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# The Falmouth Genealogical Society

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www.falgen.org

## Newsletter

January – February 2006

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*The Falmouth Genealogical Society Newsletter is published six times a year  
and is dedicated to news, events and ideas that will help members enhance their genealogical research.*

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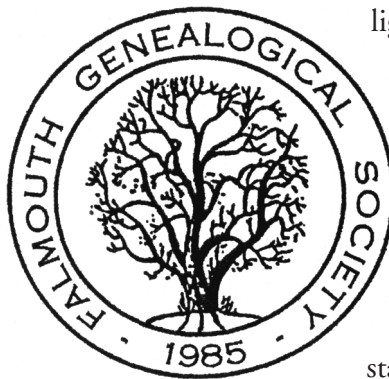
## Program Notes From November and December Meetings

### Identification of Family Photos – Maureen Taylor

by John Caspole

November 12, 2005

Maureen, who formerly worked at NEHGS and writes now for Family Tree Magazine and has authored two books, began by saying, "Every picture tells a story." Old photos can be found in almost all families and those without identifying notes can be vexing. However, with some study there are techniques that can lead to some degree of identity. Dating a photo is a start. Photography has evolved through several different technologies, so the type of photo can give a clue to its age. Early photos from 1839 to



1865 called daguerreotypes produced images on light-sensitive silver-coated plates. Ambrotypes were photos on glass used from 1854 to 1860. Tintypes, photos on tin, were in vogue from 1856 to the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Paper prints began to be popular in England in 1840 and in the USA in 1850. Also between 1864 and 1866 the federal government taxed photos and all prints produced then had to have a tax stamp on them.

Sometimes photos had a photographer's name or studio  
*Continued on page 2*

## Calendar of Meetings for 2006

Saturdays, 10 a.m., Falmouth Public Library

- |         |  |
|---------|--|
| Jan. 14 | Workshop for Beginners and Intermediates   |
| Feb. 11 | Live Internet Genealogy Programs   |
| Mar. 11 | Intra-Massachusetts Migrations by Herb Skelly  |
| Apr. 8  | Tall Tales of Our Ancestors or Dress Up Show and Tell<br>by all FGS Members                          |
| May 13  | YDNA Studies are Changing Concept of Surname Origins<br>by Robert V. Rice, Ph.D. (Biochemistry)      |
| June 10 | Annual Meeting and Talk by Ann Smith Lainhart,<br>new Historian General of the Mayflower Descendants |
| July 8  | Genealogy Workshop   |
| Aug. 12 | Live Internet Genealogy Programs   |

## *Martha's Vineyard and Cape Connections – Catherine Merwin Mayhew*

December 10, 2005

Mrs Mayhew, known as Kay, lives on Martha's Vineyard and developed a life-long interest in family history when she found a family bible in which many births, marriages and deaths were recorded. She began her talk by giving us some background about early America.

In 1686 travel was best and fastest by means of water; at least it was safest from Indian attacks.

During the short King Philips War some 10 percent of the adult males were killed.

Towns on the Cape were part of the Plymouth Colony but the Islands were part of New York.

Early settlers could be described as adventurers or entrepreneurs. The adventurers traveled into unexplored areas. Often a single man would find a wife along the way. Daughters married local boys and young men moved away. Entrepreneurs came and started businesses

and attracted other entrepreneurs

Thomas Mayhew was an entrepreneur. He purchased the "rights" to Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket and then sold rights to new arrivals. He never actually purchased the land. He held the honorary title of Governor. The Indians had to pay to get onto the Island. There was much intermarriage.

Kay pointed out that there were strong connections to Nova Scotia due to the trading patterns, and there were connections to Ohio where many early families moved.

For those who are interested in learning more about Martha's Vineyard History and Genealogy, here are two useful websites:

- [www.marthasvineyardhistory.org/faq.html](http://www.marthasvineyardhistory.org/faq.html)
- [www.marthasvineyardhistory.org/genealogy.html](http://www.marthasvineyardhistory.org/genealogy.html)



### **Identifying Family Photos**

*Continued from page 1*

printed on it. City directories are useful for determining when photographers or studios were in business.

Who's in the photo? Clues can be found in the clothing. Costume styles were typical of fairly specific time periods. The clothing may be ordinary for the time or it may be of ethnic origin. The background of a photo can also provide clues. Period furniture, fixtures and backdrops can be dated. Of course you will need to do some research in your library to find factual data. Maureen pointed out that at one time it wasn't unusual to see women hidden under blankets while holding up a child or baby for a photo. She also mentioned that sometimes photos reflected family traditions that can be identified. She noted that you should never take old photos apart as you might risk losing the image and never do anything to photographs that can't be undone.

When looking at photos of immigrants look for accessories they wore and held. Often immigrants held photos

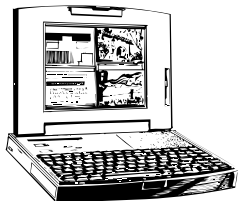
brought from overseas that might be of ancestors.

Maureen asked that if you happen to have a photo of a Revolutionary War veteran, please contact her. She noted that the last widow of a Revolutionary War vet died in 1920. She is working on a book to commemorate these veterans.



### ***Federation of Genealogical Society Boston Conference Aug/Sep 2006***

On these dates the Federation, of which our Society is a member, will have a major conference in Boston with over 400 presentations on genealogy. Check out their website for more information: [www.fgs.org](http://www.fgs.org) This newsletter will carry more info as soon as it is available.



## Online Tips/FYI

by Marge Gibson



### For Black Sheep ancestors:

- [www.blacksheepancestors.com](http://www.blacksheepancestors.com)
- [www.WaywardAncestors.com](http://www.WaywardAncestors.com)
- [blacksheep.rootsweb.com](http://blacksheep.rootsweb.com)
- [www.piratesprivateers.org](http://www.piratesprivateers.org)
- [www.gensearcher.com/notorious.html](http://www.gensearcher.com/notorious.html)

### For maps on the Internet see:

- [www.old-maps.co.uk](http://www.old-maps.co.uk) (ordnance survey maps of the UK)
- [www.newberry.org/collections/mapoverview.html](http://www.newberry.org/collections/mapoverview.html) (Newberry Library Cartographic Division Collection)
- [www.collectionscanada.ca/05/0514\\_e.html](http://www.collectionscanada.ca/05/0514_e.html)  
[images.library.uiuc.edu/projects/maps](http://images.library.uiuc.edu/projects/maps) (Historical Maps Online from the U. of Illinois and U. of Illinois Press)  
[historic\\_cities.huji.ac.il](http://historic_cities.huji.ac.il) (Historic cities and documents)
- [www.loc.gov/rr/geogmap/gmpage.html](http://www.loc.gov/rr/geogmap/gmpage.html) (Lib. of Congress Cartographic Division Collection)
- [www.culturalresources.com/Maps.html](http://www.culturalresources.com/Maps.html) (Contextual Guide and Internet Index to Western Civilization)
- [www.davidrumsey.com](http://www.davidrumsey.com) (David Rumsey Historical Map collection)

### British “Home Children”

From 1869 to 1939 more than 100,000 children, most of whom were between 7 and 14, were sent to Canada by the government when their families could not keep them or because they were in orphanages.

These children became domestics or farm laborers until age 18 and many suffered abuse. The agencies who sent them went to great lengths to sever the children’s relationships with their families in England.

Occasionally a child would be adopted into a family in Canada; however, most were not adopted. One website

which might help in finding information on a child is [www.ist.uwaterloo.ca/~marj/genealogy/homeadd.html](http://www.ist.uwaterloo.ca/~marj/genealogy/homeadd.html). Another is [www.genealogy.gc.ca](http://www.genealogy.gc.ca) which is an ongoing indexing project of the British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa in which the names of Home Children are extracted from passenger lists held by Library and Archives Canada.

Take a look at [www5.nationalgeographic.com/genographic](http://www5.nationalgeographic.com/genographic). It’s about a DNA study. This kid really wanted to know his heritage to go to all this trouble. I’ll bet if sperm donors know this story, it might make them think twice about donating.

*From Family Tree Newsletter 11-10-05.*

### KIDS THESE DAYS!

Having trouble figuring out the new science of genetic genealogy? Maybe you can learn something from a precocious teenager who, knowing only his sperm-donor father’s birth date and place, found dear old dad using a Y-DNA database. If nothing else, the case shows genealogy’s newest craze may spell trouble to privacy-rights advocates.

New Scientist magazine (<http://www.newscientist.com>) reported the 15-year-old sent a swab of saliva to the genetic-genealogy company FamilyTreeDNA (<http://www.familytreedna.com>). Except for the occasional genetic mutation, a man’s Y-DNA is identical to his father’s. The teen’s dad wasn’t in FamilyTreeDNA’s Y-DNA database, but two men whose Y-DNA was similar to the boy’s contacted him. The men didn’t know each other but they had like-sounding surnames.

From a Web site called OmniTrace (<http://www.omnitrace.com>), the teenage sleuth got a list of everyone born on his dad’s birth date and in his hometown. He found the right surname, and later contacted the man.

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# Bookends

## Notes from the Library Committee

Ralph Wadleigh, Chair



One of the pleasures of volunteering at the library on Tuesday afternoons is the opportunity to learn from others. A recent visitor came by see if he was on the “right track” and all the assembled poo-bahs thought he was. During our

visit, the man mentioned a book that he had enjoyed in his research and recommended. It is called *Albion’s Seed*, by David Hackett Fischer (Oxford University Press 1989). Anyone with English or Scotch Irish roots should be interested. The author identifies four British folkways from four different immigrations and demonstrates how they have been imbedded in American culture. The immigrations and attendant folkways are the Puritans from East Anglia, the Royalists from the south of England, the Quakers from the North Midlands and finally the immigrants from the English/Scottish Borders and Ireland. Fischer examines each of the migrations through a variety of social lenses and illustrates how they continue to exhibit themselves

today. The descriptions of these folkways go a long way towards placing ones ancestors in their social context. The bad news for those of you who might be interested is that the Falmouth Public Library does not have the book locally; however, it is available on interlibrary loan and that, I found, is a rapid service.

The library has purchased and shelved Volume IV of the Great Migration series covering immigrants whose surnames range from I to L. We have also been informed that the Colonial Dames will be purchasing Volume 20, part 2 of the Mayflower Families (Silver Book) Series covering Henry Samson.

### Obituary Index

Member Ralph Wadleigh has been compiling an index of obituaries from the *Falmouth Enterprise* on an ongoing basis. The index for 2005 is finished and available for reference both in the library’s genealogy corner and at the reference desk. Anyone wishing to help grow this index backwards in time is welcome to contact Ralph at 508-548-3408.



### Online Tips/FYI

*Continued from page 3*

*from Family Tree Magazine News 8-5-05*

#### NOT-SO-SECRET GARDEN

Used to be, if you wanted to find ancestors who immigrated through Castle Garden – New York’s primary emigrant landing depot from 1855 to 1890 – you had to crank through reels of unindexed microfilm or buy a subscription to Ancestry.com (<http://www.ancestry.com>). Now you can go to <http://castlegarden.org> and search a free online database of New York passenger lists from 1830 through 1913.

The Battery Conservancy (<http://www.thebattery.org>), an organization to restore Manhattan’s Battery Park,

launched the 10 million-name database Monday. Besides Castle Garden immigrants, says Conservancy program associate David Bromwich, it includes passengers who were dropped off at the Battery before Castle Garden opened and 2,000 Ellis Island immigrants who aren’t in the database at <http://www.ellisland.org>. (Ellis Island opened in 1892.) CastleGarden.org transcription project leader Ira Glazier expects to add 2 million more immigrants to the site’s compilation.

CastleGarden.org’s free Quick Search lets you look for a first and last name and arrival date range. You can

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# Report on the Cemetery Transcription Project

## WANTED: VOLUNTEERS

by Donna E. Walcovy, Program Chair  
falcem@hotmail.com • 508-477-1947

Just because it's cold outside doesn't mean the work of the Cemetery Transcription Project comes to a halt. There is a lot of research, typing, letter writing, etc. which needs to be done. Here are some areas where you can assist.

### Oak Grove Cemetery

Making and typing an EXCEL data base for the Oak Grove Cemetery from photocopied records through the early 20th century. If you're in Florida or some other warm place for the Cape Cod winter, we can mail you the photocopies.

### French and Indian Wars and Revolutionary War Soldiers and Sailors Buried in Falmouth

We're trying to compile records for persons buried in The Old Town Burying Ground and the East End Burying Ground, (two of Falmouth's oldest burying grounds), who served in the military for the French and Indian Wars and the Revolutionary War on-line at HisGen or other computer data bases to which you may have a subscription and in the Falmouth Public Library.

Some Resources:

- Massachusetts Revolutionary War Pensioners' Receipts.
- Mass. Officers in the French and Indian Wars 1748 - 1763 Editor Nancy S. Voye, Society of Colonial Wars, 1975
- Mass. Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolution, many Vols.
- Historical Register of Officers of the Continental Army by Francis B. Heitman, Gen. Pub. Co., 1967

Our intention is to gather very good quality black and white print outs or photocopies for each individual sailor and/or soldier's information. That information will be laminated and attached to an American Flag that

marks the grave to be set in the burying grounds the Saturday before Memorial Day. Of course we can also use volunteers to help set out the flags and information.

### Photographs of the Deceased

We would like to include a photograph to place under the individual record form for each person buried in Falmouth listed on our website. The Falmouth Historical Society has begun to index its collection of photographs.

### Online Tips/FYI

*Continued from page 4*

narrow your results by choosing a place of origin, occupation and ship. The search returns only exact matches, so you'll need to try spelling variations of your ancestor's name. If you're not sure of the first name, leave that field blank to see everyone with the surname you're looking for. Results show name, occupation, age, sex, arrival and ship's name.

Webmasters hope to enhance the database with Soundex searching – which would catch similar-sounding surnames – and images of the original passenger lists.

For \$45, you can submit an Advanced Search request, which lets you select variables for sex, age, ship, port of departure, country of origin, occupation and destination – without specifying a name.

Although the site recommends this search for scholars and genealogists, the Quick Search will do in most cases. If you're prepared to pay, it might be a better value to buy a \$79.95 subscription to Ancestry.com's US Immigration Collection, which includes images from microfilm of the original passenger manifests.

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## Online Tips/FYI

*Continued from page 5*

Follow the site's Timeline link for a trip through Castle Garden's illustrious history starting as a military fort called the Southwest Battery. It was reincarnated as a prestigious performing arts venue, the immigrant processing station and an aquarium before being designated a national monument bearing its 1817 name, Castle Clinton. For more ways to find Castle Garden passengers, see the August 2005 Family Tree Magazine.

Once you surf CastleGarden.org, drop an e-mail to [ftmnews-editor@fwpubs.com](mailto:ftmnews-editor@fwpubs.com) and let us know what you think of the site.



*from Family Tree Newsletter Aug 18, 2005*

You have questions about the new CastleGarden.org online database, which debuted Aug. 1 at <http://www.castlegarden.org>, and we have answers. (To read our Aug. 5 E-mail Update article on the site's launch, go to <http://www.familytreemagazine.com/newsletter/archive.html>.)

Q. Why is the far-right column in the results chart cut off?

A. This happens to some users because the chart has a fixed width that's too wide for their screens. First, pull open your Internet browser window as wide as you can. If that doesn't work, try reducing the text size under the browser's View menu.

Q. If you have more than one page of search results, how do you advance to the next page?

A. You'll find the page indicator, which says something like Pages << 1 of 36 >>, above the top right corner of the results chart. Click the double arrows to view the next or previous page of results.

Q. How can I sort the results?

A. Click a column heading to sort the results by the contents of that column. A red arrow appears next to the column heading you chose; click the arrow to change the order from alphabetical to reverse alphabetical (or numerical to reverse numerical, if you choose the Age or Arrived column). As long as you don't quit your

Internet browser, the site will sort your next search the same way.

Q. Are there any ways to get more search flexibility – and avoid tedious searches on surname spelling variations?

A. Yes and yes. Stephen P. Morse, a webmaster who designs search utilities for popular online databases, wasted no time in creating a portal to the names at CastleGarden.org. Morse's utility, located at <http://www.stevemorse.org> (scroll down and click Castle Garden Passengers), has a few advantages over CastleGarden.org's search engine:

- You can search on a range of birth years and ages at time of arrival.
- Rather than searching on a name and arrival year, then narrowing results by variables such as country of origin, ship name and occupation, you can search on all the variables at once.

Morse's site also lets you browse names in alphabetical order – helpful for catching spelling variations and mistranscriptions. Click Castle Garden Browser to select a letter of the alphabet or, in your passenger search results, click on a person's passenger ID number (in the last column).



### Britons

*from July 19, 2005 National Geographic*

Despite invasions by Saxons, Romans, Vikings, Normans, and others, the genetic makeup of today's white Britons is much the same as it was 12,000 ago, a new book claims.

In *The Tribes of Britain*, archaeologist David Miles says around 80 percent of the genetic characteristics of most white Britons have been passed down from a few thousand Ice Age hunters.

Miles, research fellow at the Institute of Archaeology in Oxford, England, says recent genetic and archaeological evidence puts a new perspective on the history of the British people.

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REVISED & LATEST NEWS RELEASE

NEW ENGLAND STATES HISTORICAL & GENEALOGICAL CONFERENCE

NASHUA, NEW HAMPSHIRE

4 March 2006 – Saturday, 8 AM to 5 PM (snow date 18 March 2006)

Horse Pond Fish & Game Club of Nashua, New Hampshire

Directions: Note: Directions to Horse Pond Fish & Game Club of Nashua: Coming from the south on Rt. 3 from Massachusetts, take exit 6, turn LEFT AT TOP OF RAMP onto Broad St., go past shopping center and turn right onto Horse Pond Ave. The club is all the way at the end of the street. Major snow storm/blizzard date will be 18 March 2006 Sneak-peek at Club HREF="http://www.geocities.com/takethetricks/"

Attendee Invitation

We invite you to attend the first in a series of State conferences designed for the budgeted historian and genealogist. A small town atmosphere with a feeling of family and friendship. No cumbersome city driving or parking fees or problems at big expensive hotels. A one day conference. Enjoy an informal bag lunch while visiting with your friends and others. Buy 3 chances for \$1 in our vendor-donated raffle. Take part in our new casual and informal lecture/discussion groups where you can get the speakers attention to your own special needs or just listen to the wealth of information that will be shared by many lectures throughout the day.

Here is how your day will flow: Vendor tables will be on one side of the hall and the lecture areas will be at the opposite side of the room. Each vendor will present a talk at an assigned table. A sign-up sheet will be available for 6 to 10 attendees for each talk. These discussions will be repeated throughout the day depending on popular demand at sign-up sheets. There will be several discussions going on at the same time giving the attendee a choice. The vendor areas will be open throughout the day. Breakdown and description of talks will be added as vendors register. It is highly encouraged that most talk subjects are planned around the State the event is held in. This is a non-formal and friendly event. We will have free coffee and tea and snack items throughout the day. Sign up now.

Attendee Name \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_
Address \_\_\_\_\_
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Event Cost: \$15 per person. How Many Attending \_\_\_\_\_
Bag Lunch: \$10 each. Ham Sandwich \_\_\_ or Chicken salad Sandwich \_\_\_ with potato chips, bottled water, cookie. Total Event & Bag Lunch Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

(Please Do Not Make Check Out To) New England States Historical & Genealogical Conference. Make checks to: Paul Bunnell, 45 Crosby St., Milford, NH 03055. Email: Bunnelloyallist@aol.com No cancellations/refunds after 5 Feb. 2006. We accept PayPal, Check or Money Orders (Sorry, no credit cards) We accept Canadian checks as follows: Vendor Table \$12 (Can), Attendee Fee \$18 (Can), Bag Lunch \$12 (Can). The only USA Conference that accepts Canadian Funds. Hotel list can be provided. There are 3 or 4 in area priced between \$50 and \$100 per night.

Lecture Subjects & Schedule

- 1. Paul J. Bunnell, FACG, UE, Author - Loyalists of New Hampshire
" " French/Metis Marriages
2. AncestralManor – Sharon Sergeant - Railroads of New Hampshire
" " New Hampshire Map Resources
" " New Hampshire Newspaper Resources
3. Melinde Lutz Sanborn - (To be announced)
4. TIARA (Irish Genealogy) - (To be announced)
5. Heritage Books Inc. - (Possibly Scheduled)
6. Remick Co. Doctor Museum (History of the Museum at Tamworth NH)
7. Jonathan D. Galli - (Possibly Italian Genealogy)
8. Falmouth Genealogical Society - (Gravestone Cleaning & Restoration) (More to be added soon)
9. Acadian Cultural Society - (Possibly Schedule) Note: Lecture sign up and times to be assigned at conference.
10. Gravestone Studies Association (To be announced)
11. African American Resource Center Overview Topics of New Hampshire Black History

Continued on page 8

## NESHG Conference

Continued from page 5

### ATTENTION VENDORS

We personally invite small, and large vendors to take advantage of this great new inexpensive concept in this conference series. Please contact us to sign up. We are looking for any publisher, authors, genealogical and historical societies, libraries, historical sites, related gift shops, archives, town records centers, related clubs, etc. Your requirements and costs are as follows.

- \$8 per table (This includes 2 people per site, no attendee charge)
  - One item to donate towards our raffle (Proceeds go to cover event cost).
  - Order (if desired) your bag lunch for \$10
  - Provide speaker 2 to 3 times through day for talks on your choice subject, but suggested it be on the state we are attending. **We must get your subject and description at time you register so we can advertise it up front.**
  - Your table must be set up time between 7 AM to 8 AM
  - You must provide your own sign (Area will be open. No enclosed curtains). We cannot guarantee if or how many electrical outlets there will be available.
  - All vendors must be available for sales from 8 AM to 5 PM
  - Provide flyers, business cards/brochures for attendee packets before event.

Vendor/Attendee: _____	Description of Vendor Talk
Address: _____	_____
Email: _____	_____
Products: _____	_____
Amount Enclosed: _____ Tables _____	_____
Bag Lunch: \$10. Sandwich: Ham _____ or Chicken Salad _____, Chips, Water/Soft Drink, Cookie.	Amount Enclosed: _____
Vendor tables _____ \$8 each. Total _____	

(Please **Do Not** Make Check Out To) New England States Historical & Genealogical Conference. Make checks to: **Paul Bunnell, 45 Crosby St., Milford, NH 03055.** Email: [Bunnelloyalist@aol.com](mailto:Bunnelloyalist@aol.com) No cancellations/refunds after 31 Jan. 2006. We accept PayPal, Check or Money Orders (Sorry, no credit cards) We accept Canadian checks as follows: Vendor Table \$12 (Can), Attendee Fee \$18 (Can), Bag Lunch \$12 (Can). The only USA Conference that accepts Canadian Funds. Hotel list can be provided. There are 3 or 4 in area priced between \$50 and \$100 per night.



## Online Tips/FYI

Continued from page 6

“There’s been a lot of arguing over the last ten years, but it’s now more or less agreed that about 80 percent of Britons’ genes come from hunter-gatherers who came in immediately after the Ice Age,” Miles said.

These nomadic tribespeople followed herds of reindeer and wild horses northward to Britain as the climate warmed.

“Numbers were probably quite small – just a few thousand people,” Miles added.

These earliest settlers were later cut off as rising sea levels isolated Britain from mainland Europe.

New evidence for the genetic ancestry of modern Britons comes from analysis of blood groups, oxygen

traces in teeth, and DNA samples taken from skeletal remains.

Ice Age hunter-gathers also colonized the rest of north-west Europe, spreading through what are now the Netherlands, Germany, and France. But Miles said differences between populations can be detected in random genetic mutations, which occurred over time.

The most visible British genetic marker is red hair, he added. The writer Tacitus noted the Romans’ surprise at how common it was when they arrived 2,000 years ago.

“It’s something that foreign observers have often commented on,” Miles said. “Recent studies have shown that there is more red hair in Scotland and Wales than anywhere else in the world. It’s a mutation.”