

Celebrating Stow's Women Who Registered to Vote



News from the Stow Historical Society

A newsletter for all friends of Stow history.

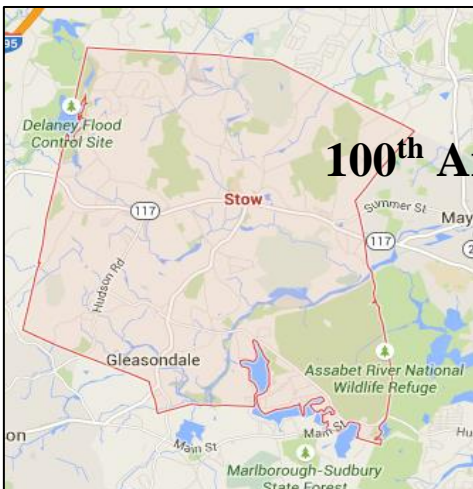
Please feel free to pass it along to others who might be interested!

July 31, 2020

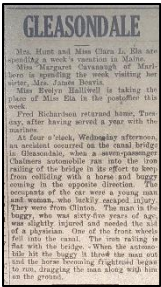
1920 - 2020

100th Anniversary of the 19th Amendment: Women's Suffrage

Part III



The *Hudson News-Enterprise's* weekly GLEASONDALE columns presented a vibrant and energetic community between 1918-1920.



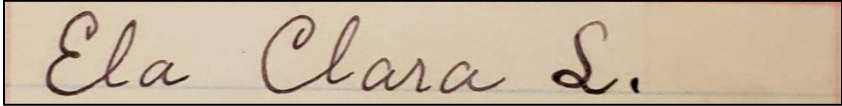
August 15, 1919, page 4

Gleasondale women were active in the Red Cross, the Methodist Church and the Ladies' Aid Society, the Stow Woman's Association, the Grange, the Gleasondale Social Club, and others. When they registered to vote, they listed themselves as clerks, weavers, sewers, manager of the corporation boardinghouse, housekeepers, and housewives.

-----These women included-----

Registered August 28, 1920

Miss Clara Louise Ela



- 1864-1943
 - 1900: She was a schoolteacher in Hudson.
 - 1910: She was a dress maker in Hudson.
 - 1920: She was Gleasondale postmistress.
 - 1930: She was Gleasondale postmistress.
 - 1940: She was retired, living in Gleasondale.

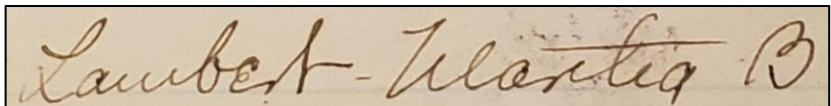


Gleasondale store and post office - SHS

Gleasondale Postmistress

Registered August 28, 1920

Mrs. Martha Lambert



- 1872-1954
 - 1913: Charter member of the Stow Woman's Association (Crowell, p. 63)
 - 1913-1918: President of the Stow Woman's Association (Crowell, p. 63)
 - Dec 1917: Chair of the Gleasondale group of the Smith College Unit of the Red Cross (Crowell, p. 63)
 - 1924: Member of the Warren Wheeler Wetherbee Post, Unit No. 272 American Legion Auxiliary (Crowell, p. 68)
 - Member of the Stow Garden Club
 - Son, Donald Lambert, member of the Boston City Hospital unit stationed at Base Hospital No. 7, near Tours, France.



Sept. 17, 1941
Stow Garden Club
article in the
Town Vault

Stow, Massachusetts 1683-1933
By Rev and Mrs. Preston R. Crowell, 1933

Maternal grandmother of Bill Byron

Mrs. Louisa Emily Taylor McCarthy

- 1877-1960
 - The manager of the Gleasondale Mill Corporation Boardinghouse
 - The *unofficial* Gleasondale midwife
 - Cared for the sick

Registered October 22, 1920



Photo from the private collection of Bill Byron

The epidemic of Spanish influenza seems to be abating in this village. Nearly all of the sick ones are now convalescent. The Gleasondale people firmly believe that the deeds of the Good Samaritan were not over two thousand years ago, but are still being done in this year of Our Lord 1918. Mrs. William McCarthy, with nine of the family at the boarding house ill, took in two other sick ones to care for; one, who has since died, even then, at the point of death. Surely it is for such acts of kindness that the "Well done" of the Master will be pronounced. Nearly all are now well, and about their usual occupations.

October 11, 1918, page 5

Mrs. Charles Dwinnells and infant daughter have returned home after spending some time with Mrs. McCarthy at Gleasondale, during the illness of the baby.

April 11, 1919, page 7

A party of eleven went to Westboro to the open meeting of the Hudson Circuit of Epworth Leagues. Mrs. William McCarthy and Winthrop Learned conveyed the party in their autos. Gleasondale League scored 36%, being two points lower than the winning league.

June 27, 1919, page 5

Epworth League, founded in 1889, was a Methodist young adult association for people aged 18-35.

Note:

1) Louisa McCarthy was 1 of 2 auto drivers to Westboro on June 27, 1919. Women usually deferred the motoring to men.

2) Wording of 1919:

* **autos** (cars were for trolleys and the RR) and

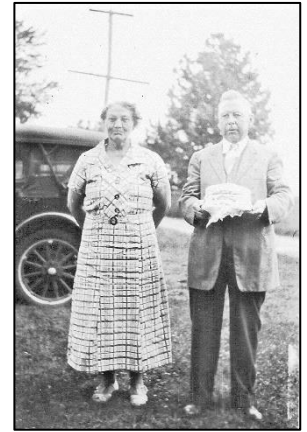
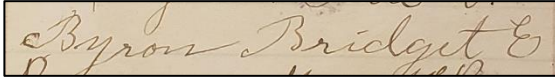
*autos were **conveyed** or **motored**; they were not driven.

Registered October 22, 1920

Paternal grandmother of Bill Byron

Mrs. Bridget E. Delaney Byron

- 1869-1953



Photos from the private collection of Bill Byron

June 27, 1919, page 5

Mr. and Mrs. James Byron greatly appreciate the kindness of Rev. Arthur D. Stroud in writing them of his meeting their son in France, especially as Mr. Stroud is a complete stranger to them.

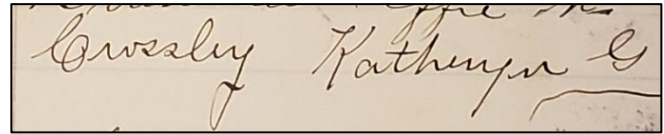
Corporal James Byron, Company M, 101st Regiment, France

Registered Sep 4, 1920

Great grandmother of Dot Spaulding

Katheryn Sarah Gray Crossley

- 1871 -1957

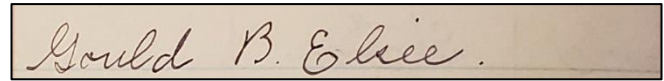


Registered Aug 28, 1920

Grandmother of Dot Spaulding

Elsie Beatrice Gould

- 1892-1966



Registered Sep 4, 1920

Grandmother of Bob Trumpolt

Mary S. Burrows Trumpolt

- 1874-1924
 - Active in the Ladies' Aid Society of the Methodist Episcopal (M.E.) Church
 - In 1920, 10 of her 12 children were living
 - **Richard Trumpolt** Pvt., Co. F, 301st Ammunition Train, France – died in France Oct 20, 1918, pneumonia
 - **William Trumpolt**, Bob's father, enlisted August 1918, US Merchant Marines

Great grandmother of Sandy, Bruce,
Barry, and Wayne Fletcher

Mrs. Sarah Stott Brown

- 1874-1967
- Born in England, naturalized in 1916
- Emigrated to Providence, RI in 1903, relocating to Stow by 1913, where husband, William, was a spinner in the Gleasondale Mill

Registered September 4, 1920

Brown Sarah

April 22, 1917



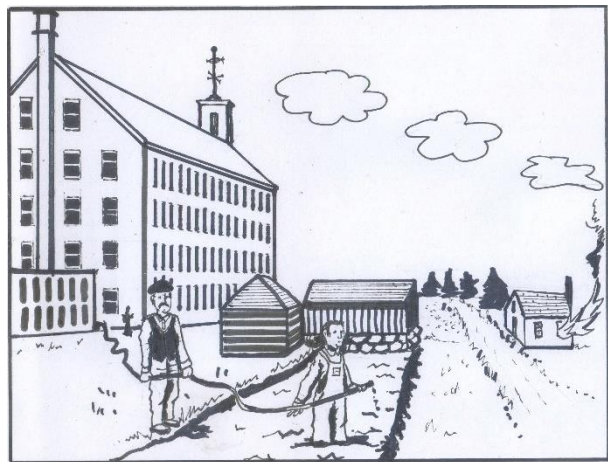
Photo from the private collection of Bruce Fletcher

-Sarah Brown at the Brown residence at the *Blocks*, Gleasondale
-the wedding of their daughter Marion Brown to John Edward
Wetherbee of Gleasondale

March 3, 1919, page 8

On Tuesday afternoon, a fire that at first promised to be serious, broke out at about 4.30. The fire was seen from the finishing room of the mill, by Earle Parker, who gave the alarm. William Byron and William Brown seized the hose and waded across the river. They found the shed back of a vacant house ablaze, and the fire had spread to the house. While they were smashing in the doors of the house, others had dragged another length of hose around by the bridge; the two lengths were soon coupled and a stream of water turned on the burning buildings and the houses on both sides. The fire had gained considerable headway and it was necessary to chop holes in the roof to gain control. By 5.30, the fire was out and the excitement had died down. The house has not been occupied for some months. A combination of small boys, matches, and the rubbish left in the shed by the last tenant was the cause of the fire.

And the men of Gleasondale were...



2020 sketch of the 1919 fire
by Rosemary Bawn, Stow

William Byron, 25, Bill Byron's father, and
William Brown, 46, the husband of Sarah Brown

Grandmother of Sandy, Bruce, Barry, and Wayne Fletcher

Mrs. Marion Brown Wetherbee

- 1896-1995
- Born in England, naturalized in 1916
- Married J. E. Wetherbee April 22, 1917
- Sewer in the mill
- Sang in church, in plays and for community entertainment
- 1919: Librarian for the M.E. Church



Photos from the private collection of Bruce Fletcher



pre-1995

Registered August 28, 1920

Wetherbee Marion



Tea Party

On Wednesday evening more than 150 sat down to a bountiful supper prepared by the English ladies of the village at the church. The supper took the form of an "English Tea," with cold meats, raisin bread, tea cakes, pickles, with coffee or tea.

Following the supper a fine entertainment was given under the direction of Robert Lyon, consisting of: Music, medley of popular songs, Lyon's orchestra; reading, Miss Hazel Easthope; song, David Lyon; song, Miss Hazel Backus; reading, Miss Ethel Zander; encore, a duet, Mrs. J. E. Wetherbee and Miss Zander; song, Harry Lawton; speech, Charles L. Allen; music, orchestra. The orchestra consists of Robert and David Lyon, and Mrs. P. S. Green, accompanist. The supper committee reports clearing \$50. How did they do it?

December 13, 1918

Mrs. Blanche A. Pratt Gleason

Gleason Blanche A.

- 1851-1935
- 1870: Married **Alfred Dwight Gleason** (1846-1914), owner of the Gleason Mills
- Blanche and Alfred contributed freely of their time and resources to the welfare of Stow and the village of Gleasondale.
- Active member of M.E. Church



Gleason Mills, early 20th century



*Photos on this page are from the SHS Fuller/Gleason photo archives from Suzanne Fuller, Tennessee

Mrs. Alfreda Blanche Gleason Fuller

- 1886-1958
- Daughter of Blanche and Alfred Gleason
- Married Clifford Justis Fuller in 1912 in Stow

Fuller Alfreda B.

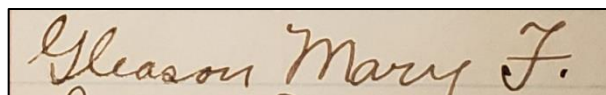


Alfreda Fuller, Blanche Gleason, Uncle Jim, Jean, Alfred, Clifford, Jr. Stow, ca. 1922-1923

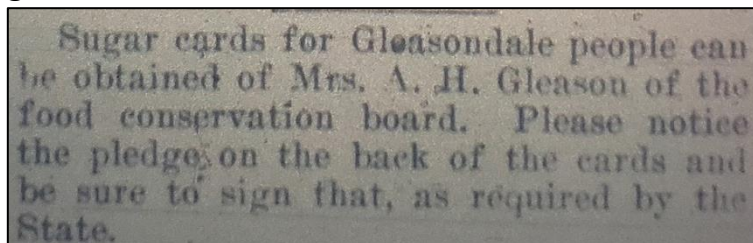
Great grandmother of Emily Jean Beyette

(Emily is the granddaughter of Emily Gleason Perkins.)

Mrs. May (Mary Sophia) Folsom Gleason



- 1870-1942
- Daughter-in-law of **Charles Whitney Gleason**, brother of Alfred D. Gleason
- 1892: Married **Albert Howe Gleason** in Stow
- 1913: Founding member of the Stow Woman's Association (Crowell, p.63)
- 1918: Buyer for the Marlboro Unit of the Red Cross (Crowell, p. 79)
- 1918, June 7: Organist at the M.E. Church (Hudson News-Enterprise, p. 7)
- 1918, June 21:



page 4

- 1919, Jan 10: Appointed member of M.E. Ladies' Aid parsonage committee (Hudson News-Enterprise, p. 8)
- 1919, Feb 21: Appointed member of the Welcome Home to Stow Servicemen Committee at Stow Town Meeting (Hudson News-Enterprise, p. 6)
- 1919, April 25: Member of the Liberty Loan drive (Hudson News-Enterprise, p. 5)
- 1919, May 2: Attended the Epworth League of the M.E. Church district stewards' meeting in Worcester (Hudson News-Enterprise, p. 1)
- 1923-1925: President of the Stow Woman's Association (Crowell, p. 63)



1910



Later photo of May Gleason

Photos from the private collection of Emily Beyette

Stow, Massachusetts 1683-1933

By Rev and Mrs. Preston R. Crowell, 1933

1920: Celebrating Stow's Women Who Registered to Vote

Part IV: Stow Ladies

Coming August 7, 2020