

UNION COLLEGE ALUMNI RECORD

DUPLICATE RECORD

PLEASE FILL IN COMPLETELY AND RETURN TO:
THE GRADUATE COUNCIL, UNION COLLEGE, SCHENECTADY, N. Y.

1. NAME IN FULL Christopher Columbus Foster UNION DEGREE A B
CLASS OF 1829
2. SON OF (A) FATHER Moses, a Quaker
(B) MOTHER (MAIDEN NAME) Chloe Smith of Suffield, Conn
3. BORN (DATE) May 15, 1802 (PLACE) ?
4. DIED (DATE) Oct 3 1879 (PLACE) Sherburne
5. MARRIED (HER NAME) Rachel Mason (DATE) Jan 29, 1832
(A) WIFE WAS BORN (DATE) Feb. 6, 1806 (PLACE) Mason genealogy states Oxford N.Y. Tradition claims Rhode Island
(B) WIFE DIED (DATE) Apr. 29, 1865 (PLACE) Sherburne, N.Y.
6. CHILDREN; NAME DATE OF BIRTH DATE OF DEATH

James M. Caroline Lorton	Jan 6, 1834	
Mary (Stearns)	Dec 15, 1835	
Sarah (Smith)	July 24, 1838	Mar 30, 1872
Chloe (Bowen)	Aug 24, 1840	
Amy (Thomas Addison)	Jan 24, 1842	
Priscilla (Thompson)	Mar 9, 1844	
7. PREPARED FOR COLLEGE AT: Hamilton College Nov 22, 1842 also Thomas who died soon after birth
8. DATE OF WITHDRAWAL: 1827
9. COLLEGE LIFE: (A) FRATERNITY MEMBERSHIP
(B) LITERARY OR SOCIAL ORGANIZATION MEMBERSHIP Adelphic
(C) CLASS OFFICES
(D) COLLEGE PRIZES AND HONORS
10. OTHER COLLEGES ATTENDED WITH DATES "Studied medicine and French in N.Y.C. in 1830"
11. DEGREES according to letter written by daughter Amy
12. PROFESSION Teacher, Supt of Schools Chenango Co.
13. BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS HELD WITH DATES
1831- taught in Norwich N.Y. - 1832 taught in Guilford Academy
later in Sherburne, N.Y. - Was constable in Sherburne, N.Y.
also was very good surveyor.
14. MILITARY HISTORY AND TITLES

(OVER)

15. PUBLIC OFFICES HELD WITH DATES.....

16. MEMBER OF PROFESSIONAL, LITERARY, SCIENTIFIC, SOCIETIES.....

17. LITERARY PRODUCTIONS, DATE AND PUBLISHER.....

18. RELIGIOUS DENOMINATION *Episcopal at time of his death.*

19. POLITICAL PREFERENCE.....

20. BROTHERS AND SISTERS *Camila (moyer), Industry, Volney,
Barn, Moses, Silas*

21. RELATIVES OF SELF OR WIFE WHO HAVE ATTENDED UNION.....

22. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION. (USE THIS SPACE FOR OTHER BIOGRAPHICAL DATA OR TO SUPPLEMENT ANY OF THE ABOVE ANSWERS.)

Because of very bad migraine headaches C.C.F. was forced to retire from teaching. Dr. advised farming which, of course, did not improve the situation. He did much surveying from then on until his death.

23. NAME AND ADDRESS OF PERSON THROUGH WHOM I CAN ALWAYS BE REACHED.

NAME.....STREET.....

CITY.....STATE.....

24. INFORMATION SUPPLIED BY *Mrs George F Dennis (gr. granddaughter of subject)*

STREET ADDRESS *East St.*

CITY AND STATE *Sherburne N.Y.*

DATE *July 18, 1948*

Joe R. - this and
type it in to archive
and it in to archive
union W. R. O.) if you find it worth recording

My dear Mr. Dailey

Christopher Columbus Foster was my great grandfather. He was born in Mass. in 1802 - May 15 married Rachel Mason Jan. 29, 1832 and died at the Mason farm in Sherburne, N.Y. Oct. 3, 1878 according to my grandfather Smith's Bible records. His children were as follows:

James born 1834 mar. Caroline Gorton Mar. 7, 1837
Mary b. 1835 .. Thomas Steer Nov. 6, 1836
line * Sarah b. 1838 .. Marwin Smith Nov. 25, 1859
Chloe b. 1840 .. Charles Bowen Dec 31, 1857
Amy b. 1842 { (1) Charles Thomas 1st
(Priscilla * 1844 { " (2) Addison 2nd.
mar. George Thompson
Phoebe Ann 1845 mar Wm Jones
twins Columbus and Rachel died at birth in 1833

Christopher Foster was a member of the Episcopal Church when he died but his parents were Quakers - farmers in name only. Moses Foster must have had quite a bit of money as all his children had higher education which was unusual in those days. He brought his slaves with him to Chenango Co. The story is handed down that Moses always owned beautiful white carriage horses which he drove to town, often staying ^{too} long, much to his wife's displeasure. It seems to me he was most un-Quakerish in that respect. "He baked upon the wine when it was red" according to his ^{great} eldest granddaughter.

I cannot find out where the Foster family lived in Mass. I suspect Essex Co. I believe Moses was a surveyor as Christopher was taught that skill before he went to college. I wonder if there are any records of Christopher in Schenectady, at Union. If so it might tell where he was born. Perhaps you would know about that or could find out for me.

There are no Fosters left of Christopher's line - James Foster had one son ^{Living} who had one child, a girl, Lillian (Oneonta)

Moses Foster had a brother, Elijah, whom I found in Sherburne as early as 1798. on a list of jurors. That is what is confusing me - If Christopher was born in 1862 in Mass. then Moses could not have come to Chenango with his brother, Elijah, as tradition claims. Maybe he came out, returning to Mass in 1801 for Chloe, his wife - not returning until 1806, the first ~~time~~ I find him actually in Chenango. If Moses were a surveyor it would be a natural course of events. Chloe was a Smith. (I knew about her. Moses children (this is not complete or even positively correct)

Industry { Elias
Baum { Minerva (I have more records of these 2 children)

Peter (?)
Stillman (?) } might be nicknames
Christopher Columbus

I am on the trail of a Foster girl who married a Rowland or vice versa. Then, I found a Pally Foster who died May 14, 1848 among early records of Sherburne - town clerk's office.

This is the extent of my Foster records which I am sure will be practically valueless to you.

Sincerely,

Eric C. Dennis
(Mrs George Dennis)

July 16, 1948

Dear Mrs. Dennis:

We have had search made in the early record books, but cannot find the date of Christopher Foster's birth, except that he entered Sept. 18, 1828, at the age of 24. The place is not given. He entered from Sherburne.

We have very little about this alumnus; so would you kindly complete the enclosed sheet (as far as you are able), and return it to us?

I am sorry we cannot supply the one fact you require.

Sincerely yours,

for the Graduate Council

My grandfather transferred
to Union in 1828 from Hamilton
College according to the record
of Hamilton College - They have
no further record of him however,
i.e. as regards his birth place.

I will appreciate any
information you may have
concerning my ancestor.

Sincerely,

(Mrs) Elsie B. Dennis

MRS. ELSIE B. DENNIS
Sherburne, New York

June 14, 1948

Union College
Schenectady, N.Y.

My great grandfather graduated from Union about 1829. I am in hopes you have some record of his birth place as that statistic is necessary in my application for D.A.R.

He was Christopher Columbus Foster, son of Moses and Chloe Foster of Columbus, N.Y. Records show that my g.g. f. was not born in New York State but may have been born in Mass. So far I have been unable to find any record of him in Mass.

~~J.R.B.~~ ~~Discovered~~ Sherburne, N.Y. Jan. 21, '49

My dear Rev. Dailey,

1829

Some time ago I sent you at your request information concerning Christopher Columbus Foster. Upon further research I find some errors in my records which were obtained from descendants. One error was the date of his father's birth which was 1775 instead of 1774 according to Census of 1850. It looks at present as if his mother's maiden name is also incorrect. I am working to prove that C.C.'s mother was Chloe Smith as family records have it instead of Chloe Clark as Mass. records seem to indicate. As soon as I find evidence satisfactory to me which way it is I shall inform you.

I understand you are an authority on Patankes.

Union College Grad from Owasco Outlet!

1839

Christopher Columbus Foster, son of Moses and Chloe Smith Foster.

Writing in the St. Johnsville News Mrs. Elsie Dennis says he graduated from Union College.

W.N.P.D.

Christopher Columbus Foster A.B.
1829

1829
Christopher Columbus F.B. Foster