

Family Group Record for Captain Simeon Long

Husband		Captain Simeon Long	
Born	19 Sep 1760	Nantucket, Nantucket, MA	
Died	10 Jun 1848	Claremont, Sullivan, NH	
Buried		Old Village Cemetery, Claremont, Sullivan, NH	
Father	Jonathan Long (1738-1826)		Mother Sarah Brown (1742-1775)
Marriage	9 Apr 1816	Windsor, , VT	
Other Spouse	Catherine McCauley Bartlett Crosby (-1815)		4 Aug 1796 - Claremont, , NH
Other Spouse	Jane Crowell (-1793)	Jul 1784	
Wife		Chloe Steele	
Born	13 Jan 1782	Weathersfield, , VT	
Died	18 Mar 1866	Claremont, Sullivan, NH	
Buried			
Father	Stephen Steele Jr. (1752-1831)		Mother Chloe Hubbard (1763-1843)
Children			
1	M	William Long	
Born	19 Jan 1817	Claremont, , NH	
Died	2 Oct 1882		
Buried			
Spouse			
2	M	Abraham Long	
Born	25 Oct 1818	Claremont, , NH	
Died	27 Jan 1819	Claremont, , NH	
Buried			
Spouse			
3	M	Francis Long	
Born	8 Dec 1819	Claremont, , NH	
Died			
Buried			
Spouse			
4	F	Jane Long	
Born	25 Mar 1821	Claremont, , NH	
Died	11 Mar 1882		
Buried			
Spouse			
5	M	Henry Long	
Born	27 Jan 1823	Claremont, , NH	
Died	After 1850		
Buried			
Spouse			
6	M	Hiram Long	
Born	22 May 1827	Claremont, Sullivan, NH	
Died	12 Jul 1908	Marceline, Linn, MO	
Buried		Elmwood Cemetery, Marceline, Linn, MO	
Spouse	Emily Malenda Judkins (1832-1866)		21 Apr 1858 - North Charlestown, Sullivan, NH
Spouse	Anna Angelia Charlton (1831-1904)		5 Mar 1868 - Claremont, Sullivan, NH

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General Notes (Husband)

Detail data from here on back from family history sources web reference: <http://www.nh.searchroots.com/Long/longrobcharls.htm>
Basically, their sources are: 1- New England Historic & Genealogical Society - Database: Vital Records in Massachusetts to 1850; 2- Town Records of Newbury, Cambridge, Nantucket, Salisbury, and other towns in Massachusetts; 3- Family Trees of various descendants; and that's where I've looked for additional information.

Census information referenced as follows:

1790 Census - Listed in Sherburn Township, Nantucket, Nantucket, NH.

1800 Census - Listed in Nantucket, Nantucket, NH with 8 in household.

1810 Census - Listed in New Bedford, Bristol, MA with 10 in household.

1820 Census - Listed in Claremont, Sullivan (not Cheshire Co.), NH with 11 in household.

1830 Census - Listed in Claremont, Sullivan, NH with seven men and three women in the household. Entry for males is 1-1-2-b-2-b-b-b-1-b... and females b-1-b-1-b-b-1-b... This would have Simeon age sixty and under 70 and Chloe age fifty and under sixty.

1840 Census - Listed in Claremont, Sullivan, NH with one male age 10 to 15, one male age 70 to 80, one female age 15 to 20 and one female age 50 to 60 in the household. It would appear that Henry didn't get enumerated, but as he would be about 17, he's probably off working somewhere. The entry matches the ages for Simeon, Chloe, Jane, and Hiram.

Additionally, we have an historical letter in our possession dated New Bedford, 17JUN 1812, from Sam Rodman to Simeon Long. Text follows:

To: 17

Simeon Long

Claremont New Hampsire

Postmark: New Bedford Sep 18 (letter w/ wax seal)

New Bedford

Jun 17, 1812

Respected Friend

Simeon Long

Capt'n Swain has desired me to inform thee, that he can now conveniently pay thy note, w'ch he gave for the balance due on the purchase of thy house, provided thou will discount the interest for the term that the note is made payable. As he knows not what our situation will be here in the rage of war, he had rather pay whilst he is able to do it - He will in case thou accept the offer place the money in Boston.

I have no intelligence from Nantucket respecting any of thy concerns since thou was here - We are daily becoming poor - almost every mail brings accounts of some of our vessels being captured and many of our industrious tradesmen have no business to bring them necessities.

I am thy friend

Sam Rodman -end of text-

Nantucket Preservation Trust has placed a plaque on Simeon Long's house c. 1791

at 34 Fair Street, Nantucket, MA. Simeon Long's addition to his home in Claremont, NH is references as follows: Web Ref:

<http://claremont.com/streets.pdf>. Added Federal portion of house in 1811 to 1770's original house, and operated from 1784-1926.

"Heritage Trail 1754-1825", Claremont, NH, W. M. Bateman.

Other sources I've used for verification come from David Allen Lower & Janet D. Lower Pedigree, RootsWeb.com, Nantucket Birth Records, and "Grave Stone Records, Claremont, NH" by Charles B. Spofford.

General Notes (Wife)

1850 Census for Claremont, Sullivan, New Hampshire shows Clor Long, age 69, born in VT, living as head of household. An additional family living with her are listed as Lucretia G. Long age 36, George F. Long age 8, John H. Long age 6, Mary H. Long age 4 plus John Hathaway age 21 born in MA and Jonathon Lewis age 21 born in NH, the last two individuals are probably hired hands to

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General Notes (Wife)(cont.)

work the farm. All three children attended school during the year. Her husband Simeon Long had passed away in 1848.

1860 Census for Claremont, Sullivan, New Hampshire shows her at age 78, born in VT, living with her youngest son, Hiram Long.

Chloe Steele Long Reference. Born at Weathersfield, VT 13 JAN 1782. Father: Stephen Steele Mother: Chloe Natbard (Nutbard) Steele. Weathersfield is due West across interstate 91 from Claremont, NH. RWP Note: I can not re-find this reference for her birth date and haven't a clue where it came from.

Notes (Marriage)

Web Ref: ><http://www.dartmouth.edu/~lmfwelch/Spooners/earlymarriages.html>

Some Early Marriage Records of Windsor Years: 1764-1850 (incomplete)

Notation: These marriage records were taken from microfilm of the early records of Windsor and from postings in the early editions of the Windsor Journal. There are 1,277 records listed here, but there were others that were missed. I have only reviewed available microfilm editions of the Windsor Journal. In addition, because I typescribed and proofread the records myself, there still might be spelling errors or typing errors. If you find the record of one of your ancestor on this page, it is recommended that you contact the town clerk's office at Windsor, Vermont to obtain an official copy of the town record to complete your family tree. It is always wise practice to check the official source for all family genealogical information. I am in the process of converting the vital records of other towns in the Black River Valley to data bases to post on the WWWeb for easy searching. If you have information about your Windsor, Vt. family that you would like to share, or of any family in the Black River Valley region (including towns of Reading, Baltimore, Weathersfield, Ludlow, Chester, Cavendish, Plymouth, Andover, Springfield, West Windsor). I would be delighted to receive the information and make it a part of our data base project... Send your family information and any suggestions/comments to: ---- Linda.Welch@Dartmouth.edu I am the author of Families of Cavendish, Vols. 1, 2, and 3, published by the Cavendish Historical Society, Cavendish, Vermont.

Groom; Brides; DATE; Information

Long, Simeon, Capt.; Steele, Chloe; 9 April, 1816; He: Claremont, NH; She: Windsor by Bancroft Fowler, Minister of the Gospel

Windsor, VT is just North along interstate 91 from Weathersfield, VT and Claremont, NH.

General Notes for Child Francis Long

Francis Long doesn't appear in the 1850 census anywhere. However, one of Hiram's letters to his mother says Francis is in Hiwaii in 1850, and so didn't get enumerated.

General Notes for Child Henry Long

In 1850 census at Middle Fork of the American River, CA - miner together with his brother, Hiram Long and friend Samuel Jones.

General Notes for Child Hiram Long

Jasper Way family bible 1811 reference. "Hiram Long died July 12th 1908 Aged 81 years, 1 month, & 30 days."

1850 United States Federal Census about Hiram Long. Name: Hiram Long Age: 24 Estimated birth year: abt 1826 Birth Place: New Hampshire Gender: Male Home in 1850 (City,County,State): Middle Fork of the American River, El Dorado, California. Image shows Hiram Long, Miner, age 24, born in NH, \$7.00 per day "Assay value of each miner's daily product" (Hand Written over the "Deaf, Dumb, Blind, etc. column 13)! His brother Henry Long is considered the "head of household" as number 5 "in order of visitation". Henry is age 28, miner, born in NH, also with \$7.00 per day take. Their friend, Samuel C. Jones, miner, age 29, also with \$7.00 per day take is listed with Hiram and Henry. It's about Samuel's sister Mary Jones that Hiram writes of in his letters home to his mother reproduced below.

1860 United States Federal Census about Hiram Long. Name: Hiram Long Age in 1860: 33 Birth Year: abt 1827 Birthplace: New Hampshire Home in 1860: Claremont, Sullivan, New Hampshire Gender: Male Post Office: Claremont Value of real estate: [View image](#). Chloe is Hiram's mother, born in VT. All the others were born in NH. Hiram's value of real estate is \$5000 and he's listed as a farmer. Don't know who Adelaid Runnels is, but possibly a helper around the house.

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General Notes for Child Hiram Long(cont.)

Household Members:

Name Age

Hiram Long 33, farmer, value of realestate \$5000, born in NH.

Emily M Long 27, born in NH. Hiram's wife.

Chloe Long 78, born in VT. Hiram's mother.

Francis Long 40, male, born in NH. Hiram's brother.

Emily E Long 10/12, born in NH. Hiram's daughter.

Adelaid Rannels 15, female, born in NH. Don't know the relationship.

1870 United States Federal Census about Hiram Long. Name: Hiram Long **Estimated birth year:** abt 1827 **Age in 1870:**

43 **Birthplace:** New Hampshire **Home in 1870:** Yellow Creek, Linn, Missouri **Family and neighbors:** [View Results](#)

Gender: Male **Value of real estate:** [View image](#) **Post Office:** Saint Catharine. Value of real estate is \$3600 and value of personal property is \$500. Members of the household, all born in NH, are Anna age 39, Ellen age 10, Alice G. age 9, Edward age 7, and Chloe age 4.

1880 United States Federal Census about Hiram Long. Name: Hiram Long **Home in 1880:** Bucklin, Linn, Missouri **Age:**

53 **Estimated birth year:** abt 1827 **Birthplace:** New Hampshire **Relation to head-of-household:** Self (Head) **Spouse's**

name: Anna A. **Father's birthplace:** MA **Mother's birthplace:** VT **Neighbors:** **Occupation:** Farmer **Marital Status:**

Married **Race:** White **Gender:** Male **Cannot read/write:** **Blind:** **Deaf and dumb:** **Otherwise disabled:** **Idiotic or insane:**

[View image](#) **Household Members:**

Name Age (rest from the image)

Hiram Long 53, farmer, born in NH, father born in MA, mother born in VT.

Anna A. Long 47, born in VT, father born in MA, mother born in MA.

Ellen E. Long 21, teaching school, born in NH, father born in NH, mother born in NH.

Alice G. Long 19, teaching school, born in NH, father born in NH, mother born in NH.

Edward I. Long 17, works on farm, attended school in last year, born in NH, father born in NH, mother born in NH.

Mary Long 8, attended school, born in MO, father born in NH, mother born in VT.

Note: The image on Ancestry.com doesn't index to this entry correctly. Heritage Quest has the image. Series T9 Roll: 699 Page 370.

1900 United States Federal Census about H Lang. (This is Hiram Long!) Name: H Lang **Home in 1900:** Marceline, Linn,

Missouri **Age:** 75 **Estimated birth year:** abt 1825 **Birthplace:** New Hampshire **Relationship to head-of-house:** Head

Spouse's name: Annie J **Race:** White **Occupation:** **Neighbors:**

Household Members:

Name Age

H Lang 75, "Real Estate D.", born May 1827 in NH, father born in MA, mother born in VT, married for 32 years.

Annie J Lang 69, born Mar 1831 in NH, parents born in NH, married for 32 years.

Mary Robinson 27, daughter, widowed, milliner, born in MO, parents born in NH.

Several surviving family letters from Hiram to his mother Chloe Long from 1847 to 1854 document Hiram's early life, his journey to the Gold Fields of California as a member of the crew on the Ship, "Robert Bowne", and his experiences in California prospecting for gold. They are appended below.

At seventeen years of age, he went to Kinston (sic), N.Y. (Kingston, NY) and spent several years boating on the Hudson River.

Hiram shipped out as an "Assistant Steward" member of the crew, according to his letter below, on the Gold Rush Ship Robert Bowne, NY to SF "round the horn" 6FEB1849 to 28AUG1849. A reference in the Southern California Genealogical Society's journal "Southern California Quarterly" Winter 1985 Volume LXVII, Number 4, page 459 titled "The California Gold Rush Fleet" by John B. Goodman, III, shows him as an "Seaman" member of the crew instead of an "Assistant Steward." But this places him on the ship with a "promotion"!

The 1850 census places Hiram on the Middle Fork of the American River, El Dorado County, CA. Actual text follows: Hiram Long (Age 24), Henry Long (Age 28), and Samuel Jones (Age 29), Middle Fork of the American River, El Dorado County, CA. Hiram, Henry, and Samuel were mining for gold in CA during the gold rush and we have the letters below to document this.

Hiram returned from California after 8 years to settle down in Claremont, NJ to farm and raise a family. Upon the death of his first wife after 12 years of farming back in Claremont, he remarried and moved to Missouri settling finally on a farm in Linn County in 1868. He sold this farm to the Edina Company which was developed into the town of Marceline, MO as a maintenance hub for the

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General Notes for Child Hiram Long(cont.)

Santa Fe Railway. Marceline was the boyhood home of Walt and Roy Disney.

He was a Justice of the Peace in Linn County 1899-1900.

He was an Enumerator for the 1890 Special Civil War Schedule for Marceline Township, Page No. 1 Eleventh Census of the United States, Supervisor's District No. 5 Special Schedule, Enumeration District No. 226, Surviving Soldiers, Sailors, and Marines, and Widows, Etc.

Long Family Letters

How we got these letters.

These letters were handed down through the Long family line and were in the possession of Irving Edward Long (b: 20OCT1863, Claremont, NH) and his wife, Rebecca Landreth Long (b: 13APR1871, Marceline, MO), who were my mother's grandfather and grandmother. The letters had been saved by and passed down through Irving Edward Long's father Hiram Long (b: 22MAY1827, Claremont, NH) and mother Emily Malinda Judkins (b: 24SEP1832 Claremont, NH) and grandfather, Captain Simeon Long (b: 19SEP1760, Nantucket, MA) and grandmother Chloe Steele Long (b: 13JAN1782 Weathersfield, VT). My mother is Dorothy Jean Stephenson (23SEP1918 Marceline, MO), the daughter of Evelyn Emily Long (b: 30APR1895 Marceline, MO) and Francis (Frank) Earl Stephenson (b: 18FEB1892 Macon County, MO). Evelyn Emily Long was the third daughter of Irving and Rebecca Long.

One time when my mother was visiting her grandparents where they lived just a couple of miles away sometime in 1939-1940 on one of her trips back home to Missouri, my mother mentioned to her grandmother Rebecca she was collecting stamps. Her grandmother gave Dorothy these letters as proof that once upon a time, letters did not have stamps, but rather just postmarks and wax seals! These were just a few samples from an old trunk that held many letters and old family photos and materials. After Rebecca and Irving had passed away, my mother's mother received the old trunk that had the bulk of these old family documents and moved them to the Stephenson farm. After the tragic death of my mother's father in a car accident just in front of their farm, my mother went from her home in California to Missouri to help move her mother move from the farm into the town of Marceline as the farm had been sold. But in the confusion of the moment, my mother forgot all about all the letters and other things in the old trunk that was now in the Stephenson barn loft. A short time later, and before my mother could return to Marceline, the barn burned down and the trunk and it's contents were lost. In the 1970's, my mother than gave these few remaining letters to me, her only child and son, Ronald Wayne Phillips (b: 12SEP1944 Huntington Park, CA). These letters have been preserved and protected for future generations and have also been scanned into digital format to preserve the printed record of them.

Who wrote the letters?

Hiram Long (b: 22MAY1827, Claremont, NH), is the author of all but one of the letters. His father was Captain Simeon Long and his mother was Chloe Steele Long. Chloe is the object of several of the letters. However, the first letter is addressed to Chloe's husband and Hiram's father, Simeon Long (b: 19SEP1760, Nantucket, MA) and comes from a "respected friend", Sam Rodman. Chloe was Simeon's third wife and they were married 9APR1816, at Windsor, VT by Bancroft Fowler, Minister of the Gospel. Simeon Long had fifteen children by three wives and Hiram was the youngest. When Hiram was born, Simeon would have been 67 years old and Chloe would have been 45 years old! Simeon passed away in 1848 and Hiram then looked after his mother in her old age, for at age 78, Chloe Long resided in Hiram's home as reported in the 1860 Census. Chloe passed away in 1866 at age 84. Hiram's second wife was Anna A Charlton (b: 1868, NH, m: 1868, NH). Family tradition has it that Irving Edward always said his step-mother, Anna, was always "mean" to him. Such is life!

Who was Hiram Long? According to the "History of Marceline", Linn County, Missouri,

"Hiram Long was a native of Claremont, N.H. and was born May 22, 1827. He was the youngest of fifteen children, and his father, Simeon Long, was a retired sea captain. Mr. Long spent his boyhood days on a farm and pursued the course of study of the common schools. At seventeen years of age, he went to Kinston (sic), N.Y. (Kingston, NY) and spent several years boating on the Hudson River. He got the gold fever in 1849 and spent eight years mining in California, returning to New Hampshire he farmed for twelve years, and then came to Linn County, Missouri and settled on the farm in 1868. This farm he sold to the Edina Company when Marceline was laid out and he then moved to Howe Street.

Mr. Long served as Justice of Peace in Bucklin township two years, as a city clerk of Marceline two years and then was elected Justice of Peace. Following this he was elected Mayor of Marceline.

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General Notes for Child Hiram Long(cont.)

Mr. And Mrs. Long were the parents of five children.

Mr. Long had brought a melodian with him from the East and a small organ. He would take this little organ to the school houses and give music and singing lessons. He also edited the Marceline papers for several years."

The Letters.

The first letter is to Simeon Long, June 17, 1812 and is of interest for mentioning events and circumstances in the War of 1812! The fact that we have this letter as part of the family tradition indicates that there was a direct relationship to Simeon Long.

The second letter is to Chloe Long of Claremont, New Hampshire is from her son, Hiram and is addressed to the care of Geo. B. Long, Hiram's half-brother. This letter mentions many first names and documents the relationship between Chloe and Hiram, mother and son. Postmarked from Rondout, NY, Rondout Valley is one of the watershed areas for New York City's water supply.

The third letter is to Chloe Long from her son Hiram dated 28Jan-4Feb, 1849 on board the ship Robert Bowne bound from N.Y. to California "round the horn"! The sailing is documented as Feb. 8, 1849 in the New York Herald but doesn't include Hiram Long in the passenger list as he wasn't a passenger, but had signed on as an assistant steward so as to reduce the cost of his passage and have something meaningful to do during the voyage. More information on this voyage as well as the crew list is in the Huntington Library, San Marino, CA, Call # F865 .G68. But back to the letter. This letter contains details of ship fitting and cargo, costs of passage, and financing and organization of the ship and the trip, and the expected riches that await in the mines of California. It also mentions Henry's (a brother?) trials as a seaman in this time and his last known port of Lahaina, HI. This is a tender letter from son to mother expressing hope for the future, trust in God, and love of home and family!

The fourth letter is to Chloe Long from her son Hiram dated Nov. 12, 1850 from Morman Island, California. Probably this letter is the most interesting one regarding mining in the Gold Rush. It describes claims, place names, living circumstances, techniques, and even says that three gold nuggets were enclosed in the letter to show Chloe what it looked like. Again, Hiram spends much time wishing people would write to him and hopes all his friends haven't forgotten him.

The fifth letter is to Chloe Long from her son Hiram dated 10AUG1854 from Murderer's Bar, California. This is a fascinating glimpse into the gold rush, filled with place names, people, and living circumstances, a son's striving to "make good", and a yearning to be back home with his kin.

The sixth letter is a note to Chloe Long from her son Hiram dated 9NOV1854. This note mentions having finished a canal and that they are getting ready to do the washing, a reference to gold prospecting, not laundry!

These letters were scanned and transcribed in January, 2006 by Ronald Wayne Phillips.

(First Letter)

To: 17
Simeon Long
Claremont New Hampsire
Postmark: New Bedford Sep 18 (letter w/ wax seal)

New Bedford
Jun 17, 1812

Respected Friend
Simeon Long

Capt'n Swain has desired me to inform thee, that he can now conveniently pay thy note, w'ch he gave for the balance due on the purchase of thy house, provided thou will discount the interest for the term that the note is made payable. As he knows not what our situation will be here in the rage of war, he had rather pay whilst he is able to do it - He will in case thou accept the offer place the money in Boston.

I have no intelligence from Nantucket respecting any of thy concerns since thou was here - We are daily becoming poor - almost every mail brings accounts of some of our vessels being captured and many of our industrious tradesmen have no business to bring them

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General Notes for Child Hiram Long(cont.)

necessities.

I am thy friend

Sam Rodman

(Second Letter)

To: Mrs. Chloe Long
Claremont New Hamp.

c/o: George B. Long

Postmark: Rondout NY Sep 28 (letter w/ wax seal)

(1st Page)

Kingston NY
Sept. 26th 1847

Dear Mother = It is some time since I have written to you and I suppose you have been looking for a letter so I have sat down to write to you just as if I had something to write about. Since Post was received in due time I was glad enough to hear from you too. I rec'd a letter from Jane last week also which I will answer soon. I heard from William some time ago but I suppose you have heard since. Susan is in Albany at her uncle's she is coming back soon. We are all well here now.

Everything goes on in a very same sort of a way here now. But I do not doubt that you will be glad to hear that such is the fact as that any of us had broken our necks.

It is a cold windy day: cloudy and gloomy as November: we have had a rain storm for a day or two an equinox I suppose. I am sorry to see the cold weather coming so fast for I love summer. I have been thinking of going to Virginia or somewhere else where they have comfortable weather more than three months in the year but I have not got started yet.

(2nd page)

I comfort myself however as winter approaches with the hope of seeing home this winter and spending a month or so with you, which I shall do if possible. I should like to know how the railroad comes on and whether I shall be able to come home on it or not. I suppose that if I go home it will be over the Green Mountains which appears little short of martyrdom especially in the face of a December wind.

I ought to write to Caroline: I don't know what excuse to make up for not writing except laziness which is a very poor one. I may get up energy enough to write to her soon.

I don't know what the reason Mary Jones does not write to me "as she was wont to do", unless like Jane Steele she has got married. This last named person was so kind to write very frequently before she married but since that event, I have not heard a word from her. Well! If they will all forget me I must forget them and it saves me the trouble of writing. "There's no great loss" ?c.

But tell Mary that she must write, or run the risk having her nose pulled when I see her.

I do not think of anything more to write so of course I must close my letter. It is a pity however that as seldom as I write I can't fill out a sheet. I hope to hear from you shortly: do not disappoint me.

Yours affectionately

Hiram

(Third Letter)

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General Notes for Child Hiram Long(cont.)

Mrs. Chloe Long

Claremont New Hampshire

Postmark: New York 5 FEB 5 cts.(Letter w/ wax seal)

(1st Page)

Ship Robert Bowne N.B. Jan 28th 1849

Dear Mother,

As I may not have time to write all that I have to say if I put it off too long. I have thought that to write parts of a letter tonight and finish just before sailing.

I have been on board the ship for a few days, assisting to put things to right and get ready for sea. I suppose you have heard from me by the letter I made to Charles, so I need not tell you that I have engaged to go assistant steward on the ship Robt. Bowne, and that I pay \$100 for my passage at that. This is rather too much, but it is better than to pay \$150 for a passage. I am very well satisfied with my place, and think that I shall enjoy myself better and be in better health when I get there than if I went passenger. We are to sail next Thursday which is the first of Feb. I am obliged to find my own bedding which cost me \$4.50 but it will be very useful when I get there. I have a barrell (sic) of pilot bread which cost including freight \$6.50 so you need not be afraid of my starving for a while. - The ship takes out two or three houses, framed and ready to put up. She is owned in 900 shares at 250 dollars each. The shareholders go out in the vessel and a few passengers at \$150.

A great many passengers mostly from the country, are staying onboard and are boarding as I do at the eating houses. They mostly intelligent young men of the "middle class". Though there are

(2nd Page)

some quite advanced in years. We have quite a number of musical instruments on board. Flutes, violins, and guitars and when they get to work in earnest we shall have music.

There are a few yankees (sic) on board and of course they are more familiar with each other than others. We shall stop at Rio Janero (sic) and Valpariso (sic) if the shareholders vote to and I think they will. If they do I shall write from both places. I do not think we shall be above 5 months on the passage, and some expect to make it in 4 if we have favorable weather. The ship has a very light cargo. Her ballast is brick. - I believe I have given you a pretty thorough description of the vessel and I will defer finishing till wednesday eve!

Sunday eve, Feb. 4th.

We have been detained a few days longer than I expected, and are positively to sail tomorrow. The ship cleared on saturday and I do not doubt will sail tomorrow. The quicker the better for I am tired to waiting here. I anticipate a very comfortable time, but I may be disappointed. I have only one thing to ask if it is the will of God that I should never see you again, do not consider it my misfortune but my gain and rejoice for me. I know in whom I have trusted. I fear no evil for God is with me.

I have had three letters from Francis since I have been here. He has had one from Henry dated at Lahaina (Hawaii) March 26th. He has been very unfortunate this time in his captain, and talks of leaving. It is quite probable he did and being in the vicinity of California

(3rd Page)

at the time the mines were discovered, has joined the diggers and is now rich enough and half way home. But if he comes home next summer, I hope he will come out to California, and if he wants to and is not able, if you can help him do by all means and if I ever get back I will pay you if he cannot. He has had a great deal of trouble since he went to sea, but I hope he will be more fortunate in the future.

I have not heard from Claremont since I have been here. I expected to and am a not a little disappointed. I wrote to Charles as soon as I engaged a passage, and have been on the lookout for a letter but have not yet got one. I suppose he is very busy and so I must excuse him, but don't like I have not written to Jane as I ought to, but let her read this when you see her, and give my love to all the

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General Notes for Child Hiram Long(cont.)

rest. I shall write as often as I can and hope to hear from home often, but do not expect to.

I have not much more to write. I am writing in the cabin among the passengers and can not perhaps think of some things that I should like to say. God grant that I should find you all alive when I return, and live to see many years among you.

Your aff. son.

Hiram Long

(Fourth Letter)

Mrs. Chloe Long

Claremont, New Hampshire

Postmark: 18 NOV SACREMENTO CAL. on right with 40 inside the postmark or

14 NOV SACRAMENTO CAL on left, 10 on right, both black ink. Found in envelope of 18 NOV together with note from November 9th, 1854. Postmarks are similar style.

(1st Page)

Morman Island, Cal. November 18th, 1850

Dear Mother,

I wrote you last on the 27th of August and promised to write again in two months, but I have delayed writing a fortnight in order to not write by the same mail that I wrote to Francis by. I have received no letters from Claremont since I left home and have heard nothing from there since Saml. G. Jones left something more than a year ago. Except in Francis' letter of June he says he had not heard from you since his last letter and that you were well then. His letter of May was not received and his letters of Dec., Jan., and Feb. lost also and those that we have got do not contain one word of intelligence from Claremont except what I have mentioned above. You see therefore that we are ignorant even of your existence but we hope for the best and I shall continue to write to you from time to time every two months, for I know that if you are alive you will be glad to hear from us. Henry wrote to Charles from San Francisco Jan last and I wrote to him in June and he has not written to either of us yet. We have had one letter from Jane and the last from Francis was dated July 29th and arrived some time ago. I wrote to Wm. just before I sailed from New Y. but he has not written to me yet. We do not mean to be

(On left margin)

P.S. and I hope you will write when you get this if you have not before. I want to know that you are alive at least. If you should see Lee J. (Grand, Grand, or Grant?) or Chas. (Hutchensworth?), John G. Jones, or James R. Ballock give them my respect and tell them I should like to hear from them. Where is Chas. Hatch. He (used?) to write to me once, but -----H.L.

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troublesome to any one T we belong to that class of persons who can take a hint, and if our friends don't want to hear from us they need not be afraid of being annoyed if they only continue their present system. But we shall continue to write to you, for we do not doubt you will be glad to from us.

We have settled for the winter very near the place where I camped the last winter Saml. G. Jones is with us, and we have got very comfortable quarters for the winter. And don't expect to make much this winter, but shall try to make something. We have bought some claims on the middle fork (of the American River) - Hiram's parenthesis - which are known to be very rich, but we have not worked on account of their being very low and the water coming through the earth from the river. But we think that we are "yankees" enough to work them even if we have to build machinery to pump them out by water power. We hope to make something next season, but whether we do or not, my stay in California is limited to one year more - there is no appeal from that decision. I did hope to return this fall, but on the whole have concluded that it is not the best. As much as the mines here have been worked, and poor as they are getting to be, there is still a far better chance for me here than I should ever see again if I should leave now. I have good health and enjoy myself as well as I ever did,

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Family Group Record for Captain Simeon Long

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General Notes for Child Hiram Long(cont.)

and I suppose I have made more since I have been here than I ever would have made at home. But making money, with me, is not the only other principle business of life, and when I have spent one more year - in trying to fill my pockets - I shall return if I live, to where I can devote a part of my time to other objects.

The mines are getting to be very poor compared with what they once were. It is only one man in a thousand now who gets rich. I believe that near one half of the immigration this year will return as soon as they are able. There is but one feeling among them all, - they are bitterly disappointed, and denounce in all sorts of languages, those whose extravagant statements have induced them to come here. The most of them were men who were well enough off at home, and who ought to have stayed back and give poor people a chance. The man who leaves a comfortable home and comes here with a two-bushel bag expecting to fill it and be off is pretty certain to be disappointed. But those who are used to hard times and are not afraid of the shovel and pick, have certainly a better chance here, than any part of the world. If a man is contented and industrious, he can certainly make as much here in one year as he can from a farm in the Atlantic states.

You will see by the papers that the Cholera has been very bad in the cities. It is decreasing now

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however and as it has not made any progress toward the mines we have no fear of being troubled by it.

I believe the mines of California are as healthy as any part of the world, for people who pay any regard to their health, are seldom sick here.

Give my love to Mary Jones and tell her I have been looking for a letter from her, but have not got any. I ought to have written to her before now, and once Samuel and myself almost got about it, but missed it somehow. I shall write to her before long, however. (If from any cause she or her family should be in want of money if you will supply them I will repay you.) Give my regards also to Lucretia and family, Charles and Jane and their families and to any of my former friends who haven't forgotten me. (How true true it is that when one is "out of sight" he is "out of mind" I do not suppose that a thought of either of us, occurs to any person on the other side of the desert, with one or two exceptions, once, in a dog's age.) As I have only this evening to write this in, and as it must go tomorrow, I can't begin think of all that I ought to write. Excuse this and I will try to do better next time. That God may grant you life and health, and all the blessings of time and eternity in the prayers of

Your Aff. Son

Hiram Long

P, S. As I do not remember having sent any Gold & (Glar t? Possibly Flakes or Dust?), I enclose a specimen. The three large pieces are from "Oregon Canyon" near George Town, the rest is river gold. H. L.

(Fifth Letter)

Mrs. Chloe Long

Claremont New Hampshire

Postmarks: Upper right hand corner two stamps, SACRAMENTO CALIF 14 AUG (1854), offset over stamped with FORD EXPRESS, and upper left hand corner 10 (cents?), all in red ink.

Handwritten on envelope flap "Yours of June 16th rec'd today Aug 11th H.L."

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Murderer's Bar, Cal, August 10th, '54 (1854)

My Dear Mother,

I suppose you expected me to write to you some time ago, but circumstances have prevented me from doing it. I commenced a letter for the last mail but was not able to finish it in time. I have been in hopes to be able to send you some better news than any that I have written lately, but I cannot. After spending over five months at this place and doing a great deal of work we are not much better off than when we came here. Our claims of which I have written before have not proved as good as they were represented to us. We

Family Group Record for Captain Simeon Long

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General Notes for Child Hiram Long(cont.)

have worked about 34 feet of one end of them and have hardly got enough to pay expenses. Whether we should continue to work them in hopes of finding something better; or give them up and buy other claims; we have not decided. Henry has gone to Natoma today, and perhaps he will find something there that he can buy. - I want very much to return home this fall, for I know you are almost entirely alone and perhaps you think I am neglecting you. But I do not know of any business in Claremont that would afford me a living unless I have more money to commence with than I have now. And I suppose you as had lief I would stay here, as to live in

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Kingston or (Iowa?). So perhaps if I should not get enough money this fall I, I may conclude to stay through the winter if I can find good diggings. But I do not think anything will tempt me to stay here longer than next spring.

Although we have been disappointed in our diggings this summer I do not think that I have any cause to complain. If I had staid at home I do not know as there was any possibility of my even being worth five hundred dollars in my life. We have more due us here. And, in gold in hand about nine hundred dollars besides what we have sent home.

The comforts of life (hyin) to be more accessible than they were formerly; and there are few places now where good provisions can not be bought for a reasonable price. Potatoes and flour of good quality are .12 ½ cents per pound and the cost of our provisions is not over four dollars a week. I don't like cooking very well, and don't think I ever shall, but washing and mending clothes is an abomination, We have a temperance society here, and had a temperance celebration on the fourth of July. There are meetings also every sunday. A colored man who was brought out here as a chattell"(sic) of a Missiourian usually preaches. I was at Coloma on the 19th (ult?) and saw (Capt - crossed out!) Chas A Delano there He lives at Big Bar, yet he says that Geo. S. Horace Gill called on him there

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some time ago, but he had forgotten where we were and could not tell them: and he had also forgot where they live and all he could tell me was that they were on this river below Big Bar. Leonard Jarvis has lately been burned out of Salmon Falls and lost (considerable crossed out) all his clothes and some money. He slept in a store which was burned and narrowly escaped with his life. He called here a week ago or more. Saml (Samuel) Jones was at Morman Island lately working for six dollars per day. If Henry returns from there before I close I will give you what news he brings.

The last letter that we have had from you was dated in march last. We have heard from Jane to (Lu ere tin?) a little later I believe but it is a long time since. I hope I get one in the mail which is now due. Tell Mary Jones if you see her that I will positively write to her by the next mail and I have not time to write much more, nor much more to write.

Henry will not be back in time to write in this letter. I shall write oftener in the future than I have done,, Do not stop writing to us till you hear that we are on the way home.

This letter is rather short but I hope you will excuse me this time and I will do better in the future. With love to all: your affectionate son.

Hiram Long

(Sixth Letter)

Chloe Long

Claremont, New Hampshire

Postmark: 18 NOV SACRAMENTO CAL. on right with 40 inside the postmark or

(14 NOV?) SACRAMENTO CAL on left, 10 on right, both black ink. Found in envelope dated 18 NOV together with letter of Nov. 18th 1850. Postmarks are similar style.

November 9th, 1854

In consequence of a mistake in the day of the month I did not write this letter soon enough for tho that I intended to send it ... I have not much to add to it however. We have finished the canal I spoke of and are nearly ready to go to work washing. I shall soon be able to tell you how we have succeeded. I do not like to send an old letter but it will answer so well as anything that I can writ, and as I am

Family Group Record for Captain Simeon Long

General Notes for Child Hiram Long(cont.)

pretty busy I hope you will excuse it this time.

Your affectionate Son,
Hiram L.