

Ricketson later published his work as a book, *The History of New Bedford, Bristol County, Massachusetts*.

³ Bartholomew Gosnold (1572?-1607) explored Cape Cod Bay and Nantucket Sound in 1602. He named an islet "Martha's Vineyard," though the name of this islet was later changed to "No Man's Land" and the name "Martha's Vineyard" was given to the larger island that bears the name today. He and his men built a small fort on what is now Cuttyhunk Island, overlooking Buzzards Bay. Gosnold and his crew, however, abandoned the fort in June 1602 and returned to England.

Copy-text: ALS (MaLiTIW, Thoreau Society Archives, Parmenter Collection)

Published: Ricketson 1902, 68-69; Cor 1958, 433-434

Editor's Notes

This letter is endorsed "Sep 24th 1856".
hesitation] *PE*; hesita / tion in *MS*

Author's Alterations

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From Sarah Alden Bradford Ripley

September? 1856?

My dear friend,

a story you once told me about the spontaneous generation of your butterfly was brought to my mind by an article in Blackwood's magazine on "Sea-side studies": I thought you would like to look at it, if you have not seen it. The Magazine belongs to Mr Ames.²

with much regard
S A Ripley

Correspondent: Sarah Alden Bradford Ripley (1793-1867), daughter of Gamaliel Bradford III and Elizabeth Hickling Bradford, was a deeply learned woman who early in her life mastered Latin

and Greek as well as several modern
 ried Rev. Samuel Ripley (1783-1847),
 brother. Sarah and Samuel conducte
 vard students who had been required to withdraw for a period
 of time. In 1846 the Ripleys moved to the Old Manse in Concord;
 Samuel died in November 1847

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¹ George Henry Lewes, "Sea-Side Studies," *Blackwood's Edinburgh Magazine*, August-October 1856, 184-197, 312-325, and 472-485, later published as part of *Sea-Side Studies at Ilfracombe, Tenby, the Scilly Isles, and Jersey* (Edinburgh: William Blackwood and Sons, 1858). Ripley probably refers to an article in the September issue in which Lewes describes "gemination," the process by which annelids (segmented worms) multiply asexually: "suppose you were to cut a caterpillar in half, fashion a head for the tail half, and then fasten the head to the cut end of the other half—this would give you an image of the Syllis budding" (p. 320).

² Seth Ames (1805-1881) married Sarah Ripley's sister, Margaret Stevenson Bradford (1805-1847), in 1830. Ames, the son of Fisher and Frances Worthington Ames, graduated from Harvard in 1825 and became a lawyer. After serving in the Massachusetts legislature he became an associate justice of the Superior Court.

Copy-text: ALS (NN-BGC, Henry David Thoreau Collection, 1837-1917, Series IV)

Published: *Cor* 1958, 434

Editor's Notes

This letter is addressed "Mr Henry Thoreau" and endorsed "Mrs Ripley".

PE supplies the date "September? 1856?" based on the contents of the letter and the reference to "Sea-side Studies," but the letter may have been written later.

To Thomas Cholmondeley

October 20, 1856

Concord Mass. Oct 20th 1856.

Dear Cholmondeley

I wish to thank you again for those books. They are the nucleus of my library. I wrote to you on the receipt of them last winter, (directing as now) but not having heard