



Genealogical Society of Vermont

Newsletter

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September 2015

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The seasons are changing, days are becoming shorter, and fall is now upon us. It is becoming quite apparent that that this going to be a bountiful apple season. Even though we only have a small orchard we are pretty over whelmed by the volume.

The Board has regretfully accepted the resignation of Stephanie M. O'Rourke as GSV Secretary. She will certainly be missed and we thank her for five years of dedication and commitment to GSV. Luckily our Membership Chair and Webmistress, Diantha B. Howard graciously agreed to fill the position interim, until a replacement was found. She helped out at the critical time when we needed the signature of the GSV secretary on the NERGC (2017) Participation Agreement. The Board has appointed Alice Blakely Marsh of Jericho as GSV Secretary until the next election of officers at the annual business meeting in October of 2016. This is in accordance with the

GSV By-Laws: Article V. (*Officers and Duties*) Sec. 3 (*Vacancies in the Executive Committee may be filled by the Board of Directors.*) The Executive Committee is the elected officers and the Board of Directors consists of those individuals and plus the committee heads.

Congratulations are in order to our Publications Chair, John A. Leppman. He was elected President of NERGC at the consortium's annual meeting in June. Even though GSV is a charter society, this is the first time that an officer has been from Vermont. The next conference NERGC 2017: *Using the Tools of Today & Tomorrow to Understand the Past* will be held in Springfield, Mass., at the Mass Mutual Center, on April 26-29, 2017, is already very much in the planning stages. Also congratulations to Michael F. Dwyer, FASG who has been appointed to an advisory position to the GSV Board of Directors as per Article VI. (*Standing Committees*) Sec. 3 (*Ad-Hoc Committees*) of the previously mentioned GSV By-Laws.

GSV's fall membership meeting will be held at Rokeby Museum in Ferrisburgh, on October 31, 2015. The meeting features two speakers: Jane Williamson: "**Telling it Like it Was: The Underground Railroad in Vt.**" and Michael F. Dwyer, FASG: "**The French Connection.**" Plus there will also be an afternoon tour of the museum grounds and a catered luncheon along with breakfast goodies. Registration is \$25 for GSV members and \$30 for non-members. (*See page two for further details, plus directions from the north and south.*)

(President's Message, Continued on page 2)

Rutland, Walpole & Boston Mail Stage.

THE subscriber would inform the public, that he has now commenced running a Stage from Rutland to Walpole, (N. H.) twice a week—leaving Gould's Tavern in Rutland, Mondays and Thursdays at 5 A. M. and arrive at Walpole same days—leave Walpole Wednesdays and Saturdays at 5 A. M. and arrive at Rutland same days; —which meets the Boston Stages, and makes a complete line from Rutland to Boston twice a week. He is determined to run good Stages and excellent horses, that he may accommodate passengers to their satisfaction.

THOMAS DUNNING.

Rutland, Oct. 1, 1807.

Green Mountain Palladium (Chester, Vt.), issue, 19 Oct. 1807, p. 4.

NEW MEMBERS

Shirly Hook

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W Braintree, VT 05669

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researching: Hook, Lougee, Abenaki Band names in VT & New England)

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GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF VERMONT FALL MEETING OCTOBER 31, 2015

Rokeby Museum, 4334 U.S. Route 7, Ferrisburgh, Vermont 05456

Registration: Begins 9: 30 a.m.

Annual Business Meeting

Jane Williamson: “Telling it Like it Was: The Underground Railroad in Vt.”

This talk presents the evolution of a single site – Rokeby Museum – to explore how easily the mythological Underground Railroad can displace historical events in our understanding of the past. Jane has served as director at Rokeby Museum since 1995, where she has pioneered a more accurate and nuanced understanding of the Underground Railroad in Vermont and New England.

Michael F. Dwyer, FASG: “The French Connection”

Stuck at a brick wall of “born Canada”? With more than thirty years experience of researching and writing about Vermont’s French-Canadian families, Michael will share case studies of how he reconnected descendants to their forebears in French Canada. He will also provide a list of recommendations and suggestions resources for further research.

Luncheon: consisting of a sandwich, chips, cookies, and a beverage.

Afternoon Tour: of the museum and grounds.

Registration is \$25 for GSV members and \$30 for non-members. Please send a check to GSV, P.O. Box 14, Randolph, VT 05060-0014, by October 23, 2015.

Directions: Rokeby Museum is located at: 4334 Route 7 Ferrisburgh, VT. From the South: Rokeby is located approximately 3 miles north of Vergennes on US Route 7 in Ferrisburgh. Watch for historic site marker and front entrance sign on right. From the North: Travel approximately 2 miles south of the village center of North Ferrisburgh on US Route 7. Watch for museum entrance sign on your left.

(Continued from page 1)

Finally this is a case of better late than never. Back in 1994, GSV held a contest for the design of a society logo. The winner of the contest was longtime GSV member Judy Welna, and as a result, she was awarded a year’s membership in the society for her design. The logo has been featured on the Newsletter ever since. In 1996 when GSV started publication of *Vermont Genealogy*, the logo was incorporated into the cover design. However the wording of the acknowledgement on the inside cover of *Vermont Genealogy* was misleading. It gave full credit to Damon Amsbury, who formatted the design for the cover, but did not mention Judy. This was clearly an oversight that has been perpetuated for many years. Judy recently brought this to our attention, and she will now receive proper credit. Thank you, Judy, for designing our logo, on behalf of all GSV members who appreciate your contribution.

Jonathan W. Stevens, President

DEATHS.

Marriages and Deaths inserted FREE.

RANDOLPH CENTER - Miriam "Mim" Herwig, 91, passed away peacefully on May 29, 2015, at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center, with family members by her side.

She was born on June 30, 1923, in Barre, Vermont, to Earl and Mildred (Farr) Boyce of Williamstown, Vermont, where she grew up on the family farm. She graduated as the valedictorian of Williamstown High School in 1941, and was the salutatorian of the class of 1943 at Vermont Junior College in Montpelier.

Mim worked for National Life in Montpelier before marrying Wesley Herwig of New Britain, Connecticut, on May 18, 1946. The two had become acquainted as contributors to a youth section in the Rural New Yorker publication. The couple settled in the Randolph area, moving into their stately Randolph Center home in 1950 where Mim and Wes raised their family.

Mim was a gifted writer who wrote several books besides editing and publishing over 40 books for others through Greenhills Books, a business she and Wes conducted. She served as a local newspaper correspondent and weather columnist as well. A respected historian, she delivered many talks about historical events and championed numerous related projects including the establishment of historic districts, the erection of markers, and the restoration of buildings.

An active member of the community, Mim's affiliations included membership and offices in the Vermont Historical Society, the Randolph Historical Society, the First Congregational Church of Randolph Center, the Poetry Society of Vermont, the Mayflower Society, the Vermont Old Cemetery Association, the Randolph Planning Commission, the World's Fair Association, the Hilltop School Club, the Home Demonstration Club, 4H and youth leadership. She was a charter member of the Winterhaters' Club. She was honored as a WCAX "Super Senior" and received a "Successful Aging" award from the Central Vermont Council on Aging. Mim enjoyed flower and vegetable gardening, poetry, bird watching, baking, sewing, sliding, bike riding, compiling scrapbooks, hosting family gatherings, playing the piano and organ, and sharing her wealth of knowledge with others. For many years she played the organ in the "antique cabin" at the Tunbridge Fair.

Survivors include daughters Merrilee McTighe and R. Lee Collette, of West Townsend, Massachusetts; Trudy and Bill DeFlorio, of Randolph Center; Daphne Herwig, of East Roxbury; Christy Herwig, of Randolph; Holly and Jody Benoir, of Braintree; seven grandchildren; two step-grandchildren and six great-grandchildren, as well as two nephews. Mim was predeceased by her husband, Wes, in 2003, and brother, Robert Boyce, in 2014.

Calling hours were from 5-7 p.m. on Saturday, June 6, at Day Funeral Home in Randolph. A memorial service was held on Sunday, June 7, at 1 p.m. at the Randolph Center Church. In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to the Randolph Center Tree Fund, c/o Mike Regan, Ski Tow Road, Randolph Center, VT 05061. Online condolences may be left at www.dayfunerals.com.

Published in the Times Argus on June 2, 2015

INDEX TO BRANCHES & TWIGS, 1972—1995 *by Robert M. Murphy, ed. 2000, 572 pp., hardbound. Item No. GSV 7.*

Special Sale Price \$30

Plus \$3.50 shipping and handling for the first copy and \$1.00 for each additional copy.

**Regular price \$58.50 members,
\$65.00 nonmembers.**

WRITING HOME TO VERMONT DURING THE CIVIL WAR, PART 2

by James R. Miller

(continued from the June 2015 GSV Newsletter)

Mrs. George Temple of Randolph, Vermont received an envelope postmarked in Washington, D.C. circa 1863.[Figure 4] An Elizabeth (apparently Mrs. George) Temple, with six month-old “Howard G.,” is in Randolph in the 1860 U.S. census.^[15] George Temple served as a private and later corporal with the 10th Vermont Infantry, and this regiment was in the Washington, D.C. area from September 1862 until June 1863.^[16] George Temple died of disease on 22 February 1864.^[17] Elizabeth Temple filed for a widow's pension on 28 March 1864, and she is with her apparent ten year-old son George H. Temple and late husband's parents in Randolph in the 1870 U.S. census.^[18] The envelope is illustrated with a soldier and a woman embracing.

Mark French of Johnson, Vermont received an envelope and letter from Emory Hospital in Washington, D.C. postmarked on 21 July 1864.[Figure 5] Mark and Mary French, their apparent sons James F. and Jason O. French, and three other children are in Johnson in the 1860 U.S. census.^[19] An enclosed letter states that Jason is “in the best of spirits though he is verry low and week,” that a nurse stated that Jason “is the tuffest man that you ever saw [following a wound to his liver],” and is signed “your loveing son & brother J.F. French.”^[20] James F. French served as a private with the 5th Vermont Infantry, and this regiment was in Washington, D.C. in mid-July 1864.^[21] Jason O. French served as a private with the 17th Vermont Infantry, and he was wounded in June 1864 at the Battle of Cold Harbor.^[22] James F. French survived the war, and lived until 1911.^[23] Jason O. French survived the war, married Lizzie M. Potter in Cambridge in 1881, and lived until 1913.^[24]



Figure 4 (Circa 1863) envelope from Washington, D.C. to Randolph, Vermont with illustration of a soldier and woman embracing (Photo courtesy of James W. Milgram, M.D., *Federal Civil War Postal History*, p. 82).

Reverend H.O. Higley of Castleton, Vermont received a “Prisoner of War Letter” postmarked at the Union-

Confederate exchange point of Port Royal, South Carolina on 20 August 1864.[Figure 6] Hervey O. Higley, a Congregational clergyman, and his apparent son Edwin H. Higley are in Castleton in the 1850 U.S. census.^[25] Edwin H. Higley served as a private and later as lieutenant and captain with the 1st Vermont Cavalry, the same regiment as William N. Buck.^[26] Edwin H. Higley was wounded and taken prisoner in June 1864.^[27] The envelope was sent from the Marine Hospital in Charleston, South Carolina, where the prisoners were at risk during bombardment.^[28] An enclosed letter written 2 August 1864 states that “we moved from Macon last week and arrived here yesterday...There are six hundred prisoners here—all officers.”^[29] Edwin H. Higley survived the war, married Jane S. Turner in Middlebury in 1870, and lived until 1916.^[30]

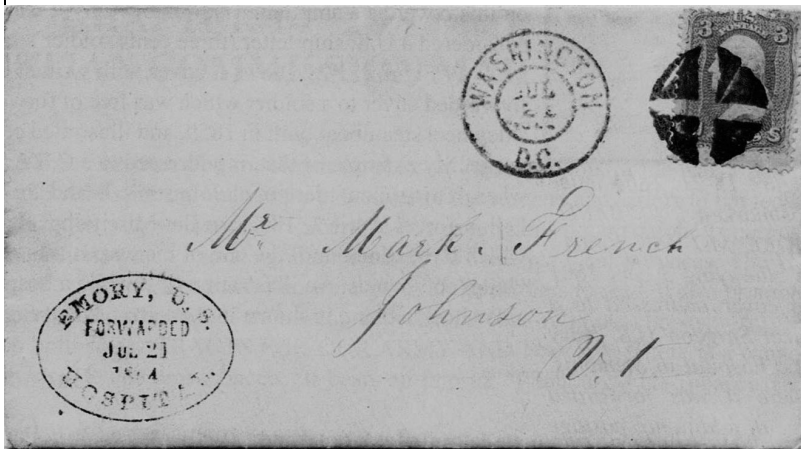


Figure 5 (1864) envelope from Emory Hospital in Washington, D.C. to Johnson, Vermont (Photo courtesy of James W. Milgram, M.D., *Federal Civil War Postal History*, p. 301).

This article shows how postal history adds to our knowledge of our ancestors' wartime experience. Other Vermont envelopes and postcards illustrate our ancestors' work, family correspondence, travel, political and social interests, where an ancestor lived before emigrating to the U.S., and may have their photograph on a real photo postcard.^[31] Postal history vendors have given *Philgen.org* permission to use thousands of photographs from their websites and archived auction catalogs and most have not yet been placed on *Philgen.org*. At present, genealogists cannot easily locate an envelope or postcard sent or received by their ancestors. Envelopes for

sale and in postal history collections are classified by stamps, cancellations, and other postal markings, and postcards are grouped by the location or theme on the front of the postcard. The purpose of *Philgen.org* is to classify envelope and postcard photographs by who wrote and received each one to make them accessible to genealogists. Anyone interested in adding Vermont envelopes and postcards to the website is invited to contact the author. Photographs and data posted for each item will be credited to the person and/or their genealogical or philatelic association.

Concluded

Notes

15. 1860 U.S. Census Randolph Orange Co., Vt., M653-1323, p. 208 (penned), dwelling 1,632, family 1,746, household of Caleb Temple.
16. NPS, CWSSS, "Soldiers," George Temple, served Vermont; and "Regiments," 10th Vermont Infantry.
17. Historical Data Systems, compiler, "American Civil War Soldier," George Temple, served Vermont [on *Ancestry.com*].
18. "Civil War Pension Index: General Index to Pension Files, 1861-1934," entry for George and Elizabeth Temple [on *Ancestry.com*]; 1870 U.S. census, Randolph, Orange Co., Vt., M593-1622, p. 19 (penned), dwelling 144, family 150, household of Caleb Temple.
19. 1860 U.S. Census, Johnson, Lamoille Co., Vt., M653-1318, p. 165 (penned), dwelling 1,480, family 1,420, household of Mark French.
20. James W. Milgram, M.D., *Federal Civil War Postal History*, pp. 299, 301.
21. NPS, CWSSS, "Soldiers," James F. French, served Vermont; and "Regiments," 5th Vermont Infantry.
22. NPS, CWSSS, "Soldiers," Jason O. French, served Vermont; and "Regiments," 17th Vermont Infantry; "Vermont in the Civil War," database (<http://vermontcivilwar.org/>; accessed 23 June 2015), entry for Jason Olds French.
23. "Vermont in the Civil War," database (<http://vermontcivilwar.org/>; accessed 23 June 2015), entry for James Foster French.
24. "Vermont in the Civil War," database (<http://vermontcivilwar.org/>; accessed 23 June 2015), entry for Jason Olds French; Vermont, Vital Records Card Index, 1870 to 1908, (m. at Cambridge, Jason O. French to Lizzie M. Potter, 5 July 1881).
25. 1850 U.S. Census, Castleton, Rutland Co., Vt., M432- 927, p. 201 (stamped, recto), dwelling 807, family 887, household of Hervey O. Higley.
26. NPS, CWSSS, "Soldiers," Edwin C. Higley, served Vermont; and "Regiments," 1st Vermont Cavalry.
27. "Vermont in the Civil War," database (<http://vermontcivilwar.org/>; accessed 23 June 2015), entry for Edwin Hall Higley.
28. Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries, Sale 988, Lot 221.
29. Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries, Sale 988, Lot 221.
30. 1890 Veterans Schedules, Groton, Middlesex Co., Mass., M123- 12, p. 5 (penned) E.D. 493 [on *Ancestry.com*]; Vermont Vital Records Card Index to 1870 (m. at Middlebury, Edwin H. Higley to Jane Turner, 2 June 1870); "Vermont in the Civil War," database (<http://vermontcivilwar.org/>; accessed 23 June 2015), entry for Edwin Hall Higley.
31. Reprints of articles on philatelic genealogy that use old envelopes and postcards as a genealogical source are viewable on *Philgen.org* (<http://philgen.org>, look in the Main Menu for a list that begins with *American Ancestors*, and click on a title to see the article).

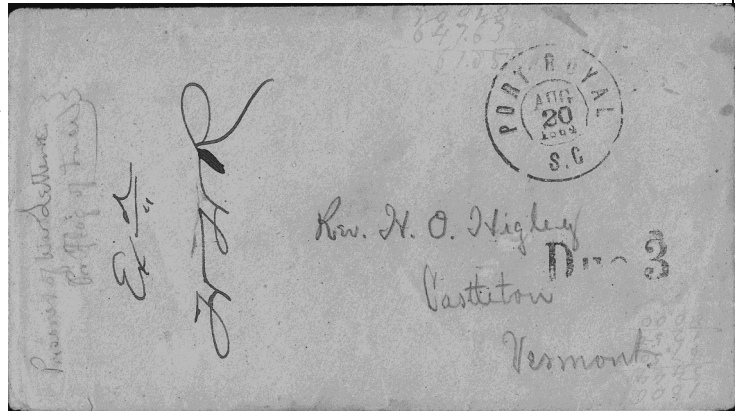


Figure 6 (1864) "Prisoner of War Letter" from the Marine Hospital in Charleston, South Carolina via Port Royal, South Carolina to Castleton, Vermont (Photo courtesy of Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries, Sale 988, Lot 221)

James R. (Jim) Miller is a genealogist and postal historian and is the founder of Philgen.org. He lives in Caroga Lake, New York and Haguenau, France, and can be contacted at jim@philgen.org. The author thanks Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries and James W. Milgram, M.D. for the use of photographs, the genealogists who posted online family trees and responded to email and message board queries, and Lisa Birsinger for database and website support.



G S V P U B L I C A T I O N S

The society offers the following publications for purchase by our members and readers. GSV members receive a 10% discount on the purchase price. Postage and handling is extra—please add \$3.50 for the first item and \$1.00 for each additional item in the same order to the same address. Mail your checks, payable to GSV, to:

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Vermont Families in 1791, Vol. 1 is out of print.

Vermont Families in 1791, Vol. 2. Scott A. Bartley, ed., 1997, 304 pp., hardbound. Item No. GSV 5; \$27.00 members, \$30.00 non-members. This second volume covers 107 families, has improved formatting and more complete information on the third generation of early Vermonters.

Vital Records of Putney, Vermont to the Year 1900. Compiled and edited by Ken Stevens, 1992, 406 pp. Item No. GSV 2; \$27.00 members, \$30.00 non-members. This is a complete compilation from all primary sources available in the town. This is augmented by the ministerial records of the pastors who served as early as 1776.

Vital Records of Rockingham, Vermont and the Records of the First Church of Rockingham. Reprinted from the 1902 and 1908 first editions, newly indexed by Christopher T. Norris and Scott A. Bartley, 323 pp., hardbound. Item No. GSV 3; Reprinted from the first editions of 1908 and 1902, this is an important source of one of Vermont's oldest towns. The town records extend to 1845 and church records from 1773 to 1839. New to this edition is an indispensable index of nearly 1,000 names. *out of print.*

Georgia, Vermont Vital Records. Peter S. Mallet, ed., 1995, hardbound. Item No. GSV 4; \$27.00 members, \$30.00 non-members. This volume presents all births, baptisms, marriages, deaths and burials recorded in the town. All the civil books

(Continued on page 7)

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stevens@vermontel.net

Newsletter deadlines are:

Jan. 15 — March issue
April 15 — June issue
July 15 — September issue
Oct. 15 — December issue

Vermont Genealogy, the GSV Journal contact information:

Vermont Genealogy Editorial Board
P.O. Box 14,
Randolph, VT 05060-0014
stevens@vermontel.net

Send copies of relevant books for journal review to:

John A. Leppman
Book Review Editor
20 Thwing Lane
Bellows Falls, VT 05101-1640

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Please inform GSV if you move.

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were transcribed as well as the records from the Georgia Plains Baptist Church, Congregational Church, and Methodist Church of Georgia and North Fairfax.

Windsor County, Vermont Probate Index, 1778-1899. Scott Andrew Bartley and Marjorie-J. Bartley, compilers, 2000, 560 pp., hardbound. Item No. GSV 6; \$45.00 members, \$50.00 nonmembers. This is a comprehensive index of all files in the Windsor County Probate Court Districts —Windsor and Hartford. The records cover the period from the earliest 1778 records through the end of the nineteenth century, more than 20,000 probate files. The files are indexed by the name of the major party in the case, place of residence, probate district, type of record, year, and probate record volume .

Index to Branches & Twigs, 1972—1995. Robert M. Murphy, ed. 2000, 572 pp., hardbound. Item No. GSV 7; \$58.50 members, \$65.00 nonmembers. This is the every-name index to GSV's Branches & Twigs, published for 24 years in 96 issues. The 180,000 entries include every genealogically important name mentioned in every issue. Separate sections of this work list the coverage of each Apple Orchard installment, and provide a full author and title index to book reviews. Branches & Twigs included large quantities of information of interest to family historians.

Sudbury, Vermont: Genealogies, Vital Records, and Census Records. Mary Ann Z. Wheeler, 2000, 416 pp., hardbound. Item No. GSV 8; \$44.55 members, 49.50 nonmembers. This book is a comprehensive transcription of census and vital records for Sudbury, plus carefully compiled genealogies of families. This book is among the very best genealogical resources about a Vermont town. This is a cooperative publication between GSV and Picton Press.

A Bibliography for Vermont Genealogy, 2nd edition. John A. Leppman, 2005, softbound. Item No. GSV 11; \$9.00 members, \$10.00 nonmembers. (Mail orders should add \$1.50 for postage and handling, not the \$3.50 normally charged.) This is a new edition of A Bibliography for Vermont Genealogy was released in April 2005. It includes more listings than the first edition, most published since 2000. It is keyed to Scott Andrew Bartley's Genealogies Found in Vermont Histories (Vol. 10, No. 1 of Vermont Genealogy, also designated GSV publication number 10.).

Index to the History and Map of Danby, Vermont, Compiled by Joann H. Nichols. (1998), softbound, Item No. D1; \$3.50, plus \$1.50 shipping for the first copy and \$1.00 for each additional copy. An index to J[ohn] C. Williams, History and Map of Danby, Vermont (Rutland, Vt., 1869; reprinted S.L. Griffith Library, 1976). **Limited Number Available.**

Vermont Genealogy Back Issues:

Issues 1: 1-13: 4, are available for \$5.00 each, except special issues 10: 1 and 11: 1 & 2, which are available for \$10.00 each. Issues 14: 1 & 2, 14 : 3 & 4, 15: 1 - 18: 2, are available for \$10.00 each. There is a mailing fee of \$2.00 (\$3.00 to Canadian addresses) for each single issue, \$2.50 (\$3.50 to Canada) for each double issue (i.e., the \$10 issues). For multiple issue orders, please add \$1 for each additional 1 to 5 issues. Note: issues 1: 4, 3: 3, 3: 4 and 4: 4 are out of print.

***GSV Special Publication
Number 13*****VITAL RECORDS OF SPRINGFIELD, VT.**

by Scott Andrew Bartley

Back Issues available:

For \$15, plus \$3.50 shipping for the first copy and \$1.00 for each additional copy

Genealogical Society of Vermont

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Send membership dues and applications to:

GSV Membership Chairperson

57 East Shore North

Grand Isle, VT 05458

All other correspondence,
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*Jonas Galusha
Governor of Vermont: 1809 to 1813
and 1815 to 1820*