

# CHRISTOPHER ALBERT GREENE AND SARAH CHACE GREENE<sup>1</sup>



1816



June 27, Thursday: [Christopher Albert Greene](#) was born at [East Greenwich, Rhode Island](#). His father was the sea captain Nathaniel Green (1789-1841), and his mother was Abby Sophia Casey (1794-1838).

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

*5th day 27th of 6th M 1816 / Our Moy [Monthly] Meeting is this days held at [Portsmouth](#) & I dont know as I feel much amiss in not going there is one subject that impresses my mind a little, but I dont see that it does with sufficient weight to move in it, was I there -*

*The situtation of friends on the Island of Connanicut, & indeed of the inhabitants generally has a place in my feelings, but what is to be done for them I do not see at present, there is something very unpleasant, in a whole Town's being without any meeting for Public Worship, which now the case, they have a convenient meeting house & might have a meeting occasionally & pretty Steady. There are two Men members & four Women One of which is a minister & one an Elder but being somewhat Advanced in life are unable to get out constantly, the other two women one is feeble & the other a young Woman with children - If any thing could be done to encourage these to keep a meeting on acct of the inhabitance generally it seems to me that I should be willing to unite in it occasionally - There are Some there who seem very friendly & pretty steadily go to meeting on first Day These considerations have occupied my feelings for some time, but the state of things is so low among us, that, as respects myself I feel but little resolution to move the subject -*

*Those of our friends who went to [Portsmouth](#) to attend Moy [Monthly] Meeting hove returned, they Say the first meeting was nearly silent - & in the last the buisness went on pretty well -*

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

1. Refer to [Rhode Island History](#), October 1932: "Christopher A. Greene: Rhode Island Transcendentalist," by Leo Stoller.

1818

June 22, Monday: Sarah Anna Chace ([Sarah Chace Greene](#)) was born in [Providence, Rhode Island](#) to William Chace and Lydia Bowen Drowne Chace.

Friend [Stephen Wanton Gould](#) wrote in his journal:

*2nd day 22nd of 6 M / This mornng J T Hopkins & companion, accompanied by J D Williams took the Packet & went to [Providence](#) My H spent the Afternoon at her fathers & I took tea with them - This evening Thos Wickersham returned for his horse & found him much better. he lodge with us.*

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

1830

[Christopher A. Greene](#) entered the US military.

1836

[Christopher A. Greene](#) graduated from the West Point Military Academy.



1837

[Christopher A. Greene](#) served as a lieutenant of Topographical Engineers, in Florida.

[Christopher A. Greene](#) resigned in protest against the Seminole War.



**SARAH CHACE GREENE**

**CHRISTOPHER ALBERT GREENE**

[Christopher A. Greene](#) worked briefly in his uncle's law office in [Providence, Rhode Island](#). It would become clear that at some point during his military service in Florida, he had acquired some sort of serious respiratory condition (this would lead to his early death).

[Christopher A. Greene](#) became an active abolitionist and [Transcendentalist](#).

**1841**

[Christopher A. Greene](#) helped William Chace (1786-1875) publish [The Plain Speaker](#), a [Providence, Rhode Island](#) journal of [Transcendentalism](#): "Chattel slavery will not be abolished until heavy and earnest blows have been struck at the entire system of labor for wages."

April 21, Wednesday: Bronson Alcott wrote a short note to [Christopher A. Greene](#) in [Providence, Rhode Island](#) while sending him a manuscript copy of ORPHIC SAYINGS; FOR THE PLAIN SPEAKER..... (seven leaves written on both sides, the verso of the final leaf addressed in the author's hand).

At this point it had been settled that the Alcotts would stay where they were and it would be [Henry Thoreau](#) who would instead serve the Emerson family as "handyman."

In [Dunbar](#), Scotland, John Muir turned 3 years of age and was placed in primary schooling.

May: The [Plain Speaker](#) of [Providence, Rhode Island](#) published twelve of Bronson Alcott's ORPHIC SAYINGS. (This reform gazette also published several letters to the editor it had received from Alcott.)

December: The [Plain Speaker](#) of [Providence, Rhode Island](#) published seven of Bronson Alcott's ORPHIC SAYINGS. This was the last issue of this reform gazette.

1842

June 20, Monday: [Frederick Douglass](#), William Lloyd Garrison, George Bradburn, and [Henry C. Wright](#) spoke at an Anti-Slavery Meeting in Hyannis, Massachusetts.

[Christopher A. Greene](#) got married with one of William Chace’s three daughters, [Sarah Anne Chace](#) (1818-



1904). The couple would produce five children, Abby Sophia on December 11, 1844, Sarah Anna on November 28, 1846, Christopher Wanton Casey on September 26, 1848, Eliza Chace on March 2, 1851, and William Chace on December 16, 1852. For the first two years the newlyweds would reside, along with Sarah’s two sisters and their husbands, at what they were terming “Holly Home” — a small communal farm in [North Providence, Rhode Island](#).

1843

A convention on “free religions” was held at the Chardon Street Chapel in Boston. This series of meetings, The “Chardon Street Convention,” was attended by members of a “Providence Movement” of mystic anarchists led by the wealthy philanthropist Thomas Davis of [Providence, Rhode Island](#) among others. Bronson Alcott was one of the principal speakers. The Providence group invited him to come down and live at “Holly Home” and be their mentor — but he declined.



This [Providence](#) Movement was publishing a magazine called [The Plain Speaker](#), and their principal writer, [Christopher A. Greene](#), was declaring against the institution of private property:

Everything that is belongs to Humanity. What a man wants belongs to him to use.... And what I have in possession I hold not as mine, but as Man’s or God’s.... The noblest man is he who works and with his own hands ministers to his wants —the greatest he who discards wealth and aspires to poverty —the truest he who obeys the conviction of his soul.

One of this [Providence](#) Movement’s members, Samuel Larned, would be won away during this year by Bronson Alcott.

Alcott’s 2nd youthful convert at Fruitlands, after Larned, would be Wood Abram who preferred to be known as Abram Wood. This silent young man may have come to Fruitlands from Concord, and may have

## SARAH CHACE GREENE

## CHRISTOPHER ALBERT GREENE

been a friend of [Henry Thoreau](#)'s.<sup>2</sup> He is described in [Louisa May Alcott](#)'s TRANSCENDENTAL WILD OATS as being "dark and melancholy."

[Christopher A. Greene](#) and [Sarah Chace Greene](#) left "Holly Home" north of [Providence, Rhode Island](#) to begin a school in Tyngsboro, Massachusetts, where there would develop some sort of problem: "after a tedious 3 months of vexations thought and trial, we left them -- left them to enjoy their selfishness and their passion as best they might."

Charles Lane's THE LAW AND METHOD IN SPIRIT-CULTURE; AN INTERPRETATION OF A. BRONSON ALCOTT'S IDEA AND PRACTICE AT THE MASONIC TEMPLE, BOSTON (Boston: James Munroe and Company; London: J. Green, 1843).



1844

[Christopher A. Greene](#) opened a school in Nashua, New Hampshire.

1845

[Christopher A. Greene](#) opened a Normal School in Bridgewater, Massachusetts.

2. We know of a James Barrett Wood for whom [Thoreau](#) surveyed a woodlot near the copper mines in southern Carlisle on November 30, 1850 and of a James Wood, Jr. with whom Thoreau had a conversation on January 13, 1852 and of an Elijah Wood ("... Elijah Wood / I fear for no good ...") who was the employer of Michael Flannery in 1853. Had this Abram Wood been the son or relative of one of these?

CHRISTOPHER ALBERT GREENE

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1847

[Christopher A. Greene](#) helped start a private school in [Boston](#).



The [Reverend Charles Henry Appleton Dall](#) accepted appointment as the minister of a church in Needham, Massachusetts.

1849

[Christopher A. Greene](#) became headmaster of the Milton Academy in Massachusetts.

1851

[Christopher A. Greene](#) founded the Mt. Ida School, a military academy, in Dorchester, Massachusetts.

1852

[Christopher A. Greene](#) took a position at a military academy in Marietta, Georgia.

1853

November 27, Sunday: On or after this day, when he made his will, [Christopher A. Greene](#), who had had some sort of serious respiratory condition ever since his military service in Florida, died in [Providence, Rhode Island](#) at the age of 37. ([Sarah Chace Greene](#) would for many years be operating a girls' school in Providence.)



**SARAH CHACE GREENE**

**CHRISTOPHER ALBERT GREENE**

**1904**

August 23, Tuesday: [Sarah Chace Greene](#) died.



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"It's all now you see. Yesterday won't be over until tomorrow and tomorrow began ten thousand years ago."

- Remark by character "Garin Stevens"  
in William Faulkner's INTRUDER IN THE DUST



**Prepared: December 21, 2013**

CHRISTOPHER ALBERT GREENE

SARAH CHACE GREENE

# ARRGH AUTOMATED RESEARCH REPORT

## GENERATION HOTLINE



This stuff presumably looks to you as if it were generated by a human. Such is not the case. Instead, someone has requested that we pull it out of the hat of a pirate who has grown out of the shoulder of our pet parrot "Laura" (as above). What these chronological lists are: they are research reports compiled by ARRGH algorithms out of a database of modules which we term the Kouroo Contexture (this is data mining). To respond to such a request for information we merely push a button.





**SARAH CHACE GREENE**

**CHRISTOPHER ALBERT GREENE**

Commonly, the first output of the algorithm has obvious deficiencies and we need to go back into the modules stored in the contexture and do a minor amount of tweaking, and then we need to punch that button again and recompile the chronology – but there is nothing here that remotely resembles the ordinary “writerly” process you know and love. As the contents of this originating contexture improve, and as the programming improves, and as funding becomes available (to date no funding whatever has been needed in the creation of this facility, the entire operation being run out of pocket change) we expect a diminished need to do such tweaking and recompiling, and we fully expect to achieve a simulation of a generous and untiring robotic research librarian. Onward and upward in this brave new world.

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