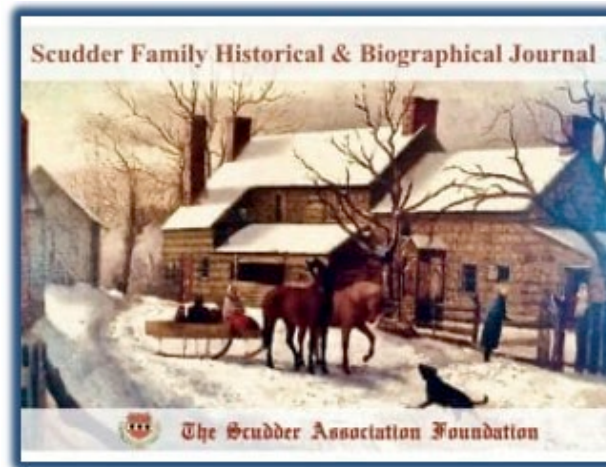


# Scudder Family Historical & Biographical Journal

*'Dedicated to educating, preserving history and promoting the Scudder heritage of service and philanthropy.'*



**Featuring: History of the American Foreign Missions Movement that Began in New England, and Missionaries with New England Roots Largely Staffed the ABCFM<sup>1</sup>**

**Samuel Mills' Struggle, a New England Haystack and America's Foreign Missions Movement, The Second Great Awakening, 1790–1840, Revivals, Bibles and the Counterpoint of Rationalism**

**William<sup>8</sup> W. Scudder I family, among first missionaries of Arcot Mission, India.  
William<sup>8</sup> and his 3 wives are examples of ABCFM missionaries with New England roots**



William W. Scudder & First wife Catherine Hastings



Map of the Arcot Mission, India

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<sup>1</sup> ABCFM stands for American Board of Commissioners of Foreign Missions.



The significance of the history of the American Foreign Missions Movement that began in New England may be unfamiliar to many, but it had notable impacts on America beginning in 1812, capturing the interest of Americans to turn their attention to learn about peoples, places and cultures of the sub-Indian continent, the Far East, the Sandwich Islands and Africa, about which they previously had known very little. While missionary work within America was not new, it took the vision and efforts of young Samuel J. Mills, Jr., a new college student in 1806 at Williams College in Williamstown, Massachusetts, and his friends, to successfully awaken Americans to consider missionary service to disadvantaged peoples in other lands. Mills' efforts led to the formation of the American Board of Commissioners of Foreign Missions in 1810. Mills accomplished a great deal more in the twelve years from the time he entered college to his death at the young age of thirty-five. Missionary magazines became a popular resource among Americans to learn about the activities and discoveries of the foreign missions' work.

Some of the positive global impacts of Mills' efforts included introducing modern education and modern medical care to developing countries located around the globe, in addition to social benefits for women, reducing and lifting people from poverty.

The challenges and hazardous conditions these early American missionaries to foreign lands faced in the 1800s were largely shouldered by dedicated souls with early New England and New Netherland/New York ancestry. Their stories of extraordinary courage and selfless altruism inspire and remind of the good that can be achieved through united efforts in service to others.

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Cover image is a painting by James Long Scudder, "The Homestead, 1865," Huntington, New York.

If you would like to submit an article to the *Scudder Family Historical & Biographical Journal* for consideration, contact [historian@scudder.org](mailto:historian@scudder.org)

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