

Josselin Journal 54 February 2014



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Journal Editor: John Hallum

The views expressed in the articles are those of individuals concerned and may in no way reflect those of the Josselin Society in general.

Our New Chairman, Melvyn Joscelyne, takes his place at the AGM.



From far end; Simon Gladas (Minutes Secretary),

Melvyn,

Ben Joscelyne (Treasurer and Membershio Secretary) &

John Hallum (Retiring Chairman & Journal Editor).

Photo; Roger & Leslie Joslyn..

NEW MEMBERS SINCE JOURNAL 53

261 Eric S Johnson E-mail: crates@oneotaslopes.org

Eric's grandfather was Arthur Everett Joslyn of Chicago, Illinois, USA, and he traces his ancestry back to Thomas Josselyn, the 1635 immigrant, through Thomas' son Nathaniel. Now resident in Shanghai, Eric lived for a while when young in Nottingham, England, when his mother, nee Joslyn, was on an exchange teaching programme with the University from Luther College. Since then he has lived in Moscow, Paris and now China.

Eric is particularly interested in DNA and has had his genome sequenced at 23andMe. He would be grateful if anyone would like to communicate with him on that subject.

262 Ryan Hamilton 6844 Tunbridge Way, San Jose, CA 95120, USA. Details of his ancestry and e-mail address are awaited.

OTHER NEWS;

02 Bill Joscelyne We were saddened to hear of Bill's passing and an appreciation appears elsewhere in this issue

08 Melvyn Joscelyne Chairman Melvyn's new E mail address is melvynjoscelyne@icloud.com

117 Lt Col Ken Joslin Ken's new address is 414-298 Forest Avenue N, Orilla. L3V 0C3, Canada and E-mail: kenneth.joslin@gmail.com

124 Derek Joslin Following so soon after Derek's fathers death, regretfully Derek's mother has now passed away.

248 Howard DeVoe Howard's new address is 76 Bluebird Trail, Carroll Valley. PA 17320, USA. His E-mail remains hdevoe@umd.edu

Correction: We unfortunately included Peggy Joslin (177) in the Obituaries in the previous Journal. Mrs Joslin has resigned but is still resident at Gosfield, Essex.

Ben Joscelyne (Treasurer & Membership Secretary).



Farewell Bill

William Frederick Joscelyne 1931-2013

The sad news of the loss of our lovely Bill Joscelyne will come as a shock to many of you, others, who have watched Bills failing health over the last couple of years will say 'farewell, thankyou, well done and God bless'

We all need to be very thankful for all his achievements within the Josselin Society. Back in 1990 Bill and Peter Josling set about forming a Joscelyne-Josling family history society, Bill lived in South Essex and was close to retirement from the GPO at Mount Pleasant, London, Peter on the other hand was a young man with

a very young family and lived at Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire. As most Joslin-Joscelyne etc lived in the Essex area it was decided to hold the first meeting at 'The Jobbers Rest' at Upminster on the 24th February 1991. Bill became our first Chairman and Editor of the Josselin journal, a post he held until 2000 when he felt unable to carry on the duties of Chair and Editor.

Bill became Vice President and attended all our events and committee meetings and could be justly proud that his vision of a 'Josselin Society' in 1990 had come to fruition in such a successful and world-wide way.

Bill was the authority on the early possible links to the name Josseline at the time of the crusades and often explained where such people as 'Lambert', 'Josselin the Bearded', 'Black Josselin', etc, fitted into our ancient pedigrees, Bill was also a member of the Tyrrell F H Society founded in 1978 and the Courtenay Society and fostered links to the Josselin name especially in the Devon (Powderhan Castle) area

Apart from his own extensive Joscelyne family history research, in 1984 he used his draughtsman's skills to produce many charts depicting pedigrees of the family and collaborated with the late Arthur (Sonny) Joscelyne (Leigh-on-Sea) to produce four large A3 charts, these were later computerised by Wayne Joslin (Canada) and made available to Josselin society members in 1996.

Chart 1 illustrates the relationships of Josselin's in Lorrain & Brabant

Chart 2 illustrates extensive pedigrees in the period 1100-1800

Chart 3 shows extensive pedigrees of the Josselyn family's 1500-1900

Chart 4 is maps of Europe in Charlemagne and the Crusade periods.

Bill, who was born in Norwood, London in 1931 would have been in his late 40's when he was doing all this Joscelyne family history research, this was in the days before computers and the IGI, working in London gave Bill the opportunity to research at the old record offices like Somerset House, Chancery Lane and St. Catherine's House and of course the Society of Genealogist. He was very much a family man and had married Peggy Clarke in 1954 and they had five children, Our members got to know Peggy as she often accompanied Bill on many of his Josselin society events, sadly Peggy died in 1999 and Bill never remarried.





Latterly Bill had been very interested in the Joslin's of Gaynes Park, Hoppy Hall and High House as these properties were close to where he lived in South Ockenden, He and I visited High House on Joslin Road near Purfleet in 2008, the place was deserted, dilapidated and 'shuttered up' fortunately the house and extensive grounds (14 acres) were soon snapped up and restored as the out of London home for the Royal Opera House production centre, Bill was so pleased that the home of Sir Henry Joslin's family had been preserved for the future and it may be considered for a society visit

one day when a Covent Garden production is being beamed to the High House complex.

In 2006 Bill published a small A5 size book about his experiences as an evacuee during WWII and it contains some good photos of Bills early life in London, the book is still available from the Brixton Society and is called: 'A Brixton Boy in World War II' Bill was a very intelligent and original thinker and he did all his own research the hard way long before genealogy became so popular in the age of computers, he is an immense loss to our society and I miss him so much.

Bill died on the $21^{\rm st}$ of October 2013 and our sympathy and thoughts go to his daughter Lisa and sons Peter, Simon and Andrew and their families.

Ben, Brian and Melvyn Joscelyne represented our society at Bills committal and at a celebration of Bill's life at the 'Huntsman and Hounds' at Upminster in Essex.

Peter Joslin (29)

ELIZABETH BARTLETT nee FRENCH - GENEALOGIST 1877 - 1961

In January and July 1917, the New England Historical and Genealogical Register published an article detailing the extensive research of Elizabeth French into the principal English **Josselyn family ancestry** and this was reprinted in part in 1984 by the Genealogical Publishing Co. Inc. Although since shown to have some errors, principally as to the early origins of the family, the research was otherwise thorough and has been relied upon by subsequent Researchers. Who was Elizabeth French?

Through the good offices of member Roger Joslyn (184), he has obtained permission from his friend and colleague Melinde Byrne to draw on an article she wrote for the New England Historic Genealogical Society (NEHGS) in 1988 based on her interview with John Insley Coddington in which he recalled America's best women genealogists: indeed, he regarded Miss French as heading the list. (John Coddington (1902- 1991) was a renowned American genealogist).

Born in New York City on 27 January 1877, Elizabeth attended Hunter College (now part of Columbia University) and developed an early interest in genealogy and joined the NEHGS in 1908. For many years she lived in London and during the period 1909 to 1917 abstracted records and contributed many articles to the Register about the early emigrants to New England. The Committee on English Research funded some of her activities.

John Coddington described her as "quiet, soft spoken and unassuming, yet possessing one of he most accomplished genealogical minds of our century".

Another member of the Committee, Joseph Gardner Bartlett, became her husband in her later life.

After her death in 1961, Elizabeth's surviving papers were rescued and given to the New England Society. These comprised 22 boxes of alphabetically arranged notes on numerous surnames mostly in the East Anglian and Kent regions of England with emphasis on those names appearing in New England at the time of the Great Migration.

Ben Joscelyne (09)

With acknowledgements as mentioned. (2013).

Society visit to Hyde Hall, Sawbridgeworth and Little Hallingbury. 21st Sept, 2013.

The weather started off dull and overcast for the 27 members of our group who assembled at Hyde Hall for the start of our visit. Besides several of the usual attendees, we were joined on this occasion by our new member Moira Jocelyn from Hexham, Alan & Annette Salamy, Washington, Roger and Leslie Joslyn from New York and John & Jenny Hines from Surrey.

The Hall and outbuildings have been converted to privately occupied apartments so we were not able to to go inside the premises but nevertheless had a very interesting discussion tour around the restored grounds conducted by Mr Graham Price, a member of the residents' management committee.

At the conclusion of the visit to Hyde Hall, we repaired to the Village Hall at Little Hallingbury for our 'picnic lunch', our complement being increased by Nick & Brenda Joscelyne who were not able to manage the tour. [Brenda has since had a hip operation and we are pleased to hear that she is making good progress.]

The afternoon 'workshop' session commenced with an illustrated talk on the history of the Village by Sue Meyer. This was followed by a presentation by Vernon Lane (109) whose grandparents were local residents, this linking-in with the information provided by Sue in her talk. Vernon has produced an article for this Journal which covers the points in his talk and further expands on them.

Roger Joslyn gave us a short talk about his early working life and the development into a career as a professional genealogist, going on to talk about his and Leslie's involvement in the American version of 'Who do you think you are', in the course of which mention was made regarding a Joscelyne mention on the Gary Lineker episode of the British series. This has been followed up by Ben Joscelyne who has contributed an article for theis Journal [See Page XX].

We then visited the village Church and War Memorial before departing for Hatfield Heath where we assembled at The Crown Inn for an evening meal.

Peter Joslin has produced a photomontage of the event on the centre pages. (The photos include Fred Feather, who spoke to us at the AGM.)

[As your then Chairman, I would like to thank Ben Joscelyne, Peter Joslin & Michael Brill for all their efforts in the arrangements for the day and also the contributors to the 'workshop'. John Hallum, Editor]

LT. HALLINGBURY; WHERE DID THEY LIVE IN 1911? Vernon Lane (109)

My Jocelyn maternal grandmother was born in Great Hallingbury in 1885. So far as I can tell from the censuses her parents lived in the same house for over 40 years, but where was the house, and does it still exist? The address is recorded as "Near the brook" or "By the brook" in electoral registers as well as the censuses. It turned out that a change in parish boundaries has moved the house into Little Hallingbury. It appears to have been joined with its neighbour to form one dwelling now called Willow Cottage, which is a Grade 2 listed building.

My main source for this was the "the Finance Act Valuation" (also known as the "the Inland Revenue valuation"). The surviving original records are at The National Archives and County Record Office. I visited Essex Record Office. There are two documents to be consulted. One is a large scale (25" to the mile, 1:2,500) map identifying individual properties in separate occupation. The other is a manuscript book which details the properties, showing inter alia the occupier and the owner and states the size of the property, and the valuation information. As there is no index it is necessary to work through the book looking for the relevant occupier, and locate the property on the map.

The Finance Act Valuation is described in the National Archives' research guide at http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/records/research-guides/valuation-office-records.htm from which I have taken the remainder of this note.

The valuation was initiated by the Finance (1909-1910) Act which provided for the levy and collection of a duty on the increment value of all land in the United Kingdom. The valuations were made by the Valuation Office of the Inland Revenue.

The main object of the Act was to tax that part of the capital appreciation of real property which was attributable to the site itself, i.e. excluding that arising from crops, buildings and improvements paid for by the owners. In this way, private owners were required to surrender to the State part of the increase in the site value of their land which resulted from the expenditure of public money on communal developments such as roads or public services.

Increment value duty, as this levy was called, was based on the difference between the amount of two valuations. The site value as at 30 April 1909 constituted the 'datum line' for the purposes of increment value duty. A second site value was to be taken on the occasion of any subsequent sale or grant of a lease, or transfer or interest in a piece of land, or the subsequent death of a land owner, to determine any potential payment of increment value duty. The assessment of the site value on subsequent occasions was a recurring operation which formed part of the role of the Valuation Office until increment value duty was repealed by the 1920 Finance Act (10 and 11 Geo. V, c.18). The rate of duty was 20%.

Vernon Lane (109)

A JOSCELYNE CONNECTION WITH GARY LINEKER

In last year's "Who Do You Think You Are" programme on BBC TV, Gary was shown a document that was handwritten in 1810 by his GGGG Grandfather Thomas Billingham who was a Law Writer. For those abroad, Gary is a well known English ex-footballer and now presenter on the BBC "Match of the Day" television programme.

Gary read out "Isaac Joscelyne of Braintree" and he was shown Thomas' signature at the bottom of the 3 page Indenture as having jointly written the manuscript. Surprised to hear this, I noted the name of the Lithographic firm who showed him the document and finding their address wrote to ask if it were possible to have a copy. Witherbys Litho Printing have obliged and from the first page sent it is clear that Isaac, a Baker, and Benjamin Joscelyne, a Cabinet Maker, the latter acting as a Trustee, were purchasing a property in Braintree from Thomas Litchfield, a Cordwainer. The price was £190.

The Benjamin must be my GGG Grandfather who started the Braintree business and Isaac his brother. Although the property being purchased is described in considerable detail and at great length by reference to occupiers and extent, it is not actually named. Where was it?

Searching various documents has so far failed to identify the location but some interesting information has been gleaned. Obtaining Thomas Litchfield's Will of 21 July 1800 which was proved on 28 August 1809, I found that Thomas had no less than 10 properties all of which except one were freehold and which included two shops. All were in multi occupation, some partly by family members, and they adjoined one another in Braintree and had a common yard and some outbuildings.

These properties were all given to his children - two sons and two daughters both married.- in four separate parcels and, rather unusually, the two daughters were made executrices of his Will. The two freehold properties purchased by Isaac and Benjamin had been devised to Thomas' son, also Thomas, and comprised two premises divided into several dwellings. One of the adjoining premises devised by Thomas was said to have outbuildings "next to the Church lane". This was the only clue I was able to glean from the documents. I also looked at Isaac Joscelyne's Will proved in 1824 but that did not help either.

Knowing from Whites Directory of 1823 that Isaac Joscelyne's bakery was in High Street, Braintree, I also noticed that there was a James Andrews a boot and shoe maker (cordwainer) also in High Street. Andrews was the married name of Hannah Litchfield, one of the daughters of Thomas the Testator, and who had been given the adjoining property which was the one that bordered the Church lane at the rear.

From a Parish Census of Braintree in 1821 (a joint publication on microfiche by Essex Society for Family History and the Essex Record Office) I found that a Hannah Andrews (then a widow, her husband Mordecai having died in 1812), Thomas Andrews and James Andrews were all listed in High Street as also was Isaac Joscelyne in a household of 2 males and 4 females. In the 1841 Census a Hannah Andrews, aged 70 and independent, was living with a Rebecca Andrews, aged 30 and a milliner, in High Street next to a Fishmonger.

The Church lane referred to must surely be the small road now known as St Michaels Lane which runs on the East side of the parish church and abuts High Street near the former Sandpit Lane junction. It seems most likely that the properties were in that area of the High Street on the South side.

Other items of interest found in my research were that Mordecai and Hannah Andrews son, also Mordecai, then a tailor, had been Apprenticed for seven years from the 5 December 1809 to a Robert Clements, a Vintner, in London. Thomas Litchfield had redeemed his Land Tax in 1798 at a figure of £4.16s - a considerable sum when many paid about £1. Clearly he was a wealthy man with all that property.

Ben Joscelyne (09) January 2014

"ONE OF OUR AIRCRAFT IS MISSING"

Brenda Joscelyne (95)

Liberator EW 312 of 224 Squadron RAF took off from RAF Milltown, near Elgin, Morayshire at 11.25 hours on 11 November1944, to carry out an anti-sub patrol in the North Sea. Nothing was heard from the aircraft after take off and it did not return to base.

The Liberator was shot down by a fighter and crashed into the North Sea about 30 Km west of Bergen, the crew are all commemorated on the Runnymede Memorial.

Crew:

RAF Flt Lt Philip Michael Hill Captain (Pilot) aged 23 RAF WO Kenneth Russell Saywell (1st Navigator) aged 30

RAAF Flt Sgt. William Vernon Johnstone (Navigator Bomb Aimer) aged 22

RNZAF WO Hugh Smolenski (Wireless Operator Air) aged 32

RNZAF WO Richard William Beck (Wireless Operator Air) aged 22

RAF Flt Sgt. Thomas Richard Frayne (Wireless Operator Air) aged 23

RNZAF WO Alex James Phillips (Wireless Operator Air) aged 33

RAF Sgt. William Irvine (Air Gunner) aged 30

RAF Flt Sgt Frank Ashwell (Flight Engineer) aged 39

Thomas was my cousin and at last I have found out what happened to him with the help of my brother and the Internet. Also by going on line I have found out about nearly all the other members of the crew.

Brenda Joscelyne.

'EVA JOCELYN' grounded in Typhoon Haiyan.

On 8 November 2013, Typhoon Haiyan leased its attack on the Philippines with devastating results. The *Eva Jocelyn*, a coastal freighter registered in the Philippines, slipped her moorings and was driven high and dry by strong winds to land on the village of Tacloban. It was first reported that no one was injured, but later it was announced that three crew were drowned and four others missing. The m/v *Eva Jocelyn* was carrying a cargo of rice and many hungry locals looted the ship.

Brenda Joscelyn (95) reports; I have found some Eva Jocelyns on various family trees, but none that would have had a ship named after them.

Eva Jocelyn built in 1969 for Eva Shipping Co., Official No CEB 1001480 Overall length 44.8 Breath 7.7 Depth 3.4 Gross registered tonnage 248.37 Net registered tonnage 168.89

Source Maritime Industrial Authority December 2012

One of the most dramatic pictures was that of the coaster ditched on the remains of the property destroyed by it, with barefooted children scavenging for food and other items.

Only six weeks later, it was encouraging to see the courage and perseverance of the islanders in the picture of a bride and groom posing for their wedding photo in front of the wreckage.





The Eva Jocelyn

A few weeks later.

Passer-by rescues princess who fell in river while trying to save dog

Daily Telegraph 4 January 2014.

Woman's river drama after dog plunge

A princess was saved by a dog walker after she fell into a swollen river whilst trying to rescue her puppy.



Annette de Rohan found herself up to her chin in water and unable to get out of the River Asker at Bridport after a section of the bank gave way near the weir in Asker Meadows.

Mrs de Rohan, who lives in Beaminster and had left her 83-year-old husband Raoul at a nearby Morrisons store, was walking her nine-month-old Briard puppy Fonzinella in the meadows on December 28.

[Prince de Rohan, 81, is related to the House de Rohan, a family of viscounts and princes from Brittany that can trace its ancestors back to the French royal family. Her grandfather moved to England in the 19th century.]

The young dog had been playing alongside the river, but when another dog bounded over it slipped on the muddy bank and went into the churning deep water by the weir off South Mill Lane.

...... "I went down the grassy part of the bank to try and get her out but the whole side of the bank crumbled underneath me and I was in the water up to my neck".

"My flat waterproof boots filled with water and my anorak was waterlogged and I couldn't put my feet down. I yelled and yelled for help but I was under the overhang of the bank so no-one could see me". "The water was up round my nose by then but I just tried one more time to touch the bottom and thank goodness I got a foothold." The owner of the other dog finally heard her cries for help from 300 yards away and ran back to help. He managed to pull her and the dog to safety.

"I am fit and a good swimmer but there was nothing I could do," she added. "The town council will

"I am fit and a good swimmer but there was nothing I could do," she added. "The town council wil look in to the matter and will be talking to the Environment Agency," she added.

[The above account is a compilation from the Reports in the Daily Telegraph and the Bridport News, 2 January. My thanks to **Richard Joscelyne** for bringing this item to our attention.

It is interesting to note that the Bridport paper uses the 'Mrs de Rohan' title.

Readers may recall that the previous issue recorded the award of an Honorary CBE to;

Josselin Charles Louis De Rohan-Chabot (Duc de Rohan), for Services to UK/French Relations. Editor.]

AN ILLUSTRIOUS DEVON JOSLIN FAMILY IN STITCHES

Email received by Peter Joslin 1st Sept. 2013

I thought the attached sampler [see page 11] may be of some interest to Devon Joslins. It belongs to my mother, whose great grandmother was **Elizabeth Jane Joslin** (who made the sampler, and also spelt her own name wrongly!).

The children listed are the sons and daughters of Francis Joslin and Mary Darch.

Elizabeth Jane Joslin married George Henry Thomas, an agricultural engineer of some note locally. Their daughter Eveline Thomas is my great grandmother.

Regards, Steve Knight mr_steve_knight@yahoo.co.uk

Reply from Peter Joslin

Fantastic Steve.

Can I use it for our Josselin Society journal?

Also has David Joslin (Bridgewater) seen it, I think his is the Joslin-Darch line Regards Peter peterjoslin@btinternet.com

Reply from Steve.

By all means feel free to use it.

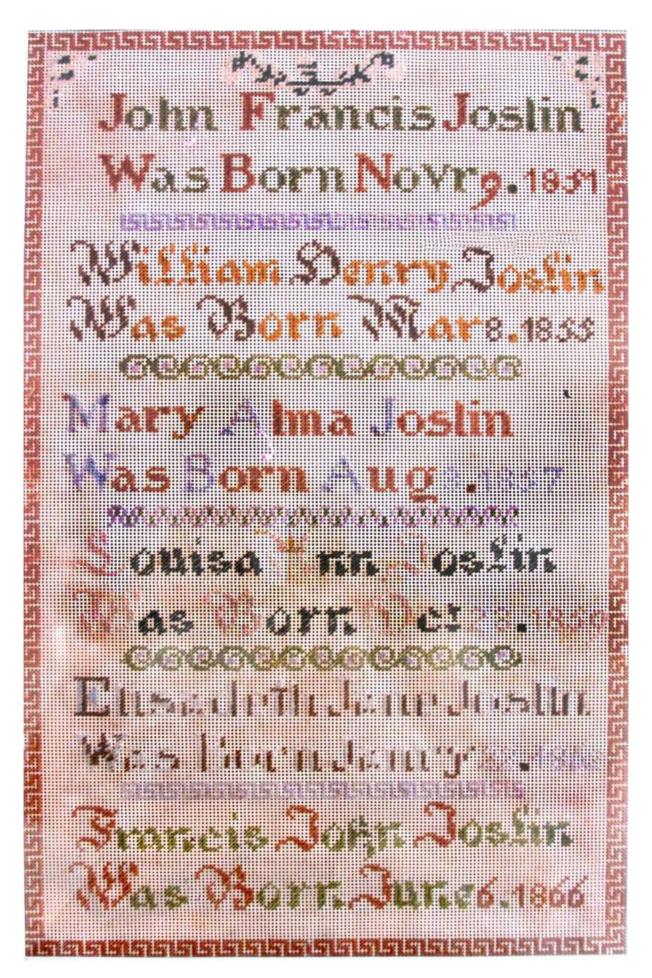
I have also attached two photos showing Elizabeth Jane Joslin (with husband George Henry Thomas in one of them).

I doubt if David in Bridgewater has seen it. It has been hanging on my mother's wall for years. I was at her place at the weekend and took the opportunity to take the photo.

NB These photos have now been preserved for future generations of Joslins.









Pages 12 & 13



The following email and photos were received from member **Susanne Mason (nee Joslin)** on the 25th July 2013....

We visited Highgate Cemetery recently and found numerous Joslin mason marks on the grave stones, thought you would be interested. Susanne masonsat11@aol.com



Reply from **Peter Joslin** 26th July 2013. Thank you Susanne. I was in the City of London Cemetery yesterday and also noted some Joslin mason marks in this 200 acre site with many thousands of memorials. The Joslin stonemason family of Maldon and London must have made a fortune with all the monumental masons work.

I have been in touch with the present day owners of 'JOSLINS' to see if a Josselin visit would be possible, unfortunately the firm is now based in Oxfordshire and has NO Joslin family members and NO old Joslin records or connections.

The old Joslin firm held a 'Royal Warrant' for their excellent work to the Royal Family and it it good to see that the present day company has also been awarded a 'Royal Warrant' for 'its work on the restoration of Windsor Castle following the disastrous fire in 1992.

A visit to the companies works at Witney would be possible but, it would only demonstrate their conservation and new build work (but **not** Joslin family).

NB. The Will and photo of JOSLIN monumental masons was on the back page of the last Josselin

Josselyn to Joslyn in One Generation Roger D. Joslyn, CG. FASG. (184)

Issue 54

At the tour and presentations centered around the September 2013 annual meeting of The Josselin Society (my first!), I noted a number of times when some of my "new" distant cousins expressed interest/concern about the specific spelling of the family name. The different spellings help delineate the various branches represented in the membership. At the same time, however, we all know of the great number of variants of the spelling of our surname, some applied by those doing the actual recording without benefit of asking, "How do you spell your name?" As Richard Joscelyne implies in his marvelous papers published by The Josselin Society, it is difficult—maybe impossible—to determine a fixed spelling in earlier centuries, even among specific branches of the family. Indeed, what one, all-inclusive spelling should I use in writing our name in this article?

When we move into "modern" times, we expect more consistency of spellings, especially for the same individual and even within a particular branch of the family, but even this can be an unsafe assumption.

An actual signature of a family member ups our notice. We have all seen published family histories, biographies, and so forth with facsimiles of signatures. Aside from what graphoanalysis might determine, we do find that simply seeing a signature is interesting, do we not? Genealogically, of course, having a signature from one original document—a will, a bond, a letter—allows for comparison with a signature on another document.⁽²⁾ By looking at two or more examples, can we comfortably say these are the same person, or are they clearly two persons of the same name? We all know the dangers of the-name's-the-same in the genealogical world.

Some years ago, I was able to observe, researching all the siblings in each generation of my ancestral families, that the children of one ancestor adopted a different spelling of the surname— Joslyn—from that of their father (Josselyn). While I have no evidence the children all sat around the dinner table one evening and made their decision at the same time, I am sufficiently satisfied the spelling change took place, at least for the sons (so far, only one the daughters is known to have married, and probably some years before the family name was altered). I was particularly delighted to find one document concerning the father with his "original" spelling of Josselyn and, on the same paper, the signature of one of his sons with the "new" spelling of Joslyn.

My ancestor Jabez Josselyn (1744–1831) was a tailor who also served as a private in the American Revolution (sometimes referred to as the American War of Independence).⁽³⁾ He was born in Hanover, Massachusetts, 9 November 1744, son of Jabez and Mary (Lindsey) Josselyn,⁽⁴⁾ who were first cousins—both great-grandchildren of the 1635 New England immigrant Thomas Josselyn (born ca. 1591–1592, died 1660/61).

¹ A hint of the subject of this article appeared in "Letters to the Secretary/Editor" in *Josselin Journal*, 51(2012):7.

² The signatures have to be original, of course. Some inexperienced researchers have mistakenly assumed a "signature" in a record book, such as a recorded will, is an actual signature.

³ Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors in the War of the Revolution, 17 vols. (Boston, 1896–1908), 8:1001, 1003, 1006, 1007, with Jabez's surname recorded as Joslin, Josling, Josselyn, and Josslin.

Jabez is claimed to have made the last suit of clothes that General Washington wore in the war (letter of [Jabez's grandson] Edson Joslyn of Ionia, Michigan, 9 April 1906, in reply to Lee E. Joslyn of Detroit, Mich., in possession of Alan W. Joslyn, Sr., of Detroit, Michigan, in 1965, when he loaned the papers of his father, Lee E. Joslyn, to Edith S. Wessler of Bowling Green, Missouri, but no longer found in this collection now held by his son Alan W. Joslyn [Jr.] of Highlands Ranch, Colorado; a transcription of the Edson's reply is in a letter from Mrs. Wessler to Roger D. Joslyn, 9 Aug. 1965). I have yet to try to verify the last-suit-of-clothes claim, if it is even possible to do so.

⁴ Town of Hanover vital records, 1730–1837, known as the "small red book," p. 8, and included in the published A Copy of the Records of Births, Marriages and Deaths and of Intentions of Marriage in the Town of

Hanover, Mass. 1727–1857 (Rockland, Mass., 1898), 21. Jabez and his siblings born in Hanover were recorded with the spelling Josselyn.

In the early 1750s, Jabez moved with his parents to southern Berkshire County in western Massachusetts, where the family first lived in the Town of Sheffield. At the time of his military service in the early 1780s, Jabez was living in West Stockbridge, Massachusetts. In that town were recorded the births of eight of his children (born 1771 to 1789), all with the spelling Josselyn. (5)

Sometime after Jabez left the army, he followed brothers Samuel and Lindsey to Poultney, Vermont, where he established his tailor shop in the Village of East Pountney⁽⁶⁾ and where in 1791 he was enumerated in the first census of the United States under the name Joslin.⁽⁷⁾ The earliest example of his signature is on a petition to the Vermont state legislature of 16 October 1794, with other inhabitants of Rutland County for the retention of a mill dam at Castleton Pond; here he signed as *Jabez Joselyn* (see figure 1).⁽⁸⁾

The Jabez Josselyns stayed but a few years in Poultney, where any other record of their life there was probably destroyed in the town hall fire in January 1862. (9) They migrated west to Ontario County, New York, probably in 1800, when sons John and Charles purchased land there in the Town of Phelps. (10) The only person of the surname listed in Phelps in the 1800 census was Joseph "Jocelin," but it has not been established if this was really Jabez. He was enumerated as Jabez "Jocelin" in Phelps for the 1810 Census. (12) By the end of the next decade, Jabez and his wife were living with some of their children—with son Charles in Phelps in 1820; (13) later with son Bela in Alexander, Genesee County, New York (as noted below); and beginning in 1830 with son Jabez F. Joslyn in LeRoy, Genesee County, in whose home they were enumerated that same year as a male age 80–90 and a female 70–80. (14)

On 18 March 1818, the United States Congress passed a new Act concerning pensions for Revolutionary War service, which would allow many more veterans to qualify than had been able to do so in the past. Jabez Josselyn of Phelps made application on 15 April of that year, and on 21 September following he was issued a pension of eight dollars a month. He signed his application *Jabez Josselyn* (see figure 2). (15)

Two years later, he signed other pension documents with an X mark, suggesting infirmities of age. (16) Evidence of his frailty was also apparent in March 1829, when Jabez signed his name with an X on a deposition in support of a comrade's application for a pension for Revolutionary War service. In making

⁵ Vital Records Of West Stockbridge, Massachusetts, To The Year 1850 (Boston, 1907), 32. Scans of the images of the original town record book are available on <AmericanAncestors.org>, the fee-based website of The New England Historical Genealogical Society.

⁶ A Brief History of the Town of Poultney, Vermont, published by J. Joslin, B. Frisbie, and F. Ruggles (Poultney, Vermont, 1875), 287. J. Joslin was Joseph, a son of Jabez's brother Lindsey and father of John Jay Joslin, dry goods merchant of Denver, Colorado, who was featured in Ashley Dell's article in *The Josselin Society Journal*, 46(2010):5.

⁷ First Census...1790: Vermont, Rutland Co., Poultney, National Archives Microfilm M637, roll 12, p. 245. Also published in U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Heads of Families...1790: Vermont* (Washington, D.C., 1907), 43. This first census of the United States was actually taken in Vermont in 1791, after that state was admitted to the union.

⁸ Vermont State Papers, 19:178, State Archives, Montpelier, Vt.; also published in Allen Soale, ed., *State Papers of Vermont*, [17] vols., Vol. 10, General Petitions 1793–1796 (Montpelier, 1958), 177–78.

⁹ Brief History of the Town of Poultney [note 6], 11.

¹⁰ The original conveyance was not recorded but is mentioned in a later deed, recorded 2 May 1809, Ontario Co., N.Y., deeds, 13:690–91. The surname is spelled Jocelyn in the deed but "signed" Josselyn.

¹¹ Second Census...1800: New York, Ontario Co., Phelps, National Archives Microfilm M32, roll 28, p. 480.

¹² Third Census...1810: New York, Ontario Co., Phelps, National Archives Microfilm M252, roll 33, p. 215.

¹³ Fourth Census...1820: New York, Ontario Co., Phelps, National Archives Microfilm M33, roll 62, p. 286, #113.

¹⁴ Fifth Census...1830: New York, Genesee Co., LeRoy, National Archives Microfilm M19, roll 90, p. 427.

¹⁵ Revolutionary War pension file of Jabez Josselyn, S-43717, National Archives Microfilm M804, roll 1451

¹⁶ Revolutionary War pension file of Jabez Josselyn, S-43717, National Archives Microfilm M804, roll 1451. his statement, Jabez noted he served in that was as an "army tailor".⁽¹⁷⁾

On 5 September 1831, Jabez Josselyn of LeRoy, Genesee County, appeared before Justice of the Peace Rufus Robertson for the benefit of appointing a new attorney to collect his Revolutionary War pension due from 14 March to 14 September 1831. In his statement, witnessed by Jabez F. Joslyn, he stated he had lived in LeRoy for one year and had previously lived in Alexander, Genesee County. He signed the document with a shaky *X* mark, Justice Robertson explaining the "signature of Jabez Josselyne made by mark by reason of having in a great degree lost the sight of his eyes and the use of his hands." Attorney Spencer S. Benedict acknowledged the pension payment of \$48 at Albany on 21 September 1831.⁽¹⁸⁾ The pension payment ledgers show no further payments to Jabez after the September quarter of 1831, but add the notation "Dead."⁽¹⁹⁾

Descendants of Jabez who joined lineage societies such as the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) and the Sons of the Revolution (SR) have stated he died in Batavia, New York, in 1828, (20) but in 1903, granddaughter Evaline (Joslyn) Corbin made a deposition for Lee Everett Joslyn (grandson of Jabez F. Joslyn), who was interested in joining a similar lineage society, the Sons of the Revolution. Evaline stated that her grandfather Jabez Josselyn died in Leroy, New York, in 1831. (21) No other record of his death has been found—no grave marker, newspaper notice, estate file, or private account.

Although Jabez became too frail to sign his name, the spelling of the surname is consistently Josselyn through his pension documents, including the last one in 1831. Particularly significant is that his youngest son, Jabez Farnham, witnesses one of his father's "signatures" on this 1831 paper, signing as *Jabez F. Joslyn* (see figure 3).

Jabez Josselyn probably signed his name many more times in his life. But he seems never to have purchased or sold land, so his signature is not on any deeds as a seller or buyer of real property. He left no will, which he would have signed. There are no known family letters, diaries, journals, or even a family Bible in which he might have written his name. Jabez might have witnessed the signatures of others, such as on land deeds, wills, and other legal documents, but considerable time would be needed to examine a wide range of such records in the communities where he lived, in hope of finding examples of his autograph.

But the evidence seems clear: Except when at the mercy of someone else writing his name, Jabez signed his surname Josselyn. The examples of Jabez's children signing their names with the shorter spelling Joslyn (and pronounced with two syllables, whereas the father may have voiced Josselyn with three) suggest that the change took place in the early nineteenth century, starting before the death of Jabez.

 $^{^{17}}$ Revolutionary War pension file of Jotham Holt, W-18059, National Archives Microfilm M804, roll 1318.

¹⁸ Revolutionary War Final Payment Vouchers, Jabez Josselyn, Albany, N.Y., 1818, National Archives, Washington, D.C. Jabez had to appoint a new attorney since his payment office changed from New York City to Albany.

¹⁹ Ledgers of Payments 1818–72 to U.S. Pensioners Under Acts of 1818 through 1858, National Archives Microfilm T718, roll 1, A:131 (New York City), and roll 4, D:240 (New York City and Albany).

²⁰ The earliest source of the incorrect place and date of Jabez Josselyn's death seems to be the 1897 application (#103) for membership in The Society of the Sons of the Revolution made by Ralph Emerson Stevens of Denver, Colorado, a grandson of Jabez's daughter Lucretia (Josselyn) Stevens. Ralph obtained information from his parents and other relatives, detailed in his "Some Family Records" (Denver, Colorado, 1906; revised as late as 1918), copy obtained from his granddaughter A. Nancy Stone of Glendale, Arizona, July 1980; however, the source of Jabez's place and date of death is not revealed.

²¹ Deposition of Evaline M. Corbin of Ionia Co., Michigan, 31 March 1903, in possession of Alan W. Joslyn of Highlands Ranch, Colorado; copy also in DAR Library File Case, under Jabez Joslyn. Evaline (a sister of Edson Joslyn—see note 3) incorrectly stated her grandfather Jabez Joslyn was born in 1744 in Rutland, Vermont, that he enlisted in the Revolutionary War at or near there, and that he served seven years in the war. She "has a personal

rememberance of said Joslyn, and knows that he was a pensioner of the United States for some years before he died..." and that he "was the father of Bela Joslyn...."

Below is a brief summary of examples from the children's signatures and other evidence. (22) Not mentioned will be the various spellings of the surname as recorded in tax lists, censuses, and so forth. Most of the earliest examples of the spelling changes are from recorded land deeds. While the deeds in the record books do not have the actual signatures of the grantors (sellers) of the real property, they are supposed to have been copied as they appear on the original deeds, thus should provide credible evidence of how these Joslyns really signed their names.

- 1. Jemima Josselyn, born 29 May 1771; died or married evidently before 1791, as she does not seem to have been included with the family on the census in Vermont that year.
- 2. John Josselyn, born 14 May 1773; died probably before August 1778, when another son John was born.
- 3. John Josselyn, born 27 August 1778; married Naomi Warner.

In 1806, John and his brother Charles sold part of 96 acres they had purchased in the Town of Phelps, Ontario County, New York, in 1800. The recorded signatures for the brothers and their wives Naomi and Thankful were Josselyn, even though the name is spelled Jocelyn in the deed. (23) John's and Naomi's signatures were again Josselyn in a deed dated following year, with the name rendered as Josselyn in the body of the deed. (24) They again signed their names to deeds as Josselyn in 1828, but as Joselyn in 1834. (25)

Record of the deaths of John and Naomi Joslyn have not been found—no estate files, no grave markers, no newspaper death notices, no family Bible—which might provide additional evidence of the spelling of the surname they actually used.

4. Charles Seward Josselyn, born 14 May 1780; married Thankful Field.

As noted above, in 1806 Charles and his brother John sold land in Phelps that they had purchased six years earlier, with their recorded signatures and those of their wives shown as Josselyn, with the name spelled Jocelyn in the deed. (26) In the following year, Charles bought his brother John's land in Phelps, with the surname spelled Jossellyn in the deed but "signed" Josselyn. (27)

Two published versions of a Bible record of Charles and Thankful's family show the name as Joslyn, but there is no indication as to when the entries were made and the original Bible has not been located. Charles had certainly adopted the shorter spelling of Joslyn when he signed deeds in 1862 and 1864 and 1864 and his will in 1864. And when he died in 1875, his grave marker was carved with the name Joslyn, the inscription also including he "settled in Phelps in 1800 and lived to see his fondest hopes more than realized."

²² The births of all but the last child were recorded in West Stockbridge, Massachusetts, the first two born to Jabez's first wife, Lucretia, the rest to his second wife, Lydia Seward (*Vital Records of West Stockbridge* [note 5], 32). Jabez Farnham Joslyn, the last child, was born after the family moved to Poultney, Vermont.

²³ Ontario Co., N.Y., Deeds, 13:690–91.

²⁴ Ontario Co., N.Y., Deeds, 75:54–55.

²⁵ Wayne Co., N.Y., Deeds, 14:117–19.

²⁶ Curiously, Charles and Thankful "signed" with *X* marks, although there are no indications they could not actually write their names on later deeds. Ontario Co., N.Y., Deeds, 13:690–91.

²⁷ Ontario Co., N.Y., Deeds, 75:54–55, recorded 13 Nov. 1843.

²⁸ "A Joslyn Family Bible Record," *The Detroit Society for Genealogical Research Magazine*, 20(1956):84; also published in *Daughters of the American Revolution Magazine*, 91(1957):882–83. The Bible was then in possession of Mrs. Robert D. Van Blarcom of Kalamazoo, Michigan. Probably the record was copied into a new Bible from all or part of the Bible record originally kept by Charles S. and Thankful (Field) Joslyn.

²⁹ Ontario Co., N.Y., deeds, 123:580–81, 140:896.

³⁰ Ontario Co., N.Y., Surrogate's Court file 72.

³¹ Grave marker of Charles S. Joslyn, Joslyn Cemetery, Oaks Corners, Town of Phelps, Ontario Co., N.Y., read and photographed by R. D. Joslyn, July 1975.

³² Ralph E. Stevens, "Some Family Records" (see note 20).

8. Bela Josselyn, born 23 July 1789; (33) married Mary/Polly Seward, a first cousin on his mother's side.

The earliest discovered record of Bela using the Joslyn spelling is about 1825–1826, when he became a shareholder in the South Section Union Line of stages, organized to run between Buffalo and Batavia, New York, in connection with the Union Line of stages then operating from Buffalo to Albany. At a meeting in Alden, New York, 4 December 1826, he was elected a director of the line for three months. (34) When he sold land in 1833, 1852, and 1856, Bela signed as Joslyn. (35)

Record of Bela's death has not been found—no estate file, no grave marker, no newspaper death notice, no family Bible.

9. Jabez Farnham Josselyn, born 21 or 29 August 1793; married Mary/Polly Stevens, perhaps a close relative of William who married Jabez's sister Lucretia.

The earliest evidence of Jabez using the Joslyn spelling is noted above, when he witnessed his father's *X*ed signature in 1831. He also signed his name Joslyn to deeds by which he and his wife, Polly, sold land in 1838 and 1843,⁽³⁶⁾ and in 1840, when he signed an indenture with his cousin Isaac M. Joslyn, who was covering Jabez's debt.⁽³⁷⁾ Joslyn is the name on Jabez Farnham's grave marker.⁽³⁸⁾

As we continue to find evidence our family name going through multiple spellings over several years, is it not gratifying—even relieving—when we can claim, "Ah-ha! We've landed!"? At some point, the spelling is settled, no longer fluid. I am particularly pleased to be able to point pretty closely when this choice (or maybe a resolution) took place in my line and, it would seem, all within a generation.

Illustrations of the documents bearing the Signatures are given on the subsequent pages.

³³ His birth was recorded as Billy, probably the clerk's hearing of the nickname Bee-ley. See Roger D. Joslyn, "Billy Josselyn=Bela Joslyn," *The American Genealogist*, 59(1983):222–23.

³⁴ Account book of Bela Joslyn, in possession of great-granddaughter, Laura Ida (Joslyn) Molinsky of Saranac, Michigan, and examined by R. D. Joslyn, summer, 1973.

³⁵ Genesee Co., N.Y., Deeds, 29:365, 81:150, 96:338.

³⁶ Genesee Co., N.Y., Deeds, 44:385, 49:372; Wyoming Co., N.Y., Deeds, 5:89.

³⁷ Genesee Co., N.Y., Deeds, 55:211–13.

³⁸"Oak Ridge Cemetery Burials of Bay City MI" (Bay City, Michigan: Bay County Historical Society, 1995), 19; also grave markers in the cemetery read by Don F. Dolsen, July 1995.

MISVISP, Vol. 19 . P. 178 To the Honourable the Ligistature of the State of We the Subscribers and Sechabitante of the County of Authand, beg leane to Inform your Hanours, that the norths on the South end of Custition Pond are Extremely advantageous, Alsoful, and Veceforary to the Public, in the west fourt of this County; and understanding that Suits are Commenced and have been car rico on, by a Letigeous Muchbour against the Patriclie Bopritors of soid works, with a vien to force them to cut down their Sam, or to Jege, Jantalize, and mean Le yer " Sonows Teletoners being sensible of the Theig - sityand Importance of those work its the public, as well as your Honours Constititional power of interference, the pray your Honour to hajo a Law compenering such Commissioners as you shall think thropa to afsels the damages lace for all, done by the said Barn's flowing the Lands Contiguous the said Pond; and on the Jendery, or payment of such dan ages to the Owners of the Lands so flower En--act that they shall be for ever bared from Continuing these Vexations Juil Hophen Kruseo ben Just Wilm Hord way Luys of

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of which (I certify) the following is a TRUE COPY.	
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day and year last above mentioned.	
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MAINE 'JOSSELINS'

Harry Larrabee is researching his family background in Maine, USA, in connection with three Thomas (Josselin's).

Thomas Joslin the 'imegrant' as listed in mid 1600's Massachussetts history; he , has no similar history, or similar children's names , location nor region as Sir Thomas Josselyn on the First Commission to the Province of Maine in the early 1600's from Maine nor that of Sir Thomas Jocelyne of the early to mid 1500's.

[It appears that our first 'Josselin' involvement in America would have been Edward Josselyn (born 1542, married Mary Lambe c1560) youngest son of Sir Thomas Josselyn & Dorothy Gates.]

Thomas Joslin of Massachussetts in the mid 1600's lived and died in Massachussetts, his family is totally different and fits more the pilgrim ideas of early Plymouth and Pilgrim life.

Sir Thomas Josselyn, Knight was listed on the Deed to the State of Maine as Sir Ferdinando Gorges's Cousin (this deed is on display in the State museum).

The First Commission to the Province of Maine 1618, King James II, one year after the Popham Settlement, listed Sir Thomas Josselyn, Knight, (note: nobody was believed to have arrived until 1638).

The 2nd Commission to the Province of Main, King Charles 1638, also listed Sir Thomas Josselyn, Knight.

The 3rd Commission to the Province of Maine 1639-1640, did not list Sir Thomas Josselyn.

Captain Henry Josselyn, the son of Sir Thomas Josselyn was listed as a Rovalist Governor over the Province.

"Jocelyn's Cove; this cove is on the western shore of the Newichawannock, just above the bridge to Eliot. The name was no doubt derived from Henry Jocelyn, who was appointed Capt. John Mason's agent in New Hampshire in 1634. He was the son of Sir Thomas Josselyn, whom Sir Ferdinando Gorges appointed Deputy Governor of Maine in 1639.

Henry Jocelyn afterwards went to Black Point, Scarborough, ME. where he built a garrison, which, in spite of his viligance was captured by Mogg Megone (or Hegone) in 1677.

Whilst in Maine, he was visited by his younger brother John who arrived at Boston in the "*Nicholas*" on July 3rd 1638 and stayed for a short while before returning to England in October 1639, travelling home in the "*Fellowship*".

John visited a second time in 1663, arriving at Boston on 28th July and staying there for a period of some eight years before returning to England where he arrived in Dec 1671.

Shortly after arriving home John published his impressions of the country in a curious book "New-England's Rarities discovered in birds, beasts, fishes, serpents, & plants of that country" [Publ. 1672, reprinted 1865] He wrote also "An account of two Voyages to New-England. Wherein you have the setting out of a ship, with the charges; a description of the country, natives & creatures, with their merchantil & physical use; the government of the country, a large chronological table of the most remarkable passages from the first discovering of the Continent of America to the year 1673"

Henry Josselyn was closely involved with the Cammock family of Maldon, Essex, England.

In early 1630, Thomas Cammock & wife Margaret voyaged to North America, with instructions to assume the post of Agent at Piscataqua [location?], where he resided with Mr. Henry JOCELYN, rendering service to Sir Ferdinando GORGES and Capt. [John] MASON. He returned to England where he was rewarded with a patent for a considerable estate [in ME]which he subsequently sold, removing to his grant on Blackpoint River [Scarborough, Cumberland Co, ME], where he was joined by JOCELYN, and where he was Commissioner for the Province of New Somersetshire Following another voyage to England, with JOSCELYN, the two returning together on board the Nicholas, CAMMOCK sold his land on Blackpoint to JOSCELYN, quit the neighborhood, and once more entered service of the Earl of Warwick. He later sailed to the Bermudas, but died during the voyage, whereupon his widow, Margaret, m Henry JOCELYN.

Sir Thomas Josselyn was Knighted by King James the 1st on 11 of May 1603. He married outside the rules of the church and was excommunicated.

[The excommunication was later rescinded;

"Oct 15 1590. An act removing Sentence of Excommunication against Thomas Josselyn of Willingdale Doe and Dorothy, Widow of George Scott of Hatfield Broad Oak; they having been clandestinely married at the house of her father John Francke, in Hatfield Broad Oak"]

Sir Thomas first arrived in Maine on the ship *Nichols* at Black Point 14 July 1639. From the writings of this said Sir Thomas, he may have lead a very risky life; it was rumoured he did not believe in Oliver Cromwell's ruling.

Note: The Commission and Deed to the State of Maine is on display in the State Museum.

Over the last two years, Maine has been researching more about its early colonial life such as re-researching the Popham colony with dig sites as well as the mythical region of Norembega and other sites in Acadia and all along the coast.

[Edited and additional information added by John Hallum.]

SOCIETY EVENTS IN 2014

Sunday, 22nd June: Visit to **Anglesey Abbey, Cambridge**, a former priory converted to a country house, with almost 100 acres of renowned landscaped gardens, by 1st Lord Fairhaven; features include a working flour mill. The property is now managed by the National Trust.



20th & 21st September:

Saturday 20th Sept.; A programme visiting places in the Braintree/Chelmsford area associated with the 'Josselin' involvement with the Quakers.

Sunday, 21st Sept.; AGM plus a speaker and workshop at Bocking Village Club, Braintree.

Details will be circulated to Members nearer the time.

Please send articles (or suggestions) for the next Journal to John Hallum (Editor):

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01536-742976



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