



# Lothrop Family Foundation, Inc.

## Newsletter

Summer 2009

WWW.Lothropp.org

Vol. XX, No. 3

### 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Reunion at Cape Cod, October 9-11

#### LOTHROPP FAMILY REUNION

CAPE COD, MA

OCTOBER 9-10-11, 2009

How often in a lifetime does the occurrence of three significant events converge to give cause for celebration? The Lo/Lathrop family will be observing these events at our biennial reunion on October 9-10-11, 2009 on Cape Cod.

The 375<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the arrival of Rev. John Lothrop and his followers in America and the 20th anniversary of the founding of the Lothrop Family Foundation start the celebrating. The rededication of the Bible of Rev. John, after a preservation detail, will be a once in a lifetime experience. Nothing is dearer to the hearts of his descendants than his Bible.

We will gather at the Radisson Hotel in Hyannis, MA. On Friday, we will have a cookout while we greet old friends and meet new cousins. On Saturday, we start with a luncheon and program to honor Mark Lothrop. This will be followed by the rededication of Rev. John's Bible at Sturgis Library and a visit to the Daniel Davis House. Our Saturday night banquet will feature a speaker from Plimoth Plantation, playing the part of Alice Bradford, wife of Gov. Bradford. She makes the time of the early settlers come alive and speaks of how people lived their lives. Sunday breakfast and biennial business meeting will close the weekend.

Please bring small items relating to your branch of the family which you would like to display and share in the 'Family Room'. Pictures and other memorabilia would be appropriate and of interest to others.

We suggest that you travel to and from Cape Cod early in the day to avoid traffic problems. No activities are planned on Monday, October 12, 2009 for that very reason.

The Reunion Registration Desk at the hotel in Hyannis will be open on Friday, October 9, 2009 from 2:00-7:00 PM, prior to the cookout. Your Registration envelope will contain the following: your name tags, schedule of events, maps with directions to the cookout, seating assignments for meals, &tc.

. Continued on the Right column →

#### Our President's Message

By Lee Benoit, President

I'm so excited to write a couple of lines about the upcoming 20th anniversary celebration of the Lothrop Family Foundation!

Helen Taber and Dan McConnell have really outdone themselves putting together a pretty spectacular weekend on the Cape. Events include a BBQ cookout on Friday night so you can reconnect with cousins and friends. Whether it is your first time visit to the Cape or to reacquaint yourself with the many historical Lothrop sites along the King's Highway you will enjoy yourself. Of course, the piece de resistance, is the rededication of Reverend John Lothrop's bible at the Sturgis Library.

This is a once in a lifetime opportunity. All of this with a backdrop of the beautiful New England Fall foliage! Now, come on, how can you resist? I hope to see you there!

*Lee Benoit*

#### Cape Cod 2009 Reunion, Continued:

Further, the Reunion Registration Desk will be open on Saturday, October 10, 2009 from 10:00-12:00 AM, prior to lunch

Deadline for submitting Registration, choice of meals, check, etc. is SEPTEMBER 19, 2009.

We look forward to your joining us at the reunion. For further information, please contact: [www.LOTHROPP.org](http://www.LOTHROPP.org)

**Helen Lathrop Taber and Dan McConnell**

Lothrop Family Foundation Reunion Coordinators.

#### Speaking of Reunions

I have learned that many of you are enjoying regional or extended Family Reunions, which by the way, the Lothrop Family Foundation strongly encourages and supports. If you are involved in one of these events would you let us know at the *Newsletter*? We would be pleased to publicize it in the Lothrop Family Foundation *Newsletter*. If you have stories and or photos of these types of events to share, would you forward them to us?

Thanks, Gordon Lothrop, Editor

"Angels can fly because they take themselves lightly."  
G. K. Chesterton

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Dear Dan and Helen:

I recently received the postcard about the cancellation of the Lake George Reunion, and also the news that there may be a Lothrop family reunion on Cape Cod in October.

We're very interested in partnering with the Foundation on this by having a re-dedication of the Lothrop Bible be part of your reunion activities. We have completed the new grant-funded case for the Bible, have replaced the lighting, and are in the process of putting together a publication that:

**From the Editor**

Greetings Cousins,

Well, I am still at it and still pleased to be, too. This has been an interesting time for the Foundation and for me personally.

For the Foundation, of course, we decided to cancel the July Reunion at Lake George. The economy being the chief reason, I think. The second reason perhaps is the difficulty of getting there.

FORTUNATELY, for all of us in the 2-year *Reunion Cycle* we are hosting a 20<sup>th</sup> **Anniversary Reunion** on Cape Cod on October 9, 10, 11. This is a beautiful time

to be on the Cape, I hope to see you all there.

On the personal side of "interesting" I went to work one day and came home retired!! A bit of a shock, but not all that bad, really. I am developing some other interests and ways to fill that 40 per week void. Among these, I will be conducting historic tours on the Salem Trolley. Since I know a bit about the history of the area and am a bit of a "show-off" it should be a hoot! There is a lot to see and do in Salem, and if you are in the area, take the tour.

Also, I need to tend to some business:

- Item 1:** Our *Revised 2009 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Reunion* will be centered around the **Radisson Hotel** in Hyannis, at 287 Iyannough Rd. Phone: 800-447-4136 Rooms are at \$129/night. Mention the Lothrop Family Foundation Reunion.
- Item 2:** The foundation is accepting nominations for other board positions. Please let Lee Benoit know about your interest; use the contact information at the left of this column. These will be voted on at the reunion.
- Item 3:** Please note the new E-mail address for Lee is **lee\_bnt@yahoo.com** If you have here old e-mail address, please delete it and us this one.
- Item 4:** If this mailing includes a dues envelope; it is for your 2009 Dues, would you please attend to that matter promptly?
- Item 5:** I want to improve our electronic distribution of the *Newsletter*. If you have e-mail and are open to the idea, please send me your e-mail address at **GordonLothrop@comcast.net** Please remember to include your name, Many e-mail addresses are as eponymous as mine.

With warmest regards,

**Gordon Lothrop**

**Letters:**

- gives a brief history of the Bible
- provides information on the original gift to the library and dedication ceremony
- shows photos of pages from the Bible that the public don't usually get to see
- includes a transcription of the Diary of John Lothrop.

We hope to have this little publication completed by the fall. Would you be interested in making a re-dedication ceremony part of your reunion activities? Is there any other way that we can work with you in this regard? Just let us know!

Looking forward to talking with you soon,

**Lucy Loomis**, Library Director  
Sturgis Library, Barnstable Village

**Got Twins?**

Also, I am receipt of a letter from a cousin of ours, Sharon Foster of Willcox, AZ. It seems as though identical twins are a very common occurrence in her family. She, herself is a twin with set of her own. Her twin sister has 10 children including two sets of twins! She and her sister have a brother with twins and a sister with twin granddaughters. Sharon's twin sister, Shirley's daughter recently had a set of twins. This frequent occurrence of twins has prompted research into the issue and reveals over 50 sets of twins in her family!

Sharon and her twin Shirley are descendant's of the Rev. John though his son Samuel, his son Israel and his daughter Elizabeth Lothrop Winship whose daughter Niles Abigail married into the Barney family where there are six generations of male Barney ancestors. Sharon and Shirley are the daughters of Jesse Barney.

Sharon reports that although she and her sister are nearly 70, they still dress alike. When they are not together, most people can't tell them apart.

Sharon is presently completing a book of stories on the 50 sets of twins in her family going back as far as 1800. She reports that some of these stories are *very interesting!* If you have an interest in her book, it can be ordered for \$30 from:

Sharon Foster, 4525 N. Ft. Grant Rd. Willcox, AZ 85643,  
Ph.520-384-2701

She would like to know if there are Twins in your family and can they be traced back to the Lothrop line?



**5 sets of twins, note 7 of 8 the children are boys**

*Editor's note: I can relate to Sharon's story. I have a set of twin brothers who have just turned 60. Recently, I was out with one of them in a town where the other one is well known. Several people approached Bruce, thinking he was Dana. Everybody though he was Dana trying to be "funny".*

**Twins Are Twice the Fun**

By: Sharon Foster & Shirley Holladay

A seed was planted in my mother's womb,  
It split in two and very soon,  
We discovered that we were no longer alone,  
Gee, this is better than being a clone.

There were arms and legs flopping everywhere,  
Before too long twas no room to spare.  
It got so bad we could hardly breathe,  
Things got so tight, we had to leave.

Twere a surprise to the doctor but not mom and dad,  
Because of a dream the both did have.

They saw two baby girls  
Who looked exactly the same  
With heads full of curls  
Too wild to tame.

After our birth we has so much fun,  
Because we were two now instead of one.

We would fool everyone where we would go,  
Is that Sharon or Shirley?  
Does she even know?

In school, no teach could tell us apart,  
They were confused and amazed right from the start.

Our husbands are as different and night is from day,  
One a teacher of Spanish and art,  
An executive cowboy who pitches hay.

Our children are more that cousins you see,  
They all belong to her,  
They all belong to me.

Through our teens to adulthood  
We've had great joy and some strife,  
What more can we say  
It's been a great life.

**On This Date in History: June 26, 1639**

Having been offered better farming land in Mattakeese, the Rev. John Lothrop and his followers left their settlement in Scituate to begin the journey to Barnstable. The move was made in two ways. One group took the livestock overland for the 60 mile trip and the second group arrived later by water crossing nearly 40 miles of Cape Cod Bay.

**Capt. Thomas Lothrop & The Flower of Essex**

Thomas Lathrop, or Lathrop, emigrated from England to Salem. He was admitted freeman in 1634, and settled on the "Bass River" (presently Beverly, MA) side of the town, where he received a grant of land near Mackerel Cove in 1636. He was lieutenant of the Salem Train-Band in 1644 under Capt. Hathorn, and succeeded him as captain of the Artillery Company in 1645. He was a captain under Major Sedgwick in the expedition of 1654-5 against Acadia, when St. Johns and Port Royal were reduced. Also, he was an active and influential citizen, represented Salem in the General Court in 1647, '53 and '64, and when Beverly was set off in 1668 was chosen first selectman of the new town, and thereafter, till his death, remained a leading actor in all its affairs, civil, ecclesiastical and military.

He married Bethia Rea, who after his death married Joseph Grafton, of Salem, and again for her third husband, June 26, 1683, Dea. William Goodhue, of Ipswich. She died Dec. 6, 1686. Capt. Lothrop left no children, and his sister Ellen, who came with him from England, and became the second wife of Ezekiel Cheever, with her children, inherited his estate. The age of Capt. Lothrop is put at 65 years by Mr. Stone in his history of Beverly.

In the Mass. Archives, vol. xlv, p. 111, there is a petition of Capt. Lothrop, showing that he was in the expeditions against the Pequods in 1636-7. This petition has the signature "Thomas Lawthrop," and is dated 8: 3mo. 62; and while there is some doubt whether here the writing is his own, there can be no doubt of his signature in vol. lxxvii, p. 50, where it appears in a faltering hand as "Tho: Lawthropp."

In August 1675, when the news of the disaster at Brookfield came to the Council, Capt. Lothrop was placed in command of the company raised in Essex County and with some men from Boston and vicinity, and marched up to Brookfield, where he joined the forces of Capt. Beers. Their companies acted mostly together thereafter up to the time of the latter's march from Hadley on September 3d.

Elated by recent successes, the Indians pressed more closely about those western towns, watching warily that no opportunity might pass to strike a safe and telling blow. Their leaders constantly outgeneralled our officers, and in every engagement took care to have the odds, in numbers, position, and method of attack, on their side; and while we are horrified at their atrocities, we can but admire their adroitness and persistence. In the meantime additional forces of the English were gathering at Hadley and vicinity, and all were under the general direction of Major John Pyncheon, of Springfield, commander-in-chief in the county of Hampshire.

On the return of Major Treat from Northfield with the garrison and people of that place, a council of war was held, at which it was decided to strengthen the various garrisons and hold the army for the present on the defensive. The Commissioners of the United Colonies had agreed to raise an army of five hundred men for this campaign on the Connecticut River. Besides the forces of Lothrop and Beers, Capt. Appleton had arrived from the East early in September, and Capt. Mosely

with a company of sixty on Tuesday, Sept. 14th, at evening, and probably on the 15th crossed the river and marched up to Deerfield.

There, on the Sunday before, the Indians had made an assault on twenty-two men passing from one garrison to another to meeting; none of ours were killed, but one was taken alive and probably afterwards killed, and Mr. Judd suggests that this was Nathaniel Cornberry, noted by Mr. Russell as among the slain. The Indians then burned two houses, secured several horse-loads of beef and pork, killed many horses, and with their plunder betook themselves to a hill in Deerfield meadow. On the reception of this news at Northampton, the officers there raised a body of volunteers, who with others from Hadley and a part of Capt. Lothrop's company, marched up on Monday, 13th, to Deerfield garrison, and on the next day went out with the soldiers of the garrison to attack the Indians at the hill, but they were all fled. Major Treat, on Sept. 9th, had returned to Hartford, leaving a part of his force distributed in the various towns in garrison. On the 15th or 16th he came to Northampton with additional Connecticut troops, and Capt. John Mason, of Norwich, came there soon after with a body of Mohegan and Pequod Indians. It is probable that the remainder of Capt. Lothrop's company, except the sick and wounded, passed over with Capt. Mosely.

Such was the position of affairs on Sept. 18th. At Deerfield a large quantity of corn had been gathered from the fields and loaded upon carts, teams and drivers provided, and Capt. Lothrop with his company were appointed as a guard to Hadley, where it was to be stored. The English evidently had no thought that any considerable force of the enemy were in the vicinity, and Capt. Mosely and his company remained behind and were scouting in search of them through the woods about. But a large body had crossed the river secretly, and, undiscovered, were watching every motion of the English; and now with their usual tactics they placed a large ambuscade in a place which offered unusual advantage, across the line of march.

This place was some five miles from the place of starting, at what is now South Deerfield village, where a small stream, then known as "Muddy Brook" (but ever since as "Bloody Brook"), crossed the road. The English seem to have taken no precaution whatever against surprise, many of the soldiers, it is said, had placed their arms upon the carts to be carried, and were gathering wild grapes by the roadside.

We can never know with certainty much of the details of the battle, or rather massacre, that ensued. The survivors on this occasion were few, and doubtless if questioned could give but incoherent and exaggerated accounts. Moreover, contemporary historians seem to have been indifferent to particulars, and to have inclined rather to moralizing upon general events, and succeeding historians have mainly repeated the stories of the first, and it is only in later times devoted historical societies, with their increasing facilities, have made the methods of intelligent criticism possible.

Gen. Epaphras Hoyt, of Deerfield, wrote a history of the Indian Wars which seems to be the first effort at analysis of the event.

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In that work are many important questions raised and valuable suggestions presented. In regard to this affair he suggests that the main part of the troops had passed over the brook and were waiting the slow movements of the lumbering teams over the rough roads. The Indians crept stealthily about and encompassed the whole company and fell upon them with sudden and terrible fury, so that many were shot down or disabled at the first volley, including probably Capt. Lothrop. Doubtless a brave resistance was made, but with little avail. The coming of Capt. Mosely upon the scene after the disaster, his subsequent fight and opportune reinforcement by Major Treat, have been previously related.

It may be noted that here again Major Treat and the Connecticut soldiers opportunely, and as at Northfield, brought rescue, it is likely, from destruction. Connecticut was wise in

trusting and employing the friendly Indians, who never allowed their troops to be ambushed; while the prejudice of Massachusetts brought upon their companies the dreadful massacres and unavailing pursuits which excite our wonder and shame even today.

As to the number of the English killed in this encounter, early accounts vary. In the postscript to a letter from the Massachusetts Council to Richard Smith, of Narragansett, dated Sept. 22, 1675, and still preserved in the Archives, vol. 67, p. 262, the statement is made that "above forty of Capt. Lothrop's men with himself were slain;" and then it is further stated that Capt. Mosely lost eleven men in the subsequent fight, which together with many lost that were with the teams made up sixty-four in all, who were buried the next day.

### **At Muddy-Brook bridge ye 18 Sept. 71 men slane.**

The forty-two were evidently soldiers of Capt. Lothrop

Capt. Thomas Laythrop	Josiah Dodge	Jacob Waynwritt	Thomas Buckley
Sergt. Thomas Smith	George Ropes	Benjamin Roper	Samuel Hudson
Samuel Stevens	Joseph Kinge	John Bennett	Adam Clarke
John Hobs	Thomas Alexander	Thomas Mentor	Ephraim Farah
Daniel Button	Francis Friende	Peter Woodberry	Robert Wilson
John Harriman	Abel Osyer	Joseph Bolch	Steven Welman
Caleb Kemball	John Litleale	Samuel Whitteridge	Benjamin Farnell
Thomas Hobs	Thomas Bayley	William Duy	Solomon Alley
Robert Homes	Ezekiel Sawier	Sergt Samuel Stevens	John Merrit
Edward Traske	Jacob Kilborne	Samuel Crumpton	
Richard Lambert	Thomas Manninge	John Plum	

The following were set down by Mr. Russell as including the teamsters:

Robert Hinsdall	John Allin	Philip Barsha	George Cole
Samuel Hinsdall	Joshua Carter	Thomas Weller	James Mudge
Barnabas Hinsdall	John Barnard	William Smeade	
John Hinsdall	James Tufts	Zebadiah Williams	
Joseph Gillett	Jonathan Plimpton	Eliakim Marshall	

**Monument in memory of Capt. Thomas Lothrop and his militiamen. Erected in August 1838, 163 years after the massacre. These men were dubbed "The Flower of Essex" by Luther B. Lincoln at the dedication ceremony.**



*Editor's note: Although it might seem somewhat embarrassing to the Lothrop family to claim Capt. Thomas as one of us, the truth is that he was a highly regarded resident of his community and a seasoned military commander. Since*

### **The inscription as follows:**

On this Ground Capt. Thomas Lathrop and eighty four men under his command, including eighteen teamsters from Deerfield, conveying stores from that town to Hadley, were ambuscaded by about 700 Indians, and the Captain and seventy six men slain, September 18<sup>th</sup> 1675. (old style)

The soldiers who fell were described by a co(n)temporay Historian, as "a choice Company of young men, the very flower of the County of Essex not of whom were ashamed to speak with the enemy in the gate

*they were out numbered by at least 10 to 1 and they never stood a chance. The events of that day were the most disastrous in the Early American era. 163 years after that terrible day, Capt. Thomas and his men were honored for their sacrifice. His home town, Beverly, MA named one of the most beautiful streets in the country, **Lothrop Street** in his honor. It is on a bluff overlooking Salem Sound and lined with stately trees and homes.*

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**Samuel Kirkland**, clergyman, born in **Norwich, CT**, December 1, 1741; died in Clinton, NY, February 28, 1808. He was the son of Rev. Daniel Kirtland, but restored the old spelling of the family name.



He was graduated at Princeton in 1765, although he had left college eight months before to go on a mission to the Six (Indian) Nations. After remaining with the tribes a year and a half and learning the Mohawk and Seneca languages, he returned to Connecticut and was ordained to the Congregational ministry. After which, he was commissioned Indian

missionary by the board of correspondence of the Missionary society. He then went to Oneida and continued to labor among the tribes, with occasional interruptions, for more than forty years.

After the battle of Lexington the provincial congress of Massachusetts formally requested his influence to secure the friendship of the Six Nations where he succeeded in attaching the Oneidas to the patriot cause, although the other tribes, through the influence of Sir William Johnson and the Mohawk sachem Joseph Brant, had joined the British. Washington said of this mission in a letter addressed to congress in 1775, "I cannot but intimate my sense of the importance of Mr. Kirkland's station, and of the great advantages which have and may result to the United Colonies from his situation being made respectable. All accounts agree that much of the favorable disposition shown by the Indians may be ascribed to his labor and influence." He became brigade chaplain to General John Sullivan in 1779, and accompanied him on the Susquehanna expedition. During the remainder of the war he was chaplain to the Continental forces at Fort Schuyler and at Stockbridge, Massachusetts. When peace was declared he resumed his work among the Indians, and in 1785 he received a liberal grant of land from congress in consideration of his services among the tribes. In 1788 the Indians and the state of New York added to this gift a large and valuable tract, on which he settled and founded the present town of Kirkland. In 1791 he made a statement of the numbers and situation of the Six United Nations and in the winter of that year conducted a delegation of forty warriors to congress in Philadelphia in order to consult as to the best method of introducing civilization among the tribes. In 1793 Mr. Kirkland established the Hamilton Oneida college (now Hamilton college), an institution for the education of American and Indian youth.

His son, **John Thornton Kirkland**, clergyman, born in Herkimer, New York, 17 August, 1770; died in Boston, Massachusetts, 24 April, 1840, was graduated at Harvard in 1789, and began the study of theology at Stockbridge, Massachusetts, under the Reverend Stephen West, but on

changing his religious views returned to Cambridge, and while preparing to enter the ministry of the Unitarian church was tutor in metaphysics at Harvard. In 1794 he was ordained and installed pastor of the New South church, Boston, continuing in that charge till 1810, when he was elected president of Harvard. Under his administration of seventeen years, the course of study was greatly enlarged, the law school established, the medical school reorganized, four different professorships in the academic departments were endowed and filled, three new buildings erected, and large additions were made to the library. Princeton gave him the degree of D. D. in 1802, and Brown that of LL. D. in 1810. Dr. Kirkland had great natural dignity of person and character, and possessed in an eminent degree of knowledge of men.

The **Rev. Dr. Samuel Kirkland Lothrop**, for nearly 40 years, Pastor for the historic Brattle-Square Church, Boston,



Mass., and during his active career one of the most prominent of Boston Unitarian clergymen, died of pneumonia on June 12, 1886.

Born in 1804, in Utica, N.Y. son of John Hosmer and Jerusha (Kirkland) Lothrop #657 and the grandson of the Rev. Samuel Kirkland. And a descendant of the Rev. John Lothrop through, Joseph #8, Hope #39, and Benjamin # 128,

John # 303\*. He was virtually adopted by his uncle, the Rev. **Dr. John T. Kirkland**, who assumed the charge of his education. He was graduated from Harvard, A.B., 1825 at age 21. Among us classmates was Charles Francis Adams, the Rev. Dr. Frederick H. Hodge, Judge Seth Adams and Admiral Charles S. Davis. Further, he took a supplementary course at the Harvard Divinity School, graduating from that in 1828. He preached in Washington, DC and in Beverly, MA in 1828. In 1829, he was called to be pastor of the Unitarian Church in Dover, N.H., which had then organized but two years, and dedicated the its church building on the day of his ordination. Here he remained until 1834 when he accepted the call to the Boston Brattle-Square. Among Dr. Lothrop's predecessors in its pulpit were Edward Everett and W.G. Palfrey.

Dr. Lothrop retired from the pastorate of the Brattle-Square in 1886, three years after the completion of the society's new stone building on Commonwealth Avenue which was designed by the late H. H. Richardson, the architect of Trinity Church.

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The **Rev. Dr. Samuel Kirkland Lothrop**, continued from P 6  
The society was dissolved about the time of Dr. Lothrop's retirement, and a few years after this church building was sold to the Baptists and is now known as the First Baptist Church.

Dr. Lothrop was prominent in local and historical affairs. For 30 years he was a member of the Boston School Committee, and for 26 years was chairman of the Committee on the (Boston) English High School. Among other positions he held that of Corresponding Secretary of the Massachusetts Humane Society and served as a delegate in the Massachusetts Constitutional Convention of 1853. He was also a member of the Society of the Cincinnati and the Massachusetts Historical Society. As chaplain of the (Massachusetts) Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company, he delivered the annual sermon on their 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary. He was chairman of the charitable society for the relief of the widows and children of Congregational ministers in Massachusetts and Maine. He was an overseer of Harvard, 1847-54; a lecturer in the Harvard divinity school in the 1871-72 academic year.

He was awarded the degree of D.D. from Harvard in 1852. Among his literary works was the life of his grandfather, Samuel Kirkland, which published in Sparks's "American Biography" and also a history of the Brattle-Square Church.

He was twice married: first to Mary Lyman Buckminster on June 3, 1829. Mrs. Lothrop died Jan. 20, 1859, and he married secondly, Nov. 22, 1869, Alice Lindsay, daughter of the Rev. Abner and Catherine (Sedgwick) Webb, who survived him.

His son, Thornton K. Lothrop, was formerly President of the Eastern Railroad. And a daughter Olivia who was married to Lewis W. Tappan

\*From an Obituary in the New York Times Dated June 13, 1886 and other sources including Huntington's *Genealogical Memoir of the La/Lathrop Family*.

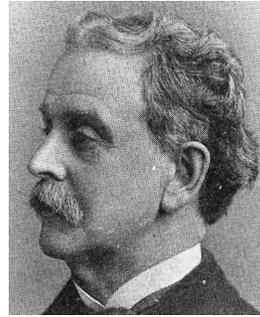
**Olivia Buckminster Lothrop** was in her twenties when she sat for this painting. The granddaughter of Rev. Samuel Kirkland Lothrop was raised in an intellectual and spiritual household. In 1870 she married Lewis W. Tappan, a Harvard graduate and grandson of the famous abolitionist. Lewis Tappan, was a businessman and philanthropist with an estate in Milton, MA; the couple had three children but lost two of them before Olivia herself died in 1878 at the age of thirty-seven.



Text and picture courtesy of the Museum of Fine Arts Boston and other sources.

Painting by: William Morris Hunt, American, 1824–1879.

**Provenance/Ownership History:** The artist; Lothrop family; descended to Olivia Buckminster Tappan (Mrs. Ellerton James), daughter of the sitter; to MFA, 1927, gift of Mrs. Ellerton James.



**Samuel Kirkland Lothrop Thorndike** never used the *Kirkland* part of his name and styled himself as **S. Lothrop Thorndike**. I happened upon him when I walked into the Masonic Hall in Beverly, Massachusetts and saw his name listed as Past Master of Liberty Lodge, AF & AM, 1861 – 1862. Naturally my curiosity was peaked. The following is what I learned.

He was born on December 28, 1829 in Beverly, the son of Albert and Joanna Batchelder (Lovett) Thorndike. He was a 7<sup>th</sup> generation descendant of John Thorndike who emigrated from Lincolnshire, England in 1633 John's son Paul was one of the few surviving members of Capt. Thomas Lothrop militia company, *The Flower of Essex*. Sources list a lengthy list of notable historic ancestors, among them was Joseph Herrick who was acting constable during the *Salem Witch Hysteria*, who quickly saw the madness in that activity and worked to help the accused escape to New Hampshire.

S. Lothrop Thorndike entered Harvard in 1848, John Thornton Kirkland having left the Harvard College presidency in 1828. Rev. Edward Everett was president of the college at the time of his admission, (Rev. Samuel Thorndike Lothrop, succeed Everett as pastor of the Brattle Square Church in Boston.) Among the honors and distinctions earned while at Harvard include, Phi Beta Kappa, President of the *Hasty Pudding Club* and Deputy Martial of the *Porcellian Club* among the many. After completing the undergraduate school, he continued at Harvard Law and received the degrees of A.M. and LL.B. in 1854 and passed the Suffolk Bar in 1855. After working with Rufus Choate for a period of time, he formed the law partnership of Thorndike and Pratt. By 1859, Thorndike was appointed Assistant Commissioner of Insolvency. By 1867, he was admitted to the practice before the US Supreme Court and was appointed a registrar in bankruptcy.

As his career progressed, Thorndike, at different times, was a director of Blair (Rail)Road & Land Companies in Iowa, before absorption into the Northwestern Railroad. For a time he was president of the Portland, Saco & Portsmouth Railroad, Co. He was a director and Controller of the Atchison & Santa Fe Railroad with T. Jefferson Coolidge. Also, he was a trustee of the Suffolk Savings Bank and trustee and member of the Finance Committee of the Perkins School for the Blind.

S. Lothrop Thorndike was musically talented and spent time and energy in encouraging musical activities in several churches in Beverly, Boston and Cambridge. He also was a director of the Boston Music Hall Corporation and the New England Conservatory of Music.

Among the many clubs that he was affiliated with are the Colonial Society of Massachusetts, the Massachusetts Historical Society, the New England Historic-Genealogical Society and the Bunker Hill Monument Association.

**Continued on Page 8**

**Thorndike, from Page 7**

Thorndike was made a Mason at Liberty Lodge in 1858 and 3 years later, he was installed Master of the Lodge. For the rest of his life Bro. Thorndike was active in various Masonic groups and held many prestigious posts including District Deputy Grand Master and Deputy Grand Master in 1895.

S. Lothrop Thorndike was married in 1859 to Anna Lamb Wells, the daughter of the Daniel Wells, Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas, now Superior Court. At his death, Thorndike was survived by his wife, two sons, a daughter and eight grandchildren. His funeral was a heavily attended event at Christ's Church in Cambridge, Mass and internment was at

his home town of Beverly, Mass. Among the quotes of his eulogy are, "All who knew him will remember him will remember him as one of that group of gentlemen who lived in busy times yet kept the standards of a day that found time for all of the nobler things in life".

**Editors Note:** I have tried to find the direct connection to Samuel Kirkland Lothrop Thorndike to the Lothrop family, and I can't. As close as I can come is the Rev. Samuel Kirkland Lothrop spoke at his father's church the year before his birth. I am sure there is a stronger link than that. I am still looking. Also, one of his son's is named Sturgis Thorndike, a coincidence? If you have any ideas, would you let me know? Thanks.

**The Family Tree of Vincent Van Gogh**

- The dizzy aunt ----- **Verti Gogh**
- The brother who ate prunes ----- **Gotta Gogh**
- The brother who worked at a convenience store **Stop n Gogh**
- The grandfather from Yugoslavia ----- **U Gogh**
- The cousin from Illinois ----- **Chica Gogh**
- His magician uncle ----- **Where-diddy Gogh**
- His Mexican cousin ----- **A mee Gogh**
- The Mexican cousin's American half-brother ----- **Gring Gogh**
- The nephew who drove a stage coach----- **Wells-far Gogh**

- The constipated uncle ----- **Can't Gogh**
- The ballroom dancing aunt----- **Tang Gogh**
- The bird lover uncle ----- **Fla min Gogh**
- The fruit loving cousin----- **Man Gogh**
- An aunt who taught positive thinking----- **Way-to-Gogh**
- The little bouncy nephew----- **Poe Gogh**
- A sister who loved disco----- **Go Gogh**
- His niece who travels the country in an RV----- **Winnie Bay Gogh**

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