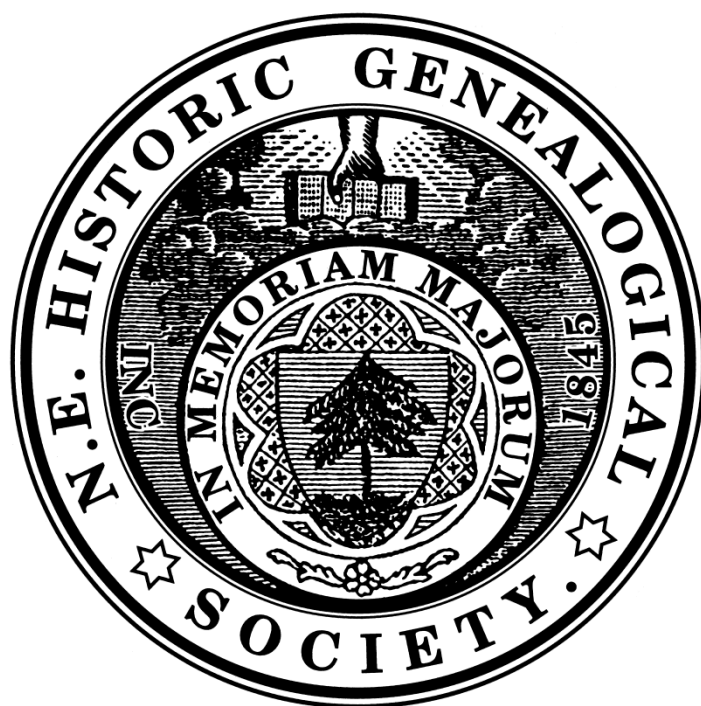


# *The New England Historical and Genealogical Register*

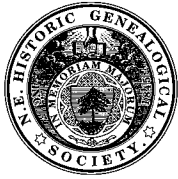


Volume 167

April 2013

Whole Number 666

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**THE NEW ENGLAND HISTORICAL  
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Funding provided in part by



*This publication is supported  
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## EDITORIAL

Careful research may bring completely unexpected results. That is what happened to the author of **Origins of Mathias and Nicholas Sension Determined**. These two Great Migration colonists were assumed to be closely related, and Mathias had been shown to be from London. The author, Jerome Lafayette Santken, found their baptisms in London, along with the other children of Christopher Sension (under several name variants) and wife Joan. Christopher left a will in 1629, naming his wife and living children. The research then took a surprising turn when the author found the 1617 record of *Christian Santken*, a member of the Dutch Reformed Church in London, whose description exactly matched that of Christopher Sension. Further research expanded the family to include the brother of Christian/Christopher and their probable father, all of whom came to London about 1582, perhaps from Antwerp.

The next article is **The Origins of Thomas<sup>1</sup> Harris and William<sup>1</sup> Harris of Providence, Rhode Island**, by Helen Schatvet Ullmann and L. Randall Harris. The authors show the two Harris brothers were baptized in Northbourne, Kent, and came to New England with two or three sisters in the mid-1630s. The article presents the family of their father, Andrew<sup>A</sup> Harris, and continues with a full treatment of the family of Thomas<sup>1</sup>. Because of his common name, this Thomas Harris has been confused with other men of the same name. This article carefully separates them in an Addendum.

**Luke Mills of Northampton County, Virginia, and Portsmouth, New Hampshire**, married in Portsmouth in 1734 and left descendants. The author, Barbara Vines Little, has reconstructed the earlier generations of this Mills family from extensive research in original Virginia records — and Delaware records since Luke's father moved to Sussex County, Delaware [then in Pennsylvania], about 1744. Many of these records have been microfilmed, but some are available only at the Northampton County courthouse, like the tax and tobacco lists, 1724–1729, which were important in estimating the ages of Luke Mills and his brothers.

**The Identity of Nathan Fish of Groton and Pepperell, Massachusetts**, by Pamela Fish-Tyler, shows how convoluted genealogy can become. The author demonstrates that Nathan was born in Groton in 1730, the illegitimate child of an older Nathan Fish and Lydia Bennett. Lydia had three other illegitimate children (one of whom was Nathan's twin brother), all before she married in 1737 James *Fisk*. The similarity of the names Fish and Fisk led to the twin boys being known sometimes as Fish, sometimes as Fisk.

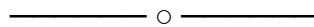
The 1897 Fairbanks genealogy gave “Miss Abigail Cobb” (no dates, places, or parents) as the wife of Ebenezer<sup>7</sup> Fairbank. This sparse information was the basis of Patricia Sezna Haggerty's article, **Abigail Cobb, Wife of Ebenezer<sup>7</sup> Fairbank, and Daughter of Ebenezer<sup>2</sup> (Stephen<sup>1</sup>) Cobb of Cheshire County, New Hampshire**. She has included an account of the descendants of Stephen Cobb (say 1710–1754), whom she shows as the immigrant because his ancestry

has not been found, despite extensive research. Coincidentally, the ancestry of Stephen's father-in-law, John Hinds of Bridgewater, Massachusetts, has not been found either. Coincidentally, in two recent issues of the *Register*, men were also treated as immigrants because their ancestry was not found: Sampson<sup>1</sup> Dunbar (1721–1804) in the July 2012 issue, and Thomas<sup>1</sup> Whetten (ca. 1715–1785) in the October 2012 issue.

In **The Two Elizabeth<sup>3</sup> Daniels of Medfield, Massachusetts**, by Austin W. Spencer, two first cousins named Elizabeth Daniel (sometimes Daniels), born in 1679 and 1681 in Medfield, have both been identified as the Elizabeth Daniel who married there in 1705, Joseph Mason. The author cites a Boston deed that proves which one was Mrs. Mason. He then shows that the other Elizabeth probably was the one who married in Newton in 1697, Samuel More — and that the Elizabeth Daniel who married in Reading in 1701, John McIntire, was probably unrelated.

**The Estate of Martha Harris and Early Bacon Families of Eastern Connecticut**, concludes with the author, Gale Ion Harris, identifying the Bacon heirs named in the 1798 distribution of the estate of their aunt, Martha Harris of Plainfield, Connecticut, and tracing the children of those Bacon heirs in New England and upstate New York.

In Part 3 of **The Earliest Shermans of Dedham, Essex, and Their Wives**, author Michael Johnson Wood presents accounts of the rest of the descendants of Henry Sherman the Younger. Samuel<sup>1</sup> Sherman of Ipswich and Boston and his children and grandchildren are treated here in detail because there has been no previous published account of them. Since the Sherman family was from East Anglia, it is not surprising to see Sherman descendants in England marrying spouses whose families had New England connections.



The *Register* depends on many people, especially associate editor **Helen Ullmann**, whose role is essential. She reviews all submissions and helps with editing all drafts of *Register* articles — and often does further research. I couldn't get along without her.

Helen and I rely on the *Register's* consulting editors: **Jerry Anderson, Bob Anderson, Cherry Bamberg, Drew Bartley, Chris Child, David Dearborn, David Greene, Charles Hansen, Gale Harris, David Lambert, Michael Leclerc, Gary Roberts, George Sanborn, and Cliff Stott.**

Colleagues at NEHGS are always supportive in various ways. **Julie Otto** produces the excellent indexes to the *Register* and *American Ancestors Journal*. For their help with specific articles, I thank **John Brayton, Eric Grundset, Fred Hart, Roger Joslyn, and Andy Pierce.**

We continue to be grateful to **Ruth Bishop** for her thoughtful and generous endowment of the *Register*.

— Henry B. Hoff

## ORIGINS OF MATHIAS AND NICHOLAS SENSION DETERMINED

*Jerome Lafayette Santken\**

There have been many attempts over the past 125 years to identify the parents and place of birth of the immigrants Mathias Sension of Dorchester, Massachusetts, Wethersfield, Windsor, and Norwalk, Connecticut, and Nicholas Sension of Windsor. No suggestions for years of birth or the origins of the immigrants were offered when Orline St. John Alexander published her genealogy of the family in 1907.<sup>[1]</sup> However, her research provided a valuable guide for this author's initial research.

Over the last forty years, two genealogists, Robert Leigh Ward and Douglas Richardson, have located records in England that almost certainly pertain to Mathias, including his marriage and the baptisms of his first three children.

In 1977 Robert Leigh Ward published records for two men named "Mathias Sension" of London.<sup>[2]</sup> One was a shoemaker of St. Botolph Bishopsgate, with wife Sarah; the other was a chandler of St. Nicholas Cole Abbey, with wife Mary and sons Thomas and Marke baptized in 1631 and 1633. Also in St. Nicholas Cole Abbey was a "James Sension," chandler, who with wife Anne had nine children baptized between 1636 and 1652. Ward argued that the second Mathias, of St. Nicholas Cole Abbey, was a much stronger candidate for the immigrant, although he admitted that the proof was not complete. He also suggested that James and Mathias might be brothers, and, based on a reference in the 1669 will of the immigrant Mathias to "my dearly beloved brother and sister Hoit," revealed a clue to the identity of the wife of Mathias.

In 1995, in his extended study of the Tinker and Merwin families, Douglas Richardson published the 1627 marriage of "Mathias Sension" and Mary Tinker, as well as the baptism of their son Matthias, in New Windsor, Berkshire, in 1628. In addition, Richardson demonstrated that this Mary Tinker had a younger sister Rhoda, who married Thomas Hobbs in 1631 in New Windsor. Richardson argued that she came to New England, married John Taylor and then Walter Hoyt, which tied in nicely with the clue set forth by Ward.<sup>[3]</sup>

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\* The author wishes to thank Robert Charles Anderson, FASG, Robert Leigh Ward, Douglas Richardson, Dr. John McEwan, Dr. Karl Peder Pedersen, and the staff of the Dutch Reformed Church, London (Austin Friars), for their assistance in various ways — and Suzanne St. John for her research, especially for locating the 1629 will of the father of Mathias and Nicholas Sension.

<sup>1</sup> Orline St. John Alexander, *The St. John Genealogy: Descendants of Matthias St. John of Dorchester, Massachusetts, 1634, of Windsor, Connecticut, 1640, of Wethersfield, Connecticut, 1643–45, and Norwalk Connecticut, 1650* (New York: Grafton Press, 1907), 3.

<sup>2</sup> Robert Leigh Ward, "Two Contemporaries Named Mathias Sension," *The American Genealogist* 53 (1977):241–43.

<sup>3</sup> Douglas Richardson, "The English Ancestry of the Merwin and Tinker Families of New England, Part Two: John Tinker of Boston and Lancaster, Massachusetts, and Windsor and New London, Connecticut," *Register* 149 (1995):401–29, at 410–13.

Even if we accept these records of a Mathias Sension in New Windsor and London as pertaining to the New England immigrant, we still know nothing of his parentage. As noted above, Orlin St. John Alexander did not even suggest a year of birth for Mathias. It should be said that in 2009 Robert Charles Anderson proposed that the immigrant was born “by about 1602,”<sup>[4]</sup> based solely on the criterion that most men of that time and place were in their mid-twenties when they married.

### MATHIAS SENSION IN NEW ENGLAND

Mathias Sension arrived in New England in late 1633 or early 1634. He and his family were still in England on 10 June 1633, when their third son was baptized in London. The family (or at least Mathias) was in New England by 3 September 1634, when “Matthias Sension” was admitted a freeman of Massachusetts Bay Colony.<sup>[5]</sup>

Mathias settled first in Dorchester, Massachusetts, but by 1638 had moved to the new settlement of Windsor, Connecticut. His mother-in-law, Mary (Merwin) (Tinker) Collins, also lived in Windsor,<sup>[6]</sup> which supports the identification of the immigrant with the Mathias Sension who married Mary Tinker in New Windsor, Berkshire.

The will of Mathias mentions sons Matthias, Mark, Samuel, and James. The two oldest, Matthias and Mark, were baptized in England, and provide part of the evidence for identifying their father. Samuel and James were younger sons, whose unrecorded births took place in New England in one or another of the towns where the family lived.

### NICHOLAS SENSION

Nicholas Sension’s age was recorded as 13 on the passenger list when he sailed for New England in 1635 on the *Elizabeth and Ann*.<sup>[7]</sup> Nicholas became a wealthy man, but was of questionable moral character in the eyes of the community, as he was brought up on sodomy charges for advances against boys. His case is one of the first known sodomy cases in the colonies.<sup>[8]</sup> Apparently in Windsor he married a woman named Isabel, but they are not known to have had

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<sup>4</sup> Robert Charles Anderson, *The Great Migration: Immigrants to New England, 1634–1635, Volume VI, R–S* (Boston: NEHGS, 2009), 228–34, at 231.

<sup>5</sup> Nathaniel B. Shurtleff, ed., *Records of the Governor and Company of the Massachusetts Bay in New England, 1628–1686*, 5 vols. in 6 (Boston: W. White, 1853–54), 1:370.

<sup>6</sup> Richardson, “Merwin and Tinker Families” [npte 3], *Register* 149:408–09.

<sup>7</sup> John Camden Hotten, *The Original Lists of Persons of Quality . . .* (London: Chatto and Windus, 1874; repr.: Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1986), 58.

<sup>8</sup> Anderson, *Great Migration: 1634–1635, Volume VI, R–S* [note 4], 236–41; Sodomy Case: Nicholas Sension; Connecticut, May 22, 1677, *Outhistory.org*, author unknown.



children. Mathias and Nicholas appear to have been contemporaries, and have been assumed to have been closely related.<sup>[9]</sup>

Summing up, there were three men named Sension who appear to have been closely related: *Mathias*, chandler of St. Nicholas Cole Abbey, London, later of Windsor, Connecticut; *James*, also chandler of St. Nicholas Cole Abbey; and *Nicholas*, of Windsor.

### **CHRISTOPHER ST. JOHN/SAYNT JOHN/SANGINS AND HIS FAMILY**

During my research I had compiled a list of roughly 110 variant spellings of the surname Sension or St. John, based on phonetics and entries found in genealogical and historical publications. Using this list, I came across the following entries under the name Christopher St. John or Saynt John or Sangins, as well as other spellings in the parish register for St. Olave Silver Street, London.<sup>[10]</sup>

#### **Baptisms**

Mathias, sonne of Christopher Sangins, 9 Aug[ust] [1601]  
 Joane Sangins, daughter of Christofer Sangins, February 27 [1602/3]  
 Sarah daughter of Xstofer Sangins Octob[er] 28 [1604]  
 Katerine daughter of Christofer Sangins eodem [3 November 1605]  
 Roger sonne of Christofer Sangins November 5 [1607]  
 James sonne of Christofer Sangins eodem [30 October 1608]  
 Sara the daughter of Christopher Sangyne December [worn] [1609]  
 Thomas sonne of Christopher Sengeney Maye 30 [1613]  
 Nicholas sonne of Xstofer St. John January 1 [1617/8]

#### **Burials**

Sarah daughter of Christopher Sangins Decemb[er] 3 [1604]  
 Jane daughter of Xpofe Sangins buried 29 August [1603]  
 Katheryn daughter to Christofer Saynt John [August 23 1610]  
 A chrisone [*sic*] unbaptized of Christopher Sangins January 17 [1610/1]  
 Elizabeth daughter of Christofer St. John March 11 [1616/7]  
 Humfrey sonne to Christopher Zanchion & Joane buried July the 8<sup>th</sup> 1625  
 Sara daughter to Christofer Zanchion & Joane buried July the 19<sup>th</sup> 1625  
 Christofer Sension buried June the 19<sup>th</sup> 1629

These baptisms show that Mathias, James, and Nicholas identified above were brothers. The baptismal dates for Mathias and Nicholas fall within the estimates

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<sup>9</sup> Anderson, *Great Migration: 1634–1635, Volume VI, R–S* [note 4], 236 (wife), 241–42 (no children), 232, 236 (closely related).

<sup>10</sup> London Metropolitan Archives, St. Olave Silver Street, composite register of baptisms 1562–1770, marriages 1562–1680, burials 1561–1770 (P69/OLA3/A/001/MS06534), included in “London, England, Baptisms, Marriages and Burials, 1538–1812,” database online at *Ancestry.com*.

found in colonial records. Also, Mathias had a son named Thomas, presumably named after his younger brother Thomas.<sup>[11]</sup>

Other relevant London parish register entries were found. Water [Walter] the son of Mathias Sension and Sara his wife [was] baptized 19 November 1643 at St. Leonard Shoreditch, Middlesex.<sup>[12]</sup> This date is far removed from the appearance of the first colonial records in 1633–34 of Mathias the Chandler of St. Nicholas Cole Abbey. If there were only one Mathias St. John, he would have had to make several transatlantic trips to facilitate the growth of this English family, which is a highly unlikely scenario. Moreover, St. Leonard Shoreditch is adjacent to the London parish of St. Botolph Bishopsgate, where Robert Leigh Ward found the baptismal records for three children of “Matthias Sension, shoemaker,” and his wife Sarah.<sup>[13]</sup> By coincidence, Mathias the shoemaker was buried at St. Leonard Shoreditch in December 1669, while Mathias the immigrant died in Norwalk, Connecticut, in or before January 1669/70, when an inventory of his estate was taken.<sup>[14]</sup>

The marriage record for James “Sension” was found in the parish register of St. Margaret Moses, London, which is the parish immediately to the north of St. Nicholas Cole Abbey.<sup>[15]</sup>

James Sension of St. Nicholas Cole abby chandler and Anne Wiggins of our parish virgo were marryed Bannes having bine publyshed three severall holy dayes, Novemb[e]r the iiijth [fourth] 1636.

Records besides parish registers were also discovered online. “Joan Senchion,” the widow of Christopher, was in the St. Olave Silver Street rent records on 21 May 1638.<sup>[16]</sup> She was a midwife from 1627 to 1653, according to the following sketch of her career:<sup>[17]</sup>

Joan Sension: A widow who was licensed in 1627. She was still active at the visitation of 1637. She was an associate of Anne Clifton, senior midwife. In 1638, as head

<sup>11</sup> Anderson, *Great Migration: 1634–1635, Volume VI, R–S* [note 4], 231.

<sup>12</sup> London Metropolitan Archives, St. Leonard Shoreditch, register of baptisms and marriages, 1558–1653 (P91/LEN/A/001/MS07493), and composite register of baptisms 1659–1676, marriages 1662–1677, burials 1657/8–1674 (P91/LEN/A/002/MS07494, Item 002), included in “London, England, Baptisms, Marriages and Burials, 1538–1812,” database online at *Ancestry.com*.

<sup>13</sup> Ward, “Two Contemporaries Named Mathias Sension” [note 2], *The American Genealogist* 53:241–43.

<sup>14</sup> Donald Lines Jacobus, *History and Genealogy of the Families of Old Fairfield*, 3 vols. (Fairfield, Conn.: Eunice Dennie Burr Chapter, DAR, 1930–32; vol. 1–2 repr. in 3 vols., Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1976), 1:513.

<sup>15</sup> London Metropolitan Archives, St. Margaret Moses, register of marriages 1558–1665 and burials 1558–1812 (P69/MGT2/A/002/MS03480), included in “London, England, Baptisms, Marriages and Burials, 1538–1812,” database online at *Ancestry.com*.

<sup>16</sup> “Inhabitants of London in 1638: St. Olave, Silver Street,” pp. 169–70, online at <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/report.aspx?compid=32060>, accessed 16 May 2012.

<sup>17</sup> Doreen Evenden, *The Midwives of Seventeenth-Century London* (Cambridge, England: Cambridge University Press, 2000), 157.

of her own household, she paid a rent in the upper half of parish rents. Parish records of 1640–41, 1652–53 refer to midwife Sension as she carried out deliveries of parish women.

“Joane Sensions” was also mentioned as participating in a surgical observation at Surgeon’s Hall on Mugwell Street (which intersects Silver Street).<sup>[18]</sup>

As “Christopher Zanshone,” Joan’s husband Christopher made a nuncupative will two days before his death, as follows:<sup>[19]</sup>

In the name of God amen, memorandum, that on or about the Seventeenth day of June anno dmi 1629, Christofer Zanshone of the parish of St. Olaves in Silver Street London, Buttonmaker, being sicke in body but in perfect mind and memorie with an intent to make his Last will and testament ~~by words of man~~ nuncupative, uttered and spake theis words or the verie same in effect following viz I give to my four sonnes Mathias, James, Thomas, and Nicholas, ~~tenne~~ twenty shillings a peece. The rest of his goods he gave unto Jone his wife and made her his full Executor; These words or ye verie like in effect he uttered and spake (beinge in perfect mind and memorie in ye presence and hearing of Oliver Roberts pewterer and Thomas Slacke whitebaker and Divers other credible witnesses.//

Oliver Roberts

Thomas Slacke

Many of the problems researching in databases such as *Ancestry.com* revolve around transcription errors and indexing. For example, the will of “Christofer Zanshone” was listed as “Shrimpton Zankoth,” and there is no search function in existence that would connect these two names. Unfortunately, many records are “missing” within databases due to erroneous transcriptions (even when the handwriting is clear). Any other potentially relevant entries for Sangins, Sensions, Sengenens, Saynt John, St. Johns, etc. discovered for this time period in those London parish registers available on *Ancestry.com* are mentioned in the Genealogical Summary below. In addition, the poor condition of some registers was a problem.

### CHRISTOPHER WAS PREVIOUSLY CHRISTIAN SANTKEN

Not surprisingly, the family lore among the descendants of Mathias Sension was that the family was descended from one of the armigerous St. John families of England or Wales, perhaps of Norman descent. Indeed, research attempting to connect Christopher to a cadet line of St. Johns in Wales had been proceeding while this article was in process.

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<sup>18</sup> John Carey, ed., *Eyewitnesses to Science* (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1997), 21.

<sup>19</sup> London Metropolitan Archives and Guildhall Library, Manuscripts Section, Clerkenwell, London; Reference Number MS 9052/7, transcribed by Clifford L. Stott, CG, AG, FASG. The will was proved 15 September 1629. It is not unusual for nuncupative wills to contain inconsistent pronouns.

However, further searching online led to the unexpected and exciting discovery in the published records of the Dutch Reformed Church of London (Austin Friars) of the following 1617 record of “Christian Santken,”<sup>[20]</sup> who was clearly identical to our Christopher St. John:

Strangers. The Names of Handycraftmen strangers, members of the Dutch Congregation in London, with their wyues [wives], children, servants, and their continuance here, as neere could be gathered.

In Silverstreet, Christian Santken, his wife English, five children, buttonmaker, [dwelt here] 36 Years.

The match of this 1617 record with the family of Christopher St. John is indisputable. The name Christian is consistent with Christopher, they both lived on Silver Street, they both had five children living that year, and Christian was a buttonmaker as was Christopher, according to his 1629 will.

“Santken” is similar to the variant spellings I had already found and designed a DNA website for.<sup>[21]</sup> This is substantiated by the appearance of several baptismal records in the Dutch Church of London, with surnames Santgen, Santgens, Santkens, and Sainctkens. It becomes obvious that these surnames were phonetically consistent with the variants that appeared for Christopher’s family in the registers of St. Olave Silver Street and elsewhere.

A Thomas Santkens or Saitkens also appeared in the same 1617 record as a member of the Dutch congregation and a Handycraftman,<sup>[22]</sup> like Christian. His profession is given as “thridtwister” (threadtwister) and he had “dwelt here” 34 years. Could the two be brothers? They had identical surnames and had lived in London for approximately the same number of years. The 1617 record gives Thomas’s “fatherland” as “Andwerp (Amsterdam),” a potentially valuable clue. Thomas was the father of several children baptized at the Dutch Reformed Church of London between 1605 and 1626 as Santkens, Sainctkens, Santgens, and Santgen.<sup>[23]</sup> Thomas’s second wife was buried at St. Botolph Aldgate as “Susan Sinsion.”<sup>[24]</sup> These are strikingly similar and in trajectory to the phonetic spellings found for the family of Christian/Christopher.

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<sup>20</sup> R.E.G. Kirk and Ernest F. Kirk, ed., *Returns of Aliens Dwelling in the City and Suburbs of London from the Reign of Henry VIII to that of James I, Part III*, Publications of The Huguenot Society of London, Vol. 10, Part 3, (Aberdeen: University Press, 1907), 174 (heading), 178 (Christian Santken).

<sup>21</sup> One of the variant spellings was “Söhnchen,” (pronounced Zounckylen), a family that arrived in Pennsylvania from Prussia in the nineteenth century, and changed the spelling of their name to “Sension.”

<sup>22</sup> Kirk and Kirk, *Returns of Aliens, Part III* [note 20], 141, 155.

<sup>23</sup> William John Charles Moens, ed., *The Marriage, Baptismal, and Burial Registers, 1571–1874, of the Dutch Reformed Church, Austin Friars, London* (Lymington, Hampshire: King & Sons, 1884), 65.

<sup>24</sup> London Metropolitan Archives, St. Botolph Aldgate, register of burials, August 1625–1665 (P69/BOT2/A/015/MS09222, Item 2), included in “London, England, Baptisms, Marriages and Burials, 1538–1812,” database online at *Ancestry.com*.

### STRANGERS IN LONDON

In the introduction to the published records of the Dutch Reformed Church of London, the editor, Mr. Moens, gives the readers a keen insight into the religious upheaval throughout Europe in the late sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries and the settlement in London of many “Strangers” from Continental Europe during this period. He points out that these Strangers were not necessarily welcomed in England. Many of them attempted to assimilate through naturalization or endenization (a limited but less expensive form of naturalization), especially if they wanted to buy real estate. Some, like Christian Santken (who might not have been able to afford either),<sup>[25]</sup> married an English wife, had their children baptized in English churches, and gradually Anglicized the spelling of their name. Thomas and Susanna have been found in the records of St. Botolph Aldgate after 1617 primarily as “Sension,” and the children of their son Joanes/John were known only as Sension.

In 1617 the Lord Mayor and Aldermen of London ordered an enumeration of the Strangers within the city, with the names of their wives, children, and servants, where they dwelt, what trade they used, and how long they had been resident in the country.<sup>[26]</sup> The result was the valuable 1617 list on which Christian Santken and Thomas Santken were found. Thomas also appeared in another enumeration ordered by King James in 1618<sup>[27]</sup> as:

Thomas Sencicus, threadtwister, borne in Antwerp, a dweller heer 35 years, a Protestant, and acknowledgth the Kings Majesty of England to bee his soveraigne.

Two more records confirm that Christian was a Stranger beyond 1617. In 1621 he was recorded as “Christopher Sensom,” and in 1625 as “Christopher Sensum,” both times as a Stranger in “St. Alphage and St. Olaves.”<sup>[28]</sup>

### AN EARLIER GENERATION IN LONDON

A careful review of the lists in *Returns of Aliens* revealed a “Mathew Samkyns, Duch, Taylor,” living in Portsoken Ward in 1583,<sup>[29]</sup> the ward in which Thomas was living in 1617. The year 1583 is consistent with how long both Christian and Thomas reported in 1617 they had resided in London. Christian named his oldest son Mathias, a Dutch form of Matthew. There are no other records of the Dutch Church of London or in the subsidy rolls given in *Returns of Aliens* that come close to “Santken,” and those that might qualify are easily

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<sup>25</sup> I could not find either Christian or Thomas on any published list of naturalizations and denizations.

<sup>26</sup> Moens, *Marriage, Baptismal, and Burial Registers* [note 23], xxxi.

<sup>27</sup> Kirk and Kirk, *Returns of Aliens, Part III* [note 20], 210.

<sup>28</sup> *Ibid.*, 291, 242. The parish of St. Alphage was adjacent to St. Olave Silver Street.

<sup>29</sup> R.E.G. Kirk and Ernest F. Kirk, ed., *Returns of Aliens Dwelling in the City and Suburbs of London from the Reign of Henry VIII to that of James I, Part II*, Publications of The Huguenot Society of London, Vol. 10, Part 2 (Aberdeen: University Press, 1902), 329.

accounted for in the records. It seems very likely that Mathew Samkyns was correctly Mathew *Santkyns*. From these we conclude that this Mathew was the father of Christian and Thomas.

### SILVER STREET

As noted above, Christian Santken and his family lived on Silver Street in London. It can be said that life on Silver Street at the turn of the seventeenth century was colorful. St. Olaves Silver Street was one of the smallest parishes in London, and was also home to one of the most notable playwrights of any time, William Shakespeare. In his book *The Lodger Shakespeare: His Life on Silver Street*,<sup>[30]</sup> author Charles Nicholl recreates the landscape at that time. It was filled with a mixture of inhabitants: seafarers, pirates, musicians, playwrights, actors, gentry, and Strangers. According to Charles Nicholl, Shakespeare also worshipped at St. Olaves Silver Street primarily because church attendance was compulsory at that time, punishable by fine or jail. Nicholl suggests that Shakespeare's works were influenced by the xenophobic attitudes of some of the residents of Silver Street.

### DNA

Now that we have positively identified the origins of this family by traditional genealogical methods, we turn to DNA testing. I am the Project Administrator for The St. John Family DNA Project at FTDNA (FamilyTreeDNA), as well as for the Sension Family Project, which was set up as a database to include persons with variant spellings. Back in 2004 I took the Y-DNA test for my paternal DNA. When I received my results, I turned to a leading geneticist, Dr. John McEwan, to have my DNA analyzed and hopefully placed into some sort of geographical location. Dr. McEwan at that time was one of the few who were analyzing results and placing them into clusters. I expected to be placed into a British Isles category (England, Ireland, Scotland, and Wales). Instead, I was quite surprised to be placed in the "Frisian" category, which would include people from Friesland (the northernmost province of the Netherlands) and up along the coast of the North Sea into Germany and Denmark. Granted, the DNA tests imply deep ancestral ties (over two thousand years ago), so I did not pay much attention at the time. Now, due to the advancements of the science, it is not likely that my results are consistent with the SNP (single nucleotide polymorphism) that carries the Frisian marker, but my largest grouping of matches in the database are with those of Belgium and the Netherlands. Since The St. John Family DNA Project contains test results from armigerous St. John families of England and Wales, we can say definitively that none of them were related to our Santken family.

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<sup>30</sup> Charles Nicholl, *The Lodger Shakespeare: His Life on Silver Street* (New York: Penguin Books, 2007), *passim*.

### GENEALOGICAL SUMMARY

**1. MATHIAS<sup>B</sup> SANTKEN,**<sup>[31]</sup> was born say 1550, perhaps in Antwerp, and moved to London about 1582. He appeared in London in 1583 as “Mathew Samkyns,” a Dutch tailor, living in Portsoken Ward, where Thomas Santken was living in 1617.

Children of Mathias<sup>B</sup> Santken, all born probably in Antwerp, order uncertain:

2. i. CHRISTIAN<sup>A</sup> SANTKEN, b. say 1575; m. JOAN \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ii. THOMAS SANTKEN, b. say 1577; m. (1) CATHERINE BEELAERTS; (2) SUSANNA VAN PAENE.
- iii. ?LIJNKEN SANTKEN, m. (1) DIERICK JANSZ.; (2) as widow of Dierick Jansz, Dutch Reformed Church, London, 27 Aug. 1605, JEREMIAS VAN DER ELST, from London.<sup>[32]</sup>

**2. CHRISTIAN<sup>A</sup> SANTKEN** was born say 1575, probably in Antwerp, and came to London as a child about 1582. He married by 1601 **JOAN** \_\_\_\_\_, who was born in England. As “Christopher Sension” he was buried at St. Olave Silver Street, London, on 19 June 1629. His widow Joan was living as late as 1652–53 when she was still mentioned in parish records as a midwife.

Children of Christian<sup>A</sup> and Joan (\_\_\_\_\_) Santken; all baptisms and burials at St. Olave Silver Street, London (see above for exact spelling of each entry):

- i. MATHIAS<sup>1</sup> SANTKEN (later Sension), bp. 9 Aug. 1601; m. New Windsor, Berkshire, in 1627, MARY TINKER. He emigrated to New England in late 1633 or early 1634, settling in Dorchester, then Windsor, and then Norwalk.<sup>[33]</sup> They had six children and probably a seventh.
- ii. JOANE SANTKEN, bp. 27 Feb. 1602[3]; bur. 29 Aug. 1603.
- iii. SARAH SANTKEN, bp. 28 Oct. 1604; bur. 3 Dec. 1604.
- iv. KATHERINE SANTKEN, bp. 3 Nov. 1605; bur. 3 Aug. 1610.
- v. ROGER SANTKEN, bp. 5 Nov. 1607; d. before 17 June 1629, when he was not mentioned in his father’s will.
- vi. JAMES SANTKEN, bp. 30 Oct. 1608; m. (as Sension) St. Margaret Moses, London, 4 Nov. 1635, ANNE WIGGENS. They resided in the parish of St. Nicholas Cole Abbey, London, and had nine children.<sup>[34]</sup>
- vii. SARAH SANTKEN, bp. [blank] Dec. 1609; bur. 19 July 1625.
- viii. Child (“chrisome”) SANTKEN, bur. 17 Jan. 1610[1].
- ix. THOMAS SANTKEN, bp. 30 May 1613; d. after 17 June 1629, when he was mentioned in his father’s will.
- x. ELIZABETH SANTKEN, bur. 11 March 1616[7].

<sup>31</sup> The Dutch pronunciation of his first name is “MAHRtyas,” as compared to the English pronunciation.

<sup>32</sup> Moens, *Marriage, Baptismal, and Burial Registers* [note 23], 105, 132.

<sup>33</sup> Anderson, *Great Migration: 1634–1635, Volume VI, R–S* [note 4], 228–34.

<sup>34</sup> Ward, “Two Contemporaries Named Mathias Sension” [note 2], *The American Genealogist* 51:241–43.

- xi. NICHOLAS<sup>1</sup> SANTKEN (later Sension), bp. 1 Jan. 1617[/8]; m. Windsor, Conn., 12 June 1645, ISABEL \_\_\_\_\_; no children.<sup>[35]</sup> In 1635, when Nicholas sailed for New England, his age was given as 13, whereas the baptismal record shows that he was actually over 17 at the time. Examination of a microfilm copy of the original of the 1635 London port book shows that “13” is the correct reading, but perhaps “18” was intended, and a clerical error was made.
- xii. HUMPHREY SANTKEN, bur. 8 July 1625.

**3. THOMAS SANTKEN** was born say 1577 in Antwerp, according to the 1617 and 1618 enumerations and the records of both his marriages, and came to London as a child about 1582. He married first at the Dutch Reformed Church, London, 15 January 1605, **CATHERINE BEELAERTS**, from [probably born in] Antwerp.<sup>[36]</sup> She died between November 1605, when her son Jeronymus was baptized, and 29 March 1608, when Thomas married second at the Dutch Reformed Church, London, **SUSANNA VAN PAENE**, from [probably born in] Maidstone, Kent.<sup>[37]</sup> As “Susan Sension,” she was buried at St. Botolph Aldgate, London, 6 August 1631.

Child of Thomas and Catherine (Beelaerts) Santken:<sup>[38]</sup>

- i. JERONYMUS SANTKEN (“SANTKENS”), bp. Dutch Reformed Church, London, 24 Nov. 1605.

Children of Thomas and Susanna (Van Paene) Santken, all but two children (vii and viii) baptized at the Dutch Reformed Church, London:<sup>[39]</sup>

- ii. JOANES SANTKEN (“SAINCTKENS”), bp. 17 April 1609; m. by 1636 ELIZABETH \_\_\_\_\_.

Children of Joanes and Elizabeth (\_\_\_\_\_) Santken, all baptized at St. Botolph Aldgate, father listed as John Sension or Sencion:

1. *Mary Santken* (“Sension”), bp. 29 Jan. 1636.
2. *Nathaniel Santken* (“Sension”), bp. 5 Aug. 1638.
3. *Jacob Santken* (“Sencion”), bp. 6 Dec. 1640; bur. St. Botolph Aldgate, 21 Dec. 1640.
4. *Elizabeth Santken* (“Sension”), bp. 13 Feb. 1641, d. young.
5. *Elizabeth Santken* (“Sention”), bp. 24 Feb. 1645.

- iii. ABRAHAM SANTKEN (“SANTGENS”), bp. 14 Oct. 1610; bur. St. Botolph Aldgate 8 April 1616.

- iv. JACOB SANTKEN (“SANTKENS”), bp. 13 April 1612; m. St. Dunstan and All Saints, Stepney, Middlesex, 4 July 1643, ELIZABETH BARTLETT.<sup>[40]</sup>

<sup>35</sup> Anderson, *Great Migration: 1634–1635, Volume VI, R–S* [note 4], 236.

<sup>36</sup> Moens, *Marriage, Baptismal, and Burial Registers* [note 23], 132. The particle “van” implies born in the named place, but it could imply only prior residence.

<sup>37</sup> *Ibid.*, 132.

<sup>38</sup> *Ibid.*, 65.

<sup>39</sup> *Ibid.*, all baptisms at 65, all marriages at 132. One might expect that Mathias Sension, shoemaker, of St. Botolph Bishopsgate, who had children baptized 1629–1633 (see note 2 and related text), would have been the son of Thomas Santken. While it is not impossible, no evidence of this has been found.



- v. SUSANNA SANTKEN (“SANTKENS”), bp. 19 June 1614.
- vi. MARIA SANTKEN (“SANTGEN”), bp. 4 May 1617.
- vii. Son SANTKEN (“chrisonne sonne to Thomas Sencions of Crofftey Alley, silk-weaver”), bur. St. Botolph Aldgate 2 Jan. [1618 or 1619].
- viii. THOMAS SANTKEN (“SENCIONS”), bp. St. Botolph Aldgate 5 Nov. 1620; bur. there 7 Nov. 1620.
- ix. LUCAS SANTKEN (“SANTGEN”), bp. 16 Dec. 1621.
- x. PETRUS SANTKEN (SANTKENS”), bp. 20 Aug. 1626.

*Jerome Lafayette Santken (JLSinjin12@gmail.com) resides in New York City. He is a descendant of Mathias<sup>1</sup> Sension.*

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<sup>40</sup> London Metropolitan Archives, St. Dunstan and All Saints, Stepney, register of marriages, October 1631/2–September 1686 (P93/DUN/266), included in “London, England, Baptisms, Marriages and Burials, 1538–1812,” database online at *Ancestry.com*.

# THE ORIGINS OF THOMAS<sup>1</sup> HARRIS AND WILLIAM<sup>1</sup> HARRIS OF PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

*Helen Schatvet Ullmann and L. Randall Harris\**

While there are several accounts of Thomas Harris of Providence, Rhode Island and some of his descendants in print, none is thoroughly documented and most contain questionable “facts” that link him with other early Thomas Harrises in New England.<sup>[1]</sup> The origins of Thomas and his brother, the controversial William Harris, also of Rhode Island and their known sisters Parnell and Ann Harris were unknown until recently. Some longstanding accounts claimed they came from Kent in Old England, from the town or parish of Deal.<sup>[2]</sup> In fact, Roger Williams described William Harris as “an impudent morris-dancer in Kent.”<sup>[3]</sup>

Knowing that Thomas, William, Parnell, and Ann Harris were siblings, a recent search of records of parishes near Deal yielded results in Northbourne, Kent. They were children of Andrew and Jane (Bagley) Harris.<sup>[4]</sup> Northbourne is about three miles inland from Deal.

**1. ANDREW<sup>A</sup> HARRIS**, a wheelwright of Northbourne, died between 24 May 1616, when he made his will, and 2 November 1616, when it was proved. He married in Northbourne 2 February 1603/[4], **JANE BAGLEY**.<sup>[5]</sup> She married second in Northbourne 29 October 1618, James Grigges, who was buried 7 March 1618/9. Jane married third in Northbourne 29 September 1619, James Sayer.

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\*L. Randall Harris has done extensive research of the Harris family in Kent; the authors combined their New England research.

<sup>1</sup> Several Thomas Harrises lived as adults in New England prior to 1650. See the Addendum.

<sup>2</sup> Mary Shaw Atwood, *Some of the Maine Descendants of Thomas Harris of Providence, R. I.* (Abington, Mass.: the author, 1917), 14; Mrs. Thomas H. Ham, *A Genealogy of the Descendants of Nicholas Harris* (Albany, N.Y.: C.I.F. Ham, 1904), 3, 49. This book follows the line of Nicholas<sup>5</sup> Harris (*Jedediah<sup>4</sup>, Nicholas<sup>3</sup>, Thomas<sup>2-1</sup>*), but Mrs. Ham was not aware of all of Thomas’s children and of information in other compilations. However, her source of the information that the Harrises came from Deal is the “written record of Nicholas Harris<sup>5</sup>, M.D.,” whose father Jedediah probably heard about the family origins from his grandfather, Thomas<sup>2</sup>.

<sup>3</sup> John Garrett, *Roger Williams: Witness Beyond Christendom, 1603–1683* (London: Macmillan, 1970), 88, quoted from Perry Miller, ed., 7 vols., *The Complete Writings of Roger Williams*, (New York: Russell and Russell, 1963), 6:397–98.

<sup>4</sup> Northbourne Composite Parish Register, 1586–1718, at Canterbury Cathedral Archives, Canterbury, Kent, U3/74/1/1; Archdeacons’ Transcripts, 1563–1812, DCa/BT/136; and Bishops’ Transcripts, 1603–1812, DCb/BTa/173, all read by Diane Thomas of Acis Genealogical Research in Tunbridge Wells, Kent. Microfilms are available from the Family History Library, as follows: composite parish register [FHL 2,354,573 Items 8–14], Archdeacons’ Transcripts [FHL 1,752,058 Item 5], and Bishop’s Transcripts [FHL 1,736,929 Item 1]. A transcription of the parish register and Archdeacons’ Transcripts for 1563–1664 is on FHL 1,544,553 Item 8.

<sup>5</sup> Her name was at first read as “Bayley,” but several readers agreed it was “Bagley.”

Without mentioning his five small children, who would have been ages 3 to 11, Andrew left everything to his wife Jane, including the future prospects of a half share in a joint venture made with Mathew Heely.<sup>[6]</sup>

Andrew's will was presented in the Archdeaconry Court of Canterbury:

May 24th 1616 In the name of god Amen I Andrew Harris of the parrish of Norborne in the County of Kent whelewrighte beinge sicke in bodye but well and perfecte in mynd doe ordeyne this my last will and testament in mann[e]r and forme as followeth, Imprimis I doe firste of all com[m]end my soule to almighty god my Creator and redeemer whoe gave yt and my worldlye good[e]s as followeth, I do here: by make and Constitute in this my laste will Jane Harris my wyffe my lawfull executrix gyvinge and bequeathinge unto her all my goodes moveable and ymmoveable as namely x<sup>li</sup> current money in England nowe in the hand[e]s of Mathew heelye together with the proffytt or gayne that the sayd Mathew shall make of the same x<sup>li</sup> soe so[o]ne as he shall convenientlye make returne of the same and if by casualtye or misfortune the sayd Mathew or the good[e]s shall miscarrye either in parte or in whole then my will ys that Jane my wyffe shall equally beare her parte in the losse, alsoe I give unto Jane my wyffe one horse couler baye price 37<sup>s</sup> now in the hand[e]s of Mathew heelye so that my wife paye for the passage of the horse The rest of my worldlye good[e]s in the possession of Jane my wyffe I freely give and bequeathe unto her to dispose of at her will and pleasure and to this my laste will and testament I have sett my marke the day and yeare above written.

Witnesses to this my will

Robert Sutton mi[ni]ster of Balymondes

Charles Bixbie churchwarden,

Frances danyer[?]

The marke of Mathew heelye

the marke of Nicholas Ch\_\_\_ [perhaps Church]

The probate clause in Latin states that probate of the last will of Andrew Harris of Norbourne was on the second day of the month of November in the year 1616, and the executrix was Jane Harris.

Children of Andrew<sup>A</sup> and Jane (Bagley) Harris, baptized in Northbourne, Kent:

- i. JANE HARRIS, bp. 23 Dec. 1604. On 21 June 1635, a "Jane Harrice" was admitted to the church in Scituate, Mass. Robert Charles Anderson wrote, "This member of the Scituate church is almost certainly the person of the same name who was a member of Rev. John Lothrop's church in London in 1632; in the records pertaining to that church she is linked with Thomas Harris and William Harris, although no relationship among these three people is stated. No further record for this immigrant has been found in New England."<sup>[7]</sup> William, Thomas and Jane Harris are listed as among those "added to the

<sup>6</sup> Archdeaconry Court of Canterbury, registered wills, 55:335, at the Kent History and Library Centre, Maidstone, Kent, PRC17/55/335, transcribed by Diane Thomas and Jerome E. Anderson. The will is available on microfilm [FHL 0,188,953].

<sup>7</sup> Robert Charles Anderson, *The Great Migration: Immigrants to New England 1634–1635, Volume III, G–H* (Boston: NEHGS, 2003), 225–26, citing *Register* 9 (1855):279.

Church” during a period when John Lothrop and 42 fellow dissenters were committed to prison but were allowed visitors and outside visitation rights.<sup>[8]</sup>

- ii. PARNELL HARRIS, bp. 3 Aug. 1606; d. Providence, R.I., between April 1676 and 4 Aug. 1676;<sup>[9]</sup> m. THOMAS ROBERTS, who d., probably in Providence, in April 1676.<sup>[10]</sup> In late March 1634/5, “Pernel Harris of Bow Parish, London, embarked for New England on the *Hercules* of Sandwich, John Witherley, master.” Parnell had apparently recently returned from London and while there had obtained the required certificate, signed by Jos Leech, Vicar of Bow Parish in London, 19 March 1634.<sup>[11]</sup> St. Mary Le Bow is located very near the Draper’s Hall and Eastcheap, where her brother William had worked as an apprentice. On the passenger list, Parnell is listed just above her stepbrother James Sayers of Northbourne.<sup>[12]</sup>

Her brothers Thomas and William Harris administered Parnell’s estate. According to the inventory of William<sup>1</sup> Harris, taken in Jan. 1681/2, a quarter of the estate of the deceased widow Parnell Roberts belonged to William Harris and another quarter belonged to William “in the right of Anne Harris.”<sup>[13]</sup> The other half of Parnell’s estate presumably went to her other brother, Thomas, and perhaps her sister Jane. This is reflected in a deed from Nicholas<sup>3</sup> Harris (*Thomas*<sup>2-1</sup>), where he deeded 3/5s of three rights of land, one of them drawn in the original right of Christopher Unthank.<sup>[14]</sup> On 1 June 1663, Christopher Unthank acknowledged having about 1658 sold his house, house lot and right in common land to Thomas Roberts.<sup>[15]</sup>

- iii. ANN HARRIS, bp. 29 May 1608. On 6 April 1680, William Harris, captured by pirates enroute to England and enslaved in Barbary, in a letter from “ArJeere” [Algiers] to his wife in R.I., wrote, “Remember my love to all, my Brother and Sister and all my kindered & friends.”<sup>[16]</sup> Thus Ann was apparently living as far as William knew, unless he was referring to his sister Jane.

<sup>8</sup> Champlin Burrage, *The Early English Dissenters, 1550–1641*, 2 vols. (New York: Russell and Russell, 1912), 1:323, 2:297.

<sup>9</sup> Anderson, *The Great Migration: Volume III G–H* [note 7], 226–27, citing *The Early Records of the Town of Providence*, 21 vols. (Providence, R.I.: Snow and Farnham, 1892–1915), 15:150.

<sup>10</sup> Anderson, *Great Migration, 1634–1635, Volume III G–H* [note 7], 226.

<sup>11</sup> “Two Early Passenger Lists,” *Register* 75 (1921):217–26, at 220. See also G. Andrews Moriarty, “Additions and Corrections to Austin’s Genealogical Dictionary of Rhode Island,” *The American Genealogist* 19 (1942):127–35, 221–29; 20 (1943):53–58 et seq., at 20:57.

<sup>12</sup> A James, son of James Sayer, was baptized in Northbourne on 1 November 1612. His father was James Sayer, third husband of Jane (Bagley) (Harris) Grigges, according to unpublished research by Diane Thomas (for whom see note 4). Robert Charles Anderson, *The Great Migration: Immigrants to New England 1634–1635, Volume VI R–S* (Boston: NEHGS, 2009), 191, has no further information on James Sayer[s] in New England.

<sup>13</sup> *Early Records of Providence* [note 9], 6:85, from will book 1:53.

<sup>14</sup> Providence Land Evidence, 8:509; 11:143. The other two rights were drawn in the right of Nicholas’s father and grandfather. See Helen Schatvet Ullmann, “Thomas<sup>2</sup> and Nicholas<sup>3</sup> Harris of Providence, Rhode Island,” online at *AmericanAncestors.org*.

<sup>15</sup> *Early Records of Providence* [note 9], 20:170–71, recorded 26 February 1706/7.

<sup>16</sup> *Harris Papers*, Collections of the Rhode Island Historical Society, 10 (1902):324. See Beth A. Bower, “Captivity with the Barbarous Turks: Seventeenth-Century New Englanders Held Hostage,” *American Ancestors* 13 (Spring 2012):18–24, William is mentioned at 19–20, 22–23.

- iv. WILLIAM<sup>1</sup> HARRIS, bp. 9 Dec. 1610; d. London, England,<sup>[17]</sup> between 2 Aug. 1681 and 3 Dec. 1681;<sup>[18]</sup> m., probably ca. 1634, SUSAN HYDE, bp. St. Mary Aldermanbury, London, 20 March 1609/10, d. after 6 Dec. 1681, daughter of John and Mary (Bonfoy) Hyde.<sup>[19]</sup> At age 18, William was apprenticed as a needle-maker to Thomas Wilson of the Drapers' Company in Eastcheap, London, for seven years beginning 22 Oct. 1628;<sup>[20]</sup> his future father-in-law John Hyde was a member of that company. William migrated to New England and was in Providence, R.I., by the spring of 1636.<sup>[21]</sup> He may have known Roger Williams in Salem, Mass., as he was among the small group who accompanied Roger Williams to the Providence area by that spring.<sup>[22]</sup> Through the remaining years in R.I., William Harris and Roger Williams had an antagonistic relationship. John Garrett calls him "the quarrelsome William Harris" and adds, "When the Quakers came to Rhode Island in the mid-1650s Harris took up with their cause." As an old man, Roger Williams actually wrote, "W. Harris, who, being an impudent morris-dancer in Kent . . . under a cloak of separation, got in with myself, till his self-ends and restless strife, and at last his atheistical denying of heaven and hell, made honest souls to fly from him. Now he courts the Baptists; then he kicks them off and flatters the Foxians; then the drunkards (which he calls all that are not of the former two amongst us); then knowing the prejudices of the other Colonies against us, he dares to abuse his Majesty and Council, to bring New England upon us."<sup>[23]</sup> William and Susan (Hyde) Harris had five children.<sup>[24]</sup>
2. v. THOMAS<sup>1</sup> HARRIS, bp. 11 July 1613;<sup>[25]</sup> m. ELIZABETH \_\_\_\_\_.

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<sup>17</sup> William R. Staples, *Annals of the Town of Providence*, Collections of the Rhode Island Historical Society, 5 (1843):587.

<sup>18</sup> *Harris Papers* [note 16], Collections of the Rhode Island Historical Society, 10:341–42.

<sup>19</sup> Frederick J. Nicholson, "Hydes of England: Ancestors of Thomas Olcott of Connecticut, Samuel Hardy of Massachusetts, and Susan Hyde, wife of William Harris of Rhode Island," *The Genealogist* 20 (2006):131–83, at 159–60, 168–70. This article includes interesting information about William's travels and death.

<sup>20</sup> Drapers' Company of London Archives, Boyd's Roll, A Register of Apprentices and Freemen, Drapers' Hall, Throgmorton Avenue, London EC2N 2DQ, research by Penny Fussell. The apprenticeship bindings book shows that William, son of Andrew of Northborne, Kent, wheelwright deceased, was apprenticed to Thomas Wilson for seven years on 22 October 1628. There are no records of him taking up the Freedom of the Company on completing his apprenticeship and no other information relating to him appears in the Company's archives.

<sup>21</sup> John Osborne Austin, *The Genealogical Dictionary of Rhode Island* (Albany, N.Y.: Joel Munsell's Sons, 1887; repr. with Additions and Corrections by John O. Austin and G. Andrews Moriarty; Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1982), 312.

<sup>22</sup> Staples, *Annals of Providence* [note 17], Collections of the Rhode Island Historical Society, 5:587.

<sup>23</sup> Garret, *Roger Williams* [note 3], 24–25, 88.

<sup>24</sup> Nicholson, "Hydes of England" [note 19], *The Genealogist* 20:168–70.

<sup>25</sup> The original parish register and the Archdeacons' Transcripts both say 11 July (courtesy of Robert Charles Anderson, FASG). See note 4.

**2. THOMAS<sup>1</sup> HARRIS** was baptized in Northbourne, Kent, 11 July 1613. He died in Providence, Rhode Island, 7 June 1686.<sup>[26]</sup> He married, perhaps in England, probably about 1636,<sup>[27]</sup> **ELIZABETH \_\_\_\_\_**.<sup>[28]</sup> She may be the widow Elizabeth Harris who was buried in nearby Rehoboth, Massachusetts, 8 March 1690.<sup>[29]</sup>

Many have erroneously said that this Thomas Harris arrived in New England with his brother William and Roger Williams aboard the ship *Lyon*, arriving in Nantasket 5 February 1630/1.<sup>[30]</sup> However, the first record of this Thomas Harris in New England is when he was in a group of “second comers” to the new settlement, who “was received a purchaser of Providence previous to” 20 August 1637. These were thirteen men “desirous to inhabitt in the towne of Providence” who subscribed to a “ciuill” compact.<sup>[31]</sup>

On 2 September 1650, Thomas<sup>1</sup> Harris was taxed £1. He served in many positions in the growing plantation of Providence. From 1652 to 1657 and 1661 to 1663 he was commissioner, in 1654 lieutenant. In 1655 he was listed as a freeman. He also served as a juryman in 1656, deputy in 1664, 1666–67, 1670, 1672–73. In 1664–66 and 1669 he was a member of the town council, and was surveyor of highways in 1667.<sup>[32]</sup> Thomas was granted sometime before 1660 six acres of land on “Mooshausick River.”<sup>[33]</sup>

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<sup>26</sup> Austin, *Genealogical Dictionary of Rhode Island* [note 21], 310.

<sup>27</sup> Based on the probable year of birth of his first known child, who was made a freeman in 1658.

<sup>28</sup> The widow Elizabeth Harris, listed on tax records after Thomas’s death (*Early Records of Providence* [note 9], 17:101, 110, 125), was presumably his widow. Raymon Myers Tingley, *Some Ancestral Lines: Being a Record of Some of the Ancestors of Guilford Solon Tingley and His Wife Martha Pamela Meyers* (Rutland, Vt.: Tuttle Co., 1935), 127, asserts without evidence that her maiden name was Leatherland and that they married on 20 April 1632. Tingley’s work contains additional fiction (see below) with no documentation at all.

<sup>29</sup> James N. Arnold, *Vital Record of Rehoboth, 1642–1896* (Providence, R.I.: Narragansett Historical Publishing Co., 1897), 832, from the original 1:89. The bounds and jurisdiction of Rehoboth have a complex history.

<sup>30</sup> For example, in Austin, *Genealogical Dictionary of Rhode Island* [note 21], 310. An early account in the *Annals of the Town of Providence* says, “Little is known of the early life of Mr. [William] Harris. He first landed in Boston, and the tradition is that he came in the same ship with Mr. Williams. He left Salem with Mr. Williams, and was one of the first six that crossed the Seekonk” (Staples, *Annals of Providence* [note 17], Collections of the Rhode Island Historical Society, 5:587.); Tingley, *Some Ancestral Lines* [note 28], 127, which is a notoriously unreliable source. He claimed Thomas<sup>1</sup> Harris was born 2 April 1605 (calculated from a spurious age at death) and invented three additional children for Thomas.

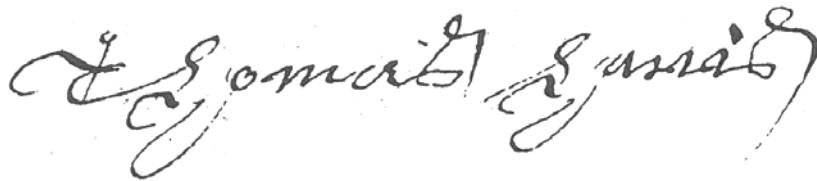
<sup>31</sup> *Early Records of Providence* [note 9], 1:118.

<sup>32</sup> Austin, *Genealogical Dictionary of Rhode Island* [note 21], 310; the 1655 “Roule of the Freeman of the Colonie,” in John Russell Bartlett, ed., *Records of the Colony of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations in New England*, 10 vols. (Providence: A. C. Greene & Brothers, 1856–65), 1:299.

<sup>33</sup> Charles Wyman Hopkins, *The Home Lots of the Early Settlers of the Providence Plantations* (Providence, R.I.: Providence Press Co., 1886; repr. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1997), 62. The Mooshausick was the smaller western river in Providence.

Thomas was a patentee in the charter from Charles II to Rhode Island in 1663.<sup>[34]</sup> In 1650 Thomas' homestead of approximately five acres is listed among 52 other home lots "extending from the 'Towne Streete,' now North and South Main Streets, to 'The Highway at the head of the lotts,' now Hope street."<sup>[35]</sup> Additionally, on 19 February 1665 he drew lot 7 in a division of lands.<sup>[36]</sup> From 1666 to 1669 and 1671 to 1675 he was an assistant, that is, in the uppermost echelons of the provincial government. On 14 August 1676, he was "on a committee that recommended certain conditions under which the Indian captives should be disposed of by the town. They were to be in servitude for terms of years." On 1 July 1679, he was taxed 5s., 7½d. On 27 April 1683, he said that about 1661 he laid out a three-score acre lot for his son Thomas at Paugachauge Hill and a twenty-five-acre lot on the south side.<sup>[37]</sup>

In his official capacities, Thomas Harris signed many documents. In 1663 he signed a probate document as a town deputy:<sup>[38]</sup>


 A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Thomas Harris". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid and somewhat stylized, typical of the 17th century.

One excerpt from the *Early Records of the Town of Providence* reads:<sup>[39]</sup>

Aprill ye 28th: 1684, To ye Town met, Neighbours, whereas there is a Great, & continuall want in this Town, of a pound, to impound Cattell when they are found Trespassing, & this Towne being destitute of a Pound, I desire that the Towne would take some speedy course that a pound may be made that so such Trespassing creatures may be Secured Tho: Harris Senr.

Thomas signed his will on 3 June 1686, four days before his death. It was proved on 22 July 1686. To his unnamed wife he gave the "use of two home lots, orchards, dwelling house, household stuff, etc. for life, and a horse, three cows, three calves, half the swine and two hives of bees." Children were son Thomas and daughters Mary Whipple and Martha Field. Sons-in-law Thomas Field and

<sup>34</sup> *The First Laws of the State of Rhode Island*, 2 vols. (Wilmington, Del.: Michael Glazier, Inc., 1983), 3.

<sup>35</sup> Hopkins, *Home Lots of the Early Settlers* [note 33], illustration at 25.

<sup>36</sup> Austin, *Genealogical Dictionary of Rhode Island* [note 21], 310.

<sup>37</sup> *Ibid.*, 310; Providence Deeds, 1:24.

<sup>38</sup> RHi X17 1282 [John Brown, Thomas Harris, et al], Certificate Concerning a Will, Rhode Island, n.d., ink on paper, manuscript, Misc. Manuscript Collection, MSS 9003, book 1, p. 8, image courtesy of the Rhode Island Historical Society.

<sup>39</sup> *Early Records of Providence* [note 9], 17:27, 419.

Samuel Whipple were to be overseers with Thomas Harris, Jr., executor. The inventory totaled £45.10s.<sup>[40]</sup>

After Thomas' death, widow Elizabeth Harris was living 18 September and 31 October 1687 and in August 1688 when she was taxed 1s. in both years.<sup>[41]</sup>

Children of Thomas<sup>2</sup> and Elizabeth (\_\_\_\_) Harris, born probably in Providence.<sup>[42]</sup>

- i. THOMAS<sup>3</sup> HARRIS, b. by 1637,<sup>[43]</sup> d. 27 Feb. 1710/1,<sup>[44]</sup> m. Providence 3 Nov. 1664, ELNATHAN TEW,<sup>[45]</sup> b. Newport, R.I., 15 Oct. 1644,<sup>[46]</sup> d. 11 Jan. 1718 aged 77 [*sic*], bur. North Burial Ground in Providence or the Elnathan Harris Lot in Johnston, R.I.<sup>[47]</sup> daughter of Richard and Mary (Clarke) Tew.<sup>[48]</sup>
- ii. MARY HARRIS, b. ca. 1639,<sup>[49]</sup> died Providence 14 Dec. 1722 aged 83; bur. North Burial Ground, Providence;<sup>[50]</sup> m. ca. 1666,<sup>[51]</sup> SAMUEL WHIPPLE of Providence, bp. Dorchester, Mass., 17 March 1644 [1643/4], son of John and Sarah (\_\_\_\_) Whipple,<sup>[52]</sup> d. 12 March 1710/11.<sup>[53]</sup> His was the first interment in the North Burial Ground.<sup>[54]</sup>

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<sup>40</sup> Austin, *Genealogical Dictionary of Rhode Island* [note 21], 310, 312, has a detailed abstract of the will. The docket book for Providence probate records, file A47, says the will is on file and that it is in *Early Records of Providence* [note 9], 6:154, but that work only says that Thomas Harris [Jr.] presented the will on 22 July 1686 and that the inventory was allowed on that day, this in the middle of the published documents for his nephew Andrew Harris's estate.

<sup>41</sup> *Early Records of Providence* [note 9], 17:101, 110, 125.

<sup>42</sup> Tingley, *Some Ancestral Lines* [note 28], 127–28, includes three additional children for which no evidence has been found: William, who died 11 July 1650 age 17; Eleanor, who died 28 June 1650 age 15; and Margaret who died 2 April 1659 age 16. Apparently they are fictional.

<sup>43</sup> Thomas Harris, Jr., is on a list of men made freemen on 18 May 1658 (Bartlett, *Records of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations* [note 32], 1:387), which suggests that he was born by 18 May 1637, if not earlier. He bought land in 1661, was chosen as a petit jurymen on 27 February 1663 and as constable on 27 April 1666 (*Early Records of Providence* [note 9], 3:12, 49, 83), a particularly responsible position.

<sup>44</sup> The date in his probate (*Early Records of Providence* [note 9], 7:48–56).

<sup>45</sup> James N. Arnold, *Vital Record of Rhode Island 1636–1850*, 21 vols. (Providence, R.I.: Narragansett Historical Publishing Co., 1891–1912), 7 (Rhode Island Friends Records):20, 35.

<sup>46</sup> *Ibid.*, 7:77.

<sup>47</sup> Two entries in the Rhode Island Historical Cemeteries Transcriptions Project, online at <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~rigenweb/cemetery/key.html>; two photographs online at *FindaGrave.com*, where the entry for the North Burial Ground says the stone was moved from a small cemetery in Manton, Rhode Island, part of Johnston. This comment is taken from John E. Sterling, *North Burial Ground, Providence, Rhode Island: Old Section, 1700–1848* (Greenville, R.I.: Rhode Island Genealogical Society, 2000), 61. The stone clearly says she was aged 77.

<sup>48</sup> Austin, *Genealogical Dictionary of Rhode Island* [note 21], 394.

<sup>49</sup> *Ibid.*, 312, probably calculated from her age at death.

<sup>50</sup> *Ibid.*, 222, 312; David Jillson, “Descendants of Capt. John Whipple, of Providence, R.I.,” *Register* 32 (1878): 403–07, at 404; Sterling, *North Burial Ground, Providence* [note 47], 135.

<sup>51</sup> Austin, *Genealogical Dictionary of Rhode Island* [note 21], 222, which says their second child was born in 1669.

<sup>52</sup> *Ibid.*, 222, 312; Jillson, “Capt. John Whipple” [note 50], *Register* 32:403–04; Mary Isabella Preston, *Bassett-Preston Ancestors* (New Haven, Conn.: Tuttle, Morehouse & Taylor, 1930), 318–19; Charles H. Whipple, *Genealogy of the Whipple-Wright, Wager . . . Families* (Los Angeles: Press of Commercial Printing House, 1917), 13; Robert Charles Anderson, *The Great Migration Begins: Immigrants to New England, 1620–1633*, 3 vols. (Boston: NEHGS, 1995), 3:1972–73,



- iii. MARTHA HARRIS, b. ca. 1643; died in 1717;<sup>[55]</sup> m. by 1670 THOMAS FIELD,<sup>[56]</sup> who d. 10 Aug. 1717.<sup>[57]</sup>

### ADDENDUM

Early researchers often combined information on several different Thomas Harrises into one or more composite individuals. Typical inaccurate profiles might claim many of the following: that a single Thomas Harris of early New England was from Deal in Kent, sailed in the ship *Lyon* with Roger Williams, ran a ferry in Cambridge, was admitted a freeman in 1631, had nine children, and was a Quaker imprisoned and whipped in Boston.

Considering these various claims for this Thomas<sup>1</sup> Harris:

- Thomas came from Deal. *Correct. Northbourne is near Deal.*
- Thomas arrived on the *Lyon* in 1630.<sup>[58]</sup> Even Austin says Thomas of Providence came on the *Lyon*.<sup>[59]</sup> John Winthrop's journal says Roger Williams arrived at Nantasket on the *Lyon* on 5 March 1630/1 "with their wiues & Children, about 20: passingers"<sup>[60]</sup> *There is no mention of the Harrises. Thomas Harris alias Williams of Charlestown, Massachusetts, arrived in 1630.*<sup>[61]</sup> *He was the ferryman.*

citing Austin, *Genealogical Dictionary of Rhode Island* [note 21], 311–12; *Records of the First Church at Dorchester in New England, 1636–1734* (Boston: George H. Ellis, 1891), 156, where the order of entries shows it was 1643/4.

<sup>53</sup> The date in his probate (*Early Records of Providence* [note 9], 7:22–29), a transcription from Providence Wills, 2:181–82.

<sup>54</sup> Austin, *Genealogical Dictionary of Rhode Island* [note 21], 222, 312; *Early Records of Providence* [note 9], 7:22–29, Samuel Whipple's will, from Providence Wills, 1:181; M.A. Bennis, "Harris Family Records," (1942), notebook at the Rhode Island Historical Society, p. 1 [FHL 0,022,327]; Sterling, *North Burial Ground*, [note 47], 135.

<sup>55</sup> Austin, *Genealogical Dictionary of Rhode Island* [note 21], 76, 312.

<sup>56</sup> *Ibid.*, first child born 3 January 1670.

<sup>57</sup> *Ibid.*, 76 (which suggests that his father may have been John Field), 312; Providence Wills, 2:19, his inventory, presented 9 September 1717, gave his death date, administration to son Thomas the same day.

<sup>58</sup> Staples, *Annals of Providence* [note 17], Collections of the Rhode Island Historical Society, 5:587, says William Harris came on the ship with Roger Williams. See also Meredith B. Colket, Jr., *Founders of Early American Families: Emigrants from Europe 1607–1657*, revised by Keith M. Sheldon (Cleveland, Ohio: The Ohio Society and The General Court of the Order of Founders and Patriots of America, 1985; revision 2002), 150; Richard LeBaron Bowen, *The Providence Oath of Allegiance and its Signers 1651–2* (Concord, N.H.: Rumford Press, 1943), 53–58; Atwood, *Maine Descendants* [note 2], 14; Ham, *Nicholas Harris* [note 2], 49.

<sup>59</sup> Austin, *Genealogical Dictionary of Rhode Island* [note 21], 310.

<sup>60</sup> Richard S. Dunn, James Savage, and Laetitia Yeandle, ed., *The Journal of John Winthrop, 1630–1649* (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1996), 44–45.

<sup>61</sup> Anderson, *Great Migration Begins 1620–1633* [note 52], 2:864–66; Walter Goodwin Davis, *The Ancestry of Bethia Harris* (Portland, Maine: Southworth Press, 1934), 6–8.

- Thomas was admitted a freeman in 1631.<sup>[62]</sup> *That too was Thomas of Charlestown.*<sup>[63]</sup>
- Thomas had ten children.<sup>[64]</sup> *But Thomas<sup>1</sup> of Providence had only three known children. His son Thomas<sup>2</sup> had nine children.*<sup>[65]</sup>
- As a Quaker, Thomas was imprisoned and whipped in Boston in 1658. Austin includes this in his sketch of Thomas.<sup>[66]</sup> *But that Thomas was from Barbados and went to Shelter Island in New York.*<sup>[67]</sup>
- Another Thomas Harris died in Roxbury, Massachusetts, in 1640.<sup>[68]</sup> *That man was a servant of John Johnson.*<sup>[69]</sup>

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<sup>62</sup> James Savage, *A Genealogical Dictionary of the First Settlers of New England*, 4 vols. (Boston: Little, Brown & Co., 1860–62; repr. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1965), 2:363, which actually treats all these men separately from Thomas of Providence. Savage did not claim that Thomas of Providence came in 1630 nor on the *Lyon*.

<sup>63</sup> Anderson, *Great Migration Begins* [note 52], 2:864.

<sup>64</sup> Savage, *Genealogical Dictionary of New England* [note 62], 2:363, lists ten children (including both a Job and a Joab), actually children of his son Thomas. Savage probably took that from Collections of the Rhode Island Historical Society, 2 (1835):118.

<sup>65</sup> Austin, *Genealogical Dictionary of Rhode Island* [note 21], 310–13.

<sup>66</sup> *Ibid.*, 310.

<sup>67</sup> Rufus M. Jones, *The Quakers in the American Colonies* (London: Macmillan, 1911), 70; James Bowden, *The History of the Society of Friends in America*, 2 vols. (London: Charles Gilpin, 1850–54), 1:98, 107–08; Roderick Bissell Jones, “Harrises in Boston before 1700,” *Register* 105 (1951):190–97, 242–47; 106 (1952):15–30, at 105:191 and 106:27.

<sup>68</sup> Savage, *Genealogical Dictionary of New England* [note 62], 2:363.

<sup>69</sup> “Early Records of Boston,” *Register* 6 (1852):183; *Vital Records of Roxbury, Massachusetts, to the End of the Year 1849*, 2 vols. (Salem, Mass.: Essex Institute, 1925), 2:547, from court records.

## LUKE MILLS OF NORTHAMPTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA, AND PORTSMOUTH, NEW HAMPSHIRE

*Barbara Vines Little*

Luke Mills, described as of “Northampton in Virginia,” married on 5 December 1734 Hannah Lang of Portsmouth, New Hampshire.<sup>[1]</sup> Since the late 1800s researchers have tried unsuccessfully to find proof of his connection to a Mills family in Northampton County, Virginia, on the Delmarva Peninsula. Recently commissioned research<sup>[2]</sup> into Northampton’s manuscript loose papers, provided the clues that led to the identification of his parents, his paternal grandfather, who was most likely the immigrant ancestor, and his maternal grandparents and great-grandfathers.

Although records show Luke as working in the tobacco fields in Northampton County, Virginia, by age 14 or earlier, he at some point gained sufficient education to read, write, and cipher — skills needed by a ship’s captain and attested to in signed documents and the sea books and instruments he left his son Eligood. Luke’s father, Edward Mills, a man of modest means, owned a small farm at his death. Luke, choosing to follow the sea rather than husbandry, amassed a larger estate, leaving a dwelling house, garden, pasture, wharf and warehouses to two of his three surviving children; the third, having failed in his filial duty to his father, was cut off with £10 sterling and a suit of clothing.<sup>[3]</sup>

The records are silent on Luke’s whereabouts from 1729, when he was still in Virginia, to his marriage in 1734 in New Hampshire, and are equally silent except for the christening of his children for the following decade. On 10 October 1745, shortly before the birth of Luke and Hannah’s last child, Mary, Luke’s father-in-law John Lang gave the couple an acre of land lying on the east side of the highway to Sagamore Creek in Portsmouth that included their current dwelling house.<sup>[4]</sup> Less than a month later Luke purchased two lots on Pickerin[g]s Neck on Water (now Marcy) Street in Portsmouth including a dwelling house and wharf for £139, for which he executed a deed of trust.<sup>[5]</sup> This tract appears to lie just

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<sup>1</sup> Joshua W. Peirce, “A Record of Births, Marriages and Deaths in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, from 1706 to 1742,” *Register* 23 (1873):269–72, 392–95; 24 (1874):13–18, 357–60; 25 (1875):117–22 et seq., at 121.

<sup>2</sup> This research was commissioned by Duane Mills of Stavanger, Norway, an American, long-time resident of Norway, and fourth great-grandson of Luke Mills. Mr. Mills has recently donated all his maternal and paternal research to NEHGS, where it will be available to researchers with the tentative title: “The Duane Mills Papers.” His donated paternal research includes the basis of this article.

<sup>3</sup> See the Genealogical Summary below for citations.

<sup>4</sup> The description notes that the tract began twenty-two feet north of their dwelling house on the east side of the highway to Sagamore Creek and then ran south for 120 feet before turning east (Rockingham County, New Hampshire, Deeds, 30:222).

<sup>5</sup> The deed of trust was released on 7 May 1748 (Rockingham County Deeds, 30:306–08).

south of and adjacent to the lot on which the Wentworth-Gardner House is located.<sup>[6]</sup>

A deposition by Nathaniel Morrell of Portsmouth, filed with the estate papers of Peter Friend of Margate, England, states that in September [1747] Friend shipped on board the Brig *Stretham*, as a mate, Luke Mills master, on a voyage to Jamaica from Portsmouth. This attests to Luke's career as a mariner.<sup>[7]</sup> Although he continued to follow the sea, little is known of his career except for sailing notices found in the *New Hampshire Gazette*, which began publication on 7 October 1756. The first issue lists him as sailing into the Port of Piscataway on the sloop *Neptune* from Antigua. A 2 December 1756 notice shows him leaving for St. Christopher, and a 24 June 1757 notice shows him leaving for the West Indies. This trip was an eventful one, for on 23 September 1757 the *Gazette* published the following description of his voyage:<sup>[8]</sup>

Portsmouth: By Capt. Luke Mills who came in here Passenger last Monday from St. Kitts, we are inform'd That he was taken by a French Privateer of 8 Guns, 36 Men, in his Passage hither from Barbadoes the 12<sup>th</sup> of last Month, in a Sloop, haveing been out but three Days; his Cargo consisting of 74 Hhds of Rum, 4000 wt. of Sugar, Cotton &c. The French kept him and his Men 4 Days, and then with 3 other Captains, \_\_\_\_\_ Corner of Newbury, Daniel Warner and Richard Billings of New London, and 16 Men besides, were put in a Long Boat, agreeable to their own Choice, with a Sufficiency of Provisions in sight of Montferrat, where they arrived before Night, and the next Day to Nevis. —The said Privateer had two other Prizes, which they took the Sunday after Capt. Mills.—That last Saturday was a Week, he saw two Privateers belonging to New York, the *Delinceau* and *Dreadnought*, a *Snow* and a *Brig*, who had then met with no Success; and the Wednesday following spoke with another Privateer Ship Capt. Trent, who had been out from New York three Days, who informed him that a French Privateer had taken three Philadelphia Vessels one of which was retaken, and the others carried off. The *Bristol Man of War* had taken a French Merchant-man of 4 or 500 Tons, 26 Guns, and carried her into Antigua, a few Days before he left St. Kitts, reckoned a very valuable Prize.

On 15 June 1759 he is listed as returning on 14 June in the schooner *Charming Molly* from Virginia. This trip, too, was eventful.<sup>[9]</sup>

BOSTON. In the late Stormy Weather, Capt. Luke Mills in a Schooner bound from Virginia to Piscataqua, was struck overboard by the main Boom, about four Leagues to the N.E. of Cape-Ann; upon which a Passenger on board threw the Companion Doors over to him, which he laid hold of, and was near a quarter of an Hour in the

<sup>6</sup> Rockingham County Deeds, 145:310–11.

<sup>7</sup> Henry Harrison Metcalf, ed., *Probate Records of the Province of New Hampshire, Volume 3, 1741–1749, State Papers Series, Volume 33* (Concord, N.H.: Rumford Press, 1915), 513–14.

<sup>8</sup> *New Hampshire Gazette*, 7 October 1756, p. 4; 2 December 1756, p. 4; 24 June 1757, p. 2; 23 September 1757, p. 2.

<sup>9</sup> *Boston Evening Post*, 18 June 1759, p. 4. Transcript provided by Mills researcher David Rudge of Kalamazoo, Michigan, who also generously shared other Luke Mills research notes including a second version of this news article published in the *Boston Newsletter*, 14 June 1759, p. 2.

Water before he was taken up by the Boat; during most part of the Time he was at so great a Distance as to be out of Sight, but seeing some Ducks that were struck overboard at the same Time he was, and kept together upon the Sea, they happily found him laying upon one of the Companion Doors, and got him into the Boat, and carried him safe on board much spent and bruis'd. The Storm then came on so fast, that they lost their Boat, and had their Sails split to Pieces, so that they were obliged to lay a Hull, and were luckily drove into Plymouth Harbour.

Other notices show him leaving in the sloop *Betsey*, for Guadaloup [16 May 1760], the sloop *Swallow* for Barbados [8 January 1761], and the the brig *Katty Mullet* for Granades [3 March 1763]. On 1 July 1762, he was listed as returning in the bark *Don Quixote* from Montserrat.<sup>[10]</sup>

According to family lore, Luke was “lost at sea being swept overboard in a gale while standing on the deck of his ship, by the side of his son Elligood, who according to tradition tried to jump overboard in a hopeless attempt to rescue his father, but was restrained by the crew. Capt. Mills was on a voyage to the West Indies at the time of his death.”<sup>[11]</sup>

## GENEALOGICAL SUMMARY

**1. JOHN<sup>1</sup> MILLS** first appeared in the records of Northampton County, Virginia, in 1660 on a list of importations by Robt Windley.<sup>[12]</sup> He is found in the tax lists beginning in 1667.<sup>[13]</sup> His failure to appear on the extant tax lists for 1662 through 1666 suggests that he was serving out an indenture.<sup>[14]</sup> Whether his appearance on a 1680 importation list presented by John Stringer<sup>[15]</sup> is the product of a duplication of a single entry into the colony or the result of John having left the county (possibly as a seaman) and then returning is unclear. He married sometime

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<sup>10</sup> *New Hampshire Gazette*, 15 June 1759, p. 2; 16 May 1760, p. 2; 9 January 1761, p. 2; 4 March 1763, p. 2; 1 July 1762, p. 2.

<sup>11</sup> Charles Blunt Mills, “A Brief Sketch of the Mills Family of Portsmouth, N. H.,” *Granite Monthly* 53 (1921):77–79, at 77.

<sup>12</sup> Northampton County, Virginia, Order Book, 1657–1664, folio 92, microfilm roll 46, Local Government Records Collection, Library of Virginia, Richmond. Individuals who paid their transportation costs to Virginia or who paid the transportation costs of other individuals were granted fifty acres of land for each such importation. In order to obtain these importation or head rights they had to appear in court and swear to the importation. The fact that importations could be proved years after entry to Virginia makes determination of the movement of individuals difficult.

<sup>13</sup> Northampton County, Virginia, [Wills] Order Book No. 11, 1678–1683, p. 284, microfilm roll 27, Local Government Records Collection, Library of Virginia, Richmond.

<sup>14</sup> These tax lists, usually referred to as tithable lists, included the head of household and other taxable persons (free white males sixteen or over, indentured servants and slaves). Sometimes all the taxable individuals were named; sometimes only the number of taxable individuals was noted under the head of household.

<sup>15</sup> Northampton County, Virginia, [Wills] Order Book No. 11, 1678–1683, p. 284, microfilm roll 27, Local Government Records Collection, Library of Virginia, Richmond.

before 1671, the approximate year of birth of his son Edward.<sup>[16]</sup> In 1674 he was listed among John Stringer's tithables tending tobacco,<sup>[17]</sup> but was described as a plasterer on 30 December 1677, when he recorded his cattle mark.<sup>[18]</sup> He was working as a brickmaker when he was sued in court on 31 May 1683 by Capt. John Robins. The suit was for failure to complete a contract to make and burn 30,000 bricks; the count was short 7,319 bricks.<sup>[19]</sup> He was listed as a member of a grand jury on 9 April 1698.<sup>[20]</sup> Although grand jury members were required by law to be freeholders (i.e., own real property), no record of landownership has been found. On 17 September 1706, John Mills posted a notice on the courthouse door stating "These may certifie all Persons whom it may concerne that I the Subscriber is going out of this county above said [Northampton] and is bound to North Carolina . . . [signed] John Mills."<sup>[21]</sup> He apparently returned to Northampton sometime before 17 April 1711, when his son Edward petitioned the court for administration of his father's estate stating that his father had died "January last."<sup>[22]</sup>

Children of John<sup>1</sup> Mills and unknown wife:

2. i. EDWARD<sup>2</sup> MILLS, b. Northampton Co. ca. 1671; m. GRACE, perhaps Grace (Hall) Wood.

**2. EDWARD<sup>2</sup> MILLS** (*John*<sup>1</sup>) was born in Northampton County about 1671 (aged 18 on 29 March 1689).<sup>[23]</sup> He died in Sussex County, Delaware (then part of Pennsylvania), between 1750 (date of will, no day or month given) and 14 October 1751 (date will recorded).<sup>[24]</sup> He married before 1702, **GRACE**,<sup>[25]</sup> who was most likely the widow of Jeremiah Wood, who died intestate before 28 May

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<sup>16</sup> Northampton County, Virginia, Order Book & Wills, No. 12, 1683–1689, p. 420, microfilm reel 27, Local Government Records Collection, Library of Virginia, Richmond. Individuals were allowed to count each entry into the colony as a separate importation right; however, graft was rampant, resulting in the duplication of many lists.

<sup>17</sup> Northampton County, Virginia, [Wills] Order Book, No. 9, 1664–1674, pp. 272–74, microfilm reel 26, Local Government Records Collection, Library of Virginia, Richmond.

<sup>18</sup> Frank V. Walczyk, "Northampton County, Virginia, Cattlemarks, 1665–1742," *Eastern Shore Stuff* ([http://easternshorestuff.com/misc/northampton\\_county\\_cattlemarks.htm](http://easternshorestuff.com/misc/northampton_county_cattlemarks.htm), accessed 2012).

<sup>19</sup> Northampton County, Virginia, Order Book & Wills, No. 12, 1683–1689, p. 2, microfilm reel 27, Local Government Records Collection, Library of Virginia, Richmond.

<sup>20</sup> Northampton County, Virginia, Orders and Wills 13, 1689–1698, p. 475, microfilm reel 27a, Local Government Records Collection, Library of Virginia, Richmond.

<sup>21</sup> Northampton County, Virginia, Orders and Wills &c. No. 14, 1698–1710, p. 302, microfilm reel 27a, Local Government Records Collection, Library of Virginia, Richmond.

<sup>22</sup> Northampton County, Virginia, Order Book 15, 1710–1716, p. 10, microfilm reel 46, Library of Virginia, Richmond.

<sup>23</sup> Northampton County, Virginia, Order Book & Wills, No. 12, 1683–1689, p. 420, microfilm reel 27, Local Government Records Collection, Library of Virginia, Richmond.

<sup>24</sup> See note 41.

<sup>25</sup> Northampton County, Virginia, Deeds & Wills, No. 12, 1692–1707, p. 307, microfilm reel 5, Local Government Records Collection, Library of Virginia, Richmond.

1696, leaving a wife Grace and three small children.<sup>[26]</sup> Grace, widow of Jeremiah Wood, may have been born a Hall, since a John Hall served as security for her administration of Jeremiah's estate.<sup>[27]</sup> On 2 July 1688, Emanuel Hall made a nuncupative will giving two heifers to John Fathery's girl and boy, and the remaining estate to the two girls of his brother John Hall; he [John Hall] was to give Grace Wood two shifts and a petticoat.<sup>[28]</sup> On 14 November 1702, Edward Mills deeded to John Fathrey, cooper, "for the sole and proper use of Jeremiah Wood deced his son Robert Wood in lieu of a gunne I had of the said decedents one black hieffer three yeare old next springe . . . to remaine with all the increase of the said Hieffer . . . under the care of the said Fathrey . . . to be delivered to him when hee [Robert] shall attaine to age according to law; but in case of his decease under age then to the rest of the children of the said Jeremiah Wood to be equally devided amongst them."<sup>[29]</sup> On the same day, John Fathrey deeded a heifer to his goddaughter, Ann, daughter of Edward and Grace Mills. The heifer and its increase were to be delivered to Ann on her sixteenth birthday or the day of her marriage; if she died, the gift was to be divided among the children of Edward and his wife Grace.<sup>[30]</sup>

Edward married, as his second wife, **AGNES MOORE**, daughter of Thomas Moore Jr., before 18 September 1716, when he purchased from Elizabeth Moore all her right title and interest in 175 acres "of Land in Maggotte Bay and on Rackoon Island . . . that fell to me the said Elizabeth Moore and [*sic*] being co heir with my vizt sisters Isabell Warren Agnes Mills the wife of the said Edward Mills and Elinor Moor all daughters of Thomas Moore deceased."<sup>[31]</sup> Thomas Moore Jr. had inherited the land, including one-third of Raccoon Island, from his father Thomas Moore Sr., who died testate in 1676.<sup>[32]</sup> Thomas Moore Jr., born about 1657,<sup>[33]</sup> married Eleanor Gelding, before 1684, when she was called Eleanor Moore in her father William Gelding's will.<sup>[34]</sup> Her mother, Elizabeth

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<sup>26</sup> Northampton County, Virginia, Orders and Wills 13, 1689–1698, p. 376, microfilm reel 27a, Local Government Records Collection, Library of Virginia, Richmond.

<sup>27</sup> Northampton County, Virginia, Orders and Wills 13, 1689–1698, p. 376, microfilm reel 27a, Local Government Records Collection, Library of Virginia, Richmond.

<sup>28</sup> Northampton County, Virginia, Order Book & Wills, No. 12, 1683–1689, p. 384–85, microfilm reel 27, Local Government Records Collection, Library of Virginia, Richmond.

<sup>29</sup> Northampton County, Virginia, Deeds & Wills, No. 12, 1692–1707, p. 308, microfilm reel 5, Local Government Records Collection, Library of Virginia, Richmond.

<sup>30</sup> Northampton County, Virginia, Deeds & Wills, No. 12, 1692–1707, p. 307, microfilm reel 5, Local Government Records Collection, Library of Virginia, Richmond.

<sup>31</sup> Northampton County, Virginia, Wills, Deeds, Etc., 1711–1718, p. 112, microfilm reel 29, Local Government Records Collection, Library of Virginia, Richmond.

<sup>32</sup> Northampton [Wills] Order Book No. 10, 1674–1679, p. 144, microfilm reel 27, Local Government Records Collection, Library of Virginia, Richmond.

<sup>33</sup> In a deposition dated 29 November 1695, he gave his age as 38. Northampton County, Virginia, Orders and Wills 13, 1689–1698, p. 344, microfilm reel 27a, Local Government Records Collection, Library of Virginia, Richmond.

<sup>34</sup> Northampton County, Virginia, Order Book & Wills, No. 12, 1683–1689, pp. 348–49, microfilm reel 27, Local Government Records Collection, Library of Virginia, Richmond.

Gelding, referred to, but did not name, the children of daughter Eleanor and Thomas Moore in her will dated 9 April 1698.<sup>[35]</sup>

On 19 July 1720, Edward Mills and Thomas Freshwater purchased an additional one hundred acres at the lower end of Maggoty Bay at the southern tip of Northampton County.<sup>[36]</sup> Edward appeared in various court and tax records over the next two decades. In 1741 Edward brought suit in chancery court against William Rickards over the purchase of a tract of land on the south side of Cedar Creek in Sussex County, Delaware (then part of Pennsylvania).<sup>[37]</sup> On 1 March 1743, Edward Mills of Northampton County, planter, and his wife Agnes sold to Peter Bowdoin, in two transactions, both the land Edward had purchased and Agnes's inheritance.<sup>[38]</sup> They moved to Sussex County sometime between that date and 2 August 1744, when a warrant for 200 acres of land in Sussex County, lying on the south side of Cedar Creek Neck in Grub Neck contiguous to a survey already made, was issued to Edward Mills of the County of Sussex.<sup>[39]</sup> On 13 May 1749, Edward Mills, yeoman, of Sussex County on Delaware, sold to Huet Onely, one hundred acres, part of a tract granted to Edward Mills by warrant dated 2 August 1744. His son, Nathan Mills, was one of the witnesses.<sup>[40]</sup> Edward's wife Agnes was most likely deceased by this date since she did not release her dower interest.

Edward Mills made a will, dated 1750, giving daughter Susannah Mills, the tract of land "I now live on" on Poplar Branch; daughter Agnes Mills, land; daughter Ann Webb, one shilling sterling; and sons, Luke, Ledelton [Littleton], Nathan, and Bowman, each one shilling sterling. Son-in-law William Rickards was to be executor. The will was ordered recorded on 14 October 1751.<sup>[41]</sup> While the records do not definitively identify the mother of all of Edward's children, the gap between the births of Ann and the purported son John and the next child, Edward Jr., suggest that the first two were children by Edward's first wife Grace, and the others were the children of his second wife Agnes. It is possible that Luke's date of birth given in his marriage record was correct and he was exaggerating his age in the tax records since the age of the worker determined

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<sup>35</sup> Northampton County, Virginia, Orders & Wills No. 13, 1689–1698, pp. 526–27, microfilm reel 27a, Local Government Records Collection, Library of Virginia, Richmond.

<sup>36</sup> Northampton County, Virginia, Deeds and Wills, Etc., 1718–1725, p. 104, microfilm reel 5, Local Government Records Collection, Library of Virginia, Richmond.

<sup>37</sup> Mills vs Rickards, Northampton County, Virginia, Chancery Suit 1743-003, digital images, "Chancery Record Index," *Library of Virginia* (<http://www.lva.virginia.gov/>, accessed 2012).

<sup>38</sup> Northampton County, Virginia Deed Book 18, pp. 266–68, microfilm, Local Government Records Collection, Library of Virginia, Richmond.

<sup>39</sup> Sussex County, Delaware, Warrant Book C, p. 600, Recorder of Deeds, Lewes, Delaware.

<sup>40</sup> Sussex County, Delaware, Deed Book H, No. 8, pp. 216–17, RG4555.030, microfilm roll no. 003, digital image, Delaware Public Archives, Dover.

<sup>41</sup> Sussex County, Delaware, Register of Wills, Will Book B-2, pp. 4–5, Edward Mills (1750); Sussex County, Delaware, Register of Wills, Probate Files, Edward Mills (1750), RG4545.009, microfilm roll no. 167, digital image, Delaware Public Archives, Dover.



how much tobacco could be tended.<sup>[42]</sup> If so, this might place Edward Jr. and Jacob as sons of Grace, but would still make Agnes the most likely candidate for Luke's mother.

Children of Edward<sup>2</sup> and Grace (Hall?) (Wood?) Mills:<sup>[43]</sup>

- i. ANN<sup>3</sup> MILLS, b. before 1702 when her godfather, John Fathrey, made her a deed of gift of a heifer.<sup>[44]</sup> She m. JONAS WEBB before March 1729/30, when she was named as the wife of Jonas in a suit for debt brought by Jonas against Godfry Pole.<sup>[45]</sup> Jonas d. after 19 July 1748 in Sussex Co. when he made his will, naming wife Ann and sons John, Jonas, and Leddelton [Littleton]. Although the typescript of the will gives the name of one of the witnesses as Agnes Wills, it is likely that she was Ann's sister Agnes Mills.<sup>[46]</sup>
- ii. JOHN MILLS, b. before 1700, a putative son,<sup>[47]</sup> is described as having left the county to avoid prosecution for a debt in 1721.<sup>[48]</sup> He was not named in Edward's will and no further information was found regarding him.<sup>[49]</sup>

Children of Edward<sup>2</sup> Mills (wife not determined):

- iii. EDWARD<sup>3</sup> MILLS was at least 16 in 1722 (born before 1706) when he first appeared in the tax lists with his father.<sup>[50]</sup> Since he was not found in the two previous lists, he most likely had just turned 16. He does not appear in the tax records after 1726. Nor does his father appear with a distinction of senior,

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<sup>42</sup> See discussion under Luke Mills and note 58.

<sup>43</sup> Luke, Littleton, Nathan, Bowman, and their three sisters are named in their father's will. Sons Edward, Jacob, and Southy appear in the tax lists with their father Edward (John B. Bell, *Northampton County, Virginia, Tithables, 1720–1769* [Bowie, Md.: Heritage Books, 1993], 28, 41, 57).

<sup>44</sup> Northampton County, Virginia, Deeds & Wills, No. 12, 1692–1707, p. 307, microfilm reel 5, Local Government Records Collection, Library of Virginia, Richmond.

<sup>45</sup> Northampton County, Virginia, Court Records: Judgments, Folder 1730, R–W, Box 9, BC 1154688, Local Government Records Collection, Archives and Manuscripts, Library of Virginia, Richmond.

<sup>46</sup> Sussex County, Delaware, Probate File RG 4545-009, roll 265, Jonas Webb (1748), digital image, Delaware Public Archives, Dover.

<sup>47</sup> Edward and Grace had other children besides Ann born before 1702. Since the first-born son might logically be assumed to be named after the grandfather and this John cannot be connected to the other Mills family in the county, he is considered a likely candidate for one of their children.

<sup>48</sup> Northampton County, Virginia, Court Records: Judgments, 1655–1721 (Broken Series), Folder 1722 (A–G), Box 1, BC 1154680, Local Government Records Collection, Archives and Manuscripts, Library of Virginia, Richmond.

<sup>49</sup> A John Mills does appear in a 1713 ejectment suit; however, this is most likely a reference to Edward's father, who would have been named in the suit as the original tenant, even though the lease had devolved on his son Edward (Northampton County, Virginia, Order Book, No. 15, 1710–1716, p. 117, microfilm reel 46, Local Government Records Collection, Library of Virginia, Richmond).

<sup>50</sup> Edward Mills Jr. first appears as a tithable (16 or older) in 1722 (Bell, *Northampton County Tithables* [note 43], 28).

which suggests that Edward Jr. had either died or left the area. He was not named in his father's will.

- iv. JACOB MILLS, b. before 1707;<sup>[51]</sup> m. before 1739 ELIZABETH FRESHWATER, daughter of George Freshwater, who died testate in 1739, naming daughter Elizabeth, son-in-law Jacob Mills, and grandson John Mills.<sup>[52]</sup> Jacob was still living on 27 May 1750, when he witnessed the will (signing with an X) of Francis Costin,<sup>[53]</sup> but was deceased before 10 June 1652, when the sheriff was ordered to take administration of his estate. An account of the sale of his estate was recorded 16 July 1752.<sup>[54]</sup> He was not named in his father's will (made in 1750, date not given), and may have been deceased when it was written.

Children of Edward<sup>2</sup> and Agnes (Moore) Mills:<sup>[55]</sup>

3. v. LUKE<sup>3</sup> MILLS was b. 20 June 1713 according to a family record;<sup>[56]</sup> however, tax records and tobacco lists<sup>[57]</sup> suggest he may have been born as early as 1710.<sup>[58]</sup> He first appeared in a tobacco list working for Richard Elligood in 1724, and again in 1725 and 1727. In 1728 Luke worked for Benjamin Elligood, and in 1729<sup>[59]</sup> for his mother's first cousin Matthew Moor,<sup>[60]</sup> who

<sup>51</sup> He first appears as a tithable (16 or older) in 1723 (Bell, *Northampton County Tithables* [note 43], 41).

<sup>52</sup> Northampton County, Virginia, Wills & Inventories, No. 18, 1733–1740, Pt. 2, p. 315, microfilm reel 30, Local Government Records Collection, Library of Virginia, Richmond; John Frederick Dorman, *Adventurers of Purse and Person: Virginia 1607–1624/5*, 4th ed., 3 vols. (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 2004–07), 1:313, 315.

<sup>53</sup> Northampton County, Virginia, Wills & Inventories, No. 19, 1740–1750, p. 461, microfilm reel 31, Local Government Records Collection, Library of Virginia, Richmond.

<sup>54</sup> “Jacob Mills died possessed of an estate so small that no one will take administration.” Northampton County, Virginia, Order Book, No. 23, 1751–1753, pp. 124, 144, microfilm reel 49, Local Government Records Collection, Library of Virginia, Richmond.

<sup>55</sup> The names of his sons Southy, Littleton, and Bowman suggest a connection to Southy Littleton of Northampton and Accomack Counties (ca. 1646–1679), who married Sarah Bowman (Dorman, *Adventurers of Purse and Person* [note 52], 3:220). However, no connection has been found.

<sup>56</sup> Henry Winthrop Hardon, “Notes: Mills,” *Register* 79 (1925):218–20, at 218.

<sup>57</sup> The number of tobacco plants that could be tended was allocated based on the number of tithables. In the early 1700s boys (those between the age of 10 and 16) were counted as half-tithables; in February 1727/8 the age was changed to boys between the age of 12 and 16. Fines were imposed if workers were underage or constables found more than the allotted number of plants being cared for (Waverly K. Winfree, *The Laws of Virginia, Being A Supplement to Hening's Statutes at Large, 1700–1750* [Richmond, Va.: Virginia State Library, 1971], 247–53, 295–301).

<sup>58</sup> Luke first appeared in the tobacco lists in 1724 as a boy aged between 10 and 16. He was listed as 16 or older in 1727 thus born by 1711; he was not yet 16 in 1725, thus born after 1709 (Northampton County, Virginia, Tax and Tobacco Lists, 1724–1729, photocopies in author's possession made in 2012 from originals at Northampton County Clerk's Office, Eastville, Virginia). It is unclear whether the family record is in error or he added years to his age in order to qualify for the additional tobacco plant allotment.

<sup>59</sup> Northampton County, Virginia, Tax and Tobacco Lists, 1724–1729 [note 58].

<sup>60</sup> Matthew Moore (died testate 1734) was the son of Matthew Moore (died testate 1715) and Elizabeth (possibly Pigot), and the grandson of Thomas Moore Sr. Matthew's daughter Ann

- had sued Luke in court in September 1728 for debt.<sup>[61]</sup> Luke's last appearance in the records of Northampton County was in the 1729 tobacco list.
- vi. SOUTHY MILLS, b. ca. 1714.<sup>[62]</sup> He died before 9 May 1749, leaving a wife TABITHA and an unnamed child.<sup>[63]</sup> On 22 March 1736, Dixon Knight left his wife Martha "one gold ring that Southy Mills carried to New England."<sup>[64]</sup> At the April 1737 court, Southy, stating that he had a boat and hands, petitioned the court to be named ferryman. His petition was denied.<sup>[65]</sup> An account of his estate is revealing: "An Account of the Estate of Southy Mills Deceast [list of personal household items] which is all his Estate an if any person thinks propret to Admini<sup>ts</sup> for I shall not consarn with it my self but if the Cort thinks Proper for me to keep what smal trifels there is I will keep my Child an oblige myself that shall be know [*sic*] charge to the parish from your most umble servant [signed] Tabitha Mills May 9<sup>th</sup> 1749."<sup>[66]</sup>
- vii. LITTLETON MILLS, b. ca. 1715,<sup>[67]</sup> named in his father's 1750 will. Littleton m. his second cousin, ANN MOORE, daughter of Matthew Moore.<sup>[68]</sup> Littleton appears to have remained in Northampton Co., where he was sued in court by John Dixon in the spring of 1748 for not properly fencing his corn field.<sup>[69]</sup> In

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married Littleton Mills, Luke's brother (Moore vs Elliott, Northampton County Chancery File 1751-001; Pigot vs Elliott, Northampton County Chancery File 1753-006, digital images, *Library of Virginia* [<http://www.lva.virginia.gov/>, accessed 2012]).

<sup>61</sup> Matthew Moor vs Luke Mills, Judgments, Sept 1728, Northampton County, Virginia, Box 7, BC 1154686, Local Government Records Collection, Archives and Manuscripts, Library of Virginia, Richmond; Court 10 Sept 1728, Northampton County, Virginia, Order Book 18, 1722–1729, p. 350, microfilm reel 46, Local Government Records Collection, Library of Virginia, Richmond. The case was dismissed. While one had to be 21 in order to bring suit in court, an individual of any age could be sued.

<sup>62</sup> He was aged between 10 and 16 in 1724 and 12 and 16 in 1729, thus born before 1715 (at least 10 in 1724) but after 1713 (not 16 in 1729), based on Northampton County, Virginia, Tax and Tobacco Lists, 1724–1729 [note 58].

<sup>63</sup> Northampton County, Virginia, Fiduciary Records, 1733–1754, Folder 1745–1749, BC 1168312, Local Government Records Collection, Archives and Manuscripts, Library of Virginia, Richmond.

<sup>64</sup> Northampton County, Virginia, Wills and Inventories, No. 18, 1733–1740, pt. 2, pp. 151–52, microfilm reel 30, Local Government Records Collection, Library of Virginia, Richmond.

<sup>65</sup> Jean M. Mihalyka, *Loose Papers and Sundry Court Cases, 1732–1744/5, Northampton County, Virginia, Volume 1* (Eastville, Va.: Hickory House, 1997), 78 citing Packet 23, April 1737, Northampton County, Virginia, Order Book 19, 1729–1732, p. 260.

<sup>66</sup> Northampton County, Virginia, Fiduciary Records, 1733–1754, Folder 1745–1749, BC 1168312, Local Government Records Collection, Archives and Manuscripts, Library of Virginia, Richmond.

<sup>67</sup> Listed as between 12 and 16 in 1729, so born between 1715 and 1718; listed as between 10 and 16 in 1725, so born between 1709 and 1716 (Northampton County, Virginia, Tax and Tobacco Lists, 1724–1729 [note 58]).

<sup>68</sup> See note 60.

<sup>69</sup> Northampton County, Virginia, Judgments, March 1748–March 1750, Folder April 1748, Box 17, BC 1154696, Local Government Records Collection, Archives and Manuscripts, Library of Virginia, Richmond.

- his will dated 1 Jan. 1721, Thomas Frizell left his gun to Littleton Mills, son of Edward Mills.<sup>[70]</sup>
- viii. NATHAN MILLS, b. before 1721;<sup>[71]</sup> named in his father's 1750 will. Nathan witnessed his father's deed of sale in Sussex Co. on 13 May 1749 and proved it on 1 June 1749.<sup>[72]</sup>
- ix. BOWMAN MILLS, b. before 1724;<sup>[73]</sup> named in his father's 1750 will.
- x. SUSANNAH MILLS, m. JAMES JONES, perhaps after her father made his will in 1750. On 3 March 1752, Susannah and husband James Jones, described as of Sussex Co., sold "all their right" to a tract of land she inherited from her father Edward Mills, described as three hundred acres in Cedar Creek Hundred,<sup>[74]</sup> on the west side of Poplar Branch, on the north side of the land belonging to the heirs of William Donilley and on south side of Main Branch of Cedar Creek.<sup>[75]</sup>
- xi. AGNES MILLS, received land in Sussex Co. in her father's 1750 will. Although she was called Agnes Mills in her father's will and her older married sister Ann was called Ann Webb, it appears that Agnes was married to WILLIAM RICKARDS before her father made his will.<sup>[76]</sup> On 8 Nov. 1768, William and Agnes Rickards sold to William's brother John "all their right" in 242 acres of land in Grumby Neck.<sup>[77]</sup> It is unclear whether this was the 252 acres of land that William Rickards of Worcester Co., Md., patented on 10 July 1761<sup>[78]</sup> or the land Agnes inherited. On 16 Jan. 1799, Mills Rickards and William Rickards, both of Sussex Co., Del., posted a bond of one hundred pounds security for Mills Rickards as administrator of the estate of Agnes Rickards of Sussex Co. Both men signed the bond.<sup>[79]</sup> No other estate record survives.

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<sup>70</sup> Northampton County, Virginia, Deeds, Wills, Etc., 1718–1725, p. 140, microfilm reel 5, Local Government Records Collection, Library of Virginia, Richmond.

<sup>71</sup> Nathan first appeared on the tax rolls in 1737, so he was aged at least 16 then (Bell, *Northampton County Tithables* [note 43], 256).

<sup>72</sup> See note 40.

<sup>73</sup> He was listed with his father as a tithable (16 years or older) in 1740 (Bell, *Northampton County Tithables* [note 43], 306).

<sup>74</sup> Before 1683 that part of Cedar Hook Hundred lying north of Cedar Creek formed part of St. Jones County, now Kent County. When Mispillion Creek was made the northern boundary of Sussex County, the northern part of Present Hundred was consolidated with the southern part lying between Cedar Creek and Primehook Creek. See "Sussex County Markers," (<http://archives.delaware.gov/markers/sc/CEDAR%20CREEK%20HUNDRED%20SC-15.shtml#TopOfPage>, accessed 2012).

<sup>75</sup> Sussex County, Delaware, Deed Book H8, p. 378, RG4555.030, microfilm roll no. 3, digital image, Delaware Public Archives, Dover.

<sup>76</sup> In his will (see note 41), Edward named his "son-in-law William Rickards" executor.

<sup>77</sup> Sussex County, Delaware, Deed Book K 10, p. 348, RG4555.030, microfilm roll no. 4, digital image, Delaware Public Archives, Dover.

<sup>78</sup> Sussex County, Delaware, Recorder of Deeds, Rounds Surveys B, p. 320, William Rickards (1761), RG4555.030, microfilm roll no. 31, Delaware Public Archives, Dover.

<sup>79</sup> Sussex County, Delaware, Probate File RG 4545-009, microfilm roll 206, Agnes Rickards (1799), digital image, Delaware Public Archives, Dover.

**3. LUKE<sup>3</sup> MILLS** (*Edward<sup>2</sup>, John<sup>1</sup>*) was born in Northampton County, Virginia, 20 June 1713 or a few years earlier.<sup>[80]</sup> He died, either at sea<sup>[81]</sup> or in Portsmouth, Rockingham County, New Hampshire, between 20 June 1764 and 29 August 1764 (date of will and date of recording).<sup>[82]</sup> Luke Mills, described as of Northampton in Virginia, married first in Portsmouth 5 December 1734, **HANNAH LANG** of Portsmouth, baptized at South Church, Portsmouth, 7 August 1715,<sup>[83]</sup> daughter of John and Grace (Brookin) Lang.<sup>[84]</sup> Hannah died after 28 March 1747, the date of birth of her daughter Mary, and before 29 Oct. 1748, the date of her father's will.<sup>[85]</sup> On 24 June 1752, Luke Mills posted a bond of £1,000 as guardian of his children John, Luke, Alligood and Mary, by his wife Hannah Mills deceased. He acknowledged receipt of their estate on 9 November 1752.<sup>[86]</sup>

Luke married second before 5 June 1754,<sup>[87]</sup> **DEBORAH \_\_\_\_\_**, who is named in his will, dated 20 June 1764 and recorded 29 August 1764. In his will, Luke Mills cut his son Luke off with £10 for failure to behave towards his father "as becomes the Duty of a Child," and left his estate to his wife Deborah and other surviving children, Eligood and Mary, who were both underage.<sup>[88]</sup> His widow Deborah died in Portsmouth 18 March 1786 aged 76.<sup>[89]</sup>

Children of Luke<sup>3</sup> and Hannah (Lang) Mills; all baptisms at the South Church, Portsmouth:<sup>[90]</sup>

- i. EDWARD<sup>4</sup> MILLS, bp. 8 Feb. 1735/6; apparently d. young as he was not among the children named in the guardianship bond posted by Luke for Hannah's estate on 24 June 1752.
- ii. JOHN MILLS, bp. 6 March 1736/7; living on 24 June 1752. He was not named in his father's 1764 will, and is said to have d. ca. 1758.<sup>[91]</sup>
- iii. JONATHAN MILLS, bp. 10 July 1738; apparently d. young as he was not named in the guardianship bond of 24 June 1752.

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<sup>80</sup> See discussion above.

<sup>81</sup> See note 11.

<sup>82</sup> Otis G. Hammond, *Probate Records of the Province of New Hampshire, Volume 8, 1764–1767, State Papers Series, Volume 38* (Concord, N.H.: State of New Hampshire, 1940), 70–73.

<sup>83</sup> Lang, Hannah, daughter of John and Grace, [baptized] Aug. 7, 1715; Lang, Hannah received into full communion May 2, 1725; Mills, Hannah, received into covenant Nov 16, 1735; received into full communion Apr. 22, 1736 (Rev. Alfred Gooding, "Records of the South Church of Portsmouth, N.H.," *Register* 81 [1927]:419–53 et seq., at 428, 429, 447).

<sup>84</sup> Howard Parker Moore, *A Genealogy of the First Five Generations in America of the Lang Family* (Rutland, Vt.: Tuttle, 1935), 60.

<sup>85</sup> Metcalf, *Probate Records of the Province of New Hampshire, Volume 3* [note 7], 613–15.

<sup>86</sup> Otis G. Hammond, ed., *Probate Records of the Province of New Hampshire, Volume 4, 1750–1753, State Papers Series, Volume 34* (Concord, N.H.: State of New Hampshire, 1933), 237–38, 277–78.

<sup>87</sup> Rockingham County Deeds, 45:38.

<sup>88</sup> See note 82.

<sup>89</sup> Priscilla Hammond, *Vital Records Contained in the New Hampshire Gazette, 1756–1800*, online database at *AmericanAncestors.org*.

<sup>90</sup> "Records of the South Church of Portsmouth" [note 83], *Register* 81:447.

<sup>91</sup> Moore, *Lang Family* [note 84], 60.

- iv. LUKE MILLS, bp. 17 Jan. 1741/2; m. Newington, N.H., 11 Oct. 1764, DEBORAH FURBER,<sup>[92]</sup> b. or bp. Newington 19 April 1742, daughter of Nehemiah and Abigail (Leighton) Furber.<sup>[93]</sup> Luke d. before 10 Feb. 1773, when his widow Deborah m. (2) John Gee Pickering, who d. 15 Aug. 1795, aged 60.<sup>[94]</sup> She d. in Newington shortly before 29 Oct. 1796, when a notice of her death was published in the *New Hampshire Gazette*.<sup>[95]</sup>
- v. ELIGOOD MILLS,<sup>[96]</sup> bp. 6 July 1744;<sup>[97]</sup> d. 6 Jan. 1832, bur. Elder Grey [sometimes Gray] Cemetery, Waterboro, Maine, with his two wives.<sup>[98]</sup> He m. (1) Biddeford, Maine, 13 Nov. 1770, MARY DYER,<sup>[99]</sup> b. Biddeford 13 Aug. 1753, d. Portsmouth 13 March 1774, daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth (Haley?) Dyer.<sup>[100]</sup> He m. (2) Biddeford 29 Aug. 1774, LUCY MCLUCAS,<sup>[101]</sup> b.

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<sup>92</sup> Charles W. Tuttle, "Church Records at Newington, New Hampshire," *Register* 22 (1868):23–27, 156–59 et seq., at 157.

<sup>93</sup> Perley M. Leighton, *A Leighton Genealogy: Descendants of Thomas Leighton of Dover, New Hampshire* (Boston: NEHGS, 1989), 1:29 (born 19 April 1742); Henry W. Hardon, *Newington, New Hampshire, Families in the Eighteenth Century* (Bowie, Md.: Heritage Books, 1991), 69–70, 108 (baptized 19 April 1742).

<sup>94</sup> Tuttle, "Church Records at Newington" [note 92], *Register* 22:158; *New Hampshire Gazette*, 18 August 1795, p. 3; Hardon, *Newington Families* [note 93], 70, 108, 138.

<sup>95</sup> *New Hampshire Gazette*, 29 October 1796, p. 3.

<sup>96</sup> The first employers of Luke Mills in Virginia were Richard and Benjamin Eligood; see note 59 and related text.

<sup>97</sup> A record in a book published in London in 1694 and, according to family lore, given to Eligood's father Luke in 1757, lists Eligood's date of birth as 4 August 1744; a Bible published in 1819 and referred to as the Eligood Mills Bible gives the date as either 15 or 25 August 1744 (the first digit was apparently overwritten at the time of entry; it is impossible to determine which number was first); Eligood's gravestone gives his birth date as 25 August 1744 (information on both wives is engraved on the second tombstone; this and the appearance of the paired gravestones suggest that its placement was not contemporary with any of the deaths). See Hardon, "Notes: Mills" [note 56], *Register* 79:218, and Eligood Mills Bible, *The Holy Bible: Containing Old & New Testaments Translated Out of the Original Tongues . . .* (Brattleborough, Vt.: J. Holbrook, 1819), digital images, Dave Rudge, "Transcript of Eligood Mills' Bible," <http://homepages.wmich.edu/~rudged/gen/embible.html>, accessed 2012).

<sup>98</sup> Photograph on *Findagrave.com*. Frederick R. Boyle, *Early Families of Waterborough, Maine* (Portsmouth, N.H.: Peter E. Randall, 2012), 327–28, includes the inscription on the gravestone with Eligood's Revolutionary War service. See Carleton E. Fisher and Sue G. Fisher, *Soldiers, Sailors, and Patriots of the Revolutionary War: Maine* (Louisville, Ky.: National Society SAR, 1982), 545, and *Supplement* (Rockport, Maine: Picton Press, 1998), 244.

<sup>99</sup> A.K.P. Meserve, "Records of First Congregational Church in Biddeford," *Maine Historical and Genealogical Recorder* 5 (1888):202–06; 6 (1889):293–301, 333–40 et seq., at 300, 333; John D. Beatty, ed., *Vital Records of Biddeford, Maine, Prior to 1856*, Maine Genealogical Society Special Publication No. 28 (Rockport, Maine: Picton Press, 1998), 32, 112. The dates of Eligood's marriages are given as 7 June 1770 and 2 August 1774 in Hardon, "Notes: Mills" [note 56], *Register* 79:218.

<sup>100</sup> *Vital Records of Biddeford* [note 99], 69; Boyle, *Early Families of Waterborough* [note 98], 327–28.

<sup>101</sup> *Vital Records of Biddeford* [note 99], 34, 113. See note 99.

Biddeford 2 Oct. 1749, d. Waterboro 28 Jan. 1832, daughter of John and Lydia (Webber) McLucas.<sup>[102]</sup>

Eligood moved to Maine before his second marriage, when he was called “of Biddeford.” On 27 March 1779, Eligood Mills of Limerick, York Co., Mass. [Maine was part of Mass. until 1820], sold for £292.15.7 to his brother-in-law Paul Leighton of Portsmouth, blockmaker, all his interest in a lot in Portsmouth with “half of a dwelling house thereon standing & the whole of a shop store & wharfe . . . [bounded] on the north by land of Mark Hunking Wentworth Esquire & Nathl Milcher on the east by Piscataqua River . . . on the south by . . . Mark Hunking Wentworth & on the west by land of sd Paul Layton together with the whole of the real estate & a half pew in the South meeting house which was willed to be by my hon’d Father Luke Mills late of said Portsmouth mariner.”<sup>[103]</sup>

- vi. MARY MILLS, b. Portsmouth 28 March 1747,<sup>[104]</sup> bp. 29 March 1746/7 [*sic*]; d. Portsmouth 28 May 1823, aged 77;<sup>[105]</sup> m. Portsmouth 8 Aug 1765, PAUL LAIGHTON, b. Dover, N.H., 3 April 1739, d. Portsmouth 9 March 1814, aged 76, son of John and Abigail (Ham) Leighton.<sup>[106]</sup>

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<sup>102</sup> *Vital Records of Biddeford* [note 99], 65 (baptism), 22, 104 (parents’ marriage). Boyle, *Early Families of Waterborough* [note 98], 327–28.

<sup>103</sup> Rockingham County Deeds, 145:310–11.

<sup>104</sup> Leighton, *Leighton Genealogy* [note 93], 1:41, but the exact source is unclear.

<sup>105</sup> Gooding, “Records of the South Church of Portsmouth” [note 83], *Register* 83:34; *New Hampshire Gazette*, 3 June 1823, p. 3.

<sup>106</sup> Gooding, “Records of the South Church of Portsmouth” [note 83], *Register* 82:292; Leighton, *Leighton Genealogy* [note 93], 1:41–42. Paul Leighton and his descendants spelled their name differently from the rest of the family.

## THE IDENTITY OF NATHAN FISH OF GROTON AND PEPPERELL, MASSACHUSETTS

*Pamela Fish-Tyler\**

On 22 May 1776, Mary Fish made her mark, posting bond as administratrix of the estate of her husband, Nathan Fish, late of Pepperell, Massachusetts. His inventory, including land and buildings worth £160, totaled £232 3s 2d. There were also a gun, bayonet, and powder horn, a “loomb & Tackling” as well as horse, saddle, bridle, four oxen, three cows, five small cattle, two swine, a few other household goods, a Bible, and “wareing apparel.”<sup>[1]</sup> In November 1777 Mary petitioned the Inferior Court of Middlesex County for license to sell “the premises.”<sup>[2]</sup> But it was not until 1 June 1779 that Mary sold ten acres of land to John Boynton of Pepperell, sadler, saying the sale was by license of the Inferior Court.<sup>[3]</sup>

That Nathan’s wife Mary was the daughter of Stephen and Rachel (\_\_\_\_\_) Pierce of Groton is clear from “Articles of Agreement” made on 23 November 1768 by widow Rachel Pierce of Groton and her children, Jonathan of Groton, Stephen of Pepperell, Ephraim and Rachel Lund of Amherst, Jonathan and Susannah Gibson, and Nathan and Mary Fish of Pepperell. Their father in his lifetime had given portions to their sisters Elizabeth and Thankful Pierce.<sup>[4]</sup> Stephen was probably the Stephen Pierce who died at Groton on 6 July 1761.<sup>[5]</sup>

Mary was born in Groton on 24 June 1732, daughter of Stephen and Rachel (Harwood) Pierce.<sup>[6]</sup> “Molly” Pierce of Groton and Nathan Fish filed intentions of marriage in Pepperell on 12 November 1757.<sup>[7]</sup>

On 30 November 1756, Nathan Fish of Groton, cooper, bought forty acres, including a house, in the district of Pepperell from Isaac Farnsworth of Groton,

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\*Most research done or commissioned by the author; compiled by Helen Schatvet Ullmann, CG, FASG.

<sup>1</sup> Middlesex County Probate, file 7536. According to Seymour P. Fish and Vera P. Fish, *Family of Joseph Fish (1840–1926)* (Provo, Utah: J. Grant Stevenson, 1970), 7, he died about 30 January, which is probably just a guess.

<sup>2</sup> Middlesex County Court of Common Pleas, November 1770–November 1780, November Term 1777, p. 573.

<sup>3</sup> Middlesex County Deeds, 82:96.

<sup>4</sup> Middlesex County Deeds, 68:436 (not recorded in Middlesex County Probate).

<sup>5</sup> *Vital Records of Groton, Massachusetts, to the End of the Year 1849*, 2 vols. (Salem, Mass.: Essex Institute, 1926), 2:255.

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid.*, 1:186, daughter of Stephen and Rachel. Stephen “Peirce” and Rachel Harwood filed intentions to marry in Chelmsford, Massachusetts, on 1 December 1722 (*Vital Records of Chelmsford, Massachusetts, to the End of the Year 1849* [Salem, Mass.: Essex Institute, 1914], 292).

<sup>7</sup> George A. Rice, *Vital Records of Pepperell, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850* (Boston: NEHGS, 1985), 162; Pepperell Town and Vital Records [FHL 0,868,603], A:118.



and on 19 February 1761 Nathan Fish of Pepperell District, cooper, purchased from Oliver Parker ten acres of land in Pepperell lying on the county road leading to Townsend and on the road leading to Pepperell Meeting House.<sup>[8]</sup> Formerly the second precinct of Groton, Pepperell was established as a district in 1753 and made a town in 1775.<sup>[9]</sup>

A 1771 tax list for Pepperell shows that Nathan “Fisk” had one rateable poll, a house, an iron-works (or share in one), one horse, two oxen, two cattle, four sheep, three swine, ten acres of pasture, twelve of tillage, four acres of mowing land and two of fresh meadow. The farm had produced ninety bushels of grain, two barrels of cider and four tons of hay.<sup>[10]</sup> Probably the remainder of his forty to fifty acres consisted of woodland and perhaps swamp. The names “Fish” and “Fisk” seem to have been used almost interchangeably for this family, perhaps because Nathan’s mother had married James Fisk (see below).

On 1 March 1773 Nathan sold for £100 to Edmund Bancroft and Isaac and Henry Woods some “thirty acres . . . all the Land and Buildings said Fish hath on that side Said [County] Road.”<sup>[11]</sup>

The land on Nathan’s inventory was probably the ten acres he purchased in 1761 from Oliver Parker and perhaps included some of his purchase from Farnsworth. After Nathan’s death, on 7 March 1777, Mary bought back for £100 the thirty acres Nathan had sold in 1773. As that was a quitclaim deed,<sup>[12]</sup> Nathan’s earlier sale was probably a mortgage. Then on the same day, she sold it to John Boynton of Pepperell, sadler, the same man who would buy the ten-acre piece two years later, on 1 June 1779.<sup>[13]</sup>

Nathan Fish served in Capt. John Nutting’s company of Minutemen from Pepperell on 19 April 1775, and he was on a company return dated Cambridge 2 October 1775.<sup>[14]</sup> This company was in Col. William Prescott’s Regiment, which fought the famous battle at “Bunker Hill” on 17 June 1775. Fish apparently survived the battle but may have died of injuries received there.

Nathan Fish, husband of Mary, was called a cooper on several deeds abstracted above. His inventory included “6 Barrels Tubs & lumber,” which could well indicate that he was a cooper.

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<sup>8</sup> Middlesex County Deeds, 74:68–69, both recorded on 2 February 1773.

<sup>9</sup> William Francis Galvin, *Historical Data Relating to Counties, Cities and Towns in Massachusetts*, 5th ed. (Boston: NEHGS, 1997), 91.

<sup>10</sup> Bettye Hobbs Pruitt, *The Massachusetts Tax Valuation List of 1771* (Camden, Maine: Picton Press, 1998), 246. Nathan’s surname may not have been clearly written in the original, but apparently both names were used by this family.

<sup>11</sup> Middlesex County Deeds, 75:336.

<sup>12</sup> Middlesex County Deeds, 80:229.

<sup>13</sup> Middlesex County Deeds, 82:96–97, both recorded 12 October 1780.

<sup>14</sup> Massachusetts Secretary of State, *Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors in the War of the Revolution*, 17 vols. (Boston: Wright and Potter, 1896–1908), 5:681.

### WHO WAS NATHAN FISH?

According to a published record, the author of which may have read the surnames incorrectly, a Nathan and Samuel “Fisk” served together in Capt. Ephraim Jones’ company in the French and Indian War, both age 24, last resident in Pepperell, both coopers, according to a muster roll dated “Bason of Annapolis Royal Nova Scotia May 28<sup>th</sup> 1755.”<sup>[15]</sup>

That their ages were the same suggests a birthdate in 1730 or 1731. Thus, they were probably the Fish twins, Nathan and Samuel, born on 14 April 1730 to Nathan Fish and Lydia Bennett.<sup>[16]</sup> The format of the birth entry suggests that the twins were illegitimate. In fact, Lydia took Nathan Fish to court for support of the twins and he was ordered to pay. On 2 February 1729[/30], Nathan Fish of Groton, labourer, appeared before Benjamin Prescott, Justice of the Peace, and posted bond, having been charged by Lydia Bennet of Groton, who was “bigg with A Bastard Child begotten on her body by the Said Nathan Fish.”<sup>[17]</sup> A warrant for Nathan’s arrest is dated 22 May 1730 and was either served or returned in September. Lydia was fined fifty shillings on 30 August 1730 for fornication.<sup>[18]</sup> On 8 December 1730 Nathan was in court, Lydia having had male twins. The midwife Hannah Holding had testified. Nathan was sentenced to pay seven shillings per week until further notice and to pay half the charge of Lydia’s lying in.<sup>[19]</sup> On the second Tuesday of March 1730[/1] Lydia petitioned via her attorney William Laurence of Groton complaining that Nathan owed £19 17s. 9d.<sup>[20]</sup> On 29 March the court ordered that Nathan pay that sum. He was discharged from his recognizance (i.e., bond) at court on 31 August 1731.<sup>[21]</sup>

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<sup>15</sup> Samuel A. Greene, M.D., *Groton During the Indian Wars* (Groton, Mass.: the author, 1883), 174, 176.

<sup>16</sup> *Vital Records of Groton* [note 5], 1:85; Groton Birth, Marriages and Deaths, 1647–1829 [FHL 0,838,721], 1:183, also online in Massachusetts, Town and Vital Records, 1620–1988, Groton Vital Records, image online at *Ancestry.com*; Caleb Butler, *History of the Town of Groton* (Boston: T. R. Marvin, 1848), 449, a list of “Illegitimates”; Ethel Stanwood Bolton, “The Bennets of Lancaster, Mass.,” *Register* 56 (1902):241–47, at 242, where Lydia is named with her parents and as the mother of three illegitimate children, including Nathan and Samuel “Fisk.”

<sup>17</sup> Lydia Bennet v. Nathan Fish, Court of General Sessions of the Peace, Middlesex County, 1730, Middlesex Folio Collection, 1730 - 118 A - 1, Judicial Archives, Massachusetts State Archives, Boston. Even though Nathan was not yet married to Patience Shattuck, bondsmen were Isaac Williams, husband of Patience Shattuck’s sister Lydia, and Jonathan Shattuck, brother of Patience (*Vital Records of Groton* [note 5], 1:216–17 (births of “Lediah” and Jonathan); 2:155 (marriage of “Lidea” and Isaac Williams).

<sup>18</sup> Lydia Bennet v. Nathan Fish [note 17].

<sup>19</sup> Minutes of the Middlesex County Court of General Sessions of the Peace, 8 December 1730, 2:225; Hannah Holding’s testimony and “Liedah Benets Bill of Charge at her lying in” are also on file (Lydia Bennet v. Nathan Fish [note 17]).

<sup>20</sup> Lydia Bennet v. Nathan Fish [note 17].

<sup>21</sup> Minutes of the Middlesex County Court of General Sessions of the Peace, 31 August 1731, 2:253.

### NATHAN'S PARENTS

The father Nathan Fish was born about 1708.<sup>[22]</sup> Only about five and a half months after Lydia Bennet had her twins, Nathan married in Newbury, Massachusetts, on 2 October 1730, Patience Shattuck.<sup>[23]</sup> She was born in Groton on 18 February 1708/9, daughter of John and Mary (Blood) Shattuck.<sup>[24]</sup> Nathan and Patience had eight children recorded in Groton from 1731 to 1752.<sup>[25]</sup> Because a child was born only four months after their marriage, Nathan and Patience had to appear in court charged with fornication.<sup>[26]</sup> Their children were baptized in the same church in Pepperell<sup>[27]</sup> where the illegitimate son Nathan and his wife Mary (Pierce) Fish attended. By 1752 the elder Nathan's family had moved to Mason, New Hampshire, where Nathan died by 1769.<sup>[28]</sup> On 2 May 1757, Nathan Fish "of a place called No. 1 in the Province of New Hampshire, Husbandman and Patience Fish his wife," with Benjamin Bennet Jr. of Groton and his wife Sarah quitclaimed to Jonathan Shattuck of the District of Pepperell their right to "the thirds set off to our hon<sup>d</sup> Mother Mary Shattuck late of Groton, referring also to the estate of their father John Shattuck late of Groton and grandmother Mary Shattuck."<sup>[29]</sup> "No. 1" refers to Mason, New Hampshire.

Lydia Bennett was probably the daughter of "Gorg" and "Marey Bennitt" born in Groton 29 December 1706.<sup>[30]</sup> She married in Groton on 23 March 1736/7, James Fisk.<sup>[31]</sup> He died by 6 March 1771, leaving a will that names wife Lydia and sons James, John, and Peter. Daughters Lydia and Mary also signed a document in the file.<sup>[32]</sup> The children were born in Groton from 1738 to 1749.<sup>[33]</sup>

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<sup>22</sup> Nathan was baptized in Pepperell on 3 July 1748 at age 40 (*Vital Records of Pepperell* [note 7], 35).

<sup>23</sup> *Vital Records of Newbury, Massachusetts, to the End of the Year 1849*, 2 vols. (Salem, Mass.: Essex Institute, 1911), 2:172, both of Groton, from records of Queen Anne's Chapel (Episcopal). One wonders why they went to Newbury to be married. Perhaps the minister there was particularly tolerant. About three weeks later, on 21 October 1730, at the same church, Elizabeth (Bailey) Pierpont married Joseph Bennett in spite of apparently not having been awarded a divorce from her first husband, John Pierpont of Roxbury (*ibid.*, 26, 46; Helen Schatvet Ullmann, *The Pierponts of Roxbury, Massachusetts* [Boston: Newbury Street Press, 2007], 48).

<sup>24</sup> *Vital Records of Groton* [note 5], 1:218; Henry Bond, *Genealogies of the Families and Descendants of the Early Settlers of Watertown, Massachusetts*, 2 vols. (Boston: Little, Brown & Co., 1855), 1:427 (wife of John Shattuck).

<sup>25</sup> *Vital Records of Groton* [note 5], 1:84.

<sup>26</sup> Court of General Sessions of the Peace, Middlesex County, 1731, Middlesex Folio Collection, 1731 – 123A – 2, Judicial Archives, Massachusetts State Archives, Boston.

<sup>27</sup> *Vital Records of Pepperell* [note 7], 35–36.

<sup>28</sup> John B. Hill, *History of the Town of Mason, New Hampshire* (Boston: L. A. Elliot & Co., 1858), 215–16. In that year Nathan was living "North of Dea. N. Hall's," and also in 1769 Patience was listed as a widow, probably on a tax list.

<sup>29</sup> Middlesex County Deeds, 65:600–01.

<sup>30</sup> *Vital Records of Groton* [note 5], 1:27.

<sup>31</sup> *Ibid.*, 2:67.

<sup>32</sup> Middlesex County Probate, file 7588.

<sup>33</sup> *Vital Records of Groton* [note 5], 1:84–85.

Lydia had another illegitimate child, Esther Woods, born in Groton on 19 March 1725/6, daughter of Thomas Woods, Jr.<sup>[34]</sup> This may be the Esther Woods who married in Groton on 18 December 1744, Ephraim Whitney.<sup>[35]</sup> Apparently Lydia also had a fourth illegitimate child, or perhaps miscarried, as she appeared in the Court of General Sessions of the Peace on 14 May 1729 and was fined thirty shillings, having confessed to fornication.<sup>[36]</sup>

Besides the Nathan Fish who married Patience Shattuck there were no other known men named Nathan Fish in the Groton–Pepperell area during the relevant time period. We therefore conclude that Nathan Fish, husband of Mary Pierce, was the Nathan Fish born at Groton on 14 April 1730, illegitimate son of Nathan Fish and Lydia Bennett.

### GENEALOGICAL SUMMARY

**NATHAN FISH**, son of Nathan Fish and Lydia Bennett, was born in Groton, Massachusetts, on 14 April 1730. He died shortly before 22 May 1776. He married, having published intentions in Pepperell, Massachusetts, on 12 November 1757, **MARY “MOLLY” PIERCE**, born in Groton on 24 June 1732, daughter of Stephen and Rachel (Harwood) Pierce. She probably remarried after Nathan’s death and may have died in Reading, Windsor County, Vermont, where two of her children lived (see below).

Children of Nathan and Mary (Pierce) Fish, baptized in Pepperell:<sup>[37]</sup>

- i. **NATHAN FISH**, b. Oct., probably 1758,<sup>[38]</sup> bp. 13 May 1759; d. probably Windsor, Windsor Co., Vt.,<sup>[39]</sup> shortly before 29 Aug. 1804.<sup>[40]</sup> He was of Reading, Windsor Co., Vt., when he m. Waltham, Mass., 27 Jan. 1785, **ABIGAIL PIERCE**,<sup>[41]</sup> b. Waltham, Mass., 13 Aug. 1757, daughter of Jonathan and Abigail

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<sup>34</sup> Butler, *History of Groton* [note 16], 449, a list of “Illegitimates”; the birth in *Vital Records of Groton* [note 5], 1:260, as “Easther,” daughter of Thomas Woods, Jr. and “Lydia (Bennett).”

<sup>35</sup> *Vital Records of Groton* [note 5], 2:188.

<sup>36</sup> Minutes of the Middlesex County Court of General Sessions of the Peace, 2:182.

<sup>37</sup> Birthdates are from the supplemental application of Mary Elizabeth Goodrich Beed on Nathan Fish (1729 [sic]–1776, Massachusetts), National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, Office of the Registrar General, Washington, D.C., 29 November 1913. Baptisms are from *Vital Records of Pepperell* [note 7], 35–36; First Church and First Parish Records, property of the Community Church, 3 Townsend Street, Pepperell, copy by Elizabeth Babbidge.

<sup>38</sup> DAR application of Mary Elizabeth Goodrich Beed [note 37], says only October.

<sup>39</sup> A son Nathan was born in Windsor 28 February 1786 (Vermont State Vital Records); Nathan was in Windsor in 1791 and 1800 (1790 U.S. Census, Windsor, Windsor County, Vermont, roll 12, p. 56, the surname clearly written as “Fisk,” this census actually taken in 1791; 1800 U.S. Census, Windsor, roll 52, p. 364). In 1810 Abigail headed the family (1810 U.S. Census, Windsor, roll 65, p. 621).

<sup>40</sup> Nathaniel Kendall of Windsor was appointed administrator of Nathan’s estate on 29 August 1804, at the request of his widow Abigail (Windsor District Probate, 4:172, 330–35). Distribution of his land to his children is recorded in Windsor Deeds, 9:337–49 (research by Lois Albrecht).

<sup>41</sup> *Vital Records of Waltham, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850* (Boston: NEHGS, 1904), 149.

- (Blanchard) Pierce.<sup>[42]</sup> On 8 April 1815 she was living in Woodstock, Windsor Co., Vt., when she quitclaimed to her son Nathan on her dower in her husband's land. She made her mark as Abigail Fish.<sup>[43]</sup>
- ii. MARY FISH, b. 21 Dec. 1760; bp. 28 Dec. 1760; d. Reading, Vt., 24 Feb. 1785,<sup>[44]</sup> bur. Bailey's Mills Cemetery, Reading,<sup>[45]</sup> m. Groton 12 July 1780, ABEL AMSDEN,<sup>[46]</sup> b. Southborough, Mass., 1 Sept. 1755, son of Abraham [Jr.] and Hannah (Whitcomb) Amsden,<sup>[47]</sup> d. 25 July 1828 age 72, bur. Amsden Cemetery, Reading.<sup>[48]</sup>
  - iii. SARAH FISH, b. 26 May 1763; bp. 5 June 1763; d. Pepperell 23 Sept. 1794,<sup>[49]</sup> m. Pepperell 21 May 1783, JOHN NUTTING, JR.,<sup>[50]</sup> b. Pepperell 11 Feb. 1759, son of Captain John and Martha (Blood) Nutting,<sup>[51]</sup> d. 7 Nov. 1811, aged 51½, bur. Walton Cemetery, Pepperell.<sup>[52]</sup>
  - iv. THANKFUL FISH, b. 21 June 1765; bp. 30 June 1765; d. 15 March 1862, aged 97; bur. McConnell Cemetery, Ayer's Cliff, Stanstead Co., Quebec;<sup>[53]</sup> m. Reading, Vt., 14 Feb. 1788, WILLIAM TAYLOR,<sup>[54]</sup> d. 26 Jan 1851.<sup>[55]</sup> In 1861 Thankful Taylor, "Grandam," age 96, a Freewill Baptist, was listed in a Taylor family in the census of Hatley, Stanstead Co.<sup>[56]</sup>

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<sup>42</sup> Ibid., 72 (birth), 202 (parents' marriage); Frederick Clifton Pierce, *Peirce Genealogy, being the Record of the Posterity of John Pers, an Early Inhabitant of Watertown . . .* (Worcester, Mass.: C. Hamilton, 1880), 50, which says Abigail married "Nathan Fiske of Reading, Vt."

<sup>43</sup> Windsor Deeds, 11:190 (research by Lois Albrecht).

<sup>44</sup> Reading, Vermont, Town Records, Reading Town Clerk's Office, 1:83; Vermont State Vital Records, "consort of Abel."

<sup>45</sup> According to Gilbert A. Davis, *History of Reading, Windsor County, Vermont*, 2 vols. (Windsor, Vt.: the author, 1874, 1903), 2:167–68, her body was removed by medical students and all stones in the cemetery are gone.

<sup>46</sup> *Vital Records of Groton* [note 5], 2:67; Davis, *History of Reading* [note 45], 2:163; Samuel Abbott Green, *Groton Historical Series*, 4 vols. (Groton, Mass.: the author?, 1886–99), 4:91.

<sup>47</sup> *Vital Records of Southborough, Massachusetts, to the End of the Year 1849* (Worcester, Mass.: Franklin P. Rice, 1903), 13; Murray M. Brown, *Some Descendants of Isaac Amsden of Cambridge, Mass.* (Athol, Mass.: the author, 1934), 11–12, 25.

<sup>48</sup> A photograph of his gravestone is online at *findagrave.com*. Gilbert A. Davis, *Centennial Celebration together with an Historical Sketch of Reading, Windsor County, Vermont* (Bellows Falls, Vt.: A. N. Swain, 1874), 118–19, names his children but not his wife. Abel's probate is in Windsor District Probate, 11:370–74.

<sup>49</sup> *Vital Records of Pepperell* [note 7], 291, from church records.

<sup>50</sup> Ibid., 163, her name given as "Fisk"; in their intentions of marriage at Pepperell 11 April 1783, her name might be read as "Fish" but looks more like "Fisk" (Massachusetts, Town and Vital Records, 1620–1988, Groton Vital Records, online at *Ancestry.com*, which has indexed her name incorrectly as "Post" on the marriage record even though the name "Fisk" is written below).

<sup>51</sup> *Vital Records of Pepperell* [note 7], 72 (birth), 199 (parent's marriage).

<sup>52</sup> Ibid., 290, which says his gravestone identifies him as husband of Sarah.

<sup>53</sup> Leslie Nutbrown, "McConnell Cemetery, Ayer's Cliff, Stanstead County, Quebec," online at <http://www.interment.net/data/canada/qc/stanstead/mcconnell/index.htm>.

<sup>54</sup> Reading, Vermont, Town Records [note 44], 32; "FISHLINE: Fish Descendants of John Fyshe," <http://www.dallas.net/~mcmanus/fish/fishline.htm>, page 7 of 28, viewed 26 February 2008.

<sup>55</sup> Nutbrown, "McConnell Cemetery" [note 53], which says "no headstone."

<sup>56</sup> 1861 Canadian Census, E.D. 2, Hatley, Stanstead County, Canada East, roll C-1323, p. 110, online at *Ancestry.com*.

- v. SAMUEL FISH, b. 24 April 1768;<sup>[57]</sup> bp. 1 May 1768; d. 3 Sept. 1823, bur. Grenadier Island, Front of Escott, Leeds Co., Ontario;<sup>[58]</sup> m. Reading, Vt., 9 Feb. 1786, JEMIMA “MIMEE” BEACH,<sup>[59]</sup> b. Wallingford, Conn., 16 Feb. 1769, daughter of Elihu and Zerviah (Byington) Beach,<sup>[60]</sup> d. 15 Aug. 1757, aged 88 years, 7 months, bur. with Samuel.<sup>[61]</sup>
- vi. JOSEPH FISH, b. 17 April 1770;<sup>[62]</sup> bp. 29 April 1770; d. Hatley, Stanstead Co., 22 April 1859;<sup>[63]</sup> bur. Old North Church Cemetery, Hatley;<sup>[64]</sup> m. 5 Jan. 1793,<sup>[65]</sup> SARAH SPEAR, b. Walpole, Cheshire Co., N.H.,<sup>[66]</sup> 24 March 1770, daughter of Andrew and Mary “Molley” (\_\_\_\_\_) Spear,<sup>[67]</sup> d. 22 Oct. 1858, aged 88, bur. with Joseph.<sup>[68]</sup>
- vii. LYDIA FISH, b. 22 July 1773; bp. 25 July 1773.

*Pamela Fish-Tyler of Mesa, Arizona, is a descendant of Nathan and Mary “Molly” (Pierce) Fish, and may be contacted at ancestors@cox.net.*

<sup>57</sup> Annotation on *findagrave.com* with an illegible photograph of his gravestone.

<sup>58</sup> Annotation on *findagrave.com* with an illegible photograph of his gravestone. The Canada GenWeb Cemetery Project says Samuel Fish’s 1823 gravestone is the oldest in the cemetery.

<sup>59</sup> Reading, Vermont, Town Records [note 44], 36; “Mimee” in Vermont State Vital Records.

<sup>60</sup> Barbour Collection of Connecticut Vital Records, from Wallingford Vital Records, 17:204 (birth), 13:548 (parents’ marriage); Donald Lines Jacobus, *Families of Ancient New Haven*, 8 vols. (Rome, N.Y., and New Haven, Conn.: the author, 1922–32), 1:155; Ellwood Count Curtis, *The Descendants of John Beach Sr.* (Cedar Falls, Iowa: Galactic Press, 2004), 62–63.

<sup>61</sup> Photograph of the gravestone, perhaps a modern copy, online at *findagrave.com*.

<sup>62</sup> B. F. Hubbard and John Lawrence, *Forests and Clearings: The History of Stanstead County, Province of Quebec* (Montreal, Canada: Lovell Printing & Publishing Co., 1874), 256; John H. Krenkel, *The Life and Times of Joseph Fish* (Mesa, Ariz.: Direct Marketing & Printing, 1988), 1, “The eldest son, Joseph, my grandfather, was born April 17, 1700 [*sic*] in Pepperil, New Hampshire [*sic*].”

<sup>63</sup> Hubbard and Lawrence, *Forests and Clearings* [note 62], 256.

<sup>64</sup> Listed in “Old North Church Cemetery, Hatley, Stanstead County, Quebec” <http://www.interment.net/data/canada/qc/stanstead/oldnorth/index.htm>, viewed 5 May 2012; Fish and Fish, *Family of Joseph Fish* [note 1], 15.

<sup>65</sup> Hubbard and Lawrence, *Forests and Clearings* [note 62], 256.

<sup>66</sup> The family was living in Walpole at the time of her birth (Martha McDanolds Frizzell, *A History of Walpole, New Hampshire*, 2 vols. [Walpole, N.H.: Walpole Historical Society, 1963], 1:7, 218, 221).

<sup>67</sup> Hubbard and Lawrence, *Forests and Clearings* [note 62], 256.

<sup>68</sup> *Ibid.*, which says she died 12 October, but her headstone says 22 October (“Old North Church Cemetery [note 64]).

ABIGAIL COBB, WIFE OF EBENEZER<sup>7</sup> FAIRBANK,  
AND DAUGHTER OF EBENEZER<sup>2</sup> (*STEPHEN*<sup>1</sup>) COBB  
OF CHESHIRE COUNTY, NEW HAMPSHIRE

*Patricia Sezna Haggerty*

“EBENEZER<sup>7</sup> FAIRBANK (*Jonas*<sup>6</sup>, *Samuel*<sup>5-4</sup>, *Jonathan*<sup>3</sup>, *George*<sup>2</sup>, *Jonathan*<sup>1</sup>) was born in Dudley, Worcester County, Massachusetts, on 28 July 1776. Soon after his majority, he married Miss ABIGAIL COBB. In 1808 or 1809, Ebenezer emigrated with his father to Eaton, Madison County, New York. In 1826 his wife died leaving several small children.”<sup>[1]</sup>

No death record, cemetery listing, or will has been found for Abigail. Her exact place of death has not been discovered, but researchers have suggested it was either Madison or Otsego County, New York. Although the 22 August 1909 death certificate of Ebenezer and Abigail (Cobb) Fairbank's youngest son, Henry F. Fairbank, names *Lydia* Cobb as his mother,<sup>[2]</sup> the following deed shows that the first name of Ebenezer Cobb's wife was Abigail.<sup>[3]</sup>

Ebenezer Fairbank of Walpole in the County of Cheshire and State of New Hampshire yeoman in consideration of one hundred fourteen dollars and ninety five cents paid me by Rhoda Carter of Dudley in the County of Worcester and commonwealth of Massachusetts widow the receipt whereof I do hereby acknowledge do hereby grant sell and quitclaim unto the said Rhoda Carter her heirs and assigns all my right title claim and demand in and unto all the real estate together with the personal that the widow Abigail Carter late of Dudley died seized and possessed of in her own right and the right of her Husband William Carter deceased also do quitclaim unto the said Rhoda Carter her heirs all right and title that I have or ever had in and unto the real and personal Estate of Rhoda Carter late of Dudley deceased. I the said Ebenezer Fairbank claiming the aforesaid property as Grand Children of William Carter late of Dudley deceased . . . whereof I have here unto set my hand & seal this twenty fifth day of September in the year of our lord Eighteen hundred and four.

[Signed] Ebenezer Fairbank  
Abigail X Fairbank (her mark)

in the presence of  
Jonas Fairbank  
Uri Fairbank

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<sup>1</sup> Lorenzo Sayles Fairbanks, *Genealogy of the Fairbanks Family in America* (Boston: American Printing and Engraving Co., 1897), 381.

<sup>2</sup> Henry F. Fairbanks Death Certificate, New York State Department of Health, 1909, Index No. 979, obtained from the Unadilla, New York, Town Clerk.

<sup>3</sup> Worcester County Deeds, 158:51–52. He was the son of Jonas and Mary (Carter) Fairbank.

The ancestry of Abigail (Cobb) Fairbank has remained a mystery, but the following facts point to the conclusion that she was the daughter of Ebenezer<sup>2</sup> Cobb (*Stephen*<sup>1</sup>)<sup>[4]</sup> of Dublin and Alstead, Cheshire County, New Hampshire, and his first wife Abigail.

About 1777, Ebenezer Fairbank's parents, Jonas and Mary (Carter) Fairbank removed from Dudley to Chesterfield, Cheshire County, New Hampshire. Their last child was born in New Hampshire, and Mary died there about 1779.<sup>[5]</sup> Jonas married second in Alstead on 9 January 1783, Freelove Kingsbury Stanley,<sup>[6]</sup> daughter of Benjamin and Freelove (Kingsbury) Stanley.<sup>[7]</sup> Ebenezer and Freelove's first two children were born in Langdon, Cheshire County. Their last six children were recorded in Walpole, Cheshire County, between 1793 and 1803.<sup>[8]</sup>

Since Ebenezer and Abigail (Cobb) Fairbank's first three children were also born in Walpole, a search of the New Hampshire vital records was made for the record of their marriage, which probably occurred between 1797 (assuming Ebenezer married soon after his majority) and 1801 (based on the 3 December 1801 birth of their first child). New Hampshire State Vital Records yielded no results, and a search of Cheshire County town records revealed no record of their marriage.

However, in Alstead, the births of four children of Ebenezer Cobb and Olive his wife were recorded between 1795 and 1803.<sup>[9]</sup> A search for Ebenezer Cobb revealed the birth in Dublin, Cheshire County, on 12 October 1780, of Nabby Cobb, daughter of Ebenezer Cobb and his wife Abigail, as well as three other children born between 1778 and 1787. Wife Abigail died on 9 December 1788, and Ebenezer and his second wife Olive had children recorded in Dublin in 1791 and 1793.<sup>[10]</sup>

Ebenezer, Abigail, and Betty Cobb from Temple appear on a 1778 list of warnings out for Dublin.<sup>[11]</sup> The 1778 tax list<sup>[12]</sup> and 1790 census also place Ebenezer Cobb in Dublin. Abner Sanger, a resident of Dublin, wrote in his journal on 7 January 1794, "Ebenezer Cobb moves to Alstead by [with the help of] Captain Jonathan Hoar and Sam Williams. Cold."<sup>[13]</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> Stephen Cobb is treated as the immigrant because his ancestry has not been found, despite extensive research.

<sup>5</sup> Fairbanks, *Fairbanks Family* [note 1], 194.

<sup>6</sup> New Hampshire Town Records Series, Alstead Town Records 1763–1864, 1:550.

<sup>7</sup> Frederick J. Kingsbury, *The Genealogy of the Descendants of Henry Kingsbury, Ipswich and Haverhill, Mass.* (Hartford, Conn.: Case, Lockwood & Brainard, 1905), 216.

<sup>8</sup> New Hampshire State Vital Records.

<sup>9</sup> New Hampshire Town Records Series, Alstead Town Records, 1:705.

<sup>10</sup> Levi Leonard, *The History of Dublin, N.H.* (Dublin, N.H.: the town, 1920), 324.

<sup>11</sup> *Ibid.*, 161.

<sup>12</sup> *Ibid.*, 160.

<sup>13</sup> Lois K. Stabler, ed., *The Journal of Abner Sanger* (Portsmouth, N.H.: Historical Society of Cheshire County, 1986), 489.



In the 1800 census, Ebenezer was still in Alstead.<sup>[14]</sup> A Cheshire County deed dated 7 May 1810, shows Ebenezer and Olive Cobb of Alstead conveying land in Alstead,

being a piece of ground appropriated for a mill spot containing one acre and meaning hereby to convey that piece of land a privilege conveyed to me by Joseph Richard by deed dated the tenth day of May Anno Domini one thousand eight hundred, Reference to said deed being had, together with one half of the sawmill standing thereon.<sup>[15]</sup>

According to the Fairbanks genealogy, Ebenezer Fairbank was engaged with his father in the lumber business.<sup>[16]</sup>

The families of Ebenezer Fairbank and Ebenezer Cobb were both in the Alstead area when Ebenezer Fairbank and Abigail Cobb married. The Abigail Cobb born in Dublin on 12 October 1780, daughter of Ebenezer Cobb and Abigail his wife, is the only known Abigail Cobb found in Cheshire County who could have married Ebenezer Fairbank.

### GENEALOGICAL SUMMARY

**1. STEPHEN<sup>1</sup> COBB** was born say 1710.<sup>[17]</sup> He died in Holliston, Massachusetts, on 18 January 1754.<sup>[18]</sup> He married in Bridgewater, Massachusetts, on 15 November 1735, **ABIGAIL HINDS**.<sup>[19]</sup> She was born in Bridgewater on 2 May 1714, daughter of John and Hannah (Pratt) (Shaw) Hinds.<sup>[20]</sup> She died in Temple, Hillsborough County, New Hampshire, on 31 December 1787.<sup>[21]</sup> Abigail married second, as his second wife, in Holliston on 12 September 1754, Thomas Marshall,<sup>[22]</sup> born in Newton, Massachusetts, on 8 October 1719,<sup>[23]</sup> son of Deacon Thomas and Esther (\_\_\_\_\_) Marshall.<sup>[24]</sup> Thomas died in Temple.<sup>[25]</sup>

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<sup>14</sup> 1800 U.S. Census, Alstead, Cheshire County, New Hampshire, roll 20; p. 740.

<sup>15</sup> Cheshire County Deeds, 60:347.

<sup>16</sup> Fairbanks, *Fairbanks Family* [note 1], 381.

<sup>17</sup> See note 4. An approximate birth year of 1710 would make Stephen Cobb about 25 at the time of his marriage.

<sup>18</sup> *Vital Records of Holliston, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850* (Boston: NEHGS, 1908), 304; Middlesex County Probate, Stephen Cobb, File 4631.

<sup>19</sup> *Vital Records of Bridgewater, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850*, 2 vols. (Boston: NEHGS, 1916), 2:85.

<sup>20</sup> Mrs. John E. Barclay, "Origin of Rev. Ebenezer Hinds of Bridgewater, Mass.," *The American Genealogist* 38 (1962):70–73, at 73. Mrs. Barclay could not find the ancestry of John Hinds who married Hannah (Pratt) Shaw.

<sup>21</sup> Information on this Cobb family in Melvin Lee Steadman, Jr., *Falls Church By Fence and Fireside* (Falls Church, Va.: Falls Church Public Library, 1964), at 286–87 says Abigail Cobb died 31 December 1783. "New Hampshire, Death Records, 1654–1947," image online at *FamilySearch.org*, says Abigail Cobb died 31 December 1787, with no further information, and contains no possible entry for our Abigail Marshall.

<sup>22</sup> *Vital Records of Holliston* [note 18], 240; William G. McLoughlin, ed., *The Diary of Isaac Backus* (Providence, R.I.: Brown University Press, 1979), 2:632, "Wednesday, June 4, 1766: We

“St<sup>e</sup> Cobb” appears on the Walpole, Massachusetts, tax lists from 1734 to 1737.<sup>[26]</sup> No other record of his living in Walpole has been found. On 30 September 1743, Capt. John Goulding, Gentleman of Holliston, sold for twelve pounds ten shillings to Stephen Cobb, husbandman of Medway, Massachusetts, “two several small parcels of land . . . part meadow and part upland lying within the bounds of Holliston one parcel thereof contains seventeen acres and a half acre . . . and is set off from the remainder of a lot of upland of about eighty acres that was laid out to m<sup>r</sup>. Thomas Brick proprietor of Sherborn Dec<sup>d</sup> in an allotment called the third division.”<sup>[27]</sup>

On 8 April 1754, “Abigail Cobb [was] this day admitted administrator of the estate of her late husband Stephen Cobb, yeoman, late of Holliston aforesaid deceased intestate.” His personal estate was valued at £264. His real estate “about seventeen acres and an half acre of land together with the buildings thereon and a small right in the burnt swamp so called” was appraised at £83–6–8.<sup>[28]</sup>

Children of Stephen<sup>1</sup> and Abigail (Hinds) Cobb.<sup>[29]</sup>

i. REUBEN<sup>2</sup> COBB, b. ca. 1736;<sup>[30]</sup> d. 1760.<sup>[31]</sup>

set forward and called at Mr. Ebenr. Marshalls, to enquire the way to where his brother Thomas Marshall lives who married Eldr. Hinds’s sister Abigail. And behold he was down upon business there: we waited for him till toward night, and then said Thos. came with us, and we traveled to Marlboro’ and lodged at Mr. Bernards in the north of the town.” This disproves Mrs. Barclay’s claim that Abigail Hinds’ husband Stephen Cobb married second in Walpole, on 30 September 1754, Mary Foster (Barclay, “Hinds of Bridgewater” [note 20], *The American Genealogist* 38:73). Thomas and Abigail (Hinds) (Cobb) Marshall had one son, Jonathan Marshall, born in Holliston 24 January 1757 (*Vital Records of Holliston*, 104). He married in Wilton, Hillsborough County, New Hampshire, 19 October 1779, Elizabeth Stone (New Hampshire State Vital Records). Children of Jonathan and Elizabeth (Stone) Marshall, all born in Temple: *Jonathan Marshall*, born 21 May 1780; *Betty Marshall*, born 3 December 1783; *Abigail Marshall*, born 16 November 1784; *Josiah Marshall*, born 29 April 1787; *Thomas Marshall*, born 6 February 1789; *Samuel Marshall*, born 31 July 1791; and *Polly Marshall*, born 28 July 1793 (New Hampshire State Vital Records).

<sup>23</sup> *Vital Records of Newton, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850* (Boston: NEHGS, 1905), 133.

<sup>24</sup> *Ibid.*, 334. McLoughlin, *Diary of Isaac Backus* [note 22], 2:632, contains the following editorial comments: “Thomas Marshall Jr., b. 1719, a native of Newton, Mass., was raised in the Standing church. Abigail Hinds, sister to Elder Ebenezer Hinds, was his second wife. At the time of this visit they were living in Slipton (later Temple), New Hampshire. Marshall, who helped found the Standing church at Temple in 1771, eventually adopted the Baptist views.”

<sup>25</sup> Rev. Abner Morse, *A Genealogical Register of Inhabitants of Sherburn and Holliston, Mass.* (Boston: Damrell & Moore 1856), 175.

<sup>26</sup> Jay Mack Holbrook, *Massachusetts Vital Records: Walpole 1724–1910* (Oxford, Mass.: Holbrook Research Institute, 2003), fiche 1: Town and Tax Records 1724–77.

<sup>27</sup> Middlesex County Deeds, 52:447, recorded 22 May 1754.

<sup>28</sup> Middlesex County Probate, Stephen Cobb, File 4631 [note 18].

<sup>29</sup> Middlesex County Probate, Stephen Cobb, File 4631 [note 18], and Stephen Cobb et al., File 4632, guardianship of Stephen, Abigail, and Ebenezer Cobb, minors under fourteen, awarded to John Lealand 30 May 1757; and Reuben Cobb et al., File 4633, guardianship of Reuben, Seth, and Mary Cobb, minors upwards of fourteen, children of Stephen Cobb late of Holliston, awarded to John Lealand on 30 May 1757.

- ii. MARY COBB, b. Medway 18 March 1738/9;<sup>[32]</sup> m. Holliston 17 Jan. 1760, JOSEPH RICHARDS.<sup>[33]</sup>
- iii. STEPHEN COBB, b. Medway 3 Feb. 1740/1;<sup>[34]</sup> d. by 12 April 1746, when a second Stephen was born.
- iv. SETH COBB, b. Medway 6 March 1742/3;<sup>[35]</sup> d. 6 Jan. 1799, bur. Old Cemetery, Dublin;<sup>[36]</sup> m. (1) Sherborn, Mass., 5 Jan. 1766, CATE/ KATHERINE PERRY,<sup>[37]</sup> b. Sherborn 2 Nov. 1747, daughter of David and Mary (Tyler) Perry,<sup>[38]</sup> d. probably Dublin, 11 Dec. 1789.<sup>[39]</sup> Seth m. (2) Dublin 8 April 1790, HULDAH BOND, b. 27 Feb. 1759, daughter of Isaac Bond.<sup>[40]</sup> Huldah m. (2) Stephen Davis.<sup>[41]</sup>

Seth, a housewright, was of Holliston on 4 Oct. 1763 when he bought a ten-acre tract of land in Holliston from Jacob Miller of Holliston;<sup>[42]</sup> on 1 April 1764, when he and John Lealand, guardian of three Cobb children, signed a bond for the settlement of the real estate of Stephen Cobb, deceased intestate,<sup>[43]</sup> and on 28 Oct. 1765 when he sold a tract of land in Holliston containing seventeen acres and a tract containing ten acres to Benjamin Bridges of Holliston.<sup>[44]</sup> He was in Temple, N.H., by 5 Jan. 1766 when his marriage record indicated he was “of Sliptown, so called.”<sup>[45]</sup> On 10 June 1768, Seth signed the petition for the incorporation of Petersborough Slip as Temple.<sup>[46]</sup> He probably returned to Holliston for a few years as the birth of his

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<sup>30</sup> Reuben was listed first among the 1757 guardianships of the older children. The probate for Stephen Cobb names eldest son Reuben, but later notes that Reuben is deceased without issue so real estate goes to second son Seth.

<sup>31</sup> Middlesex County Probate, Reuben Cobb, File 4629, 1760. To the Hon<sup>bl</sup> Judge Danforth, Esq, These are to desire you to give M<sup>r</sup> John Lealand a letter of administration upon the estate of Reuben Cobb Late of Holliston Dec.<sup>d</sup> dated at Holliston February y<sup>e</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> 1760 signed Thomas Marshall, Abigail Marshel.

<sup>32</sup> *Vital Records of Medway, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850* (Boston: NEHGS, 1905), 41.

<sup>33</sup> *Vital Records of Holliston* [note 18], 190.

<sup>34</sup> *Vital Records of Medway* [note 32], 41.

<sup>35</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>36</sup> Leonard, *History of Dublin* [note 10], 355.

<sup>37</sup> *Vital Records of Sherborn, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850* (Boston: NEHGS, 1911), 160.

<sup>38</sup> *Ibid.*, 72.

<sup>39</sup> Steadman, *Falls Church* [note 21], 286; Charles Byron Wright, *A Guide to the Monuments & Headstones in the Cemeteries of Walpole, Cheshire County, New Hampshire* (Walpole, N.H.: the author, 2001), 12, Cobb, Kate 1789–12–1.

<sup>40</sup> “New Hampshire, Marriage Records, 1637–1947,” image online at *FamilySearch.org*; Leonard, *History of Dublin* [note 10], 721.

<sup>41</sup> Leonard, *History of Dublin* [note 10], 721.

<sup>42</sup> Middlesex County Deeds, 64:219, recorded 31 October 1765.

<sup>43</sup> Middlesex County Probate, Stephen Cobb, File 4631.

<sup>44</sup> Middlesex County Deeds, 66:339, recorded 15 November 1766.

<sup>45</sup> *Vital Records of Sherborn* [note 37], 160.

<sup>46</sup> George A. Ramsdell, *History of Hillsborough County, N.H.* (Philadelphia, Pa.: J. W. Lewis and Co., 1885), 672. In the chapter on Temple, Ramsdell states “The town was incorporated August 26, 1768, and included one tier of lots . . . of what was formerly known as Peterborough Slip or Sliptown.”

daughter Lydia on 20 Feb. 1770 was recorded in Holliston, and Seth Cobb, housewright, of Holliston, and wife Katy sold two pieces of land in Holliston to Asa Lealand on 25 May 1772.<sup>[47]</sup>

During the early years of the American Revolution, Seth Cobb settled on the property where the house now known as the Cobb-Day-Prouty House in Temple is located, and he was one of Temple's early Baptists.<sup>[48]</sup> He served during the Revolution. He is found on a list of those Temple men who marched to Cambridge on the alarm of April 19, 1775, belonged to the [Temple] two months militia,<sup>[49]</sup> and signed the Association Test in 1776.<sup>[50]</sup> Seth is also found on the pay roll of a company commanded by Captain John Mellin which marched from Fitzwilliam and towns adjacent to reinforce the garrison at Ticonderoga on the alarm in June and July 1777.<sup>[51]</sup> The 1776 census of New Hampshire places Seth in Temple,<sup>[52]</sup> but in 1777<sup>[53]</sup> and 1778, he was on the Committee of Safety in Packersfield [renamed Nelson in 1814], Cheshire Co.<sup>[54]</sup> On 17 April 1778, he was one of three chosen by ballot to be on a committee to hire preaching on probation and not otherwise,<sup>[55]</sup> and he was allowed fourteen pounds on 24 Sept. 1778, for going after a minister.<sup>[56]</sup> At a legal meeting of the Town of Nelson on 29 Nov. 1778, Seth was chosen moderator.<sup>[57]</sup> In March 1780, Seth and Catharine Cobb and [their children] Catharine, Ithamer, Lydia, David Perry, and Simeon Cobb from Packersfield were warned out of Dublin.<sup>[58]</sup> The family lived in Dublin on lot 8, range 7.<sup>[59]</sup> On 7 Dec. 1785, Seth was listed as a founding member of the Baptist Church of Dublin.<sup>[60]</sup> The 1790 census for Seth Cobb in Dublin Town lists one male 16 and over, three males under 16, and one female.<sup>[61]</sup> Seth Cobb's will dated 5 Jan. 1799, and proved 27 Jan. 1799, named wife Huldah Cobb; daughters Caty Cobb, Lydia Willson, Huldah Cobb, and Edner Cobb; and sons Eltenmay [*sic*], David, Joseph, Simeon, and Seth.<sup>[62]</sup>

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<sup>47</sup> Middlesex County Deeds, 87:95–96, recorded 4 April 1784.

<sup>48</sup> Historical Society of Temple, N.H., *A History of Temple, N.H., 1768–1976* (Dublin, N.H., William L. Bauhan, 1976), 619–20: “The present living room was Cobb's original dwelling. [T]he living room has the large fireplace and original brick oven.”

<sup>49</sup> Ramsdell, *History of Hillsborough County* [note 46], 675.

<sup>50</sup> NSDAR online Ancestor Search for Seth Cobb at [http://services.dar.org/public/dar\\_research/search\\_adb/default.cfm](http://services.dar.org/public/dar_research/search_adb/default.cfm).

<sup>51</sup> *New Hampshire Provincial and State Papers*, 40 vols. (Concord and Manchester, N.H.: the State, 1867–1943), 15:108–10.

<sup>52</sup> Jay Mack Holbrook, *New Hampshire 1775 Census* (Oxford, Mass.: Holbrook Research Institute, 1976), 29.

<sup>53</sup> New Hampshire Town Records Series, Nelson, 1:125.

<sup>54</sup> *Ibid.*, 1:133.

<sup>55</sup> *Ibid.*, 1:148.

<sup>56</sup> *Ibid.*, 1:151.

<sup>57</sup> *Ibid.*, 1:152.

<sup>58</sup> Leonard, *History of Dublin* [note 10], 162.

<sup>59</sup> *Ibid.*, 651.

<sup>60</sup> *Ibid.*, 333.

<sup>61</sup> 1790 U.S. Census, Dublin, Cheshire County, New Hampshire, roll 5, p. 119.

<sup>62</sup> Cheshire County Probate, 3:394–97. The Huldah Cobb dower papers are at 3:532–34.

Children of Seth<sup>2</sup> and Cate (Perry) Cobb:<sup>[63]</sup>

1. *Catharine "Kate"*<sup>3</sup> *Cobb*, b. Temple 23 April 1766,<sup>[64]</sup> d. 9 May 1799 in her 34th year, bur. Old Cemetery, Dublin.<sup>[65]</sup>
2. *Ithamar Cobb*, b. Temple, 19 Nov. 1767.<sup>[66]</sup>
3. *Lydia Cobb*, b. probably Holliston, 20 Feb. 1770;<sup>[67]</sup> m. Stoddard, Cheshire Co., N.H., 1 Dec. 1796, *James Wilson, Jr.*,<sup>[68]</sup> b. 11 Sept. 1774, son of James and Hannah (Parker) Wilson,<sup>[69]</sup> d. 30 May 1844, aged 70, bur. Old Cemetery, Stoddard.<sup>[70]</sup> Children of James [Jr.] and Lydia (Cobb) Wilson, all recorded in Stoddard, except the two youngest.<sup>[71]</sup>
  - (a) *Lucy Wilson*, 17 Sept. 1797, d. 31 Aug. 1800 in her third year, bur. Old Cemetery, Stoddard.<sup>[72]</sup>
  - (b) *James Wilson*, b. 6 April 1798, d. 27 Aug. 1800 in his second year, bur. Old Cemetery, Stoddard.<sup>[73]</sup>
  - (c) *Asaph Wilson*, b. 3 Dec. 1800; d. Nashua, Hillsborough Co., N.H., 18 Feb. 1882, bur. Old Cemetery, Washington, Sullivan Co., N.H.<sup>[74]</sup> He

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<sup>63</sup> Leonard, *History of Dublin* [note 10], states that the first five children were born in Packersfield but the records for Kate, Ithamar, David, and Lydia prove otherwise.

<sup>64</sup> "New Hampshire Birth Records, Early to 1900," image online at *FamilySearch.org*.

<sup>65</sup> Leonard, *History of Dublin* [note 10], 355.

<sup>66</sup> "New Hampshire Birth Records, Early to 1900," image online at *FamilySearch.org*. This man probably was the Ithamar Cobb who died 28 June 1831 in Greene County, New York (Sylvia Hasenkopf, transcr., "Palmer Cemetery . . . in the Town of New Baltimore," entry 92, online at *rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nygreen2/palmer\_cemetery\_nb.htm*). The will of Ithamar Cobb, of the Town of Greenville, Greene County, New York, dated 25 February 1831, proved 25 July 1831, names wife Sarah Ann; heirs of daughter Caty late wife of William Green; heirs of daughter Betsey late wife of Enos Smith; heirs of daughter Sally Powell dec'd; granddaughter Mary child of David Cobb, dec'd; grandson Ithamar G. Cobb, son of Gideon Cobb, dec'd; daughter Esther Dodge wife of John W. Dodge; daughters Ann Cobb and Deborah Cobb, legatees under age to be paid when 21; granddaughter Deborah Smith [not yet 18]; sons Seth Cobb, Ithamar Cobb, Jr., and Tyler P. Cobb. (*Abstract of Wills, Administrations, and Guardianships in New York State 1787–1835*, Greene County, pp. 823–25, online at *AmericanAncestors.org*). This Ithamar Cobb's children bore the names of siblings, parents, and grandparents of the Ithamar Cobb treated in this article.

<sup>67</sup> *Vital Records of Holliston* [note 18], 42.

<sup>68</sup> "New Hampshire, Marriage Records, 1637–1947," image online at *FamilySearch.org*, recorded as marriage of James Wilson, Jr. and Lydia Coob [*sic*]; *History of the Town of Stoddard, N.H.* (Stoddard, N.H.: Stoddard Historical Society, 1974), 302.

<sup>69</sup> *History of Stoddard* [note 68], 302; Ken Stevens, *Volume "K": Scotch Wilsons from Central Massachusetts . . .* (Walpole, N.H.: the author, 1984), 84.

<sup>70</sup> Alan F. Rumrill, *This Silent Marble Weeps: The Cemeteries of Stoddard, New Hampshire* (Keene, N.H.: the author, 1990), 25.

<sup>71</sup> "New Hampshire, Birth Records, Early to 1900," image online at *FamilySearch.org*; Stevens, *Scotch Wilsons* [note 69], 84.

<sup>72</sup> Rumrill, *This Silent Marble Weeps* [note 70], 25.

<sup>73</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>74</sup> Unsourced annotation on *Findagrave.com*; place of death from Stevens, *Scotch Wilsons* [note 69], 84, 113.

- m. Hancock, Hillsborough Co., N.H., 22 Oct. 1829, *Rebecca Taylor*,<sup>[75]</sup>  
 b. N.H. ca. 1803,<sup>[76]</sup> d. 19 Aug. 1876, aged 67 [*sic*], bur. Old Cemetery,  
 Washington.<sup>[77]</sup>
- (d) *Elizabeth Wilson*, b. 28 Aug. 1802; m. Lowell, Mass., 23 April  
 1827, *Theodore Butterfield*, b. Lowell 7 July 1794, son of Benjamin and  
 Sarah (Chamberlain) Butterfield.<sup>[78]</sup>
- (e) *James Wilson*, b. 27 March 1804; d. Lowell 30 May 1862; m. New  
 Boston, Hillsborough Co., 22 Jan. 1828, *Sarah White*.<sup>[79]</sup>
- (f) *David Wilson*, b. 12 March 1806; d. Peterborough, Hillsborough  
 Co., 3 Aug. 1867; m. Hillsborough, Hillsborough Co., 23 March 1830,  
*Martha Morrison*, b. Windham, Rockingham Co., N.H., in 1801; d.  
 Peterborough 22 May 1869, aged 67 years, 8 months.<sup>[80]</sup>
- (g) *Elvira Wilson*, b. 6 Feb. 1808; m. Stoddard 3 Feb. 1829, *Mark  
 Gillis*, b. Deering, Hillsborough Co., 1810; d. 26 Jan. 1862, son of John  
 and Hannah (Akin) Gillis.<sup>[81]</sup>
- (h) *Harvey Wilson*, b. 12 Oct. 1809; d. Nelson 22 Nov. 1881, bur.  
 Munsonville Cemetery, Nelson, with his wife; m. Stoddard 8 June 1841,  
*Abigail Robbe*, b. ca. 17 Sept. 1814, d. 28 Feb. 1894, daughter of  
 William and Polly (Shaw) Robbe.<sup>[82]</sup>
- (i) *Julia Wilson*, b. ca. 11 Dec. 1812; d. 14 Sept. 1818, aged 5 years, 9  
 months, 3 days, bur. Old Cemetery, Stoddard.<sup>[83]</sup>
- (j) *Jesse Wilson*, perhaps a twin of Julia; d. 11 April 1865, bur. Pine  
 Ridge Cemetery, Hancock, N.H.; m. Hancock 7 April 1835, *Melinda  
 Cross*, b. Hancock 23 March 1811, daughter of John and Rachel  
 (Parker) Cross. Melinda m. (2) in Sept. 1867 Alexander Robbe.<sup>[84]</sup>
4. *David Perry Cobb*, b. Temple<sup>[85]</sup> 1774; d. 1842; m. *Content Babcock*, b.  
 1772, d. 1843.<sup>[86]</sup>  
 Child of David Perry<sup>3</sup> and Content (Babcock) Cobb:  
 (a) *James Paddock*<sup>4</sup> *Cobb*, b. Branston, Quebec, 1807, d. 1888, m.  
*Martha Drew*.<sup>[87]</sup>

<sup>75</sup> "New Hampshire, Marriage Records, 1637–1947," image online at *FamilySearch.org*.

<sup>76</sup> 1850 U.S. Census, Washington, Sullivan County, New Hampshire, roll 441, p. 101A.

<sup>77</sup> Information on *Findagrave.com*.

<sup>78</sup> Stevens, *Scotch Wilsons* [note 69], 84, 114.

<sup>79</sup> *Ibid.*, 114–15.

<sup>80</sup> *Ibid.*, 115.

<sup>81</sup> *Ibid.*, 84, 85.

<sup>82</sup> *Ibid.*, 116.

<sup>83</sup> *Ibid.*, 85; Rumrill, *This Silent Marble Weeps* [note 70], 25.

<sup>84</sup> Stevens, *Scotch Wilsons* [note 69], 117–18.

<sup>85</sup> Steadman, *Falls Church* [note 21], 286.

<sup>86</sup> Application of Mayelle A. Church Mills on Seth Cobb (1743–1799, New Hampshire), National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Office of the Registrar General, Washington, D.C., 13 February 1923.

<sup>87</sup> Steadman, *Falls Church* [note 21], 287.

5. *Simeon Cobb*, b. Packersfield (Nelson) 18 Dec. 1778,<sup>[88]</sup> d. Mt. Holly, Rutland Co., Vt., 1852; m. Dublin 20 April 1802, *Olive Ball*,<sup>[89]</sup> daughter of Daniel and Lydia (Smith) Ball.<sup>[90]</sup>  
Children of Simeon<sup>3</sup> and Olive (Ball) Cobb:  
(a) *Stillman*<sup>4</sup> *Cobb*, b. Marlborough, Cheshire Co., N.H., 24 July 1802,<sup>[91]</sup> d. Weston, Windsor Co., Vt., 31 July 1867, m. Weston 30 June 1841, *Betsey Adams Haven*, b. Ludlow, Windsor Co., Vt., 18 Aug. 1812, d. Weston 12 Dec. 1873, aged 61 years, 3 months, 24 days, daughter of Edward and Sally (Adams) Haven.<sup>[92]</sup>  
(b) *Henry Cobb*, b. Chester, Windsor Co., Vt., 20 Nov. 1804.<sup>[93]</sup>  
(c) *Ira Cobb*, b. Chester 1 March 1808,<sup>[94]</sup> d. Springcreek Twp, Warren Co., Pa., 11 Sept. 1865,<sup>[95]</sup> m. Ludlow 30 Nov. 1830, *Jerusha Jewell*,<sup>[96]</sup> b. Rutland, Rutland Co., Vt., in July 1814, daughter of Abijah and Jerusha (Haven) Jewell,<sup>[97]</sup> d. Springcreek Twp. 11 July 1865.<sup>[98]</sup>  
(d) *Mary Cobb*, b. Chester 9 Aug. 1810.<sup>[99]</sup>  
(e) *Lydia Cobb*, b. Chester 18 Feb. 1813, d. 19 June 1828, bur. Ludlow Cemetery, Ludlow.<sup>[100]</sup>  
(f) *Daniel Cobb*, b. Chester 14 May 1815.<sup>[101]</sup>  
(g) *Lucy Cobb*, b. Ludlow 4 Oct. 1817, d. Chester 12 Jan. 1896, m. Weston 17 Oct. 1838, *Joseph Horton*, b. Mt. Holly 24 April 1815, son of Asa and Susan (Breed) Horton, d. Poultney, Rutland Co., 23 Feb. 1903.<sup>[102]</sup>  
(h) *Hiram Cobb*, b. Ludlow 20 Dec. 1819,<sup>[103]</sup> d. Melrose, Mass., 3 March 1903,<sup>[104]</sup> m. *Charlotte P. Gardner*, b. Perrysburg, Cattaraugus

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<sup>88</sup> New Hampshire Town Records Series, Nelson, 1:410.

<sup>89</sup> Application of Florence Armitage Warren on Seth Cobb, (1743–1799, New Hampshire) National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Office of the Registrar General, Washington, D.C., 9 June 1977.

<sup>90</sup> Revolutionary War Pension File, Daniel and Lydia Ball, W15981, Olive Cobb cited as surviving child of Daniel and Lydia Ball on 24 June 1850 (on p. 25 of the pension file on *fold3.com*).

<sup>91</sup> “New Hampshire, Birth Records, Early to 1900,” image online at *FamilySearch.org*.

<sup>92</sup> “Vermont, Vital Records, 1760–1954,” image online at *FamilySearch.org*.

<sup>93</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>94</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>95</sup> DAR application of Florence Armitage Warren [note 89].

<sup>96</sup> *Ibid.*; “Vermont, Vital Records, 1760–1954,” image online at *FamilySearch.org*.

<sup>97</sup> Supplemental application of Florence Armitage Warren on Hezekiah Haven (1755–1810+, Massachusetts) National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Office of the Registrar General, Washington, D.C., 1 May 1991.

<sup>98</sup> DAR application of Florence Armitage Warren [note 89].

<sup>99</sup> “Vermont Vital Records, 1760–1954,” image online at *FamilySearch.org*.

<sup>100</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>101</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>102</sup> *Ibid.*; Margaret R. Jenks and Frank C. Seymour, *Thomas Horton of Milton and Rehoboth, Massachusetts* (n.p.: the authors, 1984), 95, 168–69.

<sup>103</sup> “Vermont Vital Records, 1760–1954,” image online at *FamilySearch.org*.

- Co., N.Y., ca. 1834, d. Melrose 5 May 1896, aged 62, daughter of Charles and Charlotte (Wright) Gardner.<sup>[105]</sup>  
 (i) *Eliza Cobb*, b. Vt. 22 Feb. 1825.<sup>[106]</sup>
6. *Joseph Cobb*, b. N.H., ca. 1784;<sup>[107]</sup> d. Bennington, Vt., 10 Jan. 1855 aged 70;<sup>[108]</sup> m. Dublin 3 May 1804, *Hannah Yeardley*,<sup>[109]</sup> b. N.H. ca. 1780,<sup>[110]</sup> d. Bennington 10 April 1855 aged 73.<sup>[111]</sup>  
 Known children of Joseph<sup>3</sup> and Hannah (Yeardley) Cobb:  
 (a) *Charles<sup>4</sup> Cobb*, b. Dublin 22 Sept. 1804.<sup>[112]</sup>  
 (b) *Catherine Cobb*, b. probably Dublin on or about 15 Feb. 1808, d. Bennington 15 Sept. 1836, aged 28 years, 7 months, bur. Village Cemetery, Bennington.<sup>[113]</sup>  
 (c) *Seth Cobb*, b. Dublin on or about 7 Oct. 1816 (from age at death), d. Dalton, Mass., 3 June 1902, aged 85 years, 7 months, 27 days;<sup>[114]</sup> m. ca. 1844<sup>[115]</sup> *Achsah/Achsaph Sibley Crawford*, b. Bennington 13 July 1824, daughter of Moses and Martha (Sibley) Crawford,<sup>[116]</sup> d. West Stockbridge, Mass., 18 March 1908, aged 83 years, 8 months, 5 days, bur. West Stockbridge.<sup>[117]</sup>  
 (d) *Elvira Cobb*, b. probably Dublin ca. 1820; d. Bennington 23 Aug. 1837, bur. Village Cemetery, Bennington.<sup>[118]</sup>

(to be continued)

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<sup>104</sup> Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, 540:40.

<sup>105</sup> Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, 464:328.

<sup>106</sup> "Vermont Vital Records, 1760–1954," image online at *FamilySearch.org*.

<sup>107</sup> Approximate year of birth based on age at death and 1850 U.S. Census, Bennington, Bennington County, Vermont, roll 921, p. 190B, Joseph Cobb age 66.

<sup>108</sup> "Vermont Vital Records, 1760–1954," image online at *FamilySearch.org*.

<sup>109</sup> "New Hampshire, Marriage Records, 1637–1947," online at *FamilySearch.org*.

<sup>110</sup> 1850 U.S. Census, Bennington, Bennington County, Vermont, roll 921, p. 190B, Hannah Cobb, age 70, born New Hampshire.

<sup>111</sup> "Vermont Vital Records, 1760–1954," image online at *FamilySearch.org*.

<sup>112</sup> "New Hampshire, Birth Records, Early to 1900," online at *FamilySearch.org*.

<sup>113</sup> "Vermont Vital Records, 1760–1954," image online at *FamilySearch.org*.

<sup>114</sup> Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, 528:52, Seth born in Dublin, New Hampshire, his parents said to be Joseph Cobb and Hannah *Hurley*.

<sup>115</sup> They were married 56 years, according to the 1900 U.S. Census, Dalton, Berkshire County, Massachusetts, roll 631, p. 12A.

<sup>116</sup> "Vermont Vital Records, 1760–1954," image online at *FamilySearch.org*; James Scarborough Sibley, comp., *The Sibley Family in America, 1629–1972*, 2nd ed., 2 vols. (Midlothian, Texas: the compiler?, 1982), 2:1293.

<sup>117</sup> Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, Deaths 1908, 99:435.

<sup>118</sup> "Vermont Vital Records, 1760–1954," image online at *FamilySearch.org*.



## THE TWO ELIZABETH<sup>3</sup> DANIELS OF MEDFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

*Austin W. Spencer*

Joseph<sup>3</sup> Mason (*Robert*<sup>2-1</sup>) and his wife, Elizabeth Daniel, were married in Medfield, Massachusetts, on 7 November 1705.<sup>[1]</sup> The published vital records of that town show two girls named Elizabeth Daniel who were born early enough to be a party to this marriage. The girls were first cousins to one another, granddaughters of Robert<sup>1</sup> Daniel of Cambridge, and both have been assigned this marriage.<sup>[2]</sup> In her seminal study of the Daniel family, Mary Lovering Holman makes it clear that these were the only women of the name in this family who could have been alive in 1705. Mrs. Holman, however, does not assign a husband to either girl. Among Robert's sons only Samuel and Joseph married, and neither had a wife named Elizabeth.<sup>[3]</sup>

Moses Grant Daniell argued in 1874 that the younger cousin, born to Samuel<sup>2</sup> and Mary (Beckwith) (Grant) Daniel on 9 April 1681, was Joseph Mason's wife.<sup>[4]</sup> In 1887, William S. Tilden advanced the claim that Mason had married the Elizabeth Daniel who was born to Joseph<sup>2</sup> and Mary (Fairbanks) Daniel on 9 March 1678/9, but without reference to Daniell's argument nor any citation of

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<sup>1</sup> *Vital Records of Medfield, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850* (Boston: NEHGS, 1903), 156. Very brief treatments of the early generations of this family appear in William L. Mason, ed., *A Record of the Descendants of Robert Mason, of Roxbury, Mass.* (Milwaukee, Wis.: Burdick, Armitage & Allen, 1891), and William S. Tilden, ed., *History of the Town of Medfield, Massachusetts, 1650–1886: With Genealogies of the Families that Held Real Estate or Made Any Considerable Stay in the Town during the First Two Centuries* (Boston: Geo. H. Ellis, 1887; repr. Medfield, Mass.: Medfield Historical Society, 1975), 434–35. This family is not to be confused with the one founded by a different Robert Mason in Boston, who also had descendants through a son Robert. For an account of that family, see George F. Sanborn Jr. and Helen Schatvet Ullmann, "Some Descendants of Robert<sup>1</sup> Mason of Boston, Massachusetts," *The New Hampshire Genealogical Record* 20 (2003):131–40; 21 (2004):57–64, 102–12.

<sup>2</sup> *Vital Records of Medfield* [note 1], 44; Mary Lovering Holman, "Genealogical Research in England: Robert Daniel, Husband of Elizabeth Morse," *Register* 88 (1934):383–86; Mary Lovering Holman, "Robert Daniel, Husband of Elizabeth Morse: Corrigenda," *Register* 89 (1935):154.

<sup>3</sup> Holman, "Robert Daniel" [note 2], *Register* 88:385, gives names and birth dates only for the children of both Joseph<sup>2</sup> and Samuel<sup>2</sup>. Dean Crawford Smith, *The Ancestry of Emily Jane Angell, 1844–1910*, ed. Melinde Lutz Sanborn (Boston: NEHGS, 1992), 230, gives names and birth dates of children of Samuel<sup>2</sup>. Edmund K. Swigart, *An Emerson–Benson Saga: The Ancestry of Charles F. Emerson and Bessie Benson . . .* (Baltimore: Gateway Press, 1994), 175, gives a similar treatment of Joseph<sup>2</sup>.

<sup>4</sup> Moses Grant Daniell, "The Daniell Family," *Register* 28 (1874):185–98, at 186. For Mary Beckwith's maiden surname and parentage, see Smith and Sanborn, *Ancestry of Emily Jane Angell* [note 3], 227–28.

sources.<sup>[5]</sup> This view now predominates among those who claim kinship with the family, but its wide acceptance appears to rest on Tilden's authority.<sup>[6]</sup>

By 1944, William M. Emery noticed that Tilden and Daniell could not both be correct, and offered an alternative solution. No existing scholarship had accounted for an 8 April 1701 marriage in Reading between Elizabeth Daniels "of Watertown" and John McIntire.<sup>[7]</sup> Emery argued that Joseph's daughter, the elder of the two cousins, was more likely to have joined in the earlier marriage to McIntire, four years prior to the marriage of Joseph Mason at Medfield. In effect, Emery relies on chronological evidence to discount the possibility that Joseph Mason was married to Joseph Daniel's daughter, leaving Samuel's daughter as the more likely candidate.<sup>[8]</sup>

In fact, it was Tilden who made the correct identification of Elizabeth (Daniel) Mason. Joseph Daniel Senr. of Medway executed his will on 21 July 1715, in which he specified that "I Give my House and Land at Boston unto my Daughters an Equal Share both on profit and repairing." The record does not name his daughters, though it does name his sons: "my Eldest Son," Joseph; a second son, Ebenezer; and "my Youngest Son," Jeremiah.<sup>[9]</sup> Joseph Daniel's will nevertheless makes it possible to identify his surviving daughters by documenting the title to his house and land in Boston.

Joseph had purchased a lot of land there on 17 March 1703/4,<sup>[10]</sup> on which he had been permitted in 1707 to build a house. He is not otherwise known to have held real estate in Boston.<sup>[11]</sup> By a deed of 15 April 1718, "Ezra Morse of Dedham in the County of Suffolk within the Province of the Massachusetts bay in New England Yeoman & Mary his wife (one of the Daughters of Joseph Daniel of Medway within the County afores<sup>d</sup>. deced) and Joseph Mason of Medfield in the County afores<sup>d</sup>. Yeoman and Elizabeth his Wife (another of the Daughters of Joseph Daniel aforementioned[])" sold a house in Hanover Street, Boston, to Benjamin Gibson.<sup>[12]</sup> The grantors in this instrument are likewise named in no other Boston land documents. This deed proves the filiation not only of Joseph

<sup>5</sup> Tilden, *History of Medfield* [note 1], 370 (Daniel), 435 (Mason).

<sup>6</sup> A global search at Rootsweb's WorldConnect Project, <http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com>, on 31 January 2011 returned the following results: of Elizabeth "Daniel" whose spouse was Joseph Mason, thirteen entries show no parents, two show Samuel, and ten show Joseph. Of Elizabeth "Daniels" whose spouse was Joseph Mason, eleven entries show no parents, three show Samuel, and seventy-seven show Joseph.

<sup>7</sup> *Vital Records of Reading, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850* (Boston: NEHGS, 1912), 389.

<sup>8</sup> William M. Emery, *Newell Ancestry: The Story of the Antecedents of William Stark Newell* (Boston: the author, 1944), 71–72.

<sup>9</sup> Suffolk County Probate, 18:243–44. The births of Joseph's children were all recorded in Medfield (*Vital Records of Medfield* [note 1], 44).

<sup>10</sup> Suffolk County Deeds, 29:258.

<sup>11</sup> Annie Haven Thwing, *Inhabitants and Estates of the Town of Boston, 1630–1800*, CD-ROM (Boston: NEHGS and Massachusetts Historical Society, 2000), refcode 62198, citing Council Records, 4:407.

<sup>12</sup> Suffolk County Deeds, 32:227–28, quotation at 227; Thwing, *Inhabitants of Boston*, refcode 44962 (Joseph Mason), 46205 (Ezra Morse).

Mason's wife, but also of Ezra Morse's wife, who has been placed speculatively in the Lovett family.<sup>[13]</sup>

That the deed specifies Mary and Elizabeth's relationship with Joseph Daniel strengthens the presumption that they had acquired the property by virtue of his devise. His daughter Mary was born in Medfield in July 1669,<sup>[14]</sup> and her birth date agrees with the gravestone of "M<sup>rs</sup> Mary, wife to Cap. Ezra Mors, [who] died Sep<sup>r</sup> y<sup>e</sup> 17, 1746, in the 77<sup>th</sup> year of her age."<sup>[15]</sup> Joseph had two other daughters whose births were recorded in Medfield: Mehitable, born 10 July 1674, who died there on 3 June 1686, and Rachel, born 10 April 1686.<sup>[16]</sup> No plausible dates of marriage or death have been found for Rachel in Medfield or elsewhere. We may surmise that she died before the date of her sisters' deed, if not of her father's will.

Having ruled out Emery's favored candidate for the wife of John McIntire, one might suppose that she must be the other cousin, born in 1681. Unfortunately for Emery, he seems to have overlooked many other relevant documents. The only other instance of a person of that name in Watertown, who appears early enough for the future wife of John McIntire, is "a young woman y<sup>t</sup> lives w<sup>th</sup> Philip Shattucks called Elizabeth Danyells, she owned y<sup>e</sup> Covenant" on 1 September 1689.<sup>[17]</sup> This immediately places her in a better position to enter the 1701 marriage than either of the candidates from Medfield, but her parentage is not clear from Watertown records.

There is also evidence against placing Elizabeth, daughter of Samuel<sup>2</sup> Daniel, in Watertown in 1689. Her family is identified with Medfield both before and after that year. Holman dates the death of Samuel<sup>2</sup> Daniel to "about or after 1683," based on the birth date of his youngest child.<sup>[18]</sup> More recently, his death

<sup>13</sup> Carol J. Botteron, "Richard Hixson of Massachusetts and His Descendants," *Register* 166 (2012):40–45, 149–54, at 153. Willard I. Tyler Brigham, *The Tyler Genealogy: The Descendants of Job Tyler, of Andover, Massachusetts, 1619–1700*, 2 vols. (Plainfield, N. J., and Tylerville, Conn.: Cornelius B. Tyler and Rollin U. Tyler, 1912), 1:32, states that Lt. James and Hannah (Tyler) Lovett, who married in 1668, had a daughter Mary who married one Morse, but provides no further information on this couple.

<sup>14</sup> *Vital Records of Medfield* [note 1], 44. Mary is omitted from the list of children of Joseph and Mary (Fairbanks) Daniel[s] in Dean Crawford Smith, *The Ancestry of Eva Belle Kempton, 1878–1908, Part III: The Ancestry of Henry Clay Bartlett, 1832–1892*, Melinde Lutz Sanborn, ed. (Boston: NEHGS, 2004), 143.

<sup>15</sup> Don Gleason Hill, ed., *The Record of Baptisms, Marriages and Deaths, and Admissions to the Church and Dismissals Therefrom, Transcribed from the Church Records in the Town of Dedham, Massachusetts, 1638–1845* (Dedham, Mass.: Dedham Transcript, 1888), 305, from South Parish churchyard. Her death record says, "Mary Morse, decased Sep<sup>r</sup>. 18<sup>th</sup>, 1746," with no age (Don Gleason Hill, ed., *The Record of Births, Marriages and Deaths, and Intentions of Marriage, in the Town of Dedham, Volumes 1 & 2* [Dedham, Mass.: Dedham Transcript, 1886], 72).

<sup>16</sup> *Vital Records of Medfield* [note 1], 44, 206.

<sup>17</sup> *Watertown Records, Comprising East Congregational and Precinct Affairs 1697 to 1737, also Record Book of the Pastors 1686 to 1819* (Boston: David Clapp & Son, 1906), 128.

<sup>18</sup> Holman, "Robert Daniel" [note 2], *Register* 88:385.

date has been adjusted to 1695, from the year that appears on his probate docket.<sup>[19]</sup>

For details on the later life of his daughter Elizabeth, it is worth examining Samuel's probate records in more detail. Letters of administration were granted on 11 July 1695 "To Robert Daniel eldest Son of Samuel Daniel late of Medfield."<sup>[20]</sup> The inventory was taken on 2 October 1695, by Jonathan Whitney Sen., Nath: Morse, and Natha<sup>ll</sup>: Partridge; the estate included a homelot in Medfield and land in Dedham, and was valued in total at £165–14.<sup>[21]</sup> Robert Daniel later filed an account with further receipts and expenses, which was allowed on 11 September 1696.<sup>[22]</sup>

It was represented to the probate court of Suffolk County that Samuel's real estate could not be divided among his heirs without great prejudice to or spoiling of the whole. The court therefore ordered an appraisement on 1 April 1697. Five days later, Edward Adams, John Adams, and Peter Adams appraised Samuel's land in Medfield at £70, and his Dedham land at £55, for a total of £125. On 14 April 1697, the court ordered that all of the real estate be assigned to Joseph Daniel, the second son of the deceased, Robert having refused to take possession, with dower reserved to Samuel's widow Mary. Of the value of the remaining two-thirds, Joseph was ordered to pay £27–15–6 to Robert, as his double share, within the year next ensuing, and to Mary, Elizabeth, and Sarah Daniel the sum of £13–17–9 as their single shares "when they shall respectively arrive at full age or be married."<sup>[23]</sup>

The distribution order establishes that Samuel's daughter Elizabeth was still unmarried and under age in April 1697. This description would fit a young woman who had only turned 16 that month, but at this time period we ordinarily would not expect her to remain unmarried for very long. And indeed, there is yet another marriage at Newton that could be plausibly assigned to her. It is dated by the printed vital records as follows:<sup>[24]</sup>

MORE . . . Sam[ue]ll [dup. Samuel] and Elizabath [dup. Elizabeth] Daniel, June 9, 1697 [dup. June 9, 1691].

Newton lies nearer to Medfield than either Reading or Watertown, and therefore presents a more likely wedding destination for a Medfield woman. The earlier marriage date, however, does not accommodate the birth date of Elizabeth.

<sup>19</sup> Smith and Sanborn, *Ancestry of Emily Jane Angell* [note 3], 230.

<sup>20</sup> Suffolk County Probate, 13:637.

<sup>21</sup> Suffolk County Probate, 13:677.

<sup>22</sup> Suffolk County Probate, 11:206.

<sup>23</sup> Suffolk County Probate, 11:271–73.

<sup>24</sup> *Vital Records of Newton, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850* (Boston: NEHGS, 1905), 341.

All passages in square brackets are so shown in the original. There is no intention for this couple recorded in Newton, by which to locate possible residences outside the town as well as to decide year of marriage. Clarence Almon Torrey, *New England Marriages Prior to 1700*, 3 vols. (Boston: NEHGS, 2011), 2:1054 (also CD-ROM [Boston: NEHGS, 2001] and database online at *American Ancestors.org*), queries both dates, but provides no additional references.

Since it is the so-called duplicate that shows the more questionable date, one suspects that the difference arose from the process of duplication. The earlier date appears in a list of marriages in Newton that was compiled long after 1697 and alphabetized by first letter of groom's surname.<sup>[25]</sup> The later date appears in a much earlier hand, with the year smudged and difficult to read. The records on that page are all marriages, in more episodic chronological order, but the dating seems clear enough from reading three consecutive lines:<sup>[26]</sup>

Caleb Stedman and hannah Wiswel married april: 1: 1697

Sam<sup>ll</sup> more and Elizabeth daniel were married: iun: 9: 1697

John Wooderd and hannah hide were married april: 11. 1698

This reading would date the marriage of Samuel More only two months later than the order for distribution of Samuel Daniel's estate. At that date, his daughter Elizabeth was unmarried but still of a marriageable age. On these circumstantial grounds, it is likely, though not indisputably proven, that Samuel Daniel's daughter Elizabeth was the one who married Samuel More in 1697, not John McIntire in 1701. No further record of Samuel and Elizabeth (Daniel) More has been found in Medfield, Newton, or Dedham. However, accounts of her likely first cousins, Elizabeth (Daniel) Mason and Mary (Daniel) Morse, as adults can be readily found in print.<sup>[27]</sup>

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<sup>25</sup> Jay Mack Holbrook, *Massachusetts Vital Records: Newton, 1635–1915*, 54 vols. on 306 microfiche (Provo, Utah: Holbrook Research Institute, 2006), A:152, microfiche 175.

<sup>26</sup> *Ibid.*, 1:136, microfiche 180.

<sup>27</sup> For Mason, see Mason, *Descendants of Robert Mason* [note 1], 10, 12, and Tilden, *History of Medfield* [note 1], 435. For Morse, see note 15 above and J. Howard Morse and Emily W. Leavitt, *Morse Genealogy, Comprising the Descendants of Samuel, Anthony, William and Joseph Morse, and John Moss . . .* (New York: the authors, 1903; reprint with index, Baltimore: Gateway Press for The Morse Society, 2002), Samuel Morse, p. 29.

THE ESTATE OF MARTHA HARRIS  
AND  
EARLY BACON FAMILIES OF EASTERN CONNECTICUT

*Gale Ion Harris*

*(concluded from Register 167 [2013]:34)*

4. **JOHN**<sup>5</sup> **BACON** (*Jacob*<sup>4-3</sup>, *Daniel*<sup>2</sup>, *Michael*<sup>1</sup>), was born in Newton, Massachusetts, on 30 July 1704,<sup>[122]</sup> and was living in Voluntown as late as 18 May 1779, when he last conveyed land.<sup>[123]</sup> As discussed below, he married first, before about 1735 (birth of son James), one of the daughters of Thomas **HARRIS** of Plainfield (probably **MARY** but possibly **HANNAH** or **SARAH**),<sup>[124]</sup> and probably second, after 1756, **MARY (CHURCH) PARKE**, born in Stonington on 23 October 1708,<sup>[125]</sup> daughter of Samuel and Mary (Edwards) Church<sup>[126]</sup> and widow of Benjamin Parke of Voluntown, a brother of John's twin sister Dorothy Bacon's husband Robert Parke.<sup>[127]</sup>

Apparently nothing beyond his birth has been reported about this John Bacon, but the implication of the distribution of Martha Harris's estate is that he married one of the daughters of Thomas Harris of Plainfield. John's parents were residing in Voluntown in the period 1721–1730, spanning the likely time of his marriage. These daughters would have been living in adjoining Plainfield, as was John's aunt Hannah (Bradhurst) Pierce.<sup>[128]</sup> Their brothers John Harris and Silvanus Harris both married in the Griswold Parish of Preston; Silvanus subsequently resided in Voluntown.

On 10 February 1767, “John Bacon . . . of Voluntown,” signing by mark [thus referred to in this discussion as John (×) Bacon], conveyed to Ichabod Pope of

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<sup>122</sup> *Vital Records of Newton* [note 38], 14; Baldwin, *Bacon Genealogy* [note 16], 124.

<sup>123</sup> Voluntown, Connecticut, Deeds, 6:142.

<sup>124</sup> Gale Ion Harris, *Harrises of Connecticut: Scattered Descendants* (East Lansing, Mich.: the author, 2012), 270–75, at 273. No known record shows which of Thomas Harris's daughters married a Bacon. Daughter Mary is considered most likely based on an estimated birth date (say 1702) near that of John Bacon, and on the name itself. John Bacon's son James (born about 1735) named his first child *Mary*, his second child *Martha* (his wife's name), and third child *Abigail* (the name of his wife's mother), and John's daughter Elizabeth (Bacon) Graves named her second daughter *Polly* (after naming a child *Sarah*, which might have come from her husband's unknown family).

<sup>125</sup> Barbour Collection, citing Stonington Vital Records, 2:4.

<sup>126</sup> Frederick C. Church, and Robert M. and Helen C. Search, “Samuel Church of Stonington, Conn.,” *Register* 118 (1964):263–74, at 271, although not mentioning a second marriage for daughter Mary.

<sup>127</sup> Parks, *Parke Families of Connecticut* [note 80], 40, 51–53.

<sup>128</sup> Middlesex County, Massachusetts, Deeds, 25:569. Timothy Pierce married in Plainfield on 12 October 1709, as his second wife, Hannah Bradhurst from Old Roxbury, daughter “of Ralph & Hannah” (Barbour Collection, citing Plainfield Vital Records, 1:8). Timothy died in Plainfield in 1748 and his wife Hannah in 1747 (*ibid.*, 2:1).

Plainfield 80 [*sic*: probably 88] acres in Voluntown bounded south by lands of Matthew Patrick and heirs of John Montgomery deceased, west by “Prentises Line so called,” north by Amaziah Parke, and east by James Dixon.<sup>[129]</sup> On 24 December 1774, Ichabod Pope and his wife Freelove, then of Great Barrington, Massachusetts, conveyed 54 acres of the south part of the same property to “John Bacon Jun<sup>r</sup>.” of Voluntown.<sup>[130]</sup> Freelove did not sign the deed in 1774, so another, otherwise identical, deed, but this time including her signature, was executed on 8 July 1776 for the same conveyance.<sup>[131]</sup> Several aspects of these transactions are worthy of special note:

- a. Two John Bacons were involved, John (×) Bacon in 1767 and John Jr. in 1774 (and 1776). One of the adjoining landholders, James Dixon, had become in the early 1760s guardian for Martha Harris’s nephew and niece, William Harris and Sarah Harris.<sup>[132]</sup>
- b. The 34-acre north portion of the 88-acre parcel conveyed to Ichabod Pope in 1767 had been distributed in 1757 from the estate of Benjamin Parke of Voluntown to his daughter Prudence Parke,<sup>[133]</sup> but no record shows how it came into the hands of John (×) Bacon.
- c. The 54-acre<sup>[134]</sup> south portion of the same parcel had been distributed in 1757 from Benjamin Parke’s estate to his eldest son, Benjamin Parke Jr.,<sup>[135]</sup> who died in Plainfield before 13 Jan. 1761.<sup>[136]</sup> Again, however, no record shows how this south portion had come into the possession of John (×) Bacon before 1767, when he conveyed the combined property to the Popes.<sup>[137]</sup>
- d. The conveyance in 1774 of the 54-acre south portion from the Popes to John Bacon Jr. occurred not long before John Jr. married Diadama Potter (as shown below).

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<sup>129</sup> Voluntown, Connecticut, Deeds, 5:326. For Ichabod Pope, son of Seth and Jerusha (Tobey) Pope of Sandwich, Massachusetts, later of Plainfield and Voluntown, see Franklin Leonard Pope, “Genealogy of Thomas Pope of Plymouth,” *Register* 42 (1888):45–62, at 55–56, although this work incorrectly suggests that Ichabod’s wife Freelove was a Briggs.

<sup>130</sup> Voluntown, Connecticut, Deeds, 5:378.

<sup>131</sup> Voluntown, Connecticut, Deeds, 5:423. In parallel deeds of the same dates (*ibid.*, 5:390–91, 409), the Popes conveyed to Freelove’s brother Amaziah Parke the 34-acre north portion (although described then as 35 acres) of the same property, then also gave him a second deed with Freelove’s signature and explicit acknowledgement.

<sup>132</sup> Harris, “Arthur<sup>1</sup> Harris of Duxbury” [note 3], *Register* 159 (2005):358.

<sup>133</sup> Plainfield District Probate Packets, 1756, no. 1578 [FHL 1,026,642].

<sup>134</sup> The parcel is described as 54 acres in the distribution and some deeds, and 55 acres in other deeds, but the boundary descriptions prove it to be the same land in all cases.

<sup>135</sup> Plainfield District Probate Packets, 1756, no. 1578.

<sup>136</sup> When administration of his estate was set to “Patient” Parke and Ebenezer Spaulding Jr. (Plainfield District Probate Packets, 1761, no. 1579 [FHL 1,026,642]).

<sup>137</sup> On 6 March 1758, Benjamin Parke of Plainfield had given a deed for this 54-acre parcel to Benjamin Hutchens Jr. of Voluntown (Voluntown, Connecticut, Deeds, 4:243–44). This parcel was not included with others in the inventory of Benjamin’s estate in February 1761.

e. Some obvious concern arose that the deed from the Popes to John Jr. in 1774 might not have conveyed secure title to the land, hence the second deed in 1776 for the same transaction but with Freeloove's concurrence this time explicitly shown by her signature.

f. It was not common practice there in that period for a wife to sign a deed unless she had an interest in the property separate from that of her husband.

g. Why would Freeloove have a separate interest in land that John (×) Bacon had conveyed to her husband, Ichabod Pope, in 1767?

Also, on 18 November 1774, for £6, "John Bacon" purchased from Samuel Utley of Spencertown, New York, 19 acres in Voluntown that had been "set out to Prudence Parke heir to M<sup>r</sup> Benjamin Parke deceased by the court of Probates."<sup>[138]</sup> The same 19-acre parcel was sold by John (×) Bacon to Uriah Franklin Jr. for £90 on 18 May 1779.<sup>[139]</sup>

The will of Benjamin Parke of Voluntown, dated 18 September 1756 and proved 9 November 1756, in combination with the distribution of his estate in May 1757,<sup>[140]</sup> shows that Freeloove Parke (later the wife of Ichabod Pope), Benjamin Parke, Amaziah Parke, and Prudence Parke all were children of Benjamin and Mary (Church) Parke of Voluntown. Thus it appears that John (×) Bacon was in the period 1767–1779 in possession of and dealing with land formerly a part of the estate of Benjamin Parke. He conveyed it to Ichabod Pope, the husband of Benjamin's daughter Freeloove. They subsequently conveyed some of it (with her consent belatedly and conspicuously given) to John Bacon Jr. before he married.

Although no direct proof is yet found, apparently the best sense that can be made of these transactions is that John (×) Bacon had married sometime before 1767 Benjamin Parke's widow Mary and it was her interest in land that he conveyed to Ichabod Pope. Concern over clear title arose after the Popes conveyed a portion of the same to John Bacon Jr. in 1774 without Freeloove's recorded consent, as she at least arguably had a separate interest based on a right of inheritance in the Parke estate.

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<sup>138</sup> Voluntown, Connecticut, Deeds, 5:351–52. Although the surviving document showing the distribution of Benjamin Park's estate in 1757 is damaged in places, it appears to mention only a 34-acre distribution to daughter Prudence, so the deed for 19-acres is not fully explained.

<sup>139</sup> Voluntown, Connecticut, Deeds, 6:142.

<sup>140</sup> Plainfield District Probate Packets, 1756, no. 1578. Benjamin's estate was distributed in May 1757 to his widow, Mary; and children Benjamin, eldest son; Mary, eldest daughter; Christopher, second son; Freeloove, [torn] daughter; Prudence, third daughter; Jemima, fourth daughter; Amaziah, youngest son; and Lydia, youngest daughter. Benjamin's will mentions that he was "going to the army" and gave his son Rufus "the home lot if he lives to come home." He and his son "Ruphas Parks" appear on a roll of the men belonging to a company commanded in 1756 by Capt. Israel Putnam in "the Expedition against Crown Point" (*Rolls of Connecticut Men in the French and Indian War, 1755–1762*, Collections of the Connecticut Historical Society, vols. 9–10 [Hartford, Conn., 1903, 1905], 9:100–01). Apparently, neither the father nor his son Rufus lived to come home from the expedition.



The circumstances give sufficient reasons to conclude that John (×) Bacon and John Bacon Jr. of Voluntown in the period 1767–1779 probably were father and son.<sup>[141]</sup> Moreover, Benjamin Parke's widow, Mary (Church) Parke, born in 1708,<sup>[142]</sup> was of an appropriate age and available after 1756 to become the wife of John Bacon born in 1704. Benjamin Parke was a brother of Robert Parke, the husband of this John Bacon's twin sister Dorothy Bacon (no. 2.ii. above). From these circumstances, combined with the implications of Martha Harris's estate distribution, it is concluded that this John Bacon probably married first [Mary?] Harris, who was living in 1748, and second, sometime between 1756 and 1767, Mary (Church) Parke.

Children of John<sup>5</sup> and [Mary?] (Harris) Bacon, based on the 1798 distribution (order not certain):<sup>[143]</sup>

5. i. JAMES<sup>6</sup> BACON, b. ca. 1735; m. MARTHA JEWELL.
- ii. LUCY BACON, b. say 1740; living Preston 1798, apparently unm.
6. iii. JOHN BACON, b. say 1746; m. DIADAMA POTTER.
- iv. ELIZABETH BACON, b. say 1748 (her last child b. 1788); living in Preston 1798; m. there 23 or 27 Aug. 1779, as his second wife, JONATHAN GRAVES, both of Preston.<sup>[144]</sup> He was a head of household in New London Co. in 1790,<sup>[145]</sup> Preston in 1800,<sup>[146]</sup> and Second Society, New London Co., in 1810;<sup>[147]</sup> the 1800 entries show that he and his wife [Elizabeth] were born before 1755. Jonathan had m. (1) in Preston 18 March 1773, Zipporah Tracy, both of Preston,<sup>[148]</sup> with whom he had two daughters, Lucinda Graves and Betsey Graves.<sup>[149]</sup>

Children of Jonathan and Elizabeth<sup>6</sup> (Bacon) Graves, recorded in Preston:<sup>[150]</sup>

1. *Salla Graves*, b. 1 July 1780; m. Preston 1 Jan. 1799, *Charles Geer*, both of Preston.<sup>[151]</sup>
2. *Polly Graves*, b. 27 April 1782.

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<sup>141</sup> Note also that in April and May 1779, John (×) Bacon and John Bacon Jr. conveyed adjoining parcels of land in Voluntown to Uriah Franklin Jr. and David Franklin, respectively, of Scituate, Rhode Island (Voluntown, Connecticut, Deeds, 6:141–42). The parcels adjoined land of James Dixon, whose guardianship of Martha Harris's nephew and niece William Harris and Sarah Harris is mentioned above.

<sup>142</sup> Barbour Collection, citing Stonington Vital Records, 2:4.

<sup>143</sup> The gaps in estimated birth dates suggest other children. It is possible that the Tenny Coy mentioned in Martha Harris's 1798 estate distribution also belongs here, but her parentage remains undetermined.

<sup>144</sup> Barbour Collection, citing Preston Vital Records, 2:222 (27 August); Bailey, *Early Connecticut Marriages* [note 10], 4:47 (23 August).

<sup>145</sup> 1790 U.S. Census, New London County, Connecticut, roll 1, p. 30.

<sup>146</sup> 1800 U.S. Census, Preston, New London County, Connecticut, roll 3, p. 702.

<sup>147</sup> 1810 U.S. Census, Second Society, New London County, Connecticut, roll 3, p. 75.

<sup>148</sup> Barbour Collection, citing Preston Vital Records, 2:222. The death of Zipporah, wife of Jonathan, is given without a date.

<sup>149</sup> Barbour Collection, citing Preston Vital Records, 2:222.

<sup>150</sup> Barbour Collection, citing Preston Vital Records, 2:222.

<sup>151</sup> Barbour Collection, citing Preston Vital Records, 2:280.

3. *Desire Graves*, b. 12 June 1784.
4. *George Graves*, b. 13 Dec. 1786; d. 27 April 1798.
5. *John Graves*, b. 14 March 1788; m. Preston 7 April 1814, *Mary Perri-man*, both of Preston.<sup>[152]</sup>

5. **JAMES<sup>6</sup> BACON** (*John<sup>5</sup>, Jacob<sup>4-3</sup>, Daniel<sup>2</sup>, Michael<sup>1</sup>*) was born about 1735. He died in Brimfield, Massachusetts, 9 or 10 February 1816, aged 81 years.<sup>[153]</sup> He was “of Woodstocke” when he married in Dudley, Massachusetts, on 6 March 1760, **MARTHA JEWELL**,<sup>[154]</sup> born there 29 December 1742, daughter of Joseph and Abigail (Greene) Jewell.<sup>[155]</sup> Martha died in Brimfield 9 or 10 March 1838, aged 95.<sup>[156]</sup> James was identified as “James Bacon of Brimfield” in the 1798 distribution of his aunt Martha Harris’s estate.

Birth and baptism records of their children show that James and Martha moved soon after marriage to Charlton, Massachusetts, before settling in Brimfield, where they were admitted to the church in January 1776.<sup>[157]</sup> James Bacon of Brimfield served during the Revolutionary War, first enlisting on 27 April 1775 and completing a three-month tour as a sergeant. He reenlisted on 25 December 1776, and was in garrison at Ticonderoga in February 1777.<sup>[158]</sup> His household in Brimfield in 1800 consisted of a male and female age 45 and over, two females 16–25, and a girl under 10.<sup>[159]</sup>

Children of James<sup>6</sup> and Martha (Jewell) Bacon:<sup>[160]</sup>

- i. **MARY<sup>7</sup> BACON**, b. Dudley 27 Sept. 1761 [*sic*: possibly 1760, note date of next child below];<sup>[161]</sup> d. 29 Dec. 179[0?]; m. (int. published Sturbridge, Mass., 6 March 1780), as his first wife, **THOMAS LUMBARD** “of Brimfield,”<sup>[162]</sup> b. there 26 March 1751, son of Thomas and Lois (\_\_\_\_\_) Lumbard,<sup>[163]</sup> d. Smithfield,

<sup>152</sup> Barbour Collection, citing Preston Vital Records, 2:368.

<sup>153</sup> *Vital Records of Brimfield* [note 13], 264.

<sup>154</sup> *Vital Records of Dudley* [note 18], 136. It is not known why James was in Woodstock; however, in 1721 the Bradhurst family of his grandmother Dorothy Bacon owned land in Woodstock (Baldwin, *Bacon Genealogy* [note 16], 176).

<sup>155</sup> *Vital Records of Dudley* [note 18], 73 (birth), 188 (marriage intentions for Joseph Jewell and Abigail Green “of Killingly” 5 Aug. 1738).

<sup>156</sup> *Vital Records of Brimfield* [note 13], 265.

<sup>157</sup> Morse, *Annals of the Church in Brimfield* [note 22], 54.

<sup>158</sup> *Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolutionary War*, 17 vols. (Boston: Wright & Potter, 1896–1908), 1:413.

<sup>159</sup> 1800 U.S. Census, Brimfield, Hampshire County, Massachusetts, roll 15, p. 1088.

<sup>160</sup> Charles M. Hyde, ed., *Historical Celebration of the Town of Brimfield, Hampden County, Mass . . .* (Springfield, Mass.: the town, 1879), 369; all except Patience are found in the vital records.

<sup>161</sup> *Vital Records of Dudley* [note 18], 13.

<sup>162</sup> *Vital Records of Sturbridge, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850* (Boston: NEHGS, 1906), 157; Hyde, *Historical Celebration* [note 160], 369, giving Mary’s date of death as 29 December 1791 in conflict with the date of Thomas’s second marriage.

<sup>163</sup> *Vital Records of Brimfield* [note 13], 91.

- Madison Co., N.Y., 30 April 1813, a Revolutionary War veteran.<sup>[164]</sup> Thomas m. (2) Brimfield 7 July 1791 Ann Shaw.<sup>[165]</sup>
- ii. MARTHA BACON, b. Dudley 28 June 1762;<sup>[166]</sup> d. Sept. 1775.<sup>[167]</sup>
- iii. ABIGAIL BACON, b. Charlton 10 Sept. 1764;<sup>[168]</sup> bp. Dudley 23 Sept. 1764,<sup>[169]</sup> d. Brimfield 14 June 1842, aged 77 years, 9 months;<sup>[170]</sup> m. Brimfield 21 April 1785, ABNER STEBBINS Jr.,<sup>[171]</sup> b. Brimfield 2 Nov. 1757, d. there 7 Nov. 1846, aged 89, son of Abner and Martha (Smith) Stebbins.<sup>[172]</sup>
- iv. SARAH BACON, b. Charlton 17 April 1766,<sup>[173]</sup> bp. Dudley 4 May 1766;<sup>[174]</sup> d. Brimfield 6 May 1836, aged 71;<sup>[175]</sup> m. there 1 Feb. 1786, GIDEON LUMBARD,<sup>[176]</sup> b. Brimfield 13 Sept. 1764, d. there 29 Aug. 1804, younger brother of Thomas Lumbard, husband of Sarah's sister Mary.<sup>[177]</sup>
- v. JAMES BACON, bp. Dudley 29 May 1768;<sup>[178]</sup> d. Nov. 1768.<sup>[179]</sup>
- vi. HANNAH BACON, b. 9 June 1769,<sup>[180]</sup> bp. Dudley 18 June 1769,<sup>[181]</sup> living in New Haven, Oswego Co., N.Y., in 1820;<sup>[182]</sup> m. Brimfield 19 Nov. 1789, GARDNER WYMAN,<sup>[183]</sup> who d. before the 1820 census. They settled in New Haven in 1804 after some time in Eaton, Madison Co., N.Y. Gardner "built the second log house in town [New Haven]" and served as a captain of militia in the War of 1812.<sup>[184]</sup>
- vii. JOHN BACON, b. Brimfield 30 Aug. 1771;<sup>[185]</sup> d. Sept. 1775.<sup>[186]</sup>
- viii. CHLOE BACON, b. Brimfield 19 March 1774;<sup>[187]</sup> d. Sept. 1775.<sup>[188]</sup>

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<sup>164</sup> James H. Smith, *History of Chenango and Madison Counties, New York* (Syracuse: D. Mason & Co., 1880), 628.

<sup>165</sup> *Vital Records of Brimfield* [note 13], 214.

<sup>166</sup> *Vital Records of Dudley* [note 18], 13.

<sup>167</sup> Hyde, *Historical Celebration* [note 160], 369.

<sup>168</sup> *Vital Records of Charlton, Massachusetts, to the End of the Year 1849* (Worcester, Mass.: Franklin P. Rice, 1905), 12.

<sup>169</sup> *Vital Records of Dudley* [note 18], 12.

<sup>170</sup> *Vital Records of Brimfield* [note 13], 327.

<sup>171</sup> *Ibid.*, 158.

<sup>172</sup> *Ibid.*, 131 (birth), 242 (parents' marriage), 327 (death).

<sup>173</sup> *Vital Records of Charlton* [note 168], 14.

<sup>174</sup> *Vital Records of Dudley* [note 18], 13.

<sup>175</sup> *Vital Records of Brimfield* [note 13], 305.

<sup>176</sup> *Ibid.*, 159.

<sup>177</sup> *Ibid.*, 89 (birth), 304 (death).

<sup>178</sup> *Vital Records of Dudley* [note 18], 13.

<sup>179</sup> Hyde, *Historical Celebration* [note 160], 369.

<sup>180</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>181</sup> *Vital Records of Dudley* [note 18], 13.

<sup>182</sup> 1820 U.S. Census, New Haven, Oswego County, New York, roll 79, p. 25 (Hanah Wyman household).

<sup>183</sup> *Vital Records of Brimfield* [note 13], 159.

<sup>184</sup> *History of Oswego County, New York* (Philadelphia: L. H. Everts & Co., 1877), 339.

<sup>185</sup> *Vital Records of Brimfield* [note 13], 13.

<sup>186</sup> Hyde, *Historical Celebration* [note 160], 369.

<sup>187</sup> *Vital Records of Brimfield* [note 13], 13.

<sup>188</sup> Hyde, *Historical Celebration* [note 160], 369.

- ix. AMASA BACON, b. Brimfield 13 June 1776;<sup>[189]</sup> d. 10 June 1855;<sup>[190]</sup> m. Brimfield 29 Dec. 1799, HANNAH DODGE of Brookfield,<sup>[191]</sup> b. there 9 April 1776, d. 2 Aug. 1854, daughter of Nathaniel and Sarah (Dodge) Dodge.<sup>[192]</sup>
- x. PATIENCE BACON, b. 9 April 1779.<sup>[193]</sup>
- xi. CYNTHIA BACON, bp. Brimfield 10 June 1781;<sup>[194]</sup> d. there 21 May 1814 in her 33rd year;<sup>[195]</sup> m. there 2 Oct. 1800, SAMUEL NICHOLS,<sup>[196]</sup> b. there 19 Feb. 1780, son of Samuel [Jr.] and Lois (Dunham) Nichols.<sup>[197]</sup>

**6. JOHN<sup>6</sup> BACON** (*John<sup>5</sup>, Jacob<sup>4-3</sup>, Daniel<sup>2</sup>, Michael<sup>1</sup>*) was born say 1746,<sup>[198]</sup> and was living in “Whitestown in the State of New York” in December 1798, when he was named as a distributee of the estate of his aunt Martha Harris of Plainfield. He was in Whitestown in 1800, aged 45 and over,<sup>[199]</sup> but died apparently before the 1810 census date. He married say 1778 (see children) **DIADAMA POTTER**,<sup>[200]</sup> born after 1755 (age 26–44 in 1800), daughter of Levi and Deborah (Borden) Potter from Providence or Johnston, Rhode Island.<sup>[201]</sup> On 17 June 1777, Levi Potter, “now of Voluntown,” purchased from Amaziah and Hannah Parke 60 acres there adjoining John Bacon’s land.<sup>[202]</sup>

On 24 December 1774, as discussed above, John had acquired land in Voluntown that had been recently a part of the estate of Benjamin Parke, but was then in possession of John’s father and his second wife, Benjamin’s widow. John Bacon

<sup>189</sup> *Vital Records of Brimfield* [note 13], 13.

<sup>190</sup> Hyde, *Historical Celebration* [note 160], 369.

<sup>191</sup> *Vital Records of Brimfield* [note 13], 159. Although it gives a flawed lineage for Amasa’s father James Bacon, an account of some of Amasa and Hannah’s descendants may be seen in *Western Massachusetts: A History* [note 15], 3:424–25.

<sup>192</sup> *Vital Records of Brookfield, Massachusetts, to the End of the Year 1849* (Worcester, Mass., Franklin P. Rice, 1909), 76 (birth), 304 (parents’ marriage).

<sup>193</sup> Hyde, *Historical Celebration* [note 160], 369.

<sup>194</sup> *Vital Records of Brimfield* [note 13], 13.

<sup>195</sup> *Ibid.*, 313.

<sup>196</sup> *Ibid.*, 159.

<sup>197</sup> *Ibid.*, 110 (birth), 226 (parents’ marriage).

<sup>198</sup> The 1880 census entry for son Ziba C. Bacon states that his father and mother both were born in Rhode Island; probably this is true for his mother but is uncertain for his father.

<sup>199</sup> 1800 U.S. Census, Paris or Whitestown, Oneida County, New York, roll 23, p. 52/149. The page is labeled both “Whitestown” and “Paris”; Paris was formed from Whitestown in 1792.

<sup>200</sup> No record of their marriage is found, but the estimated date is near or soon after the time that Diadama’s parents came to Voluntown from Johnston, Rhode Island.

<sup>201</sup> Voluntown, Connecticut, Deeds, 7:382–83. Levi Potter married in Providence, Rhode Island, 7 September 1758, Deborah Borden (“Rhode Island Marriages, 1724–1916,” online at *FamilySearch.com*). Johnston was formed from Providence in 1759. “On Wednesday [28 March 1787] Mr. Levi Potter, of Voluntown, as he was taking clams on the shore near field’s point, fell down suddenly in a fit, and expired” (*Norwich [Conn.] Packet*, 29 March 1787, p. 3).

<sup>202</sup> Voluntown, Connecticut, Deeds, 6:12. At the same time, Levi gave a deed of mortgage for the same land to his father-in-law Joseph Borden of Providence (*ibid.*, 6:13). According to the present analysis, Amaziah Parke, the grantor, was a stepbrother of Levi’s son-in-law John Bacon. It is not clear whether the adjoining land belonged to Diadama’s husband or to his father of the same name.

(the son) was among the men from Voluntown who marched to the relief of Boston in the Lexington alarm of April 1775; his service was 19 days. Subsequently, he served as a private in the 6th company (commanded by Capt. Clift Waterman from Plainfield) of the Sixth Regiment of Connecticut troops.<sup>[203]</sup>

On 17 March 1779, John sold to Robert Parke 12 acres in Voluntown, it “being all the land that belongs to me upon the west side of Moosup River.”<sup>[204]</sup> Soon after, on 13 April 1779, with his wife Diadama releasing dower and as his last deed in Voluntown, John sold to David Franklin of Scituate, Rhode Island, 50 acres on the east side of Moosup River.<sup>[205]</sup> On 10 January 1793, Diadama acknowledged in Ellington, Connecticut, a deed for her interest in her father Levi Potter’s property in Voluntown.<sup>[206]</sup> In 1800 the households of John Bacon and several of his wife’s Potter relatives were listed in a cluster in Oneida County, New York.<sup>[207]</sup>

Children of John<sup>6</sup> and Diadama (Potter) Bacon:<sup>[208]</sup>

- i. ARTHUR<sup>7</sup> BACON, b. ca. 1779, either in Conn. (1850 census, age 72) or in R.I. (1860 census, age 80); m. \_\_\_\_\_, who d. before the 1850 census. He was living in Rossie, St. Lawrence Co., N.Y., in 1860 with son Hiram H. Bacon.<sup>[209]</sup> Arthur’s household was in Oneida Co. in 1810, in Paris, Oneida Co., in 1820, then in Rossie in 1830, 1840, and 1850.<sup>[210]</sup> Arthur Bacon of Rossie is said to have discovered galena (lead ore) at the roots of an upturned tree.<sup>[211]</sup>
- ii. Probably a daughter b. say 1782 (age 16–25 in 1800).
- iii. JOHN BACON, b. Conn. say 1786 (age 66 in 1850, 70 in 1860); living in Paris, Oneida Co., in 1860.<sup>[212]</sup> He m. PERSIS \_\_\_\_\_, b. Mass. ca. 1786, living with

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<sup>203</sup> Henry P. Johnston, ed., *The Record of Connecticut Men in the Military and Naval Service During the War of the Revolution, 1775–1783* (Hartford, Conn.: Case, Lockwood & Brainard, 1889; repr. Baltimore: Clearfield, 1997), 24, 75.

<sup>204</sup> Voluntown, Connecticut, Deeds, 6:121.

<sup>205</sup> Voluntown, Connecticut, Deeds, 6:141–42. A few days later, on 18 May, John’s father sold an adjoining 19-acre parcel to Uriah Franklin Jr. of Scituate (*ibid.*, 6:142).

<sup>206</sup> Voluntown, Connecticut, Deeds, 7:382–83.

<sup>207</sup> See note 199.

<sup>208</sup> Several Family Tree postings for the family of John and Diadama (Potter) Bacon on *Ancestry.com* (viewed in November 2010) list four sons: Arthur, John, Alanson, and Ziba. Some of the postings confuse John (the father) with a man of the same name born and buried in Middletown, Conn., and all give inadequate documentation for the sons. More specific proof would be welcome; however, a review of the available data, summarized in the list below, indicates that the four sons probably were correctly identified and that in addition there was a fifth son, Levi, and probably at least two daughters and another son, names not found. No deeds or probate records for this family have been found in Oneida County.

<sup>209</sup> 1860 U.S. Census, Rossie, St. Lawrence County, New York, roll 853, p. 27.

<sup>210</sup> 1810 U.S. Census, Oneida County, New York, roll 33, p. 365; 1820 U.S. Census, Paris, Oneida County, roll 73, p. 263; 1830 U.S. Census, Rossie, St. Lawrence County, New York, roll 107, p. 202; 1840 U.S. Census, Rossie, roll 334, p. 95; 1850 U.S. Census, Rossie, roll 589, p. 218B.

<sup>211</sup> *History of St. Lawrence County, New York* (Philadelphia: L. H. Everts & Co., 1878), 314.

<sup>212</sup> 1860 U.S. Census, Paris, Oneida County, New York, roll 826, p. 272/80.

- him in 1860. A “day laborer,” his household was in Oneida Co. in 1810, in Paris, Oneida Co., in 1820 and 1830, in Antwerp, Jefferson Co., N.Y., in 1850,<sup>[213]</sup> and back in Paris in 1860.
- iv. LEVI BACON, b. say 1790, presumably named for his maternal grandfather, Levi Potter, is accounted for as one of three boys under 10 in his father’s household in 1800. He appears as age 26–44 with a household near his apparent brothers Arthur and John Bacon in Paris, Oneida Co., in 1820,<sup>[214]</sup> and in Champion, Jefferson Co., in 1830, age 40–49.<sup>[215]</sup> The entries suggest that he had married soon before 1810.
- v. Probably a daughter, b. say 1792 (age under 10 in 1800).
- vi. ALANSON BACON, b. Conn. ca. 1796 (age 64 in 1860 and 74 in 1870); living in Rossie, St. Lawrence Co., N.Y., in 1870.<sup>[216]</sup> He m. ELIZABETH \_\_\_\_\_, b. Vt. ca. 1802, living with him in 1860, age 58.<sup>[217]</sup> His household was in Rossie in 1830, 1850, 1860, and in 1870, when he was residing with his son William P. Bacon.<sup>[218]</sup>
- vii. Probably a son, b. say 1798 (one of three boys under 10 in 1800).
- viii. ZIBA C. BACON, b. N.Y. 1803; d. 1881, bur. Sand Hill Cemetery, Natural Bridge, Jefferson Co., N.Y.<sup>[219]</sup> He m. ELIZA J. \_\_\_\_\_, b. N.Y. 1809, d. 1897, bur. beside him. Their household was in Antwerp, Jefferson Co., in 1850, when he was a “Coaler,” in Diana, Lewis Co., N.Y., in 1860 and 1870, a farmer, and in Wilna, Jefferson Co. in 1880, when he gave his parents’ birthplaces as in R.I.<sup>[220]</sup>

(concluded)

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<sup>213</sup> 1810 U.S. Census, Oneida County, New York, roll 33, p. 322, as J. Bacon; 1820 U.S. Census, Paris, Oneida County, roll 73, p. 263; 1830 U.S. Census, Paris, roll 99, p. 152; 1850, Antwerp, Jefferson County, New York, roll 515, p. 190B.

<sup>214</sup> 1820 U.S. Census, Paris, Oneida County, New York, roll 73, p. 263.

<sup>215</sup> 1830 U.S. Census, Champion, Jefferson County, New York, roll 92, p. 137.

<sup>216</sup> 1870 U.S. Census, Rossie, St. Lawrence County, New York, roll 1099, p. 178A/19.

<sup>217</sup> 1860 U.S. Census, Rossie, roll 853, pp. 22–23.

<sup>218</sup> 1830 U.S. Census, Rossie, roll 107, p. 202; 1850 U.S. Census, Rossie, roll 589, p. 219A; 1860 U.S. Census, Rossie, roll 853, p. 732; 1870 U.S. Census, Rossie, roll 1099, p. 178A.

<sup>219</sup> Gravestone photo online at [www.findagrave.com](http://www.findagrave.com), accessed August 2010.

<sup>220</sup> 1850 U.S. Census, Antwerp, Jefferson County, New York, roll 515, p. 188A; 1860 U.S. Census, Diana, Lewis County, New York, roll 777, p. 552; 1870 U.S. Census, Diana, roll 964, p. 381A; 1880 U.S. Census, Wilna, Jefferson County, New York, roll 840, E.D. 153, p. 15 (see note 198).

## THE EARLIEST SHERMANS OF DEDHAM, ESSEX, AND THEIR WIVES

### PART 3: HENRY SHERMAN THE YOUNGER AND HIS WIFE

*Michael Johnson Wood*

*(continued from Register 167 [2013]:54)*

**16. ANNE<sup>1</sup> LAWRENCE** (9.i) was born say 1582, and was buried in Hingham, Norfolk, 30 April 1648.<sup>[181]</sup> She married as his first wife, **Rev. ROBERT<sup>1</sup> PECK**, rector of Hingham, born about 1580, died in 1656, son of Robert and Helen (Babbs) Peck.<sup>[182]</sup> He married second Martha (Woodward) Bacon, widow of Rev. James Bacon, rector of Burgate, Suffolk.<sup>[183]</sup>

In 1638 Robert and Anne emigrated to New England with their children, Joseph and Anne, and Robert's younger brother, Joseph Peck. They settled in Hingham, Massachusetts, but in 1641 Rev. Robert Peck returned to England with his wife and son, and resumed the rectorship of Hingham, Norfolk.<sup>[184]</sup>

Robert Peck left a will dated 24 July 1651, proved 10 April 1658,<sup>[185]</sup> mentioning sons Thomas and Samuel (to be executors); unnamed children (all under 21) of sons Thomas and Samuel; Robert (under 23), John and Benjamin (both under 22), sons of son Robert Peck, deceased; children of daughter Anne Mason "wife of captain John Mason of Seabrooke on the river Connecticut in new England"; son Joseph to be maintained by sons Thomas and Samuel; my now wife Martha Peck. The testator asked to be buried in the churchyard in Hingham near "Anne my wife deceased."

Children of Robert and Anne (Lawrence) Peck, all baptisms in Hingham, Norfolk:<sup>[186]</sup>

- i. **ROBERT PECK**, bp. 23 July 1607; bur. Hingham, Norfolk, in April 1648; m. **JOAN ROBINSON**.<sup>[187]</sup>

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<sup>181</sup> Parish registers of Hingham, Norfolk, copy at The Society of Genealogists, London.

<sup>182</sup> S. Allyn Peck and Frederick Stanhope Peck, "The English Ancestry of Joseph Peck of Hingham, Mass., in 1638," *Register* 89 (1935):327–39, at 32–38; Ira Ballou Peck, *A Genealogical History of the Descendants of Joseph Peck . . .* (Boston: A. Mudge & Son, 1868), 25–26; Venn and Venn, *Alumni Cantabrigienses* [note 75], 3:333. No burials were recorded in Hingham, Norfolk, between 1652 and 1683.

<sup>183</sup> Clayton Torrence, *Winstons of Virginia and Allied Families* (Richmond, Va.: Whittet and Shepperson, 1927), 373–77; *Dictionary of Virginia Biography, Volume 1* (Richmond, Va.: Library of Virginia, 1998), 270–71; Waters, *Genealogical Gleanings in England* [note 49], 1:94; Peck, *Descendants of Joseph Peck* [note 182], 26.

<sup>184</sup> See note 182.

<sup>185</sup> Waters, *Genealogical Gleanings in England* [note 49], 1:93–94; Peck, *Descendants of Joseph Peck* [note 182], 26–28.

<sup>186</sup> Muskett MS. [note 98], vols. IV, XVII, and XX, British Library Add. MSS. 33859, f. 103, 33872, f. 68, and 33875, f. 150. These include biographical details.

- ii. THOMAS PECK, bp. 6 Sept. 1608; rector of Prittlewell, Essex; bur. there 2 June 1668;<sup>[188]</sup> m. (1) ABIGAIL ROGERS, daughter of Rev. John Rogers of Dedham, “the famous preacher,”<sup>[189]</sup> and his first wife, Bridget Ray.<sup>[190]</sup> Thomas Peck m. (2) “REBECCA CALEY of Waldingfield,”<sup>[191]</sup> perhaps the Rebecca Caly, bp. Little Waldingfield, Suffolk, 6 Sept. 1615, daughter of Thomas and Thomasine (Gosse) Caly;<sup>[192]</sup> and (3) MARY (SOTHEBIE) HALE, daughter of Rev. Thomas Sothebie, and widow of John Hale.<sup>[193]</sup>
- iii. JOSEPH PECK, bp. 22 April 1610; d. after 24 July 1651, the date of his father’s will.
- iv. BENJAMIN PECK, bp. 29 Sept. 1611; d. young.
- v. SAMUEL PECK, bp. 14 March 1612/3; physician of Chelmsford, Essex;<sup>[194]</sup> d. after 7 Feb. 1654[5], when mentioned in the will of his second cousin, Samuel Lawrence (9.iii). Samuel Peck m. ELIZABETH MILD MAY, daughter of Sir William and Anne (Josselyn) Mildmay. Anne’s father, Sir Thomas Josselyn, and her two younger half-brothers, Henry and John Josselyn, were in Maine and elsewhere in the seventeenth century.<sup>[195]</sup>
- vi. NATHANIEL PECK, bp. 13 Sept. 1614; d. before 24 July 1651, the date of his father’s will.
- vii. DANIEL PECK, bp. 1 March 1615/6; bur. Hingham 8 June 1616.
- viii. ANNE PECK, bp. 18 Nov. 1619; d. early 1672; m. Hingham, Mass., in July 1639, as his second wife, Capt. JOHN<sup>1</sup> MASON of Windsor and Saybrook, Conn., b. by ca. 1605, d. Norwich, Conn., between 9 May 1672 and 6 June 1672.<sup>[196]</sup>

**17. HENRY SHERMAN** (11.ii) was baptized in Dedham, Essex, 20 October 1601. He died before 17 June 1628, when administration of his estate was granted to his widow Mary.<sup>[197]</sup> He married in Fersfield, Norfolk, 1 February 1626/7, **MARY FISHER**,<sup>[198]</sup> baptized in Redgrave, Suffolk, 24 November 1605, daughter of

<sup>187</sup> See note 186.

<sup>188</sup> Venn and Venn, *Alumni Cantabrigienses* [note 75], 3:333.

<sup>189</sup> Waters, *Genealogical Gleanings in England* [note 49], 1:209–10; *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography* [note 96], 47:562–63.

<sup>190</sup> Waters, *Genealogical Gleanings in England* [note 49], 1:221–23; Elizabeth French, “Genealogical Research in England,” *Register* 63 (1909):356–63; 64 (1910):51–61, at 60; G. Andrews Moriarty, “Rogers–Ray,” *Register* 97 (1943):205.

<sup>191</sup> Philip Benton, *The History of Rochford Hundred* (Rochford, Essex: A. Harrington, 1867), Prittlewell, p. 588.

<sup>192</sup> Leslie Mahler, “The English Ancestry of John<sup>1</sup> Gosse of Watertown, Massachusetts, and His Niece Sarah Caly, Wife of John<sup>1</sup> Dillingham of Massachusetts,” *The American Genealogist* 82 (2007):295–307, at 307.

<sup>193</sup> Waters, *Genealogical Gleanings in England* [note 49], 1:94.

<sup>194</sup> Venn and Venn, *Alumni Cantabrigienses* [note 75], 3:333.

<sup>195</sup> Robert Charles Anderson, *The Great Migration Begins: Immigrants to New England, 1620–1633*, 3 vols. (Boston: NEHGS, 1995), 2:1113–16 (Henry Josselyn); Elizabeth French, “Genealogical Research in England: Josselyn,” *Register* 71 (1917):19–33, 227–57, at 248–49.

<sup>196</sup> Anderson, *Great Migration Begins* [note 195], 2:1225–30 (John Mason).

<sup>197</sup> Prerogative Court of Canterbury Admons, PROB6/13, f. 33.

<sup>198</sup> Parish registers of Fersfield, Norfolk, copy at The Society of Genealogists, London.



Edmund and Grace (Hindes) Fisher.<sup>[199]</sup> Mary died after 19 March 1639/40, when mentioned in her father's will, but she was not mentioned in her mother's will, dated 17 May 1652.<sup>[200]</sup> Henry and Mary had no known children.

**18. SAMUEL<sup>1</sup> SHERMAN** (11.v) was born say 1607. He died in Boston, Massachusetts, before 2 1st month [March] 1644[/5?] (date of inventory). He married **GRACE** \_\_\_\_\_, who died before 28 July 1652, when there was a partial distribution of her husband's estate.<sup>[201]</sup> In or before 1662, "Samuell and Nathaniell Sherman and Mary Clarke children of Samuell Shearman long since deceased" brought a petition regarding the estate of their father, "Samuell Sherman of Ipswich." The response to the petition was accepted by the General Court of Election on 7 May 1662.<sup>[202]</sup>

Samuel emigrated to New England by June 1636, when he possessed one hundred acres in Ipswich, Massachusetts.<sup>[203]</sup> He was a supporter of Ann Hutchinson, and as a result, he was disarmed on 20 November 1637.<sup>[204]</sup> He moved to Boston, evidently by 31 December 1637, when his son Philip was born there. Samuel joined the church in Boston 1 March 1639/40, and his wife joined on 29 August 1641.<sup>[205]</sup> Samuel was made a freeman of the Massachusetts Bay Colony on 13 May 1640.<sup>[206]</sup> Samuel's land was adjacent to or near Roxbury, according to deeds in 1638 and 1639.<sup>[207]</sup>

<sup>199</sup> Parish registers of Redgrave, Suffolk, copy at The Society of Genealogists, London.

<sup>200</sup> Archdeaconry Court of Sudbury, West Suffolk Record Office, Bury St. Edmunds, IC500/2/59/238 (his will); Prerogative Court of Canterbury Wills, 77 Aylett, PROB11/244, f. 202b (her will). Edmund Fisher was the brother of Ann (Fisher) Burr (see 13.i), two of whose sons settled in New England. The will of Gregory Fisher, father of Edmund and Ann, is given in Burr, *Bures of Suffolk* [note 168], 77–78.

<sup>201</sup> Suffolk County Probate, 3:58–62; abstracted in Wm. B. Trask, "Abstracts of the Earliest Wills on Record in the County of Suffolk, Mass.," *Register* 9 (1855):226–27. Among the distributees (listed together) were Mary Sherman, Martha Sherman, Philip [Sherman], and Nathaniel Sherman. In addition, there were distributions to Evan Thomas for board, schooling, and mending his clothes. Perhaps he was an apprentice, probably the son of Evan<sup>1</sup> and Jane (\_\_\_\_\_) Thomas of Boston (James Savage, *A Genealogical Dictionary of the First Settlers of New England*, 4 vols. [Boston: Little, Brown & Co., 1860–62; repr. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1981], 4:279–80). Evan<sup>1</sup> Thomas married second in 1659 Alice (\_\_\_\_\_) Kirtland, mother-in-law of Samuel Sherman's son Nathaniel (18.v).

<sup>202</sup> Nathaniel B. Shurtleff, ed., *Records of the Governor and Company of the Massachusetts Bay in New England*, 5 vols. in 6 (Boston: W. White, 1853–54), 4:47, reprinted in *Probate Records of Essex County* [note 153], 1:375.

<sup>203</sup> *The Hammatt Papers. Nos. 1–7, The Early Inhabitants of Ipswich, Mass., 1633–1700*, by Abraham Hammatt 1854, Ipswich Antiquarian Papers (Ipswich, Mass.: various publishers, 1880–99), 1:346.

<sup>204</sup> Shurtleff, *Governor and Company of Massachusetts Bay* [note 202], 1:212.

<sup>205</sup> Richard D. Pierce, ed., *Records of the First Church in Boston, 1630–1868*, vols. 39–41 (Boston: Colonial Society of Massachusetts, 1961), 39:28, 35.

<sup>206</sup> Shurtleff, *Governor and Company of Massachusetts Bay* [note 202], 1:377.

<sup>207</sup> Annie Haven Thwing, *Inhabitants and Estates of the Town of Boston, 1630–1800, and The Crooked and Narrow Street of Boston, 1630–1822*, CD-ROM (Boston: NEHGS and Massachusetts Historical Society, 2001), ref code 54484.

The 1652 will of John Ward of Ipswich, Massachusetts (see no. 11 above), left legacies to the two youngest sons of cousin Samuel Sherman of Boston, deceased.

Children of Samuel<sup>1</sup> and Grace (\_\_\_\_\_) Sherman; the four youngest born in Boston and baptized at the First Church there:<sup>[208]</sup>

22. i. MARY<sup>2</sup> SHERMAN, b. say 1633; m. probably EMANUEL CLARKE.
23. ii. SAMUEL SHERMAN, b. say 1635; m. NAOMI JOHNSON.
- iii. PHILIP SHERMAN, b. 31 Dec. 1637; bp. 8 March 1639/40; d. Boston 12 Dec. 1655 whilst an apprentice with John Blower.<sup>[209]</sup>
- iv. MARTHA SHERMAN, b. 5 Sept. 1639, bp. 8 March 1639/40; d. between 28 July 1652 and 8 Jan. 1656, based on the distribution on the latter date of £50 from their father's estate to his children: £20 to the eldest and the remainder to the other two.<sup>[210]</sup>
24. v. NATHANIEL SHERMAN, b. 7 Dec. 1641; bp. 19 Dec. 1641; m. MARY KIRTLAND.
- vi. JONATHAN SHERMAN, b. 8 Feb. 1643/4; bp. 11 Feb. 1643/4; probably d. young as he was not mentioned in his father's administration.

**19. PHILIP<sup>1</sup> SHERMAN** (11.vi) was baptized in Dedham, Essex, 5 February 1610/1. He died in Portsmouth, Rhode Island, before 19 March 1686/7 (date of inventory). He emigrated to New England in 1633, and in or after 1633 married in Roxbury, Massachusetts, **SARAH ODDING**, daughter of Margaret<sup>1</sup> (\_\_\_\_\_) (Odding) Porter.<sup>[211]</sup> Philip held many public offices in Portsmouth, and was the town's representative to the Rhode Island General Court in 1656 and 1665. He was the General Recorder of Rhode Island from 1648 to 1650. He left a will dated 31 July 1681, proved 22 March 1686/7, mentioning his wife Sarah and all eleven children by name; these children are listed in *The Great Migration Begins*.<sup>[212]</sup> For their descendants, see *Some of the Descendants of Philip Sherman*.<sup>[213]</sup>

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<sup>208</sup> [Ninth] *Report of the Record Commissioners Containing Boston Births, Baptisms, Marriages, and Deaths, 1630–1699* (Boston: Rockwell & Churchill, 1883), 5, 8, 10, 12, 13, 17; Pierce, *Records of the First Church in Boston* [note 205], 137, 141, 148.

<sup>209</sup> *Boston Births, Baptisms, Marriages, and Deaths, 1630–1699* [note 208], 52.

<sup>210</sup> The distribution document actually says three children but that Philip is dead, so the £30 will be divided between the survivors.

<sup>211</sup> Anderson, *Great Migration Begins* [note 195], 3:1670–73 (Philip Sherman). William Oddyn of Braintree, Essex, left a will dated 21 October James 10 & 46 [1612], proved 3 December 1612, naming wife Margaret and daughter Sarah under 21 (Patricia Law Hatcher “Reconstructing Sarah (Odding) Sherman, Wife of Philip<sup>1</sup> Sherman of Portsmouth, Rhode Island,” *The American Genealogist* 73 [1998]:176–80).

<sup>212</sup> Anderson, *Great Migration Begins* [note 195], 3:1670–73 (Philip Sherman).

<sup>213</sup> Sherman, *Some of the Descendants of Philip Sherman, The First Secretary of Rhode Island* [note 148]. Philip Sherman was General Recorder, not Secretary, of Rhode Island. For daughter Mary, see Jane Fletcher Fiske, “Clues to the Possible Identity of Mary, Second Wife of Jeremiah<sup>2</sup> Brown (*Chad*<sup>1</sup>) of Newport, R.I.,” *Register* 128 (1974):306–09. Her reasoning is summarized in her *Thomas Cooke of Rhode Island . . .*, 2 vols. (Boxford, Mass.: the author, 1987), 1:13.

**20. PHEBE<sup>1</sup> WHITING** (12.vi) was baptized in Dedham, Essex, 3 September 1608. She died in Watertown, Massachusetts, 1 August 1685. She married about 1631 **JOHN<sup>1</sup> BARNARD**, who was buried in Watertown 23 June 1646. They emigrated to New England in 1634 on the *Elizabeth*, and settled in Watertown. He was made a freeman of Massachusetts Bay Colony 3 September 1634. Phebe was named in the 1638 will of her mother, and two of her sons were named in the 1686/7 will of her sister Anne. The children of John and Phebe (Whiting) Barnard are identified in *The Great Migration*.<sup>[214]</sup>

**21. ANNE<sup>1</sup> WHITING** (12.vii) was born in Dedham, Essex, about 1608. She died between 1 March 1686/7 and 20 January 1689/90 (date of will and probate), probably in Sudbury, Massachusetts. She married first by 1 September 1628, **JOHN<sup>1</sup> LOVERING**, born say 1583, son of John and Mary (Stone) Lovering of Ardleigh, Essex. John and Anne (Whiting) Lovering emigrated to New England in 1635, and settled in Watertown, Massachusetts. He died between 4 October 1638 and 9 November 1638, probably in Watertown. Anne married second 19 June 1639, **REV. EDMUND<sup>1</sup> BROWNE**,<sup>[215]</sup> baptized in Lavenham, Suffolk, 28 October 1606, son of Edmund and Anne (Woder) Browne. Rev. Edmund Browne was the first minister of Sudbury, where he died 22 June 1678.<sup>[216]</sup> Anne left a will dated 1 March 1686/7, proved 20 January 1689/90, mentioning loving kinsman John Barnard of Watertown, cousin John Deeks [Dix] of Watertown, and loving kinsman James Barnard of Watertown to be executor. Anne, who was named in the 1628 will of her father, had no children by either husband.

**22. MARY SHERMAN** (18.i) was born say 1633,<sup>[217]</sup> probably in England. By 1662 she had married \_\_\_\_\_ Clarke, based on the petition by Mary and her two brothers regarding their father's estate (see above). No marriage for a male Clark(e) to Mary Sherman (or even a relevant Mary \_\_\_\_\_) during the period 1650–1662 appears in Torrey's *New England Marriages*.<sup>[218]</sup>

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<sup>214</sup> Robert Charles Anderson, George F. Sanborn Jr., and Melinde Lutz Sanborn, *The Great Migration: Immigrants to New England, 1634–1635, Volume I A–B* (Boston: NEHGS, 1999), 161–66 (John Barnard). The approximate birth dates given for the two youngest children cannot be correct as the dates are two and four years after the death of their father.

<sup>215</sup> Robert Charles Anderson, *The Great Migration: Immigrants to New England, 1634–1635, Volume IV I–L* (Boston: NEHGS, 2005), 354–57 (John Lovering).

<sup>216</sup> Mary Lovering Holman, *Ancestry of John Harrington Stevens and His Wife, Frances Helen Miller*, 2 vols. (Concord, N.H.: Rumford Press, 1948–52), 1:177n. His parents were married in Lavenham 8 August 1603 (Bishop's Transcripts for Lavenham at the Society of Genealogists).

<sup>217</sup> This date is based on her probable age as the wife of Emanuel Clarke (see below).

<sup>218</sup> Clarence Almon Torrey, *New England Marriages Prior to 1700*, 3 vols. (Boston: NEHGS, 2011), also CD-ROM (Boston: NEHGS, 2001) and database online at *American Ancestors.org*. However, Torrey does show at 1:330 a William Clarke of Lynn married to Mary \_\_\_\_\_ by 1641. A 1963 article on this Clarke family (Frances Davis McTeer and Frederick C. Warner, "The Children of Mr. William Clarke of Salem, Mass.," *The American Genealogist* 39 [1963]:100–12, at 101–03) says William Clarke married probably about 1640, "Mary Sherman, who d. at Lynn 19 Aug. 1693, probable daughter of Samuel Sherman of Ipswich," citing only the 1662 petition (see

Mary Sherman married by 1662 probably **EMANUEL CLARKE**, mariner, of Marblehead, Massachusetts, born about 1621, died after June 1669.<sup>[219]</sup> Although Torrey does not show a marriage for Emanuel Clarke, he was probably the husband of Mary Clarke, married woman, evidently of Marblehead, aged about 29 years in June 1662.<sup>[220]</sup> This age would yield an approximate year of birth of 1633, which is reasonable for Mary. The Marblehead vital records suggest that Emanuel was the only Clarke there before 1700 with a wife named Mary.<sup>[221]</sup> Neither Emanuel nor Mary left probate in Essex County.

The rare name Emanuel provides an important clue as to a probable son of Mary (Sherman) Clarke. The 1681 will of Mary's uncle, Philip Sherman (19) includes the following provision:

I will Benjamin Clarke to my son Edmund until he comes of age one & twenty years, the said Edmund finding the said Benjamin with sufficient food and clothing during the term aforesaid.<sup>[222]</sup>

This provision in itself might not be indicative, except for the likelihood that this Benjamin Clarke was identical with Benjamin Clarke of South Kingstown, Rhode Island, and Plainfield, Connecticut, whose second son was named Emanuel.<sup>[223]</sup> It is reasonable then to suggest that the Benjamin Clarke in Philip Sherman's will was probably Philip's great-nephew, probably taken in after the death of Benjamin's parents.

Probable child of Emanuel and Mary (Sherman) Clarke:

above) and Hammatt's *Early Inhabitants of Ipswich* [note 202], 1:346 (which does not support this identification). No evidence is given to show William Clarke had a wife named Mary, or that she was née Sherman, or that he had only one wife. The Lynn birth records do not give her name, and his 1679 will does not give her name. Nevertheless, court records show that William Clarke of Lynn had a wife named Mary in 1669 (George Francis Dow, ed., *Records and Files of the Quarterly Courts of Essex County, Massachusetts*, 9 vols. [Salem, Mass.: Essex Institute, 1911–21], 2:290), and her death record calls her Mary, w[idow] of William Clarke. She did not leave probate in Essex County.

<sup>219</sup> *Quarterly Courts of Essex County* [note 218], 3:368 (Emanuel Clarke, aged about 45 years in November 1666); 4:157 (Emanuel Clarke, defendant in June 1669).

<sup>220</sup> *Ibid.*, 2:408.

<sup>221</sup> *Vital Records of Marblehead, Massachusetts, to the End of the Year 1849*, 3 vols. (Salem, Mass.: Essex Institute, 1903–08), *passim*, especially 3:33.

<sup>222</sup> Anderson, *Great Migration Begins* [note 195], 3:1671, which says "I give Benjamin Clarke," citing Sherman, *Some of the Descendants of Philip Sherman* [note 148]. The original will in Portsmouth Land Evidences 2:260–61, says "I will Benjamin Clarke" (original courtesy of Cherry Fletcher Bamberg, FASG).

<sup>223</sup> George Austin Morrison, *The "Clarke" Families of Rhode Island* (New York: Press of the Evening Post Job Printing House, 1902), 265 (shows Benjamin as unplaced); Prentiss Glazier, "Clark–Clarke Families of Early Connecticut," *Register* 128 (1974):22–27, at 22; William H. Eldridge, "Benjamin Clarke 1663–1750 of Plainfield, Conn.," unpaginated typescript (1932) in R. Stanton Avery Special Collections Dept. of NEHGS (suggests Benjamin was the son of Emanuel Clarke of Marblehead).

- i. BENJAMIN CLARKE, b. ca. 1663; d. June 1750, aged 87, bur. Joseph Rood Farm Cemetery, Plainfield, Conn.<sup>[224]</sup> He m. (1) by 1693 MERCY SMITH, daughter of John and Margaret (\_\_\_\_\_) Smith; (2) JEAN/JANE (DEAN?).<sup>[225]</sup>

**23. SAMUEL<sup>2</sup> SHERMAN** (18.ii) was born say 1635, probably in England. He married by 1661 **NAOMI JOHNSON**, baptized in Salem, Massachusetts, 1 April 1638, daughter of Francis<sup>1</sup> and Joan (\_\_\_\_\_) Johnson. She died before 23 March 1690/1, when her younger sister Elizabeth was called the eldest daughter of their father.<sup>[226]</sup>

Children of Samuel<sup>2</sup> and Naomi (Johnson) Sherman, both born in Boston:

- i. SAMUEL<sup>3</sup> SHERMAN, b. Boston 3 Oct. 1661; d. there 18 7th month [Sept.] 1662.<sup>[227]</sup>  
 ii. SAMUEL SHERMAN, b. Boston 24 April 1664,<sup>[228]</sup> bp. Salem 28 Oct. 1665.<sup>[229]</sup>

**24. NATHANIEL<sup>2</sup> SHERMAN** (18.v) was born in Boston 7 December 1641, and baptized at the First Church there 19 December 1641. He married **MARY KIRTLAND**, born in Lynn, Massachusetts, 8 June 1640, daughter of Philip<sup>1</sup> and Alice (\_\_\_\_\_) Kirtland.<sup>[230]</sup> Nathaniel died say 1670, and Mary married second by 12 May 1672, John Cox, when their oldest child was born in Boston.<sup>[231]</sup> John Cox died in Boston 3 July 1690,<sup>[232]</sup> and Mary married third in Lynn 4 December 1701, Thomas Root.<sup>[233]</sup>

The will of Mary's mother, Alice (\_\_\_\_\_) (Kirtland) Thomas, dated 25 January 1696/7, proved in Boston 21 October 1697,<sup>[234]</sup> mentions daughter Mary Cox and her children Hannah Elliott, Nathaniel Sherman, John Cox, and Mary Cox. The will of Mary Roote of Lynn, wife of Thomas Roote, dated 20 January 1716/7, proved 20 February 1722/3,<sup>[235]</sup> left her interest in housing and lands in Lynn from her father Philip Kirtland, deceased, to her daughter Hannah Elliott after the death of Thomas Roote. Mary Roote left £5 to her daughter Mary Jepson and 10 s. to grandson Nathaniel Sherman.

<sup>224</sup> Charles R. Hale Collection [of Cemetery Inscriptions and Newspaper Notices of Marriages and Deaths],” (1933–34), at the Connecticut State Library, Plainfield, 24.

<sup>225</sup> Glazier, “Clark–Clarke Families” [note 223], *Register* 128:22; Morrison, *Clarke Families of Rhode Island* [note 223], 265.

<sup>226</sup> Anderson, *Great Migration Begins* [note 195], 2:1101–03 (Francis Johnson).

<sup>227</sup> *Boston Births, Baptisms, Marriages, and Deaths, 1630–1699* [note 208], 79, 86.

<sup>228</sup> *Ibid.*, 93.

<sup>229</sup> Anderson, *Great Migration Begins* [note 195], 2:1101.

<sup>230</sup> Anderson, *Great Migration, 1634–1635, Volume IV I–L* [note 215], 198–201 (Philip Kirtland).

<sup>231</sup> *Boston Births, Baptisms, Marriages, and Deaths, 1630–1699* [note 208], 122.

<sup>232</sup> *Ibid.*, 192.

<sup>233</sup> *Vital Records of Lynn, Massachusetts, to the End of the Year 1849*, 2 vols. (Salem, Mass.: Essex Institute), 2:109, 334. The intentions say Thomas Root was late of Boston.

<sup>234</sup> Anderson, *Great Migration, 1634–1635, Volume IV I–L* [note 215], 199.

<sup>235</sup> Essex County Probate, 313:573.

Children of Nathaniel<sup>2</sup> and Mary (Kirtland) Sherman:

- i. NATHANIEL<sup>3</sup> SHERMAN, d. Boston 1 June 1664 as son of Nathaniel and Mary.<sup>[236]</sup> Nathaniel Sherman, son of Nathaniel and Grace [*sic*], was born in Boston 19 December 1659.<sup>[237]</sup> If this birthdate is correct, Nathaniel Sherman and Mary Kirtland were married when he was only 17 or just 18.
- ii. HANNAH SHERMAN, b. say 1663; d. before 28 July 1729 (date of inventory);<sup>[238]</sup> m. THOMAS ELLIOTT, mariner, of Salem, who died in 1694, leaving a widow Hannah.<sup>[239]</sup> It appears Torrey conflated this couple with Thomas and Hannah (Gould) Elliott, who were married in Charlestown 10 June 1675, and had children born in Boston 1677–1686.<sup>[240]</sup>
- iii. MARY SHERMAN, b. Boston 28 March 1665;<sup>[241]</sup> d. by 25 Jan. 1696/7 when not mentioned in her grandmother's will, and probably by 12 May 1672 when her mother and stepfather had a daughter born named Mary.<sup>[242]</sup>
- iv. PHILIP SHERMAN, b. Boston 30 Dec. 1666;<sup>[243]</sup> d. by 25 Jan. 1696/7 when not mentioned in his grandmother's will.
- v. NATHANIEL SHERMAN, b. Boston 13 June 1668;<sup>[244]</sup> d. by 9 Dec. 1707 (when his widow remarried); m. with intentions recorded in Lynn 14 Dec. 1696, SARAH HUTCHINSON,<sup>[245]</sup> who m. (2) Reading, Mass. 9 Dec. 1707 John Harnden.<sup>[246]</sup>

(to be continued)

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<sup>236</sup> *Boston Births, Baptisms, Marriages, and Deaths, 1630–1699* [note 208], 93.

<sup>237</sup> *Ibid.*, 68.

<sup>238</sup> Essex County Probate, 316:338; 318:27. Nathaniel Sherman [Hannah's nephew] posted bond.

<sup>239</sup> Sidney Perley, "Salem in 1700, No. 27," *The Essex Antiquarian* 11 (1907):66–75, at 72; Essex County Probate, 303:78; 305:130; 307:48.

<sup>240</sup> Torrey, *New England Marriages* [note 218]. For Thomas and Hannah (Gould) Elliott, see Roger D. Joslyn, *Vital Records of Charlestown, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850* (Boston: NEHGS, 1984–95), 1:92; Thomas Bellows Wyman, *The Genealogies and Estates of Charlestown*, 2 vols. (Boston: D. Clapp, 1879), 1:332; *Boston Births, Baptisms, Marriages, and Deaths, 1630–1699* [note 208], 141, 151, 169.

<sup>241</sup> *Boston Births, Baptisms, Marriages, and Deaths, 1630–1699* [note 208], 97.

<sup>242</sup> *Ibid.*, 122.

<sup>243</sup> *Ibid.*, 101.

<sup>244</sup> *Ibid.*, 109.

<sup>245</sup> *Vital Records of Lynn* [note 233], 2:193, 342 (Nathaniel Sherman of Boston). Nathaniel and Sarah had two children born in Lynn, a son Nathaniel, who died young, and a subsequent son Nathaniel, who married in Reading 30 June 1726, Dorcas Sawyer, and had several children recorded there (*Vital Records of Lynn*, 1:367; 2:343, 588; *Vital Records of Reading, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850* (Boston: Wright & Potter, 1912), 442).

<sup>246</sup> *Vital Records of Reading* [note 245], 442.

## *Reviews of Books\**

*Some Descendants of Roger Billings of Dorchester, Massachusetts*, by Helen Schatvet Ullmann (Boston: Newbury Street Press, 2012. ix + 233 pp. illustrations, bibliography, index. Hardcover \$39.95 + \$6.00 shipping). Order from NEHGS (888-296-3447) or online at [www.AmericanAncestors.org/store](http://www.AmericanAncestors.org/store).

This book traces the descendants of Richard<sup>4</sup> Billings (1706–1762) of Little Compton and Newport, Rhode Island, to the ninth generation. The author has included a great deal of information about the immigrant, Roger<sup>1</sup> Billings, and his early descendants, correcting (and documenting beautifully) the Billings account in volumes 92–94 of the *Register*. Richard<sup>4</sup> Billings married Abigail Woodman in 1734, and an appendix gives an Ancestor Table for them.

The author has compiled many genealogies of New England families, and her expertise is evident on every page. She has traced the descendants of Billings daughters in many instances, and so readers with Rhode Island ancestry will want to look at this book for documentation on other families.

Many New England families have been treated in a book or long article that is now outdated, though still valuable. Fortunate is the family of Roger<sup>1</sup> Billings to have descendant Helen Ullmann to publish an updated account.

*Insubordinate Spirit: A True Story of Life and Loss in Earliest America, 1610–1665*, by Missy Wolfe (Guilford, Conn.: Globe Pequot Press, 2012. x + 262 pp. illustrations, charts, bibliography, index. Paper \$16.95 plus shipping). Order from the publisher at [globepequot.com](http://globepequot.com).

The “insubordinate spirit” was Elizabeth (Fones) (Winthrop) (Feake) Hallett, who immigrated to Massachusetts in 1631 as the young widow of Henry Winthrop, a son of Gov. John Winthrop and Elizabeth’s first cousin. She married Robert Feake of Watertown not long after she arrived, and they moved to Greenwich, Connecticut, about 1640. Robert, who was considered a “distracted person,” left his wife about 1647, and two years later Elizabeth became pregnant by William Hallett. After a questionable divorce, they apparently were married in 1649. The divorce and remarriage were matters of diplomatic negotiations between Gov. Winthrop and Peter Stuyvesant, Director-General of New Netherland, since Greenwich was nominally under Dutch jurisdiction — and Gov. Winthrop was Elizabeth’s uncle.

While the outline of this story has been published before, this book presents new original research and is heavily annotated. The author skillfully weaves Elizabeth’s story into the history of the rivalries between the Dutch, the English, and Native Americans, making for excellent and interesting reading.

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\* Unsigned reviews are by the editor.

*New York in the American Revolution: A Source Guide for Genealogists and Historians*, by Eric G. Grundset (Washington, D.C.: National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, 2012. iv + 686 pp. maps, index. Hardcover, \$45.00 postpaid. Order from the DAR Store (888-673-2732) or online at [www.dar.org/darstore](http://www.dar.org/darstore).

This impressive bibliographic guide will become an immediate classic that New York researchers will need to consult again and again for research in Revolutionary Era — and indeed in the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. To create this superb work, the author followed up numerous footnote references and reviewed historical bibliographies and periodicals. He combed online catalogs of institutions and libraries in New York and elsewhere. Visits to some of these places revealed many card catalog entries not in the relevant online catalog, thus reinforcing the necessity of on-site research.

The guide is organized into eighteen chapters, with “Regions, Counties, and Localities” accounting for almost half the text, with maps of the counties (before the index). Counties created since the Revolution have their own sections under the parent county. There are subsections for towns, districts, precincts, regions, forts, battles, and other subjects. For this chapter and all others, the author has included catalog descriptions and the author’s own comments.

From the chapter titles one can get a sense of the breadth of this work:

- Developing a New York State Research Strategy;
- Major Research Centers in New York and Elsewhere with Revolutionary War Collections;
- Geographical Factors Affecting Research in New York State;
- Pre-Revolutionary Events in the Province of New York;
- General Histories of the Revolution in New York State;
- General Revolutionary War Sources;
- The Government of New York Colony and State in the Revolutionary Period;
- New York Finances and Taxation during the Revolutionary Era;
- New York Land Records.
- New York Military Records;
- Spies and Espionage in New York during the Revolution;
- Naval and Maritime Records of New York during the Revolutionary Period;
- Prisoners of War, Prisons, and Prison Ships in New York Harbor;
- Records and Sources Relating to Veterans of the American Revolution in New York;
- Regions, Counties, and Localities in New York State and the American Revolution;
- Distinctive Groups in New York State during the American Revolution;
- Lineage Societies in the State of New York Related to the American Revolution;
- Prominent New Yorkers of the Revolutionary Era.

The fifty-two page index should reveal all the pages on which a place or subject or person is mentioned. However, this work also lends itself well to browsing — for unexpected finds.



*Women's Work: Embroidery in Colonial Boston* by Pamela A. Parmal (Boston: MFA Publications, 2012. 176 pp. illustrations (many in color), bibliography, index. Cloth \$40.00 plus shipping). Order from [www.mfashop.com/mfa-publications-new-titles.html](http://www.mfashop.com/mfa-publications-new-titles.html).

The development of embroidery in colonial Boston can tell us much about the city's changing social, economic, and educational conditions during that time. In this richly illustrated volume, author Parmal places the domestic art within Boston's larger historical context: from the time of Puritan ministerial control to the start of the American Revolution.

While Parmal mentions a variety of stitches, materials, and pattern terminology throughout the text, the main focus concerns the role of embroidery and other domestic arts within the social and family sphere. She considers the life and work of six women: Mary (Holingworth) English, Mary Turfrey, Mary (Fifield) Adams, Susanna (Hiller) Condy, Hannah Otis, and Faith (Trumbull) Huntington. For these women, embroidery provided a path to an education, artistic or even political expression, and a means of creating enduring family heirlooms. For educators Mary Turfrey and Susanna (Hiller) Condy, embroidery offered them employment outside the home and financial opportunity.

In examining the role of embroidery in these women's lives, we start to understand its greater implications. Samplers and other embroidered pieces quickly became valued family heirlooms because they not only represented significant family events, but provided evidence of a family's economic status and educational values. Parmal guides us through what education in the domestic arts meant to the young pupils, their families, and their community.

– Ginevra Morse  
Publications Coordinator, NEHGS Books

*The Town Records of Eastham during the Time of Plymouth Colony, 1620–1692*, transcribed and edited by Jeremy Dupertuis Bangs (Leiden, Netherlands: The Leiden American Pilgrim Museum, 2012. 474 pp. indexes. Softcover, 52.50 euros, including shipping to the U.S.). Contact the transcriber/editor at [director@leidenamericanpilgrimuseum.org](mailto:director@leidenamericanpilgrimuseum.org) for ordering information.

The vital records of Eastham were published serially in *The Mayflower Descendant* between 1901 and 1935, and then reprinted as a separate volume in 1976. This new book by Jeremy Bangs contains the town records of Eastham, which include vital records to 1692 as well as other genealogically-informative documents. Readers should study the introduction carefully to understand how Dr. Bangs has arranged the book from the disorganized original town records. This valuable work is essential for any library with a New England collection, and anyone with Cape Cod research interests will want to make sure to consult it.

*My Ancestor Settled in The British West Indies (with Bermuda, British Guiana and British Honduras)*, by John Titford (London: Society of Genealogists Enterprises Ltd., 2011. xiv + 250 pp. illustrations, indexes. Paper £9.99). Order from the publisher at <http://www.sog.org.uk/books-courses/books-publications/my-ancestor-settled-in-the-british-west-indies>.

This valuable guide is absolutely essential for West Indies research, which is often quite difficult. Only two islands, Barbados and Jamaica, have their own current research guides. After a general introduction and discussion of overall sources, each island or country is then given its own chapter, including key sources in the British Isles and locally. Only a few chapters have a brief section on “Genealogical Sources Held Elsewhere” — which should have been expanded. Other sections are headed “Secondary Sources, Printed Works etc.,” “Further Reading,” “Websites.” The book is enlivened by the author’s frequent use of examples and by his obvious command of the subject material. Note that NEHGS has a good collection of published genealogical material, for which see “West Indies Research at NEHGS,” *New England Ancestors* 6:4 (Fall 2005), 31–34.

*The Paternal Ancestry of Mary Rae Thompson Beginning 1620 in New England* by John E. D’Anieri (Scarborough, Maine: the author, 2012. vi + 406 pp. index. Hardcover \$82.00, price includes shipping). Order from John E. D’Anieri, 15 Piper Rd., Apt. K228, Scarborough, ME 04074-7550, [danierij@localnet.com](mailto:danierij@localnet.com).

This substantial book treats eighty-two families in the author’s wife’s family, including five *Mayflower* passengers. Two-thirds of the immigrant ancestors came to New England by 1643. Short biographies and well-written discussion of complex relationships comprise a significant portion of the book.

While the text repeats some material published elsewhere, the author’s research has resulted in important additions and corrections to the genealogical literature. The documentation (in endnotes for each family line) identifies hundreds of books and articles which may be of further interest to the reader. Citations for later generations reveal much research in original sources.

The format of the book provides a helpful model for anyone contemplating such a work.

– Helen Schatvet Ullmann