



The Penny News

Newsletter for the

EDWARD BELLAMY MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION

May 2019

Volume 2, Number 2

FUNDS TO BE RAISED TO REPLACE BELLAMY HOUSE ROOF BOOK SALE PLANNED

Join us on Saturday, June 29 for our first fundraiser! From 10:00 to 2:30, we will be hosting a book sale featuring a wide variety of fiction and nonfiction, both old and newer. Our first floor exhibits will also be open to the public, including a new display on Edward Bellamy's family tree. Visitors will have an opportunity to view the Bellamy parlors and some photos by Daniel Hanifan, as well as learn more about Edward Bellamy and our future plans for the house.

Proceeds from the sale will go toward the much-needed replacement of the roof. Leaks have developed in both the cedar roof over the main house and the asphalt shingles on one of the ells; the ceiling underneath has been damaged in both locations. A new roof will allow us to protect our collections, as well as turn additional rooms on the first and second floors into exhibit space.

We are still seeking donations of books to help make our fundraiser a success. Books in good condition can be dropped off at the Bellamy House between 10:30 and 1:00 on June 15, or arrangements for another time can be made by emailing edwardbellamyassociation@gmail.com. All genres are welcome.



Damage to the roof on the ell of the Bellamy House. This is above the planned local history exhibit space.

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SAVE THE DATE!

The 2019 Annual Meeting of the members of the corporation will be held on Saturday, June 15, 2019 at 1:00 PM at the Edward Bellamy House (91-93 Church Street, Chicopee).

From the President's Desk

To the Members of the Corporation:

I would like to begin my first letter by thanking everyone who came to the meeting last October where I was elected the third president of the Edward Bellamy Memorial Association. I want to also thank Steve Jendrysik for his many years of service to the organization. He has been involved with the Association since the beginning and has done a remarkable job keeping the Association going.

Many of you have not had the opportunity to meet me and learn about my plans for the Bellamy House. Hopefully you will be able to attend our annual meeting and learn about our goals for expanded exhibit space, guided tours, and research area. As the only National Landmark in the City of Chicopee, it is only fitting that we work towards opening our doors as house museum where people can come and learn about Edward Bellamy and the City of Chicopee. If you are interested in helping, I encourage you to attend the annual meeting and learn more about volunteer opportunities.

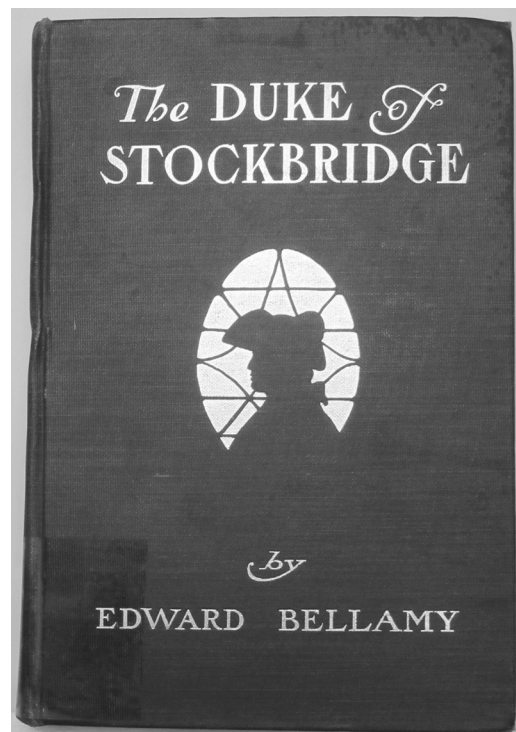
Jason Amos

President

Did you know...

....that there are two published versions of *The Duke of Stockbridge*? Originally published as a serial in the *Berkshire Courier* in 1879, Bellamy wrote this story of Shays's Rebellion as an allegory for contemporary economic issues. (Shays's Rebellion was a series of protests and armed conflicts that occurred in Massachusetts from fall of 1786 through February of 1787 and highlighted the weaknesses of the federal government under the Articles of Confederation.) Although the *Courier's* editors intended it to express their view that the poor, uneducated, and unemployed were a threat to society, the author took a more sympathetic view and used *The Duke of Stockbridge* to explain that the rebellion had been a necessary response to hard times and an ineffectual post-Revolutionary government.

In 1900, two years after Edward's death, his cousin Francis Bellamy (better known as the author of the Pledge of Allegiance) published the novel in book form. However, this version was heavily edited. The original text eventually made its way into a book in 1962, when it was published by Joseph Schiffman.



Cover of the 1900 edition of The Duke of Stockbridge

In the Archives

When you think of the Edward Bellamy Memorial Association's historical collections, what comes to mind? The obvious first thought is books and papers relating Edward Bellamy. Photos that have appeared in exhibits, newspaper articles, and local history books might also come to mind. However, there are also some other, lesser-known collections that deserve a turn in the spotlight. Below are descriptions of just a few.

- **Anthony J. Stonina Collection:** Consisting primarily of correspondence, this is a collection of papers from Stonina's three terms as Chicopee's mayor (1932-1933 and 1936-1939). Most notable are the materials concerning the construction of the Northeast Army Air Base (now know as Westover Air Reserve Base), but many other topics, ranging from public works projects to politics and the impact of the Great Depression, are covered as well.
- **Richard H. Demers Collection:** This collection contains the papers of another of Chicopee's mayors. Besides correspondence dating from his terms in office (1966-1969), there are also contemporaneous pages of Chicopee news from the *Holyoke Transcript-Telegram*, *Springfield Daily News*, and *Springfield Union*. Also included in the collection are papers from Demers's time as a state representative.
- **Bellamy Local History Collection:** This collection contains images, papers, books, and objects relating to Chicopee's history, including antique postcards and correspondence of the Taylor and Warner families (neighbors of the Bellamys). Also includes newspaper clippings that are organized by subject and date from the first half of the 20th century.



From left to right: Catherine, Edward Bellamy Memorial Association president Jason Amos, and Ann

This past November we welcomed Catherine Hanifan Connor; her niece, Ann Hess; and Ann's husband, Markus Wachter to the Bellamy House. It was Catherine's grandfather who bought the house from Emma Bellamy in 1905 and her father, Daniel, who added the photography studio that now serves as our meeting space.

How You Can Help

1. **Support our book sale.** Stop by on June 29th, donate your unwanted used books, or tell your friends!
2. **Suggest a program.** Is there a topic relating to Edward Bellamy, the 19th century, or literature that you or someone you know could present on? Propose a talk--or another event you'd be interested in attending--by emailing edwardbellamyassociation@gmail.com.
3. **Contribute toward our new roof.** Use the coupon on the back of this newsletter to make a special contribution. Every little bit helps!



EDWARD BELLAMY MEMORIAL ASSOC.

91-93 CHURCH STREET

CHICOPEE, MASSACHUSETTS 01020-1814

EDWARD BELLAMY MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION

91-93 Church Street, Chicopee, MA 01020-1814

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT!

Your Name _____

Address _____

City/State _____ Zip _____

Amount _____

Donations allow us to continue maintaining and preserving the Bellamy Homestead and its historic collections. Please consider contributing!

Donations are tax deductible.

Put my donation towards: () Where needed () Collection () Facility () Exhibits

EDWARD BELLAMY MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION

91-93 Church Street, Chicopee, MA 01020-1814

The Bellamy Homestead is a National Historic Landmark

JOIN US!

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