

MORE ABOUT VERMONT HISTORY

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Recent Additions to the Vermont Historical Society Library

Books

- *Budde, William P., *Arlington, Vermont: Its First 250 Years*. Arlington, Vt.: Arlington Townscape Association, 2014. 256p. List: \$39.95 (paper).
- *Collins, Anne, and Larry Holland, *Bellows Falls, Vermont, through Time, and Surrounding Towns, Villages and Hamlets*. Fonthill Media, 2014. 96p. List: \$22.99 (paper).
- Fatherley, John A., *Vermont Life: A Retrospective*. Chicopee, Mass.: The author, 2013. 134p. Source: The author, 28 Fredette St., Chicopee, MA 01022. List: Unknown (spiral bound). History of the state magazine.
- *French, Susanna H., *Thetford*. Charleston, S.C.: Arcadia Publishing, 2014. 127p. List: \$21.99 (paper).
- *Lake Champlain Maritime Museum, *Lake Champlain*. Charleston, S.C.: Arcadia Publishing, 2014. 127p. List: \$21.99 (paper).
- *Rubin, Edward L., *Vermont: An Outsider's Inside View*. Antioch, Calif.: Fine Arts Press, 2015. 227p. List: \$45.00. Photographic portraits of Vermonters.
- *Schubart, Bill, *The Lamoille Stories II*. Hinesburg, Vt.: Magic Hill Press, 2014. 132p. List: \$15.00 (paper). Stories about rural Vermont characters.

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Vermont History Vol. 83, No. 2 (Summer/Fall 2015): 219-220

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- *Slack, Charles, *Liberty's First Crisis: Adams, Jefferson, and the Misfits who Saved Free Speech*. 340p. List: \$26.00. Includes Vermont's Matthew Lyon.

GENEALOGY

- Vermont French-Canadian Genealogical Society, comp., *St. Joseph Marriage Repertoire: St. Joseph Co-Cathedral, Burlington, Vermont, 1930-1955*. Burlington, Vt.: Vermont French-Canadian Genealogical Society, 2015. 451p. Source: The publisher, P.O. Box 65128, Burlington, VT 05406-5128. List: \$50.00.

ARTICLES

- Belcher, Jane, "Elisha, Stephen, Thomas, Isaac, and Samuel: The five probable sons of Elisha Morehouse," *New England Historic Genealogical Register*, 169 (Winter 2015): 16-32. Connecticut and Vermont family.
- Fortune, Thomas P., "The Vermont Brigade at Fredericksburg, December 1862," *Fredericksburg History & Biography*, 13 (2014): 9-39.
- Hudson, Mark S., "The Great Blizzard of 1888," *Vermont Magazine*, 26, 2 (March/April 2014): 5-6.
- _____, "The Steadfastness of a Free People': Vermont in World War I," *Vermont Magazine*, 27, 3 (July/August 2015): 74-78.
- Lertola, Marcia, "How VAST Came To Be," *Snowmobile Vermont* (October/November 2014): 27-34. History of the Vermont Association of Snow Travelers.

- *Indicates books available through the Vermont Historical Society Museum Store, www.vermonthistory.org/store.



Letters to the Editor

A FEW LAWLESS VAGABONDS

To the Editor:

Ennis Duling, in his review of my book, *A Few Lawless Vagabonds*, takes it that my work is predominantly a biography of Ethan Allen (*Vermont History*, 83: 1 [Winter/Spring 2015]: 89-90). Thus, a few biographical and geographical mistakes are enough to dismiss the book as lacking “the depth of research and the concern for detail necessary to have a major impact.”

In reality, the major theme of the book is the unrelenting opposition of Ethan Allen to the power and pretensions of New York, 1770-1784. The culminating episode was the protracted, secret attempt of the Allens in the Haldimand Negotiations to turn Vermont into “a separate Government under the Crown.” This is based on exhaustive, detailed research in the Haldimand Papers and is, I believe, the first systematic examination of primary documentation to show that the Allens were utterly serious in their efforts to secure the autonomy of a Greater Vermont. Other contentions are similarly based on primary sources: that Matt B. Jones was quite wrong in his argument that Benning Wentworth’s land grants were illegitimate; that the Allens were successful in warding off the enemies of Vermont on all four sides; and that successive Governors of Quebec handled the issue of Vermont and the “Northern Department” with great diplomatic skill and military enterprise. Where Ethan Allen made a mess of things, I say so, in particular that he was not at all a great military commander and that his diplomacy was sometimes arrogant, clumsy, and inept.

None of these aspects of *A Few Lawless Vagabonds* appear in Ennis Duling’s review.

DAVID BENNETT