

Greetings, Cousins!



As we move through 2026, I am pleased to share another issue of *The Warren Cousins President's Letter* filled with news, opportunities, and accomplishments that demonstrate the vitality of our organization and the enduring legacy of Richard and Elizabeth Warren.

This year promises to be an exciting one for our Society. I hope many of you will join us in Plymouth during the General Congress of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants in September. We are planning a special Warren Cousins gathering featuring a recreation of the marriage of Mary Warren and Robert Bartlett, along with time to reconnect with fellow descendants and friends. It will be a wonderful opportunity to celebrate our shared heritage together.

Our Annual Meeting will be held virtually on July 12 and will include consideration of several proposed bylaw amendments and the election of officers for the 2026-2029 term. The proposed changes are designed to simplify our membership structure and strengthen leadership continuity, while preserving the traditions and purposes that have guided The Warren Cousins for more than five decades.

This September, I will have the privilege of returning to England as part of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants' Pilgrim Origins Tour. One of the highlights of the journey will be another visit to St. John the Baptist Church in Great Amwell, Hertfordshire, where Richard Warren and Elizabeth Walker were married on April 14, 1610. Standing within the walls of this remarkable church, which remains largely unchanged since the time of their wedding more than four centuries ago, provides a powerful connection to our Pilgrim ancestors and the lives they lived before the voyage of *Mayflower*. It is especially meaningful to return to the church where The Warren Cousins dedicated the Richard and Elizabeth Warren Memorial in 2023, a lasting tribute made possible through the generosity and vision of our members. I look forward to sharing photographs and reflections from the visit in a future issue of the *President's Letter* and continuing our efforts to preserve and celebrate the legacy of Richard and Elizabeth Warren.



Whether you are a longtime member or recently joined our Society, thank you for your membership. Together, we honor the memory of Richard and Elizabeth Warren while ensuring that their story remains alive for generations yet to come. I look forward to seeing many of you at our Annual Meeting in July and in Plymouth this September.

Warm regards,

Martin W. Beerman
President, The Warren Cousin

The Warren Cousins to Gather at Mayflower Congress in September

The Warren Cousins will gather on Friday, September 11 from 4 to 5:30 p.m. in the Patuxet Room at Plimoth Patuxet Museums for a recreation of the Marriage of Mary Warren and Robert Bartlett, and social time with Cousins. Light refreshments are included and there is no charge to attend! If you plan to come, email TheWarrenCousins@gmail.com. Members and prospective members are welcome!



Following The Warren Cousins Gathering, members are invited to join the Pilgrim John Howland Society's Annual Banquet beginning at 6 p.m. in Plimoth Patuxet Museum's Gainsborough Hall, featuring Jonathan Lane, who will present "From Mayflower Compact to the Cause of Liberty: The Howland Family's Revolutionary Arc."

The "family style" New England Harvest feast includes apple cider, cheate bread and butter, romaine and watercress sallet, mussels with parsley and beer, turkey, cabbage with leeks and onions, sweet pudding of native corn, stewed pompion, roasted pork, fish, cheesecake with almonds and spices, and a platter of cheese and fruit.

Cost is \$70 per person. To register, visit <https://pilgrimjohnhowlandsociety.org>. Or mail a check and

registration information to The Pilgrim John Howland Society, P.O. Box 1479, Plymouth, MA 02362-1479.



Jonathan Lane is the Executive Director of Revolution 250, a consortium of more than 70 organizations across Massachusetts coordinating the commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution. He has more than 30 years of experience in public history, tourism, and cultural programming.

Lane's professional work has included positions with Plimoth Patuxet Museums, the American Antiquarian Society, Berklee College of Music, and the Massachusetts Historical Society, while his research has taken him to archives and libraries across the United States and the United Kingdom. He is the author of a monograph on songs for British soldiers in the eighteenth century and the editor of *From the Potomac to the Etowah: The Civil War Correspondence of Alonzo Hall Quint*.

In 2024 he received the Massachusetts Office of Travel and Tourism's Revolutionary Achievement Award from Governor Maura Healey. Lane is a member of the Society of the Cincinnati, the Sons of the American Revolution, the Colonial Society of Massachusetts, and the Alden Kindred of America.

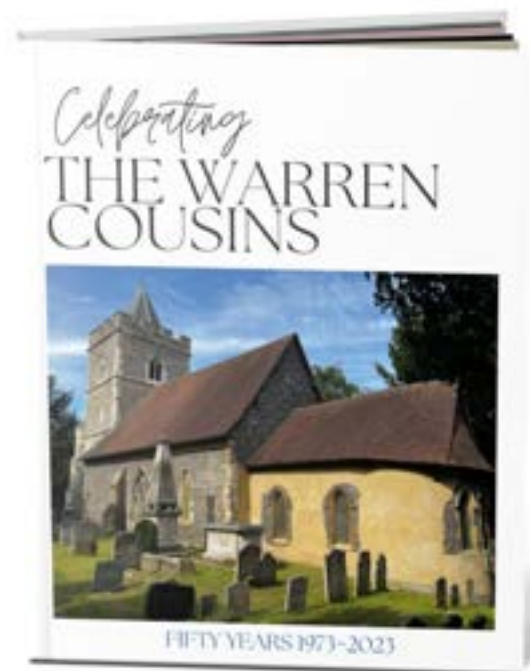
[Celebrating The Warren Cousins](#)

The Warren Memorial Dedication Commemorative Book is still available!

The special commemorative keepsake book not only celebrates the Memorial Dedication at Great Amwell in September 2023, but the first 50 years of The Warren Cousins (1973-2023).

As you know, to celebrate the legacy of The Warren Cousins, we commissioned a permanent memorial for Richard and Elizabeth in St. John the Baptist Church in Great Amwell, Hertfordshire, England, where the couple married 14 April 1610. The church dates to the 11th century and is essentially structurally unchanged since the 1610 wedding. With further research, we may someday learn where Richard was born and baptized; for now, the Great Amwell Parish is the most significant origin site in Richard and Elizabeth's lives.

The memorial was made possible through the incredible support of member donors. In fact, we raised 90 percent of our \$10,000 goal toward the memorial's cost. Thank you to everyone who played a role in this legacy to honor our Pilgrim ancestors and support this extraordinary project.



Celebrating The Warren Cousins: Fifty Years 1973-2023

The commemorative book captures the two significant milestones of 2023 – the 50th anniversary of our founding in 1973 and the 400th anniversary of the 10 July 1623 arrival of *Anne*, carrying Elizabeth (Walker) Warren and her five daughters.

The 86-page book includes:

- **The Warren Family Story**
- **The Warren Cousins: Our Story** – a brief history, officers through the years, and tribute to founder Lura Newton Sellew.
- **England Tour** – a tour diary written by Board Member Vicki Barge and photos from the 7-day adventure for the 16 travelers on the special tour focused on Elizabethan and Jacobean England at the time of the Mayflower Passengers that culminated in the Memorial Dedication Service.
- **Memorial Dedication** – featuring Evening Prayer and Memorial Dedication Order of Service, Sermon, Intercessions, photos, and how the memorial came to be.
- **St. John the Baptist Church, Great Amwell** – deep dive in the church's history by Stuart Moye, plus photos.
- **Warren Memorial Donors** – donor honor roll list.
- **Warren Lineages** – Donors who contributed \$250 are recognized with their Line of Descent from Richard Warren. Those who donated \$500 or more are recognized with a detailed (dates and places) Line of Descent from Richard Warren.
- **The Warren Cousins in the News** – local news coverage about the memorial dedication event.
- **Looking to the Future** – 1670 Warren House; and using DNA to unlock Richard Warren's origins.

To order or view the book, visit www.prestophoto.com/bookstore/626134

You can order a copy of the book directly from PrestoPrint, the publishing vendor. The price ranges from \$30.79 to \$66.59 for each copy of the book, depending on the size you choose (8x10 or 8.5x11) and the type of cover (hardback or paperback), plus the cost of the shipping method you select.

To keep the cost per book as low as possible for you, there is no fundraising component to this for The Warren Cousins. Our only expense as an organization was the purchase of several copies to give as thank you gifts to the church and community leaders who were instrumental in making the memorial a reality and thereby helping us preserve the legacy of Richard and Elizabeth Warren.

The Warren Cousins Annual Meeting

The Warren Cousins Annual Meeting is Sunday, July 12 at 5 p.m. EDT via Zoom. Amendments to the Bylaws and Election of Officers for 2026-2029 are the primary agenda items.

A meeting Zoom link will be distributed via email to all members with a current email on file on Friday, July 10.



Rational for Proposed Bylaws Amendments

ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP AND FEES

The proposed amendment modernizes the Society's membership structure by eliminating annual membership categories and replacing them with life memberships only. This change simplifies administration, eliminates the need to track annual dues, delinquencies, and reinstatements, and better reflects the Society's current membership practices.

The amendment also creates an Associate Life Membership category for individuals who support the purposes of The Warren Cousins but are not lineal descendants of Richard Warren. Associate Life Members, like current Associate Members, do not possess voting rights. Additionally, the amendment updates terminology in Section (a) by replacing the word "dues" with "applicable membership fee," ensuring consistency with the proposed life membership structure.

If adopted, all Annual Members of record on July 12, 2026, would convert to Life Membership without additional fee.

ARTICLE VI – EXECUTIVE BOARD

The proposed amendment adds the Immediate Past President to the Executive Board. This change preserves institutional knowledge and provides continuity in leadership during officer transitions. The Past President's experience and familiarity with Society operations can assist the Board in long-range planning, historical perspective, and the implementation of ongoing initiatives. The amendment strengthens governance while maintaining the Board's existing structure and responsibilities.

ARTICLE III – Membership and Fees

Current Bylaw	Proposed Amendment (Mark-Up)	Final Version if Approved
ARTICLE III Membership and Fees: (a) Any person who is a lineal descendant of Richard Warren, Mayflower Pilgrim may become a voting member upon payment of the application fee and dues. (b) Application for membership shall be made in writing upon a form accepted by the society, or a copy of an approved Richard Warren application to a society affiliated with the General Society of Mayflower Descendants. The application and any requested lineage documentation shall be submitted to the Registrar who shall have full power to determine the qualifications of the applicant. (c) Every applicant whose papers have been approved by the Registrar shall become a voting member of the Society and will be furnished with an appropriate certificate of membership. (d) The following types of membership are authorized: 1. Lineage Annual Member: Any person who has filed an approved lineage to Richard Warren and who pays annual membership. 2. Lineage Life Member: Any person who has filed an approved lineage to Richard Warren and who pays a life membership fee. 3. Associate Member: Any person who supports the aim and purpose of The Warren Cousins and pays the annual associate member fee. Associate members do not vote.	ARTICLE III Membership and Fees: (a) Any person who is a lineal descendant of Richard Warren, Mayflower Pilgrim, may become a voting member upon payment of the application fee and dues <u>applicable membership fee</u> (b) Application for membership shall be made in writing upon a form accepted by the society, or a copy of an approved Richard Warren application to a society affiliated with the General Society of Mayflower Descendants. The application and any requested lineage documentation shall be submitted to the Registrar who shall have full power to determine the qualifications of the applicant. (c) Every applicant whose papers have been approved by the Registrar shall become a voting member of the Society and will be furnished with an appropriate certificate of membership. (d) The following types of membership are authorized: 1. Lineage Annual Member: Any person who has filed an approved lineage to Richard Warren and who pays annual membership. 2. Lineage Life Member: <u>1. Lineage Life Member:</u> Any person who has filed an approved lineage to Richard Warren and who pays a life membership fee. <u>2. Associate Life Member: Any person who supports the aim and purpose of The Warren Cousins and who pays the Associate Life Membership fee. Associate Life Members do</u>	ARTICLE III Membership and Fees: (a) Any person who is a lineal descendant of Richard Warren, Mayflower Pilgrim, may become a voting member upon payment of the application fee and applicable membership fee. (b) Application for membership shall be made in writing upon a form accepted by the society, or a copy of an approved Richard Warren application to a society affiliated with the General Society of Mayflower Descendants. The application and any requested lineage documentation shall be submitted to the Registrar who shall have full power to determine the qualifications of the applicant. (c) Every applicant whose papers have been approved by the Registrar shall become a voting member of the Society and will be furnished with an appropriate certificate of membership. (d) The following types of membership are authorized: 1. Lineage Life Member: Any person who has filed an approved lineage to Richard Warren and who pays a life membership fee. 2. Associate Life Member: Any person who supports the aim and purpose of The Warren Cousins and who pays the Associate Life Membership fee. Associate Life Members do not vote.

(e) Any person who shall be two years in arrears of annual dues and who shall fail to pay them within one month after notification shall cease to be a member of the society. Any member may withdraw from membership by notifying the treasurer in writing. Any prior annual member may be reinstated by resuming payment of the current annual dues.	<u>not vote.</u> 3. Associate Member: Any person who supports the aim and purpose of The Warren Cousins and pays the annual associate member fee. Associate members do not vote. (e) Any person who shall be two years in arrears of annual dues and who shall fail to pay them within one month after notification shall cease to be a member of the society. Any member may withdraw from membership by notifying the treasurer in writing. Any prior annual member may be reinstated by resuming payment of the current annual dues.	
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ARTICLE VI – Executive Board

Current Bylaw	Proposed Amendment (Mark-Up)	Final Version if Approved
ARTICLE VI Executive Board: There shall be an Executive Board composed of the officers and three (3) other elected members. This Board shall have control of the affairs and finances of the society.	ARTICLE VI Executive Board: There shall be an Executive Board composed of the officers, <u>the Past President</u> , and three (3) other elected members. This Board shall have control of the affairs and finances of the society.	ARTICLE VI Executive Board: There shall be an Executive Board composed of the officers, the Past President, and three (3) other elected members. This Board shall have control of the affairs and finances of the society.

New Officers to be Elected at the Annual Meeting

The following slate of officers is proposed for a three-year term, 2026-2029:

President: **Martin W. Beerman***

Vice President: **George P. Garmany Jr., M.D.***

Secretary: **Gail Adams***

Treasurer: **Vicki Campbell Barge***

Registrar: **Merrilee Carlson**

Board of Directors: **Keith Kammenzind*, Lori Liljenquist and Lisa Shoemaker**

Past President: **Marti Bobertz***

*Current officer or board member.

A very special thank you to Board Members the **Rev. Dr. W. Becket Soule, O.P.**, and **Marsha Berland** whose terms are ending.



About the new nominees:

Merrilee Carlson is Historian for the Minnesota Mayflower Society.

Lori Liljenquist is Utah Mayflower Society Secretary.

Lisa Shoemaker is Chair of GSMD's Historic Trips Committee and a member of the Kansas Mayflower Society.

Welcome New Members!

The Warren Cousins extends a warm welcome to these new members who joined since the last *President's Letter* was published in Fall 2025:

- 1211 **William Cyril Cassada**, Bristol, CT – Abigail
- 1212 **Robert Howard Lindow**, Fullerton, CA – Elizabeth
- 1213 **Rachel Anne Bodner**, Newnan, GA – Mary
- 1214 **Christopher Adam Goodfellow**, Dartmouth, MA – Sarah
- 1215 **John Aaron Goodfellow**, St. Petersburg, FL – Sarah
- 1216 **Heidi Goodfellow Martin**, Acushnet, MA – Sarah
- 1217 **Douglas Dale Conly**, Lydonville, VT – Nathaniel
- 1218 **Jay Frederick Meyer**, Big Lake, MN – Mary
- 1219 **Philip Jonathan Webster**, Easton, MD – Abigail
- 1220 **Robert Charles Brown**, Appleton, MN – Nathaniel
- 1221 **Robert Wales Trezise**, Amesbury, MA – Anna
- 1222 **Catherine Gwynn**, West Falmouth, MA – Mary
- 1223 **Sharron Lee Laplante**, Tolland, CT – Elizabeth
- 1224 **Ila Jean Carpenter**, Fort Collins, CO – Mary
- 1225 **Kelly Lynn Vanwormer**, Port Huron, MI – Sarah
- 1226 **Katherine Marie Brandi**, Wilmington, NC – Anna
- 1227 **Merrilee Sophia Carlson**, Hastings, MN – Anna
- 1228 **Daniel Lewis Fuller**, Myrtle Beach, SC – Sarah
- 1229 **Margaret Anne Stehle**, Palo Alto, CA – Sarah



Newsletter Distribution Update

Effective with this issue, *The Warren Cousins* newsletter will no longer be mailed through the U.S. Postal Service to members who have not provided an email address. Instead, all newsletters will be distributed electronically and made available on our website. This change reflects the increasing costs of printing, paper, envelopes, and postage, as well as the significant volunteer time required to prepare and mail printed copies. By moving to a digital-only distribution model, we can reduce expenses, conserve resources, and devote more of our time and funds to preserving and sharing the history and legacy of the Warren family.

Members who do not currently receive the newsletter by email may access both current and past issues on our website. Simply visit www.TheWarrenCousins.com and click **Newsletter Archive** on the home page. If you would like to begin receiving the newsletter directly by email, or if you need to update your email address, please contact us at TheWarrenCousins@gmail.com. We appreciate your understanding and support as we modernize our communications and continue to serve our members in the most efficient and cost-effective manner possible.

[Have you visited www.TheWarrenCousins.com?](http://www.TheWarrenCousins.com)

The complete collection of Warren Cousins newsletters beginning in 1973 is now available on The Warren Cousins website (www.TheWarrenCousins.com).

Newsletters, and in some years only meeting announcements, were distributed from 1973 to the present. There were no newsletters for 1978. And no newsletters following founder Lura Sellew's death, for the years 1997 or 1998. Beyond that, we believe the full collection of newsletters is available here.

A Warren Cousins History, written by Board Member Revd. Dr. W. Becket Soule, O.P., and an article contributed by Stuart Moyer summarizing 19th Century renovations of St. John the Baptist Church in Great Amwell have also been added. To view these resources, visit www.TheWarrenCousins.com.

The Warren Cousins



**GREAT AMWELL CHURCH
C19TH RENOVATIONS
BY
STUART MOYER**

Great Amwell Church like many churches in England was to undergo what is sometimes referred to as a Victorian renovation. For many at the time the changes made to churches were something of a shock and regarded as acts of vandalism. At Amwell church much of what was old and familiar was indeed removed, but a few of the changes became regarded by some as the best features of the church. In addition to the physical changes the congregation at Amwell experienced considerable alterations to the nature of the services which were met with varied reactions from the parishioners.



A 1977 winter view of Great Amwell church taken during a particularly cold snowy spell.

The C19th changes made at Great Amwell Church occurred in four main periods. The first fifty years saw the churchwardens make piecemeal changes to maintain the building without too much regard for the appearance of the church. This approach was driven by the fact that the fabric of the old building needed constant work for which available finances were limited. The second phase took place in the mid to late 1850s driven by the Vicar Rev Mordecai Barnard and his curate Neville Rogers. The main changes focusing on a very thorough refurbishment of the chancel for which the Vicar had specific responsibility. The third period which took place in the mid-1860s saw extensive changes to the nave and other work carried out by both the Churchwardens and the Vicar Rev. Parnell. It was the changes made by the vicar that caused considerable conflict with influential individuals in the Parish as well as the Churchwardens. In addition, the Vicar introduced changes to the church services which some churchwardens and parishioners regarded as uncomfortably close to a return to the catholic faith. The remaining part of the C19th saw a fourth period of change as the Vicar continued to add to his vision of what he thought the church should look like. All done to further align the building with his 'High Church' beliefs.

THE WARREN COUSINS

Origin

Lura N. Sellew was the engine behind the formation of The Warren Cousins in the early 1970s. Not long after the 250th anniversary of the landing of the Mayflower, Lura began contacting relatives and sent out a general mailing in November 1972. The mail membership lists from some Mayflower Societies, and even phone books, to produce a list of hundreds of names of people who might have Richard Warren as an ancestor, or who might be interested in a Warren family society. A follow-up letter was sent out the following Spring along with a notice in the Mayflower Quarterly, yielding a total of 85 positive responses. All persons who applied for membership before 31 December 1973 were to be considered charter members; the total number in this category eventually reached 78.

Newsletter

The first issue of The Warren Cousins newsletter was sent out in July 1973; early issues contained a section for reporting the activities of members, proposed projects, and genealogical queries. Since there were not yet any officers or a genealogist, members were asked to send in questions, answers, or information directly to Lura, who would circulate the information in the newsletter - what would later be called "crowdsourcing." Many of the articles were taken from early issues of the Mayflower Descendant, the publication of the Massachusetts Society of Mayflower Descendants. A recurring suggestion was the placement of a memorial marker to Richard Warren on Burial Hill, under the assumption that he was buried there given his early death in 1638. Although the newsletter was originally intended to be quarterly (early issues are identified as Vol. II, nos. 3-6, or Vol. IV nos. 1-3-6), because of problems in its time-consuming production, it almost never came out more than twice a year, and in many years it only came out once annually, announcing the upcoming annual meeting and presenting the minutes of the previous annual meeting. Starting in 2021, a "President's Newsletter" took its place, and was distributed by e-mail to those who gave their addresses in order to save money. Returned newsletters and incorrect addresses were a constant headache, and not only in the early years.

The first meeting of The Warren Cousins was scheduled for the summer of 1975, at the time of the General Congress of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants in Plymouth. Proposed bylaws of a page and a half were circulated in the July 1975 issue of the newsletter (Vol. II, nos. 1-2). The first meeting took place in the Brewster Room of the Governor Carver Motel on 6 September. A brief business meeting was followed by a reception and dinner, with Claude Barlow, the Warren researcher for the Mayflower Five Generation project as the speaker. Sadly, Professor Barlow died several months later. Donations were initially set at \$1.00. At that meeting a nominating committee was named consisting of Gloria Dwyllan (New York), Robert Thorne (Virginia) and Lura Sellew (Rhode Island). A full slate of officers was sent out to the membership in the November 1975 newsletter; members were asked to return the last page as a ballot. Because of problems with the mail, most ballots were not returned until the end of January 1976. Since the slate was unopposed, it is not surprising that the election was unanimous.

1976-1980

The second meeting was held in Plymouth at the end of August 1976. A visit to the "Widow Warren's" house was announced, and while the visit had been planned several months in advance, the day before the scheduled visit, the then owners of the house called

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Saga of the Pilgrims

On October 23, 1983, *The Boston Globe* published a special 56-page magazine insert titled “Saga of the Pilgrims – New England Takes Root,” consisting of 16 chapters of Pilgrim History. Read the fifth chapter beginning on page 10. More chapters to come in future editions of the *President’s Letter*.



In search of peace and spiritual comfort

The self-exiles find friendship, homes and jobs in charming Leyden; however, a vengeful King James continues to harass them.



CHAPTER

• V •

Still in the Archives in Leyden is a record of the official action taken on the undated memorial, written in Dutch, that Rev. John Robinson sent to the Leyden magistrates and that stated respectfully:

"Some members of the Christian Reformed religion, born in the kingdom of Great Britain, to the number of 100 persons or thereabouts, men and women, represent that they are desirous of coming to live in this city by the 1st of May next; and to have the freedom thereof in carrying on their trades, without being a burden in the least to any one."

On Feb. 12, 1609, over the signature of one of their most respected leaders, Jan van Hout, the Leyden magistrates hospitably declared by way of response:

"They refuse no honest persons free ingress to come and have their residence in this city, provided that such persons behave themselves, and submit to the laws and ordinances; and therefore the coming of the memorialists will be agreeable and welcome."

Not so to King James.

The Pilgrims had hardly bundled up their belongings and come the canal route to Leyden — a passage westward toward Haarlem and then southwest to Leyden — when the king's ambassador at The Hague, only eight miles southwest of Leyden, informed the Leyden magistrates of King James' displeasure.

In straight-faced, diplomatic manner, the magistrates sent the ambassador copies of the correspondence with Rev. Robinson, and claimed that they had acted "without our having known, or as yet knowing, that the petitioners had been banished from England, or belonged to the sect of the Brownists . . . and request that we may be excused by . . . His Majesty."

This reaction was in the well-known liberal spirit of van Hout. The Leyden magistrates, of course — long accustomed to furnishing haven to religious refugees and supporting the reformist activity of their already famous university — well understood the plight of the Pilgrims. Also, a 12-year truce the Dutch signed with Spain in the spring of 1609 made subservience to the wishes of His Britannic Majesty less imperative.

King James, however, would be playing a strongly punitive role against the Pilgrims during their stay in Leyden.

"Leyden . . . a fair and beautiful city and of a sweet situation, but made more famous by the university wherewith it is adorned, in which of late had been so many learned men." In those words Bradford pinpointed the community's chief attractions, particularly the renown of its professors. One of them, Johannes Polyander — who would play an important part in the Pilgrims' dealings with King James — in telling friends of his house beside one of Leyden's numerous, Venice-like canals lined with linden trees, concluded: "I am lodged in the most beautiful spot in the world."

Leyden, like much of Holland, has the appearance of a low-lying meadow save for an artificially raised hill at the point where two branches of the Old Rhine, flowing in from the east, join near the city center and flow as a broader stream westward out of the city. On the hill, called the Burgh, was in early times a fort and later a castle.

Quick employment was a critical need for the Pilgrim newcom-

ers. Leyden had long been a center of the fine-cloth trade. A lot of the wool goods exported from England, enriching ports like Boston, were manufactured into cloth in Leyden. In those days, however, this did not mean that there were immense mills. Manufacture mostly meant work on handlooms in individual houses, with the clothing entrepreneur furnishing the working materials, and warehousing and trading the finished products.

Most of the Pilgrims got jobs in the cloth industry, the greatest number as weavers in wool, silk, linen, fustian or bombazine (a form of silk with a special weave). Some were wool combers and wool carders. Some made gloves, ribbon and twine. A few were merchants. Some tried several jobs, from baker to printer.

"They fell to such trades and employments as they best could," said Bradford, "and at length they came to raise a competent and comfortable living, but with hard and continual labor."

At first their lodgings were in the newer part of Leyden, a city which, like Amsterdam, was expanding as it prospered. Costs were lowest there, in the northwest area of the community, and so there the Pilgrims "pitched" (settled). Above all, they valued peace, said Bradford, and "their spiritual comfort above any other riches whatsoever."

"They continued many years in a comfortable condition, enjoying much sweet and delightful society and spiritual comfort together in the ways of God, under the able ministry and prudent government of Mr. John Robinson and Mr. William Brewster who was an assistant unto him in place of an Elder, unto which he was now called and chosen by the church."

"Such was the true piety, the humble zeal and fervent love of this people, whilst they thus lived together, towards God and His ways, and the singleheartedness and sincere affection one towards another, that they came as near the primitive pattern of the first churches as any other church of these later times have done. . . ."

On May 5, 1611, Rev. Robinson and some members of the church, including his brother-in-law, completed the purchase of a house "formerly called the Groene Port (Green Gate)," which had a garden and a big vacant parcel of land in the rear. The purchase was on behalf of the entire church, the price 8000 guilders (equal then to 1400 pounds), with one-fourth down and an annual mortgage payment of 500 guilders — a big debt.

Green Gate, which was used as a parsonage for Rev. Robinson and his family, is the place most associated with the Pilgrim stay in Leyden, though long since demolished. It was here that the Pilgrim congregation met and held its divine services. The house was located in the old center of Leyden on the south side of the *kof* (square) surrounding the foremost landmark in the city, St. Peter's Church, a former cathedral built in the early thirteenth century.

The house faced Bell Alley. The entrance to the old cathedral was just across the alley. A visitor leaving the house and turning left would very quickly arrive at the linden-bordered canal outside Prof. Polyander's house, and by then crossing the bridge over the canal, would arrive directly at the University of Leyden. A right turn on leaving Green Gate, and a walk of similar distance to the eastward, would lead to Leyden's main thoroughfare and another landmark, the *Stadhuis* (City Hall), an ornate medieval structure.



MODERN MEMORIAL GATEWAY TO STINK ALLEY, OFF CHURCH ALLEY IN LEYDEN. BREWSTER'S HOUSE HAD ENTRANCES ON BOTH ALLEYS.

A VIEW OF LEYDEN, WITH ITS MANY WINDMILLS, DURING PILGRIM ERA. BRADFORD CALLED IT "...A FAIR AND BEAUTIFUL CITY...."



DESTRUCTION OF PILGRIM PRESS IN BREWSTER'S HOUSE IN LEYDEN. BY TIME AUTHORITIES FOUND IT, BREWSTER HAD ALREADY FLED TO ENGLAND.



GARDEN AREA IN COURTYARD OF ALMS HOUSE IS SITE WHERE PILGRIM CARPENTER BUILT 21 SMALL DWELLINGS.



ALMS HOUSE, BUILT IN 1683 ON SITE OF GREEN GATE, LEYDEN, WHERE REV. ROBINSON LIVED AND PILGRIMS WORSHIPPED.



The house, under lease when purchased, was not available for another year. But the big vacant parcel of land was accessible and a carpenter member of the congregation, William Jepson, began construction of 21 small dwellings on two sides of the land — a sort of *hof* of its own for members of the church.

Rev. Robinson moved into Green Gate on May 1, 1612. None of the Pilgrims has left a description, but we can readily imagine their thanksgiving service or their springtime gathering in Green Gate's garden, with its well that was the watering place for all those small dwellings built by Jepson. Bradford has left a happy picture of Rev. Robinson and his flock:

"His love was great towards them; and his care was always lent for their best good, both for soul and body. For besides his singular abilities in divine things, wherein he excelled; he was also very able to give directions in civil affairs, and to foresee dangers and inconveniences; by which means he was very helpful to their outward estates; and so was, every way, as a common father unto them."

The many extant records at City Hall — public records of marriages, citizenship, real estate, mortgages — furnish vivid glimpses of Pilgrim life in Leyden.

Bradford became a citizen of Leyden in the year Rev. Robinson took over Green Gate. Bradford, now of age, had come into an inheritance from his family estate back in Austerfield. He arranged to acquire a house of his own and the following year walked with his witnesses up the magnificent staircase of City Hall for his marriage to Dorothy May, 16-year-old daughter of the elder of the Ancient Church in Amsterdam. The groom was 23.

Bradford told how "many came unto them (the Pilgrims) from divers parts of England; so as they grew to a great congregation." In all, the congregation grew during the Pilgrims' time in Leyden to some 300 parishioners. Word of the Pilgrims had gone far beyond the "eminent places" near Scrooby — Boston, Hull and Grimsby. Newcomers came from Amsterdam's Ancient Church, from London, and from shires from Yorkshire to Kent.

The new members included some of the most prominent of

the Pilgrims. There was Isaac Allerton, a London tailor, who would become a merchant and magistrate in the New World. There were three who would become deacons in Leyden: Robert Cushman, a wool comber from Canterbury; Samuel Fuller, a maker of silk, satin and serge from London; and John Carver, a Yorkshire merchant and brother-in-law of Rev. Robinson. And there was Edward Winslow, a London printer and a future colonial governor.

The names of all of these, save Carver, are among those on the marriage rolls, which record nearly 50 Pilgrim weddings in Leyden. Carver, who would be the first governor of the Pilgrims in the New World, had married the older sister of Rev. Robinson's wife before coming to Holland.

THERE WERE NEARLY 100 CHILDREN IN THE Pilgrim church during the time in Leyden — a pleasant, family picture. They were contemporaries of the artist Rembrandt, a child in Leyden in those years.

But there was a sad side, too. Childbirth was often fatal in those times, and burial records tell mournful tales. The saddest is of a friend of Brewster, Thomas Brewer, who within two months lost a child, and then his wife and another son in childbirth.

The Pilgrims' simple, steadfast, industrious way of life brought "good acceptance" from their neighbors.

"Though many of them were poor," said Bradford, "yet there was none so poor but that if they were known to be of that congregation (Brownists), the Dutch, either bakers or others, would trust them in any reasonable matter, when they wanted money; because they had found by experience, how careful they were to keep their word; and saw them so painful (painstaking) and diligent in their callings. Yea, they would strive to get their custom (business); and to employ them above others in their work, for their honesty and diligence."

In back of the land where the Pilgrims built the 21 small houses was the former Veiled Nuns' Cloister. The Leyden magistrates assigned its lower floor as the gathering place of the Reformed Scotch Church. The broad-minded pastor of the Pilgrims, Rev. Robinson, was friendly with the minister and members of this church, and they would at times hold communion together.

The clergyman's scholarship, like his tolerance, attracted many admirers, especially in the university. Soon after his arrival in Leyden Rev. Robinson, like many other exiled clergy on coming to Holland, published his opinions. He wrote a book, *A Justification of Separation*, that was a theological defense of noncompliance with England's state church. He frequented the library of the university, conveniently located in the upper floor of the nearby Cloister.

In the fall of 1615 Rev. Robinson was admitted to the university as a student of theology. Many advantages accompanied this honor: Tax exemption, exemption from service in the city guard, and allowances of 10 gallons of wine every three months and 126 gallons (half a tun) of beer every month — very welcome in an era without tea, coffee, soft drinks or a generally safe water supply.

"Great troubles" that "greatly molested the whole state" arose at this time, Bradford said, over what was called the Arminian controversy — a hot religious dispute that attracted the heavy hand of King James.

Jacobus Arminius, who up to his death was a professor of theology at the university, had preached that individuals by their own action can win salvation. This went against the rigid teaching of the Calvinists that man's salvation was a matter of heavenly predestination. The university had professors on both sides of the controversy and Rev. Robinson attended their rival lectures despite his heavy schedule of writing "sundry books" and giving three lectures a week to his congregation.

King James went so far as to persuade the Dutch authorities to influence the university to reject the candidate chosen to succeed Prof. Arminius.

Rev. Robinson was brought into the controversy by his friend Prof. Polyander, orthodox advocate of the Calvinist doctrine. The clergyman, said Bradford, "was loath, being a stranger." But the professor anxiously importuned Rev. Robinson with the appeal that "such was the ability and nimbleness of the adversary that

the truth would suffer if he (Rev. Robinson) did not help. . . ."

The Pilgrim pastor ultimately delivered three university lectures and won "much honor and respect." But the grateful university refrained from heaping any "public favor" on Rev. Robinson to avoid "giving offense to the state of England" — namely, King James.

In later developments in the controversy — developments that gravely endangered the unity of Holland — King James got the Dutch government to further twist the university's arm and prevent the famous English divine, Rev. William Ames, from joining the university's faculty.

Rev. Ames was friend or tutor to all the clergy who would fill the first pulpits in New England. Only his death prevented him from coming to the New World in later years. But his teaching — his use of direct, forceful language — shaped the sermons preached to early New Englanders. And his book for long was the principal theological text at the first training ground for New England clergy, Harvard College.

Harsher tactics than those used against Rev. Ames were employed by King James against William Brewster and his underground press.

Brewster, who had suffered the "greatest loss" in the flight from Scrooby to Holland, had financial difficulties that were the more burdensome because of his age. In those early years "he suffered much hardship," said Bradford, "as he had spent the most of his means, having a great charge (expense) and many children; and, in regard of his former breeding and course of life, not so fit for many employments as others were; especially such as were toilsome and laborious. But yet he ever bore his condition with much cheerfulness and contentation (contentment)."

Brewster's schooling at Cambridge came to his aid. He could speak Latin, the scholar's tongue. The University of Leyden drew many students from Denmark and Germany. Brewster prepared a book of rules, in the style of Latin grammar books, and taught English in his dwelling. "Many gentlemen, both Danes and Germans," said Bradford, "resorted to him, as they had time from other studies: some of them being great men's sons."

BREWSTER'S GREATEST SOURCE OF HELP, HOWEVER, was Thomas Brewer, a wealthy gentleman from Kent who came to live in Leyden, in a house he purchased in Bell Alley just a door but one from Rev. Robinson's Green Gate. It was called the Green House.

Brewer, a man in his late 30s, about 10 years younger than Brewster, was a member of the Reformed Scotch Church. He was a Puritan zealous to spread the gospel. He made his house a center for students, among them a doctor and a future minister of his church. Brewer himself was enrolled in the University of Leyden as a scholar in literature.

Chiefly with Brewer's financing, Brewster was able late in 1616 to make arrangements for publishing from his dwelling on Stink Alley, a narrow passageway off Choir Alley, which runs from the main city street with its City Hall to the square surrounding St. Peter's Church, entering the square toward the rear of the church. Brewster's L-shaped, three-family house also had an entrance on Choir Alley.

Brewster and his helpers had "employment enough," said Bradford, "and by reason of many books which would not be allowed to be printed in England, they might have had more than they could do."

Financial aid made it possible for Brewster, who was not a printer himself, to secure a master printer from London, John Reynolds. With Reynolds came an apprentice printer, or assistant, who would become a most eminent Pilgrim. He was Edward Winslow, then 21 years of age. They both lived in Brewster's house, and, when they soon went with their brides to be married at City Hall, members of the Brewster family went as attendants.

Brewster's publications were far more religious than commercial in nature. The first few books, in Latin and Dutch, bore his name; the date, 1617; and the words *In Vico Chouvi*, which is the Latin translation of Choir Alley and the name most often associated with these Pilgrim printing activities. The fact that none of the first three books was in English and that only these bear the



PROF. POLYANDER OF LEYDEN UNIVERSITY PLAYED CRITICAL ROLE IN PILGRIMS' DEALINGS WITH KING JAMES.



BREWSTER'S FIRST BOOK, COMMENTARIES — A LATIN COMMENTARY ON RELIGIOUS PROVERBS — CARRIES PREFACE BY PROF. POLYANDER.



SIR DUDLEY CARLETON, KING JAMES' AMBASSADOR AT THE HAGUE, WAS KEY FIGURE IN SEARCH FOR BREWSTER IN HOLLAND.



TITLE PAGE OF PERTH ASSEMBLY, WHICH DENOUNCED EFFORT BY KING JAMES TO IMPOSE A HIERARCHY OF BISHOPS ON SCOTTISH CHURCH.

Brewster imprint indicates that they were intended to provide the later printing with protection.

Eventually some dozen-and-a-half books came from Choir Alley, which would keep such a small enterprise very busy. Later events, when the authorities raided the premises, suggest that no press work was done there and that the type, when set, was taken for printing to Dutch shops.

Significantly, Prof. Polyander wrote a preface to Brewster's first book, a Latin commentary on religious proverbs. Brewster's printing had other associations with the university, including tracts on the Arminian controversy. One of his other earliest books was a polemic by Rev. Ames, who was such a personal source of irritation to King James even though the clergyman was one of those Puritans who wanted to stay within the state church.

Late in 1618, with Europe about to be plunged into the devastation and agony of the Thirty Years War, and with Prince Maurice of Orange eager for English assistance, King James was able to get the Dutch ruler to issue an edict that prohibited foreigners in Holland from printing books objectionable to friendly foreign countries.

King James had reason. Earlier that year, in August, he had called a church synod at Perth, the ancient capital of Scotland, in an effort to impose a hierarchical structure of bishops over the presbyters, the elders, of the Scottish church.

The Scots were unalterably opposed. The historian of the Scottish church, nonconforming David Calderwood, wrote a tract denouncing the Perth Assembly. To get it printed, he fled to Holland, and in a few months *Perth Assembly*, printed with type from Brewster's fonts, appeared in Scotland. It had been smuggled into Scotland concealed in wine vats. King James was incensed.

The captain of the guard in Edinburgh, on the king's orders, searched the "booths and houses" of three booksellers there but found neither *Perth Assembly* nor the author.

An innocent Scotch bookseller who happened to be in London was seized and brought before the angry king. "The devil take you away, both body and soul," raged King James to the kneeling bookseller, "for you are none of my religion." As for his Scottish subjects in general, the king added: "The devil rive (split) their souls and bodies all in collops (slices), and cast them into hell!" The bookseller was unjustly kept in prison for three months.

In July 1619 His Majesty's ambassador at The Hague, Sir Dudley Carleton, came across some copies of *Perth Assembly* and some clues. He hurried off a message to King James' secretary of state, Sir Robert Naunton, at Whitehall Palace: "I am informed it is printed by a certain English Brownist of Leyden, as are most of the Puritan books sent over, of late days, into England." In view of the new Dutch edict, Carleton said that he would complain to the Dutch authorities.

Five days later Carleton hustled off another note to Naunton in which he said that the culprit was "one William Brewster, a Brownist, who hath been, for some years, an inhabitant and printer at Leyden; but is now within these three weeks . . . gone back to dwell in London . . . where he may be found out and examined." If Brewster was not the printer, advised Carleton, "he assuredly knows both the printer and the author."

Carleton was right. Brewster was already in England and some three months earlier — doubtless aware of the royal man-hunt — had, as Pilgrim Deacon Robert Cushman, then in England, wrote the Pilgrims back in Leyden, gone "into the north" of England. Brewster, sought by the authorities in three countries — England, Scotland and Holland — had gone underground.

Now began something of a comedy of errors. The sleuths were unquestionably misled by friends of Brewster, particularly his friends at the University of Leyden, where his tutoring of scholars had made him quite popular.

Naunton wrote to Carleton that Brewster was not to be found in London and that he must be somewhere in Holland. Carleton wrote back that he was informed Brewster was not only not in Leyden but unlikely to be there any time soon, "having removed from thence both his family and goods. . . ."

From King James came something more menacing for the Dutch, eager for his good will. The king had commanded him, Naunton said, to tell Carleton to "deal roundly with the States-

General (the Dutch central government) in his name, for the apprehension of him, the said Brewster, as they tender (value) His Majesty's friendship."

Carleton began to get hints that Brewster was in Leyden . . . no, maybe Amsterdam. He had searches made, keeping Naunton (and, of course, the irritated king) informed.

Then, suddenly, Carleton triumphantly informed them that Brewster had been taken in Leyden. But Carleton was quickly forced to get off another message explaining that he was in error — an error caused by a bailiff, "a dull, drunken fellow [who] took one man for another."

The man under arrest was Brewster's benefactor, Thomas Brewer.

Brewer told the authorities that "his business heretofore had been printing, or having printing done," but he blandly explained that he had quit any printing the prior December because of the edict making it illegal. He identified Brewster as "his partner," but, by way of throwing the pursuers off scent, said that Brewster was "in town at present, but sick."

The bailiff, now certainly sober, rechecked and reported that Brewster "had already left" Leyden. Brewer, being "a member of the university," was now transferred to the university authorities. When the bailiff asked assistance from the university in seizing the illegal printing supplies, university officials — most likely with tongue in cheek — appointed Prof. Polyander, Brewster's friend, to help him.

THEY FOUND "THE TYPES" IN THE GARRET OF Brewster's former dwelling in Stink Alley. They made a catalogue of the books found. Then the bailiff had "the garret door nailed in two places, and the seal of the said officer, impressed in green wax over the paper, is placed upon the lock and the nails. . . ."

Naunton wrote consolingly to Carleton: "I am sorry that Brewster's person hath so escaped you; but I hope Brewer will help you find him out."

Brewer did no such thing.

It was now, however, that Rev. Ames' desire for appointment at the University of Leyden was wrecked. In going over the catalogue of Brewster's books, Carleton noticed that Rev. Ames "hath his hand in many of these." Carleton told Naunton he therefore "desired the curators of the University of Leyden not to admit him (Rev. Ames) to a place of public professor . . . until he hath given His Majesty full satisfaction." That, given the king's attitude, was impossible.

The questioning of Brewer did not satisfy King James. He sent word from Hampton Court, by Naunton, that he would like to have Brewer remanded to England and would also like the States-General to republish its edict to prevent the "vending underhand of such scandalous and libellous" publications as *Perth Assembly*.

The king's request ran headlong into difficulties raised by the university. Its officials were unwilling to remand Brewer, and felt they should be the ones to try him. Carleton got the Prince of Orange to speak personally with the university rector. Finally Prof. Polyander arranged a compromise: Brewer was to go "voluntarily" to England, with the assurance that he could return to Holland within three months free of expenses, and unharmed.

Carleton called Brewer "a professed Brownist" who had "mortgaged and consumed a great part of his estate . . . through the reveries (dreams) of his religion." Questioning of Brewer in London proved futile. Naunton wrote Carleton that Brewer "did all that a silly creature could to increase his (the king's) unsatisfaction." Brewer was discharged. But he did not return to Holland.

A few years later Brewer, persecuted by the bishops for aiding gatherings of nonconformists in Kent, was fined 1000 pounds and imprisoned. He remained in King's Bench Prison for 14 years, until he was released by act of the Long Parliament, on the eve of the civil war against King James' son and successor, Charles I.

Brewster, in heading "into the north," may well have avoided a much worse fate than Brewer's, with King James — called "the wisest fool in Christendom" by the chief minister of a French monarch — thirsting for his arrest.

Richard Warren Marker in Middleboro, Massachusetts

“IN MEMORY OF
RICHARD WARREN AND HIS DESCENDANTS
IN THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION
IN COMMEMORATION OF MY SEVENTY FOURTH BIRTHDAY
COUNTESS, MAGRI
MRS. GEN. TOM THUMB
OCT. 31, 1915”

From the Middleborough Historical Association website (<https://middleboroughhistoricalassociation.org/about-us/>) we learn more about the person who established the marker and why such a marker appears in Middleboro:

*The Middleborough Historical Museum opened in 1961 after a lengthy remodeling period. It was after we received a large collection of memorabilia related to the celebrity couple, Lavinia Warren (1842-1919) and her husband Charles Stratton (1838-1883). They were famous entertainers and little people, known as General and Mrs. **Tom Thumb** in P.T. Barnum's American Museum. The items were sold to us for \$3,000 from Lavinia's nephew, Benjamin W. Bump. Benjamin had worked for decades to gather the missing pieces of his aunt's life and fulfill her wish: "Remember me." Many more items have been added to our collection by generous donors.*

More about Lavinia (Warren) Thumb Magri can be found at:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lavinia_Warren

Her pedigree chart to Richard Warren and other Mayflower passengers can be found on:

<https://famouskin.com/pedigree.php?name=93166+lavinia+warren&ahnum=1>

Thanks to Brett Lindholm of Mayflower Web Design for photographing this marker and bringing it to our attention.





Staying in Touch

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Mary Warren – Robert Bartlett
 Anna Warren – Thomas Little
 Sarah Warren – John Cooke

Elizabeth Warren – Richard Church
 Abigail Warren – Anthony Snow
 Nathaniel Warren – Sarah Walker

Joseph Warren – Priscilla Faunce