

## SARGENTRIVIA

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No. 3

Ziegler Sargent, editor; Agnes W.B. Sargent, assistant editor.

Theodore Fisher Babbitt, Jr., was born on March 21st at 11:15 A.M. in the Private Pavilion of the Grace-New Haven Hospital in New Haven. He weighed 8 lbs., 2 oz., is the first child of Ted and Betsy, and the first grandchild of Peggy Fisher Babbitt. Betsy's mother, Mrs. Hurd, reached New Haven and the hospital about the time of her grandson's arrival. Betsy and the baby are reported as doing well.

Alison Deming Goeller, daughter of Elizabeth (Bibby) Deming Goeller, was born on March 8th at 11:41 P.M. in the Delaware Hospital, Wilmington, Del. She weighed 8 lbs., 13-1/2 oz. She is the third child (all daughters) of Bibby and Bill and the third grandchild of Laura Rice Deming. Word reached Sargentivia that "she has the fattest little face and locks just like her Pappa. Mother and daughter doing nicely and very anxious to get home to our family".

Margaret Sargent Fisher, daughter of Joseph Bradford Sargent and wife of Samuel Herbert Fisher, died in the morning of March 19th in Washington, D.C. She suffered a heart attack just after boarding the train to return home to Litchfield, Conn., was carried from the train, but did not recover consciousness. She was born in New Haven September 15, 1870, the eleventh child and fifth daughter of Elizabeth Collier Lewis and Joseph Bradford Sargent. In the family and among her friends she was always known as Daisy. She was married in New Haven April 18, 1895, to Samuel Herbert Fisher. He survives her, as do also their two children: Robert Lewis Fisher, now an investment counsellor in New York, who has four daughters, and Margaret Crossette Fisher, wife of Theodore Babbitt of Washington D.C., who have three sons. At the time of the death of Aunt Daisy, as she was known to most of us, she had four great grandchildren. A fifth, Theodore Fisher Babbitt, Jr., was born two days later. Funeral services were conducted at 11 A.M. on March 22d, in St. John's Episcopal Church, Orange and Humphrey Streets, New Haven, by the Reverend John W. Gummere. Burial was in the Fisher-Schwab lot in the Grove Street Cemetery. Her girlhood and early married life were spent in New Haven. Her most intimate girl friend from early childhood through life was Louise Weir (called "Lulu" as a girl), daughter of Professor John F. Weir of the Yale Art School. In 1896 Louise married Daisy's brother Joe Uncle Sam, as he was to most of us, graduated from Yale in 1889, studied law in the Yale Law School and up to 1916 was a practicing lawyer, a member of the firm which under different names handled the legal work of Sargent & Company. The Fishers moved to New York in 1916 when he became personal counsel for certain members of the Harkness family. After his retirement in 1931 they became residents of Litchfield, Conn., occupying a beautiful eighteenth century house on North Street that they had purchased some years earlier. Daisy made during a long period an extraordinary historical collection of playing cards from all over the world, which a few years ago she presented to the Yale University Library. The family meant much to her, and she meant much to the family.

Horace Pettit, Jr., son of Millicent Lewis Pettit, of Gladwyne, Pa., was married at 4 o'clock on Wednesday, March 16th, to Rosemary Metcalf Varker, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William M. Varker of Berwyn, Pa. The Reverend John Robbins Hart performed the ceremony in the Washington Memorial Chapel at Valley Forge, Pa. Miss Frances Wickham was maid of honor and the bridesmaids were Emily Pettit Whitney and Deborah Pettit, sisters of the groom, and Mrs. Robert Roche of Carlisle. Norman Pettit was his brother's best man, and the ushers were William Varker and Richard Varker, brothers of the bride, and Gordon F. Whitney, brother-in-law of the groom. The chapel is in the English Gothic style, dignified and charming, standing in a grove of old trees. Its principal glory is its stained glass windows, which are made of tiny pieces of brightly colored glass fitted together in the manner of the glass in the French cathedral windows of the fourteenth century. They are without equal in this country. Reds and golds predominate in the window over the altar and in the narrow windows on either side of the chancel. The side windows in the nave are blue, and the large west window over the entrance door is also blue. Over the chancel stalls are hung the flags of the Colonies and of the Armies of the Revolution. Four kneeling statuettes of Continental soldiers are on guard at the chancel stalls, and in a niche behind the pulpit is a small statue of Washington seated with his unsheathed sword across his knees. The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, wore a gown of white satin, fashioned with a fitted bodice, featuring a high neckline, with insets of rose point lace, long sleeves and a full skirt. Her veil of rose point lace, which had also been worn by her mother, was arranged with a Juliet cap of the satin, and she carried a bouquet of freesia and lilies of the valley. The bride's attendants wore faille dresses, made with illusion necklines and wide hoop skirts, the maid of honor's in a soft green and the bridesmaids in yellow. Their headaddresses were Juliet caps the same color as their dresses, and they carried bouquets of daffodils, narcissus, anemones and pussy willows. Mrs. Varker wore a gown of aqua blue crepe, with corsage of sweetheart roses. Millicent Pettit, the groom's mother, was gowned in navy blue crepe and her flowers were white roses. A reception at the Varkers' home followed the ceremony. In addition to all the Pettits the members of our family present were Sargent and Carol Lewis of New Haven with their daughter Faith and Leicester and Sally Lewis of Bryn Mawr with their daughters Sally and Meta. Mrs. Edward B. Reed and her sister, Mrs. Van Cleef, of New Haven, cousins of Mrs. Varker, were present. After a Caribbean cruise Horace and Rosemary expect to go to Tucson, Ariz.



## SARGENTRIVIA

George Gardner Loring, son of Suzanne Bailey and Caleb Loring, of Pride's Crossing, Mass., is engaged to be married to Miss Sarah Yarnall Means of Manchester, Mass. Gid and Sally plan to be married on June 21st. Gid expects to graduate from Harvard in February 1950. He has been on the Harvard varsity hockey squad during the past season, and by playing in the game against Yale in Boston won his letter.

John Sargent, son of Joseph Bradford Sargent, recently was hospitalized in Greenwich, Conn., for ten days, having an operation on February 26th.

The built-over house of Sylvia Tilney Skerrett, daughter of Rhoda Sargent Tilney, on Steeple Hill, Church Street, Farmington, Conn., was the subject of an extensive write-up in the "Homes" section of The Hartford Courant of Sunday, March 13th. Four pictures and a floor plan accompany an article headed "Farmington Cottage Converted Into Modern Home", which tells how Sylvia and Kerry with the help of Bradford Tilney, her architect brother, remodeled "an old summer house, outwardly run down", purchased in August 1948, into an attractive home.

Josephine Toy Collins Tilney, wife of Bradford S. Tilney, and who owns and operates the Tilhill Kennels at their home in Cheshire, Conn., exhibited her miniature poodles at three dog shows in February. At the First Company Governor's Foot Guard Dog Show in Hartford on February 19th "Bonne Fille" won 1st prize in her class (American bred), and also won Reserve Winners prize and special money prize. "Bon Sabreur" won 2d prize in his class for American bred miniature poodles. At the Elm City Kennel Club Dog Show in New Haven on February 20th "Bonne Fille" won 1st prize and "Bon Sabreur" 2d prize in their respective classes. At the Eastern Dog Club Show in Boston on February 22d and 23d "Bon Sabreur", the only dog Josephine exhibited, won 3d prize in his class.

Catherine Cole Tate, daughter of Emily Rupert Cole, makes the 107th member of the family on the Sargentrivia mailing list. (This means 107 copies of the paper, for many are mailed to "Mr. & Mrs.") Catherine is a granddaughter of Leicester Sargent Rupert and a great granddaughter of Lucy Sargent Rupert (1824-1895). She is the wife of Robert Percy Tate. They have an eight year old daughter, Ellen Cole Tate, and live at 1311 East Washington Street, Bloomington, Ill. (This Tate family appears to be no relation to the family of Alice Sargent Tate of Saint Augustine, Fla.)

BIRTHDAY ANNIVERSARIES

- April 2 - John Appleton Clark, stepson of John Sargent  
Converse Gray Fenn, son of Russell Sargent Fenn  
(6th) Thomas Cotten Chittenden Sargent, son of Murray Sargent, Jr.
- 3 - Catherine Cole Tate, daughter of Emily Rupert Cole and granddaughter of  
Leicester Sargent Rupert  
(4th) Ann Lewis Goeller, daughter of Elizabeth (Bibby) Deming Goeller
- 5 - Charles Kenneth Deming, husband of Laura Rice Deming  
Richard Collier Sargent, Jr.
- 6 - Hilda Sargent Ham, daughter of George Lewis Sargent
- 9 - Nancy Grove Turner, daughter of Barbara Sargent Moorehead  
(5th) Anne Boullemet Howard, daughter of Phebe Sargent Howard  
(3d) Kenneth Sargent Casanova, son of Margaret Sargent Williams Casanova
- 17 - Arthur Nicholson Turner, husband of Nancy Grove Turner  
(12th) David Sargent Ham, son of Hilda Sargent Ham
- 19 - (12th) Suzanne Louise Hinkley, daughter of Louise Sargent Hinkley
- 21 - (5th) Carol Sargent, daughter of Richard Collier Sargent, Jr.
- 25 - (13th) John Halsey Buck, III, son of Jean Sargent Buck
- 29 - Frederick Kingsbury Sargent, son of Richard Collier Sargent
- 30 - Suzanne Bailey Loring, daughter of Mary Emma (Tiny) Hammond Bailey

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

- April 4 - (13th) Hilda Sargent and Roswell Gray Ham
- 15 - (29th) Suzanne Bailey and Caleb Loring
- 29 - (5th) Elizabeth (Bibby) Deming and William Joseph Goeller



Sargent & Company in 1905 bought some real estate on Collis and East Streets adjoining the factory property in New Haven, thereby completing the purchase of the block bounded by those two streets and by Water and Wallace Streets. Two of the several frame buildings in the sale housed saloons, the proprietors of which held unexpired leases. Joseph Bradford Sargent (1822-1907), president of the company who negotiated the purchase, was a teetotaler and a non-smoker. He offered the saloonkeepers what he considered reasonable sums to cancel the leases. They both declined and held out for much higher amounts, with the result that they continued to occupy the property during the remaining few months covered by the leases. On the morning following the announcement in the newspapers of the sale of the real estate to Sargent & Company, Michael Griffin, foreman of the Plating Department, walked into J.B.'s office and disconcerted him by asking: "Good morning, Mr. Sargent. Which saloon do you want us to patronize?"

Nathan Sargent (1718-1799), ancestor of the Homer Sargents, and who has been mentioned several times in *Sargentrivia*, kept a record of some important events, a sort of diary, on the inside of the covers of a copy of the "Acts & Laws of the Province of the Massachusetts Bay in New England printed in Boston in 1726." The latter was presented by Nathan's grandson, Sewall Sargent, to General Samuel Andrews, the Custom House, Boston, July, 21, 1870. Ye editor has acquired from the papers of the late John Smith Sargent a handwritten copy of this diary or these notes (which mostly are births, marriages and deaths, and which are not always in agreement with the dates in the "Sargent Genealogy"). The following are the items other than "vital statistics". "Feby 28, 1741 I came to dwell at Leicester. Nathan Sargent. Dec. 16, 1745 I came to dwell at Chestnut Hill (in eastern outskirts of Leicester. - Ed.) Nov. 18, 1755 There was a great earthquake at about four o'clock in the Morning. it shook ye tops off of many chimneys in some places, and much stone wall fell - some gable ends of brick houses fell in Boston, and the tarrett fell off of funnels Hall. March 12, 1761 This morning about a quarter after two o'clock there was a considerable Shock of an earthquake - July 9, 1784 The new Meeting house raised in Leicester - the fraim raised a side at a time; both sides raised in ten minits. the whole performed with only one slight wound. Praised be God for his goodness to the children of men."

Ruth Sargent (1642-1711), daughter of William Sargent (1602-1682), our immigrant ancestor, was married about 1663 to Jonathan Winslow of Marshfield in Massachusetts Bay Colony. He died in 1676. She was married secondly July 2, 1677, to the Reverend Richard Bourne, a widower who was some years her senior. He was a man of good education, of some means, had studied the Indian language under the Apostle Elliot and was ordained at Mashpee pastor of the Indian church near Barnstable. William Sargent removed from Malden to Barnstable probably in 1656 or 1657, was a lay preacher and was associated with Bourne. Among the papers left by the late John Smith Sargent, who compiled the English ancestry section of the 1895 edition of the Sargent Genealogy, were copies that he had made of five love letters of Richard Bourne to the young widow. In the collection, now in ye editor's possession, were also copies of a letter to Ruth from her parents and of a letter by Bourne to "Captaine" Southworth in Duxbury asking him to "joyne" them in marriage. Bourne died in 1682. She was married thirdly in 1684 to John Chipman, thereby becoming the mother-in-law of her brother John Sargent, whose first wife, Deborah Hillier, was the ancestor of the Joseph Sargents and whose third wife, Lydia Chipman, was the ancestor of the Homer Sargents. The letters were in a room under the belfry of the Old South Church in Boston when the British soldiers in Revolutionary times ransacked the church, but were overlooked. They were a part of the "New England Library" collected by the Reverend Thomas Prince (1687-1758) during his pastorate. (His wife Deborah was a sister of our immigrant ancestor Daniel Denny.) With the help of Mrs. Powers of the manuscript room in the Yale University Library ye editor learned that the original letters are preserved in the Boston Public Library (confirmed by correspondence) among the Cotton papers. The Catalogue of the Prince Library (printed in 1870) states that Prince appended to the letters the following: "NB - This excellent Gentlewoman I very well knew when I was a youth. She was Dr to ye eminently Pious Mr. Wm Sargent of Barnstable. She 1st married to Mr. Josiah Winslow of Marshfield, by w<sup>m</sup> She had 1 child, a Son, w<sup>o</sup> Died young, & Her sd Husband I suppose in 7 br 1676. After her sd Husband's Decease she married to Mr Richard Bourn of Sandwich, I suppose in June, 1677 (see Dte) w<sup>o</sup> Dying I suppose in ye Summer of 1682 (see Aug. 7, 1682) left his Homestead at Sandwich between the mill River & ye Town Dock to her use during Life where she lived with her 3d Husband Elder John Chipman: w<sup>o</sup> marry'd Her in 1683 or 4; & tho Ruling Elder of ye Church at Barnstable, yet removed to her sd House at Sandwich; where He Died Apr. 8, 1708 at 88; in ye very night when I wth some others watched wth Him. w<sup>c</sup> Elder Chipman was a very venerable gentleman, & greatly esteemed in his Day. And this Mrs. Ruth Chipman was a Little, lively, smart Gentlewoman of very good sense & knowledg, of ye strictest Piety, an excellent spirit of Family Govt, very good skill in ye Diseases of Women & children; & my mother falling into Travail with me near a month before I came to maturity, This Mrs Chipman was ye only Person w<sup>o</sup> living just by occasionally help'd me into ye world, - surviv'd ye Elder, & liv'd & died in gt esteem." The first Bourne letter, following, was dated the 5th of the 12th month, 1676 (which was February, for prior to 1752 March was the first month of the English year). "Dearly Beloved, my tenderest respects to you. I make bold to trouble you with oftines, although I am implisly forbidden in the margins of yours. Yet as respecting myselfe, it is no trouble to me either to write or to come to see you or any other lawfull means to obtain your favor in these respects. The truth is, I long to see you and preious in my eyes, and should have been with you this



last week, my horse was even at the door, but providence soe ordering that the last week there came a message to me from hyngham, sent on purpose to acquaint mee that my son was very sick and desired one of his brothers to come to him, who had my horse for that Journey, and when hee will returne I know not and bye next week I had promised to bee with the Indians upon the Cape, before I received Mr. Arnold's letter, whom I cannot disapoint, and some other ocupations concerning the Estate left by my son dying without a will and I not having given deeds of ye land, must see that the widow and children be not destitute. I have to bee at March court if the Lord will, and I purpose then to see you or shortly after the court. \*\*\* I have had divers motions since I received yours, but none suits me but yourself, if God soe incline your mynde to marry me. Whether soe, I shall arrange my condition or not, I cannot declare at present if it bee not with yourself. I doe not finde in myself any flexableness to any other but an utter loathness. I was informed that you was to come to Capt. fflurers againe. If you should, I should be glad to see you, and if you want money and means to accomplish a cure for you. I know of a friend of yours who will satisfie you, but if you should goe elsewhere for cure for you, I pray let mee understand from you when it will be, and if it bee not impossible for mee to come I shall come and give you a visit before you goe. I would not have you understand that I am not cordial, I pray p'sent my respects to our mother in law and your uncle John. I did neglect it the last time I writt to your uncle, because I was not willing that it should bee made known at present, but there was, I suppose some of your relations and neighbors that made report of it in divers places; but now I doe not regard who knowes of it and I should bee very glad that it were accomplished. I would enlarge further but multiplisity of ocations prevents more, and must at present rest, hoping that you will please to returne mee a few lines from your own hande, by waye of answer. And the good Lord bee with you and guide you in a way pleasing unto Him. Your assured real friend, Richard Bourne." Ye editor would like to learn the last name of Ruth's "uncle John" referred to above. Her father's brother John is not known as having come to America and her mother's maiden name is not now known.

Below is reproduced the Sargent coat-of-arms from the Sargent Genealogy published in 1895. The earliest known use of the coat-of-arms was in 1324 by Adam le Serjant, of Bridgenorth, in Shropshire. In heraldry, animals, birds and fishes are always to be interpreted according to their most noble and generous qualities. The dolphin is a fish of "exceeding great Swiftnes".



SARGENT ARMS.

Argent, a Chevron between Three Dolphins.  
embowed, naiant, sable.