurchstory.com>

Dear Phil and Sallaine,

Apologies for the silences these past weeks; we have been waiting to get the earlier parts of our odyssey sorted out, and at last I think I can be reasonably sure of our movements. May we come to you from Chicago on Friday 25 April and leave for Kansas City on Monday 28th? We would be there for a couple of nights, and would like to come back to you for a night or two - whichever suits you best - on Wednesday 30 April.

I'm looking forward to seeing you both again, and will also enjoy the warmer weather that I don't doubt we'll experience with you. The worst of winter is at last over here in Suffolk - bitterly cold damp winds this past month, but no snow - and the spring flowers are - somewhat tentatively - providing colour in the garden. My old bones are longing for some additional warmth.

Meantime, our Easter greetings to you both and best wishes, David

⑥
9 MAR
2008

Subject: Schedule
From: phil@upchurchstory.com
Date: Sun, Mar 09, 2008 7:39 am
To: "David R. Ransome" <emosnard@hotmail.com>

Hi David--

The schedule proposed in your email of March 8 is perfect for us. If you can come earlier or stay longer we are quite flexible and will enjoy having you and Joyce for whatever time you can spend with us. It will be a pleasure to show you some of what our area has to offer and to chat about matters of mutual interest. There is an excellent chance the weather will be very nice while you are here. Our Development is known as Baxter Pointe Villas. It is a gated community in the Southwest segment of the intersection of Wild Horse Road and Baxter Road. The gates are open during the day. Otherwise, You can call us from the phone at the gate and we can open the gate remotely. You will need to enter by way of the Baxter Road entrance as the one reached via Wild Horse Road is always locked.

As you drive from Chicago to our place the normal route is to skirt St Louis on the North and West picking up I-64 West headed to Wentzville. Along the way to Wentzville you will come to our City Chesterfield. As I-64 reaches the Clarkson Interchange you exit and take Clarkson South for about one mile to Baxter Road. Turn right on Baxter and proceed West for about 1-2 miles to Baxter Pointe Villas on the left. Once you enter the gate turn right which will be on Shetland Valley Court. We are up the street on the left at 351. If you need more complete directions I can send a map.

One caution-- do not be tempted to proceed from Chicago to us by way of I-64 through downtown St Louis. The reason is that I-64 from downtown St Louis to the west is closed for reconstruction for several miles. Should you have any questions at any point you may contact us by email or on our house phone 636-530-6022 or on my cell 314-313-4734 or on Sallaine's cell 314-313-5240.

Please do let us know if there is anything we can do to facilitate your trip West. We are looking forward to your arrival with much anticipation.

With all best wishes.

Phil Upchurch

⑦
13 APR
2008

Subject: Coming events
From: david ransome <emosnard@hotmail.com>
Date: Sun, Apr 13, 2008 1:26 pm
To: Phil UPchurch <phil@upchurchstory.com>

Dear Phil and Sallaine,

So far, so good: I arrived in Rhode Island earlier in the week and we are readying ourselves for departure this Tuesday. We'll first visit a former colleague in Syracuse, spend the weekend outside Detroit with the son of one of my cousins, and reach Chicago on Monday 21 April. There we will be staying with one of my former pupils, Rich(ard) Rand, whose phone number - in case you need to talk to us in an emergency - is (773) 281 1435.

We plan to leave there after breakfast on Friday 25 April, and armed as we are with your excellent directions and a print-out from Mapquest we reckon to be with you sometime in the afternoon.

Even here in New England spring is trying valiantly to make an appearance. There is still snow to be seen in sheltered spots that the sun cannot reach, but yesterday afternoon, as we drove back from New Hampshire where we had gone to see Charles participate in a 5 Km road race and Emma in a dress rehearsal for her skating club, the temperature reached 72 so the snow can't last much longer - and we are sure there is none to be seen in Chesterfield.

With 48 hours to go we are already thinking Packing! and trying not to overlook anything. We are not quite as excited as we were seventy years ago on the last day of term, but we are far from being as calm as would befit our years.

See you soon; meanwhile best wishes from us both, David

⑧ 13 APR 2008 - Notes of LPH Call to Ransom in (401) 765-3901
response to his email of earlier in the day. R.I.

I repeated our pleasure in their upcoming visit. we discussed their needs & desires. Neither David nor Joyce are vegetarians both consume adult beverages. I told them about Jordan's site in Springfield, IL. They may or may not stop off for a quick look - Same for the Churchill Memorial in Fulton, MO. He seemed to have a special interest in Mammoth State Park and in Cahokia Indian Mounds. Parulike interest in Caveville & the Arch - Not in sports. I forgot to mention Daniel Boone, Tom Sawyer, Theater. Forest Park or Zoo?

DAVID

RANSOME 2009

② 29 MAR 2009 - CONTINUED

Yes, my ancestors did have slaves. My Great great Grandfather Nathan U., I, Revolutionary War soldier (sorry about that), when he died in 1835 willed slaves to his heirs. My Great GF did not get any slaves as he was, to use your term, one of the difficult sons. My Grand father was born in 1841 and could have had slaves but his early fortunes did not make this possible. There were Black Upchurches in the immediate vicinity of where my Upchurches lived in the period 1850-1950 and no doubt they and their ancestors were of slave heritage.

As one option freed slaves could certainly have taken or been given the last names of their former owners. However, I have always held open the possibility that some would have preferred not to have the name of a former master especially if there had been cruelty. In such cases I imagine that they might have preferred the name of a white family for whom they had respect. As far as I know this is an un researched subject. My own birth and childhood unfolded about eight miles away from the aforementioned setting. Still, Blacks including some with the name Upchurch lived in my neighborhood and my childhood playmates included Blacks and Whites. I found myself often visiting in the homes of neighboring Black families with complete ease. Without overlooking the unacceptability of slavery, I have often thought, based on my own experience, that the full story of the relationships among the two races in the South has never been adequately documented. I believe the burden to be politically correct has been a handicap in the telling of the story.

As to David Upchurch in Chicago in 1982 I find in my Biofile System an extract of a 1980 phone book listing of a David Upchurch, Jr at 9422 S. Peoria in Chicago. I have no way of knowing if this person is Black but he could well be either the person in the article or his father. In the period 1915-1950 there was a large movement of Blacks from South to North especially for jobs but also with the idea that they would find a more suitable social setting. A great many of these developed a longing for something positive that they recalled about their Southern Communities. I speak from hearing myself these thoughts expressed.

We had hoped to spend the month of May in North Carolina but it now seems I may go alone and spend a shorter time. I do have an obligation to give an Upchurch Lecture before The Apex, NC Historical Society this being the area where my ancestors arrived about 1802. I have many stories to tell about the impact of Upchurches in the area which will be a surprise to locals but will ring true. More footnotes in history. The reason for my solo trip is that we have just learned that one of Sallaine's nieces is to marry there in early August which means we must go then for the ceremony.

The articles you and Joyce are to present at the Durham Conference sound interesting and suitable to titillate the novice. Perhaps you can alert me as to how I might lay eyes on copies. I am indebted to you for driving me to Webster's to add the word "termagant" to my vocabulary.

Our paths might yet cross in New England. Our Grandson Andrew covered himself with honors in graduating from The University of Maryland last May. He is on a highly valued three year management training program with Lockheed in the Washington, DC area. He and his University girlfriend who's home is on Long Island seemed headed to real matrimony when she suddenly opted out, Andrew was devastated but she now wants to get back together. So who knows? The other prospect is that our Granddaughter Sandy in Las Vegas, NV has a semi-serious relationship with a young man in Las Vegas whose family is from Vermont (came over on the Mayflower). Sandy and Rupert have just completed a visit to VT but we have not been briefed. We will just have to hope that if our family has "events" in the Northeast that we will be lucky enough to find you on our side of the pond.

Trusting that this finds you tranquil and at peace with all far and near.

Phil Upchurch

③ Re The Upchurch-Obama Connection.

The "connections" came to light in this way. Malcolm Clydesdale in England is an Upchurch descendant. He has been unwilling to interact with RPU but interacts with our consultant Prof ^Δ David Ransome. In the spring of 2009 Malcolm forwarded to David Ransome an article about Michelle Obama, wife of ^Δ Barack H. Obama, President. It appeared in the English newspaper Daily Telegraph on 9 MAR 2009. Ransome emailed RTH on 25 MAR 2009 about the article and a copy arrived in RPA hands from Ransome on 6 APR 2009. It shows a press picture of the then Michelle Robinson circa 1982 with date David Upchurch, a young African American. The article has been placed in RPA profile under Michelle Robinson with a copy of this sheet being placed in the profile of the young man - presumably David U, Jr.

Subject: Apex, NC Talk 12MAY2009
 From: phil@upchurchstory.com
 Date: Sat, Apr 11, 2009 10:26 am
 To: "David R. Ransome" <emosnard@hotmail.com>

Hi David---

The item below will let you know one of the activities I will have on my trip to the East 30APR-16MAY 2009. More particularly, I write to thank you for the Michelle Robinson article which arrived on the 6th. It has been prepared for filing with proper cross-file references. We are having all of our local family for a dinner this evening including prodigal grandson Andrew who is visiting from Philadelphia this weekend. The Michelle article will be displayed and, thanks to you and Malcolm, the subject of much merriment.

With appreciation.

Phil Upchurch

DAVID

RANSOME - 2009

⑤

8 MAY
2009

Subject: Sac news
From: david ransome <emosnard@hotmail.com>
Date: Fri, May 08, 2009 3:23 am
To: Phil UPchurch <phil@upchurchstory.com>

Dear Phil,

The local library lets me have their copies of the London Times once they have held them for the required month, and I have just noticed the announcement that on 25 March George du Boulay died. He was 87, and as I recall we heard last summer that he had not been well. Cremation at Cambridge was followed by a family service at Brington on 2 April. The notice describes him as "A beloved husband of Pam. loving father to Benedict, Alaric, Giles, David, Paul, Andrew, Mary Jane, Katheryn and an adoring grandfather of 14 grandchildren"; and I am sure he was all those things, as well as being an eminent scientist and an inspired playwright. Did you ever see the pageant script that he wrote for Brington church, a very much more lively piece of work than most such efforts.

Joyce arrives on 10 June, and we are both busy writing our papers for the Durham conference in July. I hope all is well with both of you.

Best wishes, David

⑥

8 MAY
2009

Subject: duBoulay
From: phil@upchurchstory.com
Date: Fri, May 08, 2009 3:33 pm
To: emosnard@hotmail.com

Dear David

We are saddened to hear of the death of George duBoulay. It was our pleasure to have a chance to visit with him and his wife Pam when we were there. How well we remember the visit to their home and to the church at Brington. He seemed to be such a grand person

and we are sure his family and friends will miss him. Should you get to see Pam, please convey

our condolence to her. I will relay the message to Phil when he calls this evening.

Phil has been in Raleigh, NC since Apr. 30th - Genealogy! He seems to be having a great time visiting, eating, making contacts with archives, libraries, etc, and will give a talk on May 12th re the Upchurches and relations in that area. The event is billed as a MOST IMPORTANT ONE and got front page publicity in the Apex paper. On the 13th he and 3 of his cousins will visit the Civil War battlegrounds in the east for a few days before returning home.

As for me - I'm keeping the home front moving along.

Our best to you and yours.

S. Upchurch

⑦

19 MAY
2009

Subject: Apex,NC Talk 12MAY2009
From: phil@upchurchstory.com
Date: Tue, May 19, 2009 5:34 am
To: "David R. Ransome" <emosnard@hotmail.com>

Hi David---

I write to add my word of sorrow to those of Sallaine regarding the passing of George du Boulay. He was indeed a fine man and we treasure our memories of him.

My 17 day trip east was a great success. Below is the flyer for my talk in Apex, NC. This is the small town in western Wake County, NC where my ancestor settled about 1802. The next two generations of he and his brother brought marriages into 50 local families so I had a lot to talk about. There were 68 in attendance which is considered quite a success. For the last four days three sons of my first cousins and I spent visiting Civil War sites in VA, MD, and PA where my Grandfather fought. Sallaine says it was good for me to "bond" with some male relatives as I had no brothers. Having collected much information I now have much processing to do and it is time to write another UB.

Wishing you and Joyce the best as you prepare your papers for the Durham Conference.

Phil Upchurch

DAVID

RANSOME - 2009

(8)

19 MAY

2009

Subject: RE: Apex.NC Talk 12MAY2009
From: david ransome <emosnard@hotmail.com>
Date: Tue, May 19, 2009 9:28 am
To: Phil UPchurch <phil@upchurchstory.com>

I'm glad the talk went so well: I hadn't realised till reading your flyer just how many other families in that neck of the woods you were related to.

I'm currently in Cambridge and gathering information from the Ferrar Papers for the third of my delinquent Ferrar kin; the first two are now drafted, but will need abridgement. I'm also taking the chance to see friends and to read colonial works from the University Library, for which there is very little competition here in Cambridge. You might find a recent book, Anthony J. Parent Jr Foul Means..., of interest. The first chapter tells of the great Virginia landgrab in the second half of the 17th century, when a very few well-placed families hoovered up all the best land and switched from hiring indentured white servants to the purchase of black slaves. Less fortunate folk -like the Upchurches, I imagine - had to move if they wanted to own land rather than be eternal tenants and sharecroppers.

By the end of the week I'll be back in Felixstowe and must start on a spring clean that will convince Joyce, who arrives on the 10th, that she isn't going living in a slum.

Best wishes to you both, David

(9)

27 MAY

2009

Subject: RE: Hello
From: david ransome <emosnard@hotmail.com>
Date: Wed, May 27, 2009 3:14 am
To: Phil UPchurch <phil@upchurchstory.com>

- RPU NOTE - SEE BIOFILE
OF JUANITA MARIE U RE
HER 6-12 MONTHS IN ENGLAND

Thank you for the warning; I haven't yet heard from Juanita Edmo[nds?]. I'll be as helpful as time and location allow, and I'll try and be reasonable in setting remuneration. If we can arrange for a time when I'm already in Cambridge, it will cut her costs.

Best wishes, David

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Subject: Places

From: phil@upchurchstory.com

Date: Sun, Dec 13, 2009 11:31 am

To: "David R. Ransome" <emosnard@hotmail.com>

Hi David---

Thanks for your input this AM about places. I think your writeup is a delightful little story which can help to strength the mental bonds across the waters. I'll put in the bring-up file for the next UB now scheduled for next fall. I'll contact you along the way about the process.

Best!

Phil Upchurch

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Subject: RE: Places in Britain

From: david ransome <emosnard@hotmail.com>

Date: Sun, Dec 13, 2009 8:21 am

To: Phil UPchurch <phil@upchurchstory.com>

And hi to you!

There are times when I regret the all too nuclear unit that is our family, but as I age I'm beginning to appreciate the limited scale of our family celebrations, so I know what Sallaine must be feeling. And with only a single child it is much easier to negotiate the toing and froing; no one feels slighted, and we can have Thanksgiving here and Christmas there. Long since I have resorted to cash presents, partly because I remember that they were my preferred ones when I was a teenager, partly because it is an occasion for the young to begin to learn to manage their accounts ["If I buy this, I can't afford that."], and ?largely because that way I can avoid the stores. Brunch sounds a good - temporary - compromise for a year or two, and once the principle of change has been established, other change will be easier to initiate.

As to the problem of 'The Name's the Same', England is far less logical in its policies than the USA, in large measure I suppose because place names were adopted long before folk started travelling all over the country. Indeed it is possible to find the same name more than once in the same county. For instance in Suffolk there are two Stratfords, several Fornhams and Ilketshalls, and three Creetinges. These are all differentiated by adding the name of the saint to whom the parish church is dedicated, i.e. Stratford St Andrew and Stratford St Mary. But things can get worse, and Suffolk has two Flixtons, without further differentiation, a fact which got me into trouble years ago. There was a point-to-point race meeting in the north of the county at Flixton, and I persuaded friends to drive the thirty-odd miles to it, only to discover when we got there that I had chosen the wrong one as our destination.

I don't know that there is an easy solution. Gazetteers try to help by specifying the county after the town or village, maps of course don't. On my Ordnance Survey Road Map index I have just found 32 Newtons followed by 42 other Newtons with suffixes, i.e. Newton Blossomville, not to mention a whole slew of Newtowns, both plain and coloured, Newtown being essentially the same name. Most counties benefit from the work of scholars who have produced volumes of Place-Names; these give the evolving variations, usually since Domesday, so it's possible to watch the Anglo-Saxons mangling Roman names, and then the Normans having a go at the Anglo-Saxon. Double-barrelled names are a clue, moreover, to the history of the county. In Essex for example many villages have a (Norman) family name as the second element - e.g. Layer Breton, Layer de la Haye, Layer Marney - indicating loot dished out by William the Conqueror in the years after the conquest; in Suffolk by contrast, villages/manors were subdivided with the names of the churches' patron saints. From Felixstowe, to get anywhere, I have to go through Trimley, where the two churches, dedicated respectively to St Mary and St Martin stand side by side and share a single churchyard.

And of course there's the problem of local pronunciation: Godmanchester, across the river from Huntingdon, was called by the locals 'Gumchester', and indeed that spelling can be seen on the west end of the parish church. In Suffolk the village of Athelington, 'the estate of an Atheling' or Anglo-saxon royal, is pronounced Allington, and that's one of the easier ones. Stiffkey and Raveningham in Norfolk are "Stookey" and "Ranningham". And pronunciations change, even in a lifetime. In the 1930s after my father gave up farming - or rather when it gave him up - I used to go and stay in Gloucestershire with our former head cowman. We could either go down the hill from Birdlip into Cheltenham or along the former Roman road to Cirencester. Nowadays it is pronounce exactly as written, but then it was called "Cissiter" by the gentry and "Soireen" by the locals. Daventry has similarly ceased to be "Daintree" in my lifetime. It may not pay therefore to get lost and ask a local.

By all means use any of this when you write your piece; and if you like to run it by me before it goes to press, I'll willingly try to sort out any queries.

We are gearing up for Christmas. To-morrow we go in to Providence for what I trust will be minimal shopping. After that we rest up for the festivities. We trust yours will be as happy as we expect ours to be.

Best wishes to you both, David

From: phil@upchurchstory.com
To: emosnard@hotmail.com
Subject: Places in Britain
Date: Sat, 12 Dec 2009 15:40:46 -0700

Hi David---

2

Sometime a few months ago I noticed that on maps of England the same name appears more than once. I had hoped to include a note on this in the last UB but ran out of space. Now I appeal to you for such comments as you may have thinking that the matter can be addressed in the next issue. It could be helpful to UB readers who plan to travel to the Mother County.

I was surprised to see Great Brington and Little Brington listed just NW of Northampton near the now world famous Althorp Estate. My first thought was that this brought no real confusion as the Brington of our Upchurch heritage had no prefix so the three names are each distinctive. Then I found more than one Brampton with no prefix thus offering potential confusion to the novice and to those not informed about British custom. In the U. S. I believe the Federal Government has a system whereby the same place name cannot be used twice in the same State-at least as a Postal designation. (Although it is OK to have a City and the County in which it is located to have the same name but modified by the designation City or County). Perhaps you know of how this is sorted out in Britain. This is not a pressing or high priority matter but any comments you care to offer will be welcome.

Sallaine always finds herself conflicted at Christmas feeling that she cannot do enough to make everyone happy and saying that she does not have the energy to fight the crowds shopping and she is uncertain about preferred styles, etc, etc. So I agreed to her plan of putting enough cash in the hands of all concerned for them to shop for themselves. Then she spread the word that we might be away at Christmas. We were soon informed that the little ones would be disappointed and that we could expect a lecture from them. So she beat a hasty retreat and we are now starting a new family tradition that we will always have Brunch at our place each Boxing Day. She feels she has energy to do a Brunch which is easier than a Dinner. So we have been out shopping to have some small gifts for the Brunchers. My main function is to be agreeable to almost any plan.

Many Blessings to you and Joyce and yours for the Special Season that is now upon us
Phil Upchurch

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Subject: Places in Britain
From: phil@upchurchstory.com
Date: Sat, Dec 12, 2009 4:40 pm
To: "David R. Ransome" <emosnard@hotmail.com>

Hi David---

Sometime a few months ago I noticed that on maps of England the same name appears more than once. I had hoped to include a note on this in the last UB but ran out of space. Now I appeal to you for such comments as you may have thinking that the matter can be addressed in the next issue. It could be helpful to UB readers who plan to travel to the Mother County.

I was surprised to see Great Brington and Little Brington listed just NW of Northampton near the now world famous Althorp Estate. My first thought was that this brought no real confusion as the Brington of our Upchurch heritage had no prefix so the three names are each distinctive. Then I found more than one Brampton with no prefix thus offering potential confusion to the novice and to those not informed about British custom. In the U. S. I believe the Federal Government has a system whereby the same place name cannot be used twice in the same State-at least as a Postal designation. (Although it is OK to have a City and the County in which it is located to have the same name but modified by the designation City or County). Perhaps you know of how this is sorted out in Britain. This is not a pressing or high priority matter but any comments you care to offer will be welcome.

Sallaine always finds herself conflicted at Christmas feeling that she cannot do enough to make everyone happy and saying that she does not have the energy to fight the crowds shopping and she is uncertain about preferred styles, etc, etc. So I agreed to her plan of putting enough cash in the hands of all concerned for them to shop for themselves. Then she spread the word that we might be away at Christmas. We were soon informed that the little ones would be disappointed and that we could expect a lecture from them. So she beat a hasty retreat and we are now starting a new family tradition that we will always have Brunch at our place each Boxing Day. She feels she has energy to do a Brunch which is easier than a Dinner. So we have been out shopping to have some small gifts for the Brunchers. My main function is to be agreeable to almost any plan.

Many Blessings to you and Joyce and yours for the Special Season the that is now upon us
Phil Upchurch

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[Print](#) | [Close Window](#)**Subject:** RE: Cousin ?**From:** david ransome <emosnard@hotmail.com>**Date:** Mon, Dec 07, 2009 9:15 am**To:** Phil UPchurch <phil@upchurchstory.com>

A false alarm, I'm afraid. Bill talked to his mother and has learned that Fred and Margaret Upchurch of Gastonia were long time friends of his parents while they were all living in that city; hence Bill's memory of the name. I'm sorry we won't be parents-in-law. There's just a chance, however, that Peggy Harris and I can find a common Brooke ancestry. We both have multi-great grannies who share the surname; both are English, but hers is a generation earlier than mine. Unfortunately Brooke is far from a rare name, so I'm not holding my breath.

Meantime we have a winter wonderland here in New England, with snow clinging prettily to the otherwise bare branches. It all makes Christmas seem that much nearer.

Best wishes to you both, even if you aren't kin after all,

David

From: phil@upchurchstory.com**To:** emosnard@hotmail.com**Subject:** Cousin ?**Date:** Fri, 4 Dec 2009 04:17:09 -0700

Hi David---

It certainly seems as though your grandchildren may be entitled to and XID number. What and amazing coincidence! I'll anxiously await more news so I can trace out the relationship. This leaves the question as to how you and I will be related. Perhaps we will be the parents of children who have a cousin-ship. In other cases the terms brother-in -law, mother-in-law, sister-in-law, etc is used. I suppose you and I could be parents-in-law!! Perhaps this introduces a new term to genealogy.

Thanks for your kind comments on the UB and on Peggy's book. It is very well done.

You properly divine that perfecting the Upchurch Collection is a high priority for me. I hope to become more active in making sure there will exist computerized finding aids for the collection. A future researcher needs to be able to go on line and learn as much detail as possible about the collection. I have an expert in North Carolina that I want the University to hire to help with this procedure. Since the money for the hire will come from me they will probably agree.

Like you we had a great Thanksgiving feast. It was at our house on Saturday and Sallaine did herself proud. I helped by going for extra ice.

Sallaine and I enjoyed our 11 day coach trip in SEP/OCT to see New England foliage. Our No 2 grandchild has more-or-less plans to marry a boy from Vermont so we may get to see more of that area in due course. One of our stops was at the Norman Rockwell Museum where we bought prints for Christmas presents. It was a great trip.

Sallaine and I send our best wishes for a Merry Christmas to one and all.

Phil Upchurch

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[Print](#) | [Close Window](#)**Subject:** Upchurch/Harris**From:** david ransome <emosnard@hotmail.com>**Date:** Thu, Dec 03, 2009 11:26 am**To:** Phil UPchurch <phil@upchurchstory.com>, Phil Upchurch <phil.upchurch@sbcglobal.net>

FORWARDED A COPY TO

PEGGY HARRIS

Dear Phil,

Having had an easy journey on the 24th, using Air Canada for the first time across the Atlantic, I arrived in Woonsocket to find awaiting me the latest Upchurch bulletin, for which many thanks, and Peggy Harris's In the Shade of Oaks. Once Thanksgiving was a feast of the past and the family had gone back to New Hampshire on Sunday, I settled to both and have had a thoroughly enjoyable time catching up with Upchurches (and others) past and present.

It turns out that my grandchildren may be able to trump my honorary membership of the Upchurch clan by claiming full membership. While I was showing my son-in-law the Bulletin and Peggy's book, he interjected that he thought he remembered his mother's mentioning the name of Upchurch as that of one of her ancestors. She is from North Carolina, and for much of her married life lived in Gastonia. Now widowed, she is in Oregon, and once Bill has talked to her, we'll know if the children's possibility is a reality. Beyond the fact that she was born a Wren I'm singularly vague about all else. I don't even know her given names, as she is (inevitably) known as Jenny.

Have you read Peggy's book? It really is "a good read"; I sped through it these past two or three days. It is immensely successful in blending her family story with the nation's history, and her caution in believing what she is told is a salutary example for us other genealogists. In England I am in constant communication with a young cousin who is another family tree enthusiast, and find myself reminding her quite frequently that she mustn't take all she finds on the internet for granted. On the other hand, she is a mistress of its complexities and is forever coming up with information that I would otherwise miss.

In Missouri you sound to be making wise decisions about Upchurch priorities. I'm sure the single most important task is to make sure that the archive reaches NCSU in its entirety. Fragmented archives are a trial to the researcher, and in this case your Upchurch archive is clearly fundamental to any future family investigation.

I trust you took time off from its concerns to enjoy Thanksgiving. Was it Sallaine's turn to play hostess or has she now passed the task to the next generation? We had the family here for four nights, and inevitably overate on the 26th. Emma at least will be working off some of the excess this week as she has a skating gala this coming Saturday which we are going up to New Hampshire to watch. (With two of us sharing the driving, it is possible to go up and back in a day.)

Joyce is off swimming at the moment, but I know that if she were here she would join me in sending best wishes to you both,

David

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Subject: Cousin ?

From: phil@upchurchstory.com

Date: Fri, Dec 04, 2009 5:17 am

To: "David R. Ransome" <emosnard@hotmail.com>

Hi David---

It certainly seems as though your grandchildren may be entitled to and XID number. What and amazing coincidence! I'll anxiously await more news so I can trace out the relationship. This leaves the question as to how you and I will be related. Perhaps we will be the parents of children who have a cousin-ship. In other cases the terms brother-in -law, mother-in-law, sister-in-law, etc is used. I suppose you and I could be parents-in-law!! Perhaps this introduces a new term to genealogy.

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Sallaine and I send our best wishes for a Merry Christmas to one and all.

Phil Upchurch

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Subject: Thanks

From: phil@upchurchstory.com

Date: Thu, Aug 20, 2009 6:04 am

To: "David R. Ransome" <emosnard@hotmail.com>

Hi David---

I am grateful for your response about visitors and will use your comments to craft future input to potential visitors. The Upchurch family is much blessed to have you as a source.

Peggy Harris has just sent me a copy of her book. It is extremely well done. There are about three sections that merit, from my standpoint, a full book treatment. I have been trying to reach her by phone to offer congratulations.

We are looking forward to our coach tour of New England 26 SEP-4 OCT and will think of you and Joyce often as we look at the countryside.

Sallaine and I send our best and trust your ten -day visit to cousins will be safe and enjoyable.

Phil Upchurch

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[Print](#) | [Close Window](#)**Subject:** RE: Visitors**From:** david ransome <emosnard@hotmail.com>**Date:** Thu, Aug 20, 2009 4:02 am**To:** Phil UPchurch <phil@upchurchstory.com>

You have caught me just in time, as we are off to-morrow for ten days on a round of the cousins in southern England. Thank you for sending a copy of your letter to RFB. I think it could well act as a template for other correspondents.

I think, however, that it is unsafe to refer to my having unique access to the Michael Upchurch (and other Ferrar) papers in Magdalene. I am lucky to be allowed into the Old Library whenever I have need to consult them, but I make a point of politeness to clear with Dr Lockett any occasion on which I would like to take a visitor with me. The college has been good so far in allowing me to do so, but I have made my occasions of request as infrequent as possible; and I fancy the college won't look kindly on my taking visitors frequently, and particularly not if I am making a profit out of it.

As for remuneration, I merely want not to be out of pocket, which means that I would expect to have my petrol paid for, and any meals that I had while with visitors. I would indeed consider my base to be Cambridge, but would charge my petrol from Felixstowe, 70 miles away. I should add that my availability depends largely on my being in Suffolk and not in Rhode Island, and I'm assuming that folk wouldn't want to go to Little Gidding and Brington in wintertime, during part of which in any case I'd be in New England.

With these caveats I'm happy to entertain the possibility of meeting other Upchurches. I'd ask that they get in touch with me in the first place by e-mail. That way, wherever I happen to be, I'll get their message promptly.

Best wishes to you both from both of us,
David

From: phil@upchurchstory.com
To: emosnard@hotmail.com
Subject: Visitors
Date: Mon, 17 Aug 2009 05:07:55 -0700

Hi David---

I have just sent you a blind copy of my email to Robert Freddie Barrs re the prospects of his son visiting England. Please let me know if I am out of line in any way. Otherwise I will use this as a sort of standard response to future such requests. Robert (Bob) is not an Upchurch descendant but his Wife is nee Nadine Upchurch of the George Upchurch Clan.

We have just returned from a two week visit to North Carolina where much family history progress was made. Of special interest was putting my new GPS device to work in identifying locations. Now to learn how to migrate the details to my computer and to manipulate the maps.

All Best Wishes.

Phil Upchurch

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Subject: Visitors

From: phil@upchurchstory.com

Date: Mon, Aug 17, 2009 7:07 am

To: "David R. Ransome" <emosnard@hotmail.com>

Hi David---

I have just sent you a blind copy of my email to Robert Freddie Barrs re the prospects of his son visiting England. Please let me know if I am out of line in any way. Otherwise I will use this as a sort of standard response to future such requests. Robert (Bob) is not an Upchurch descendant but his Wife is nee Nadine Upchurch of the George Upchurch Clan.

We have just returned from a two week visit to North Carolina where much family history progress was made. Of special interest was putting my new GPS device to work in identifying locations. Now to learn how to migrate the details to my computer and to manipulate the maps.

All Best Wishes.

Phil Upchurch

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DAVID

RANSOME - 2009

①
25 MAR
2009

Subject:
From: david ransome <emosnard@hotmail.com>
Date: Wed, Mar 25, 2009 10:32 am
To: Phil UPchurch <phil@upchurchstory.com>

Dear Phil,

Did your family ever own slaves? When I reached Suffolk last week I found waiting for me a cutting from the Daily Telegraph that Malcolm Clydesdale had sent me, and it is that which has provoked my question.

The cutting reproduces the 1982 Prom photograph of Michelle Robinson (as she then was) with David Upchurch. Both then lived on Chicago's South Side, and after David's father died Michelle's father took David "under his wing". Upchurch is now a divorced father of three living in Colorado Springs and is said to be a "customer service representative" - though I'm not sure just what that is.

I don't immediately send the cutting, but can send a photocopy if you are sufficiently interested. I'm assuming that the black Upchurches took the name of their Upchurch master at the time of emancipation, and I further assume that David Upchurch's ancestor [grandfather or great-grandfather] went north to Chicago about the time of WWI. Of course my assumptions are based on generalizations that may be all too far from the historical truth.

My most recent visit to New England was prompted by nothing more urgent than the realisation that my yearlong health insurance would permit an extra visit without further payment before it ran out. We stayed close to home during my visit - cold weather and two snowstorms encouraging immobility - but I did make a melancholy trip to Chicago. The former student with whom we stayed last May on our way to you, after a miserable six months in hospitals and nursing homes, died in January, and I wanted to be at the memorial service for him at the U of Chicago. He wasn't of course a son, but I still felt uncomfortably like a bereaved parent.

Are you travelling this summer? Joyce arrives in mid-June, and we are committed to the Durham conference in mid-July. Joyce will update her thoughts on John Ferrar's termagant wife Bathsheba, and I'm planning to look at three of the Ferrars' difficult sons. They illustrate the variety that is comprehended within the term 'black sheep': one got into debt, one was certainly an idle (and possibly a criminal) London apprentice, and the third as a Cambridge undergraduate made an unsuitable - and under-age - marriage to a town girl. The family's reactions were similarly varied: the first they helped into sanctuary, to cheat the creditors, but kept the delinquent at arm's length; the second was sent out East (and against all the odds returned over ten years later prosperous); the last occasioned emotional arguments for two years and more, involving not only the extended family but calling into play Trinity College's Old Boy network. The choices were either to send him to the colonies or to make him a minister of the Church of England. Believe it or not, the latter was the option preferred! With any luck the paper should be rather more lively than the one I gave last year when I was explaining the finances of the Virginia Company. We also reckon to go to Sweden in September, to see the burial mounds at Uppsala. The tour is organised by the Sutton Hoo Society, formed to protect the site of the staggeringly rich 7th-century ship burial mound here in Suffolk. (The treasures retrieved from it in 1939 are normally to be seen in the British Museum.)

After that I look forward to Thanksgiving and Christmas in New England; I'm sorry that Missouri is not closer so that we could get together.

With best wishes to you both, David

②
29 MAR
2009

Subject: Slaves
From: phil@upchurchstory.com
Date: Sun, Mar 29, 2009 7:52 pm
To: emosnard@hotmail.com

Hi David---

Thanks for your most interesting email of the 25th. At the first reading I took your Upchurch slave reference to be of the generic variety. It was only on a second reading the next day that I realized that your mention of "Michelle" referred to the now First Lady. While my political leanings (sorry about that) do not cause me to think that your report might eventually lead to my invitation to dine at the White House, I hasten to make as much hay out of the matter as one can. After all, my stock in trade as the Upchurch Family historian has been to set forth that our best claim to fame is through footnotes in history. So, here, thanks to you and Malcolm, we have another one. I would, in fact, like to have a copy of the clipping in due course if it is not too much trouble. No rush.
