

The Elder William Brewster Press

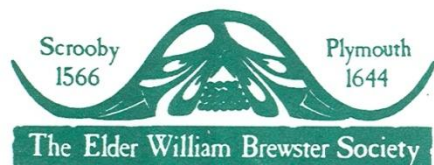
A Publication of the Elder William Brewster Society

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Message from the President's Desk

Hello Brewster Cousins:

I hope that this newsletter reaches all of you in good health and happiness. Our Triennial meeting will be coming up next September, and I hope that many of you will plan to come join us for our meeting and Pilgrim Feast. The meeting will be on Saturday, Sept 12, 2026, and will be held at the Hotel 1620. More details will follow. We will be having a vote on the new expanded by-laws which will include a new class of membership. If the membership votes for it, we will allow members who are interested in our group but do not have a blood line lineage to Elder William Brewster. We have had inquiries for this type of membership over the years but have never acted on it until now.

I am also very happy to announce that the Brewster Bell which we donated \$15,000 for its repair and re-installation has now been completed and is functional. This bell is located in the steeple of the Pilgrim Meetinghouse at the base of burial hill and located where the first meetinghouse was built in 1620 upon the arrival of the Pilgrims. The meetinghouse when completed will be the first location where we can tell the accurate story of the Pilgrims and will include interactive displays, a gift shop and will be a fine example of our dedication and admiration of those who came over so long ago and settled the first town in what was to become New England in North America. If you wish to support this fine historic building a beautiful scarf has been designed and all profits go to the Meetinghouse. See it on page 11.

**ELDER WILLIAM BREWSTER SOCIETY
TREASURERS REPORT
5/27/25 – 10/6/25**

Balance as of last report published report:
\$41,477.55

Receipts

Membership Dues	\$ 2,188.00
Application Fees	\$ 325.00
Insignia	\$ 205.00
Donations	\$ 305.00
	3023.00
	\$ 44,500.55

EXPENSES

Postage, Printing, Supplies	\$ 859.27
Website Renewal	\$ 216.83
Hotel 1620 deposit for Tri. Meeting	\$ -1326.10

Balance as of 10/6/25 \$43,174.45

Respectfully submitted – Jane E. Cobb
Treasurer

A MESSAGE FROM THE TREASURER

I have sent out reminders to all members who have a 2025 expiration date. Many of you have already renewed.... Thank You!

Please check those expiration dates:

Besides keeping your dues up to date, it is VERY important to keep us informed of any **postal or email** address changes. Please let me know of any changes so that you can continue to receive the newsletters.

DUES: If you see **2025** on your mailing label, or on your Membership Card, you need to renew. Those of you that receive the newsletter via email will need to check your membership cards. Please renew, so we don't lose you as a member!

I am the one to contact if you are unsure of your Membership Renewal Date. Please do this as soon as possible. Postage is at an all-time high and it costs our society a lot of money to send out all the reminders. Again, just drop me an email, if you are not sure of your membership date.

Members who receive the newsletters via Postal mail	\$20.00
Members who receive the newsletters via Email	\$15.00

Checks must be made payable to The Elder William Brewster Society and send to:

Jane Cobb, Treasurer
Elder William Brewster Society
604 Mallow Scrub Way
Sebastian, FL 32958

Email: brewsoc1620@gmail.com

Warmest wishes:

Sincerely, Jane Cobb

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

The historian has approved 22 New Members. Please help me welcome them to our Society.

1. **Ginger Lee Roberts Trokey**
Gilbert, AZ
2. **Lauren P Gilbert**
Charlotte, NC
3. **Lynda Jane Hylander**
Scottsdale, AZ
4. **Robin McMullen Hanna**
Paradise Valley, AZ
5. **Karen Hacker Bilotti**
Barrington, RI
6. **Laura Gibb Veyera**
Cumberland, RI

7. **Claire Margot Leeber**
Burlington, MA
8. **Katherine Bilotti Leeber**
Burlington, MA
9. **Evan Brewster Leeber**
Burlington, MA
10. **Linda Ann Walters Ulleseit**
San Jose, CA
11. **Diane L Murphy**
Prescott Valley, AZ
12. **Michael Timothy Bates**
Belle Mead, NJ

Welcome to these 12 New Members

Looking for members to get involved

If you have always wanted to become more active in the society, and have some time to volunteer, let us know. We are always looking for members who would like to move up the ranks in our society. Most of those on the board have been involved for many years, and the time will come eventually that one or all of us will want to retire. We don't have any positions open at the moment, but you can always shadow any one of us and see what is involved. If you are interested, please contact me at:

Gregory Evan Thompson
17 David Drive
East Haven, CT 06512

Gthomp5749@aol.com

A NOTE FROM THE HISTORIAN

Just a reminder that if you have children, grandchildren or siblings, they too, can join the Elder William Brewster Society by completing and submitting the on-line form. They will need very few documents (because you have done all the work) as well as the application fee and three-year membership fee. This may also be the case

for nieces and nephews. If in doubt, they should submit an application and will be notified of their eligibility.

Barbara-Lee Kelly

REINSTATEMENT POLICY CHANGE

We have been experiencing a lot of members who join for one 3- year period, then don't renew and then come back years later and wish to rejoin. Although we are very pleased to have older members return, it does cause us additional work. With that said we will now require that the new \$25.00 application fee be paid with new renewals that have been expired for more than 1 year. A lot of times it is just a matter that you've changed your email address or moved and not let us know, and so we can't find you. So please keep us current on any changes in email or addresses when necessary.

The EWBS will soon be offering non-lineage memberships called "Friends of Elder Brewster" Many have shown interest in our society but lack the proof of lineage from the Elder. We will soon offer a "Friends" category of membership where you can join without having to prove lineage to the Elder.

STAY TUNED FOR THIS OFFERING SOON

Special THANK YOU!

Donations help cover costs of this newsletter and other society expenses. Special thank you to recent donations from Christopher Bishop, Robert Trezise, and Dr. Thomas Bird.

Send donations to treasurer Jane Cobb:
Elder William Brewster Society, 604
Mallow Scrub Way, Sebastian, FL 32958.

BREWSTER INSIGNIA

We have a good supply of Brewster Insignia pins. This beautifully designed insignia created by our member William Warner of CT, celebrates our pride in being an Elder William Brewster descendant. Wear it with pride to your Mayflower Society meeting.

The pins can only be purchased by current Brewster Society members and eligibility will be checked at the time of purchase.

To order, they can be purchased for \$35.00 each plus \$5.00 shipping and handling.

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: EWBS

Mail all requests and checks to:

Gregory Evan Thompson
17 David Drive
East Haven, CT 06512-1125



Attention Member

Please consider receiving your newsletter via email. This saves the society money for printing & postage, and it is in color in the email version.

Contact treasurer Jane Cobb to make the switch. Contact her at brewsoc1620@gmail.com. And keep your email current!!

UPDATE ON THE MF MEETINGHOUSE



"John Robinson's Farewell at Delfshaven" Stained Glass Windows at The Mayflower Meetinghouse. From the Mayflower Society website.

The Mayflower Pilgrims' first Meetinghouse was built at the top of Leyden Street in Plymouth in 1622. Pilgrim ancestors' records were stored there and passed on from congregation to congregation. This is the 5th spiritual structure built at this location, honoring and memorializing Mayflower Pilgrims. In 2014, the Meetinghouse was added to both the National Register of Historic Places and the List of Massachusetts' Most Endangered Resources.

In 2018, the First Parish Church congregation, former owners of the Meetinghouse, donated the Meetinghouse to The Mayflower Society, in order to save and preserve the building.

Today the General Society of Mayflower Descendants is in the process of restoring and upgrading the Mayflower Meetinghouse.

YOU can help complete the project with a donation to The Mayflower Society. Your gifts will ensure this important story is told for generations to come. Make checks payable to:

The Mayflower Society with 'Meetinghouse' in the subject line. Mail to:

The Mayflower Society
18 Winslow Street
Plymouth, MA 02360

EDITORIAL

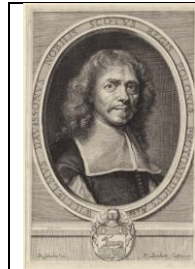
Ever wonder what might have happened if Elder William Brewster had never met Ambassador, and later Secretary of State, William Davison? He likely would have never left England for the Lowlands. He wouldn't have had his diplomatic career end when Queen Elizabeth I reluctantly signed the death warrant for her cousin Mary Queen of Scots.

Though those events may seem far removed from our Mayflower adventure, that was a pivotal turning point in young Brewster's personal biography. He did travel with William Davison, serving him as a personal secretary. It was Davison's duty to get her majesty, Queen Elizabeth, to sign the death warrant prepared by members of Parliament. It took quite a bit of cajoling and waiting, but finally, Davison secured her signature, took it as instructed to be sealed, and then arranged to have it delivered to Fotheringhay Castle. Mary was imprisoned there for her relentless efforts to participate in plots to kill Queen Elizabeth and assume the throne of England. The day after signing the death warrant, Queen Elizabeth developed a serious case of signer's remorse. Too late. The execution was carried out as directed February 8, 1587. The queen accused Davison of betraying her and sentenced him to the Tower of London. Young Brewster, around 20 years of age, stayed in London for a while, assisting Davison's family as best he could and hoping his mentor and friend would soon be released. When that did not happen, he returned to Scrooby where he was raised. There he married Mary and got connected with non-conformists in the region. Their first three children - Jonathan, Patience, and Fear - were all born while William and Mary lived at the manor.

(From Pilgrim: A Biography of William Brewster by Mary B. Sherwood.)



Scrooby Manor where Wm. Brewster grew up and returned to after he lost his position with William Davison.



Left to Right:
William Davison, Ambassador and Secretary of State to
Queen Elizabeth I.

Mary Queen of Scots

Queen Elizabeth I.

WHAT DO YOU KNOW?

Do you have a favorite bit of history of the Brewster family our society members would find interesting? Send information to co-editor:

Kathy Haueisen

kathrynhau Eisen@gmail.com

American Pilgrim Museum in Leiden, Holland Has a New Home

The lovely Dutch city of Leiden has a museum with numerous treasures from and about our ancestors during their years in exile there. Until the end of last year it was housed in the centuries-old house. Pictured below. It closed at the end of 2024.



The museum reopened at Klok Steeg 16a in a new setting adjacent to Pieterskerk October 15, 2025. Pieterskerk is the church that befriended the Brewsters and other English Separatists when they moved to Leiden in 1609. Brewster's friend and beloved pastor John Robinson is buried at the church. Though no longer a worshipping community, it has displays and plaques inside and out that retain details of their amazing story.

From the museum website: "The museum will reopen at a remarkable new location: right next to the Pieterskerk. This centuries-old story returns to the heart of the city where the Pilgrims themselves once gathered. The monumental building next to the Pieterskerk, originally the sexton's residence, and later a B&B under the name Villa Rameau, has a new purpose: a museum where people from Leiden – and visitors from all over the world can explore the history and heritage of the Pilgrims."



Inside and out of Pieterskerk visitors will find information and tributes to the Pilgrims. Pastor John Robinson is buried at the ancient cathedral.



This alley starts next to where the Brewsters lived in Leiden. From the other end visitors are only a few yards from the back of Pieterskerk. The plaque acknowledges that Brewsters lived here.



The **Pieterskerk** is a late-Gothic Dutch Protestant church in Leiden dedicated to Saint Peter. It is known today as the church of the Pilgrim Fathers.

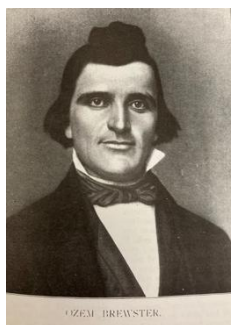
Brewster Family Stories

Old Ohio Brewster Farmhouse



Old Brewster home was built in 1812

About 50 years ago my Grandma Ross wanted to tour places where she grew up in rural Perry and Muskingum counties in Southeastern Ohio. Grandpa Ross is one of the links in our family's connection to Elder William and Mary Brewster. My husband took this photo of the 1812



farmhouse the day we toured the area with Grandma. Brewsters lived there until around 1900 when **Ozem Brewster** sold the property and home to the Deal family that lives adjacent to the property. That family is still taking care of it over a century later. The Deal family has farmed in the area for nine generations, so their ancestors were likely well acquainted with their Brewster neighbors.

Ozem Brewster Last Brewster at Home Here

I found an article about Ozem Brewster in a book at the small Duncan Falls, Ohio library. It was in a book titled, *Past and present of the City*

of Zanesville and Muskingum County, Ohio by J. Hope Sutor.

According to that article this Ozem Brewster appears to be the younger brother of my family's Brewster link, Stephen Brewster. Stephen and Ozem were sons of Jonathan who built the farmhouse in 1812. I've also found Jonathan listed as Johnson and Johnston.

Sutor Article

The Sutor article describes Ozem as one of the oldest and best-known residents born in Salt Creek Township, located in Muskingum County. He was born on January 30, 1825, among the ninth generation of descendants from the *Mayflower* Brewsters.

According to the Sutor article, Jonathan Brewster and his wife Catherine Reise (also found as Reese) had eight children between 1813 to 1838. Their children were: my ancestor Stephen (1813), Mary (1815), Susan (1819), John (1822), Nancy (1825), **Ozem** (1825), W.S. (1832) and Sarah Jane (1838). Were Nancy and Ozem twins or did Catherine have two babies in the same year? She was 45 when Sarah Jane was born.

The Sutor article about the house matched my grandmother's story that Jonathan built the home for his new bride in 1812. It's not a large house, leading me to speculate Stephen must have grown up there and moved into his own place when he married Eliza Brown and they raised their six children. Given Ozem was 10 or 11 years younger, Ozem probably lived there after Stephen moved out. The article stated Ozem farmed all of his life and cared for his aging parents, Jonathan and Catherine. He was 39 when his father died.

Apparently, Ozem's father Jonathan moved to the Salt Creek area in 1802. Here my mother's records and the article conflict. According to the

article Jonathan worked in the area as a young boy doing various chores for a local sawmill. According to my mother's research, he would have been 22 when he moved to Ohio Valley from Vermont, where he was born in 1780.

Jonathan settled at Chandlersville, Ohio where he worked at the salt works and a local sawmill. On November 19, 1812, he married Catherine Reise. Neighbor Deborah Deal told me it was built with stone quarried up a lane named Brewster Grove. She reported the creek nearby was once a popular place for church picnics.

The Sutor article reports that Jonathan had no money left after clearing a place for the house and gathering the equipment necessary to begin farming. The young couple worked diligently to develop the farm which eventually prospered. He and Catherine lived primarily off various kinds of wild game in the area until they harvested their first crops. Eventually the farm included 264 acres.

Ozem's father belonged to a Baptist church in the area and was ordained one of its deacons in 1842, a position he held until his death. Sutor wrote, "He was a man of kindly, beneficent spirit, generous to those who needed assistance and always extending a helping hand to those less fortunate than himself. He was an invalid in his last few years but never faltered in the religious faith, which was his stay and attitude throughout his life. His broad humanitarian spirit was indicated by his active and helpful interest in the anti-slavery movement, and he did much to assist the down-trodden negro. His life was characterized by unremitting diligence in his business affairs and yet he always found time to do good, to perform an act of kindness or a deed of charity."

In 1905, the year Sutor's book was published, Ozem Brewster was one of the oldest native-born citizens in Salt Creek Township. He had

been interested in farming from early boyhood days, assisting his father in the cultivation of the fields, beginning to work almost as soon as he could reach the plow handles. He saw many improvements in farm machinery, the old-fashioned sickle and flail giving place to the reaper, binder and mower. He kept pace with them all. Sutor wrote that Ozem spent his entire life at the farm homestead. In politics he has always voted the Republican ticket but never had any aspiration for office. He was known for his frugality and sterling qualities that made him an honored and respected citizen of Muskingum County.

I've not found any information about a wife or children for Ozem, so I wonder if he was a bachelor farmer, with the farm and his church getting the devotion he might have shared with a wife and children.

If any readers know more about the Muskingum County Ohio Brewsters I'd love to hear from you.

Kathy Haueisen kathrynhaueisen@gmail.com

The following article comes for *Brewster Genealogy* by Emma Jones, pgs. 1124-1128

Lieutenant General **John McAllister Schofield** (*Caroline McAllister*⁷ , *Sarah Brewster*⁶ , *Elisha*⁵ , *Elisha*⁴ , *William*³ , *Love*² , *William*¹ married first, at West Point, NY, June 17, 1857, HARRIET, daughter of Professor William Holmes Chambers and Harriet (Whitcomb) BARTLETT of West Point, born at Newport, RI, Oct 1 1833, died at Washington, DC, December 24, 1888, married second, at Keokuk, IA. June 18, 1891, GEORGIA WELLS, daughter of George Erskine and Augusta (Wells) KILBOURNE of Keokuk, born there, November 9, 1864. He died at St. Augustine, FL, March 4, 1906, and was

buried in Arlington National Cemetery, Washington, D.C. John M Schofield entered the U.S. Military Academy, West Point, NY, June 1, 1849, and was graduated July 1, 1853, in the class with McPherson, Sill and Sheridan, who like himself, afterwards became famous on the Union side in the Civil War. In that class too, was Gen Thomas M Vincent. His beloved classmate, afterwards the able and energetic assistant to secretary of War Stanton, while on the confederate side the class was represented by Gen John B Hood, Schofield's antagonist at Franklin in 1864. Cadet Schofield was appointed brevet second lieutenant and promoted to second lieutenant prior to the outbreak of the war. While holding the rank of second lieutenant he was assigned to duty at the Military Academy as assistant professor of Natural and Experimental Philosophy, and on his promotion to first lieutenant was assigned as principal assistant professor of Philosophy at the Academy until Aug 28, 1860, when he accepted the chair of Physics in Washington University at St. Louis. MO.

In the Civil War, from the beginning to end, Gen Schofield at the front, taking advantage of every opportunity that presented to preserve the Union. He was chief of staff to Gen Lyon in the early operations of MO and in the battle of Wilson's Creek, Aug 10, 1861, in which Lyon was killed, and was awarded a Medal of Honor for conspicuous gallantry in the battle. He was appointed brigadier general of Volunteers Nov 21, 1861, and brigadier general of MO Militia on the same date, and was assigned to command the District of MO, Feb 15th. In Sept 1862, he organized the Army of the Frontier, driving Hindman out of Southwest MO and south of the AR River. In the latter part of 1862 and 1863, he was assigned to important administration and military commands. He had been appointed

In 1862 but having incurred the enmity of some political generals his nomination was not confirmed. In May 1863, however, President Lincoln reappointed him major Gen. of Volunteers of the same date of his original appointment, and assigned him to command the Dept. of the MO. In January 1861, he was sent to Knoxville to command the Dept and Army of the Ohio. On May 2, 1864, Gen. Schofield joined Gen. Sherman, and his army became the left wing of Sherman's army, and in the long and brilliant campaign that followed he was a trusted advisor of Gen. Sherman and possessed his utmost confidence. He participated with his command and was conspicuous in all the engagements and operations of that ever-memorable campaign ending in the capture of Atlanta, GA.

When General Sherman on his "March to the Sea" he left General Schofield with his command to help General Thomas "take care of Hood: in Tennessee. General Schofield was then in immediate command of the troops opposed to Hood, General Thomas being at Nashville organizing and concentrating his command. When Hood crossed the Tennessee and advanced toward Nashville, General Schofield with a greatly inferior force retarded his advance by skillful maneuvering from the 24th to the 30th of November 1864, when was fought the decisive battle of Franklin, in which Hood was badly defeated. For the battle General Schofield was promoted to brigadier general and to brevet major general in the Regular Army on December 15th and 16th, having joined General Thomas, he commanded his corps in the battle of Nashville and the subsequent pursuit of Hood.

In January 1865, General Schofield with his command was transferred to North Carolina.

On February 28th he assumed command of the Dept. of North Carolina and the Army of the Ohio. Operations were at once begun , resulting in the capture of Fort Anderson February 19th, Wilmington, February 22nd, battle of Kinston March 8th-10th, and the march to Goldsboro, where he united with General Sherman, March 22nd, and was present with him in the second interview with General Joseph E Johnston, when he surrendered at Durham Station, North Carolina, March 22, 1865.

General Schofield being entrusted with the execution of the military convention of capitulation.

In June 1865, General Schofield was sent on a delicate and important secret mission to France in connection with the peaceful evacuation of Mexico by the French.

Under the Reconstruction Laws he commanded the First Military District (Virginia)

From June 1, 1868, to March 10, 1869, he was Secretary of War under President Johnson and President Grant and was appointed Major General, U. S. Army, March 4, 1869, and commanded several important military divisions and departments until August, 1888, when on the death of General Sheridan, he was appointed lieutenant general of the United States Army, February 5, 1895, and having reached the age of sixty-four years was retired September 29, 1895.

By special act of Congress, he was created a lieutenant General, being the sixth to hold rank above major general – Washington Scott, Grant, Sherman, Sheridan and Schofield.

Although retired when war with Spain was declared, he organized a reserve brigade, ready for service should occasion demand. General Schofield was noted as a teacher, a soldier, a diplomat and a statesman. His knowledge while varied with

Profound, and he patriotically served his country with marked distinction for nearly half a century and during a most momentous epoch.

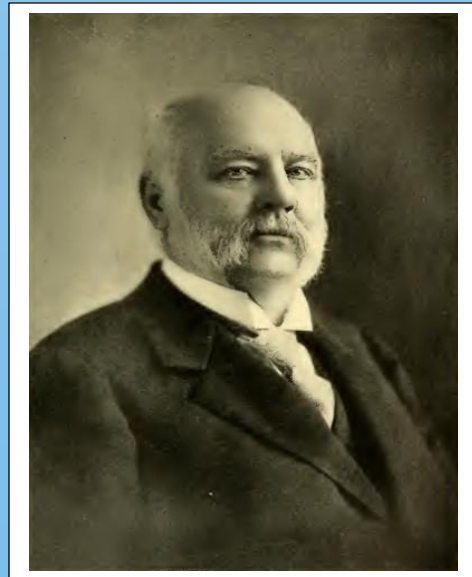
He served as commander-in-chief of the Loyal Legion for two terms and was a member of the George Washington Post of the Grand Army of the Republic at New York City. He was married twice and the father of 6 children by two wives.

By first wife: Harriet Bartlett:

1. **John Rathbone Scofield**, born March 1858, died 1868.
2. **William Bartlett Scofield**, born 18 Jun 1860, died Aug 1906
3. **Henry Halleck Scofield**, born 1863, died 9 months.
4. **Mary Campbell Scofield**, born 10 Jun 1865.
5. **Richmond McAllister Scofield**, born 27 Mar 1867.

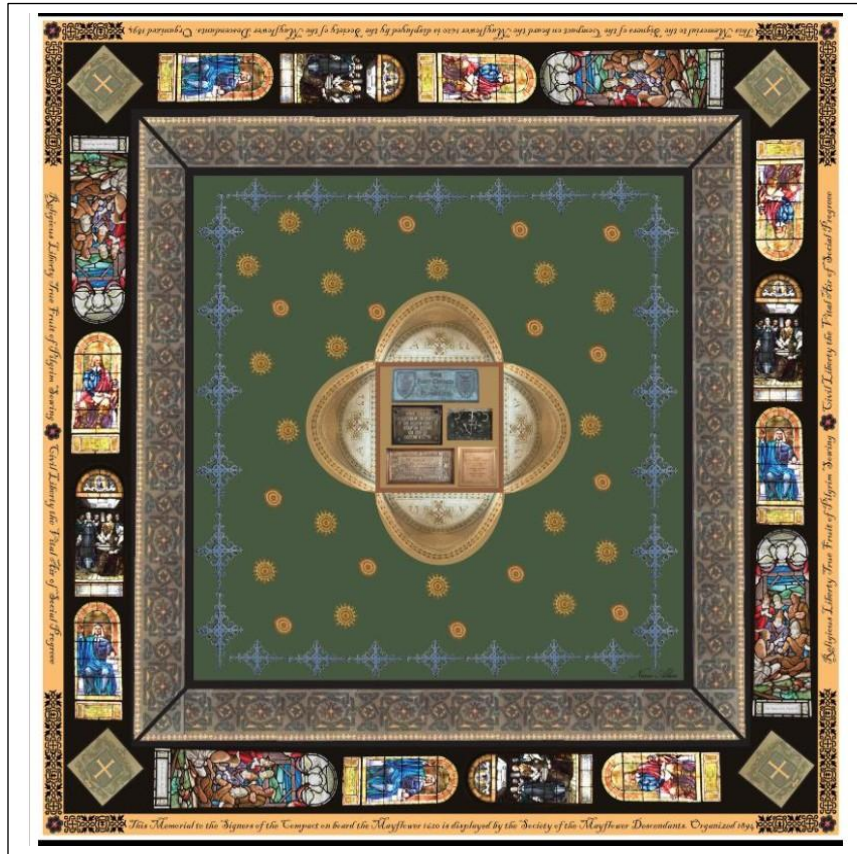
By his second wife: Georgia Wells Kilbourne:

6. **Georgia Scofield**, born 26 Dec 1893.



John McCallister Schofield

Scarf for sale to benefit the Pilgrim Meetinghouse



This beautiful scarf, created by renowned designer, Nina Akin, has been created to help support the **Mayflower Meetinghouse** to raise funds for its renovation. The scarf is 38 inches by 38 inches and is made of “New Silk” which is a material that both looks and feels like silk. We have an ample supply of these just in time for Christmas. If you would like to purchase one to support the Mayflower Meetinghouse, please send a check for \$40.00 made out to GSMD. Postage will be paid by me, and mail to:

Gregory E Thompson

17 David Drive

East Haven, CT 06512-1125

The Elder Wm Brewster Press

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East Haven, CT 06512-1125

My thanks to member Kathryn Haueisen who has been kind enough to volunteer to help with this and future newsletters. After doing it for over 25 years, it's time to pass the baton on to someone else who has a fresh set of eyes and new ideas.

THANK YOU, KATHY,

Please refer to your address label for the expiration of your membership. If you see the date 2025 it's time to renew.