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MOSES B. GILMAN.

## CIVIL WAR LETTERS HOME

### SOPHIA BURLEIGH GILMAN

Sophia Burleigh, was born January 5, 1798, in Walden, Vermont, the daughter of Joseph and Molly (Cate) Burleigh. Her parents were Sanbornton folks who had moved, with some of their five daughters, to Vermont just a few years before Sophia's birth. Another son and daughter were born to them in Vermont as well. Her brothers Robert and Joseph had remained in Sanbornton when the family moved. Robert to be raised by his Uncle Robert Burleigh and Joseph by his Uncle David Burleigh.

Sophia's father had served as a sergeant in the Revolution, mustered in at Kingston, NH, by Josiah Bartlett for the year 1780. He and Molly lived in Sanbornton until sometime prior to 1796. They next lived several years in Vermont before moving to St. Armand, Canada, where he died sometime after 1800. At Sophia's father's death, her mother returned to Sanbornton, with most of her surviving children, to live with her father, James Cate.

It is probable that Sophia, still a very young child, once in Sanbornton was raised by Peter Sanders Jr. and his wife Sarah (Hutchins) Sanders as they had no children of their own. Sophia's Uncle Jonathan Cate, was married to Sarah Sanders, a sister of Peter Jr. so there was a family connection and history says Sophia was raised on the Peter Sanders place. She also named her first son Peter Sanders Gilman and her second daughter Sarah Sanders Gilman. Naming children after their parents and/or grandparents was very much the fashion of the day so this may have been her way of recognizing the Sanders parental role in her life.

On December 16, 1816, eighteen year old Sophia, married Moses Gilman, a Veteran of the war of 1812. Her new husband had been wounded in the hip during that war and would carry the effects of the wound the rest of his life. It was said that he was 'so wounded, that his skin was broken in four places by the same ball.'

Moses and Sophia built a house on Philbrook Road in Sanbornton where they lived for 11 years. They then moved up the road a few houses, to the Peter Sanders place, which is the house in which Sophia had been brought up.

Moses and Sophia Gilman had seven children. Peter Sanders born in 1817, Mary Ann, 1818; Albert Alonzo, 1821; Sarah Sanders, 1823; John Howard, 1825; Moses Bartlett, 1829; and Freeman DeGolia, 1840.

Sophia's husband Moses, died September 26, 1854, so did not see his sons go off to war. Sophia, however, waited and prayed for the safe return of three of her sons. John Howard Gilman, who served two years in Vermont's 6th Regiment, Moses Bartlett Gilman, a member of New Hampshire's 12th Regiment and Freeman DeGolia Gilman, who served 3 months in New Hampshire's 1st Regiment and then joined the "Students" (R.I.) Cavalry.

It is Moses Bartlett Gilman, that I have chosen to follow in these 'letters'. He was married to Eveline Arvilla Johnson, on May 5, 1861. He enlisted from Sanbornton August 13, 1862, and was discharged at Concord, NH, July 6, 1865.

All three of Sophia's sons returned. John came back to farm in Vershire Vermont, with his wife Nancy (Prescott) Gilman and five children. Freeman Married Kate Sabin, of Montpelier, Vt., and eventually came back to Sanbornton to farm. He moved in with his elderly Mother, and there raised his three sons. Moses came home and became a farmer as well, occupying a farm on Hunkins Pond Road in Sanbornton. He and Eveline had no children.

Sophia died in Sanbornton, January 10, 1878, at the age of 80. Her body lie beside that of her husband in a quiet cemetery on Philbrook Road in the neighborhood where they had spent their lives.

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#### Evelyn Corliss Auger

I was born in the old Village of Hill, NH. After my marriage to Jean Auger, I came to live in Sanbornton, NH, where both my paternal and maternal grandparents had lived.

History has always been an interest in my life. Researching and writing, making historically correct doll houses representing my ancestors, collecting antiques (bits of history), and as a re-enactor living historically has been a long time passion. With this interest I collect old photographs of Sanbornton subjects, (people, houses, roads, bridges, schools, etc.) which are often used to keep our history 'alive'.

After raising five children and a working career that spanned 40 years (27 ½ with the State of NH), I retired to enjoy my eleven grandchildren, 13 (soon to be 14) great-grandchildren and to indulge my love of history

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#### Kier Barbour

Kier is my youngest grandson. He began re-enacting with me when he was ten years old and still dresses up and participates occasionally sometimes as a Rev. War soldier, and now as a soldier in the Civil War. He graduated from UNH this past spring, and is now working in Keene, NH. He is also a member of Sanbornton's Fire Department.

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#### Earl Leighton

Earl is a Sanbornton native whose roots in this town go back a number of generations. His interest in the Civil War is also deep rooted in family history. He operates several businesses and is well known in Sanbornton as Chairman of the Budget Committee, a position he has held for a number of years. He also has a love of history although this is the first time he has dressed up and played the part.

The people and information in the letters is factual though not written by Moses B. Gilman. It is however, as near as possible how and what he would have written. The following list is of all the people who were used in the 'Civil War Letters Home.

*Evelyn Corliss Auger*

Ambrose, Thomas L., (Chaplain ) of Ossipee.  
Beedee, Edwin E. Beedee (Lt.) of Meredith  
Bickford, John  
Cafe, Charles  
Cawley, James  
Chapman, Gus  
Donovan, John  
Dow, Cyrus  
Drown, Charles  
Dyer, Mary Ann  
Edgerly, Charles  
Gilman, Alba  
Gilman, Andrew  
Gilman, Charles  
Gilman, Eveline A. (Johnson)  
Gilman, Freeman DeGolia  
Gilman, George  
Gilman, John  
Gilman, Kate (Sabine)  
Gilman, Lucy  
Gilman, Moses Bartlett  
Gilman, Nancy (Prescott)  
Gilman, Sophia (Burleigh)  
Gilman, Ward  
Hall, George  
Hannaford, Arthur  
Hines, Clark  
Hodge, John

Howe, Alanson  
Howe, George  
Howe, Rufus  
Johnson, Charles Sr.  
Johnson, Charles Jr.  
Johnson, John  
Jones, John  
Jones, Josiah  
Kidder, Henry  
Leavitt, Jonathan  
Lincoln, Mary (Todd)  
Longstreet, Gen.  
Martin, William  
Mooers, John  
Morrill, Bradbury M. (Lt.)  
Osgood, Fred  
Potter, Joseph H. (Col.) of Concord.  
Robinson, Ira  
Robinson, William  
Sanborn, Benjamin  
Sanborn, Oscar  
Smith, George  
Smith, Warren  
Swain, George  
Taylor, Jonathan  
Wadley, Albert  
Weeks, Benjamin  
Whipple, Thomas J. ( Col.)