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THE NEW ENGLAND HISTORICAL AND GENEALOGICAL REGISTER

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Book Reviews: The Register reviews a limited number of books. Send books for
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Editorial

Many of our old reliable sources are now available on various websites. But in most cases they have new titles, which has caused us some concern. For example, for the Massachusetts state copies of vital records, we have been using the title Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841. This open-ended title reflects the fact that every five years the state releases another five years of records. But now, the first time we use that citation in an article we are adding the caveat, “These Massachusetts state copies of vital records are online at AmericanAncestors.org, FamilySearch.org, and Ancestry.com under various titles.” The same could be said for vital records of Vermont, New Hampshire, and Maine. Then there are the Connecticut indexes to church records held by the Connecticut State Library. We cite them as Connecticut State Library Index of Church Records, [name of church], with the volume and page cited. But on Ancestry.com the title is Connecticut, Church Record Abstracts, 1630–1920.

We could give many other examples.

Another concern is that many researchers are citing extractions or indexes of records without looking at the original record cited. While we are willing to accept citations to Barbour’s index of Connecticut vital records or the published vital records of many Massachusetts towns, we do not even cite Massachusetts Vital Records to 1850 from AmericanAncestors.org, because we can identify (and cite) the book imaged there.

Our lead article is The Higginson Family of Berkeswell, Warwickshire, and Its American Descendants: Daniel Clark of Windsor, Connecticut; Rev. Josias Clark of New York, Boston, and Jamaica, West Indies; Isabel Overton, Wife of Rev. Ephraim Huit of Windsor; Nicholas and Robert Augur of New Haven, Connecticut; Hester (Augur) Coster of New Haven; Robert, Humphrey, and Christopher Higginson of Virginia. Author Clifford L. Stott discovered that these nine immigrants were related to each other, and that they may have been distantly related to the Higginson family of Massachusetts. A large network of cousins in different North American colonies is always a desirable subject for a Register article.

In John Ramsdell, John Ravensdale, Isaac Johnson, and Nathaniel Turner, author Ian Watson shows that John Ramsdell, of Lynn by 1631, was identical with John Ravensdale, who was made a freeman in 1635 with other Lynn men. Ravensdale was mentioned as a servant in the 1627 will of Isaac Johnson, a prominent member of the Massachusetts Bay Company. The same will mentions cousin Nathaniel Turner. The author shows that the cousin was Nathaniel Turner of Lynn and New Haven, who was Ramsdell’s master in Lynn. The author deftly ties together these strands of evidence.

George R. Nye presents the story of William Bent (1791–1853), of Framingham, Massachusetts, and Sherbrooke, Nova Scotia, who took his mother’s maiden name when he immigrated to Nova
Scotia in 1812. Fortunately, the 1908 Trowbridge genealogy included this important information, and the author presents the supporting evidence in family letters and a death certificate. While William consistently used the name Bent in Nova Scotia, he recognized that a letter addressed to “J.W.B. Trowbridge” was for him.

Men with common surnames who “just appeared” in New England in the late seventeenth century often present problems. George Robinson (married first in 1683 or earlier) was one of these. In George1 Robinson of Watertown, Massachusetts, and His Children and Grandchildren, author Marion Vermazen corrects the published account of his second marriage, and gives a complete account of his known children and grandchildren.


Jedediah Smith’s Book of the Records of Marriages in Blandford, Massachusetts, for 1802–1816, shows that he did not report several marriages to the town. Fortunately, a transcription was published in the Boston Transcript, and there is a typescript at NEHGS.

We conclude Patricia R. Reed’s William H. Johnson, a Free Man of Color of Tyringham, Massachusetts, and His Descendants, with an account of the brilliant early twentieth-century photographer Edward Elcha (1885–1939) and his parents. Elcha worked in Springfield, Massachusetts, and New York City, and many examples of his work may be found online. One example is on the front cover of this issue, and another is on the back cover.

We also conclude The Wylley and Cramphorne Families of Hertfordshire and Their Contribution to the Great Migration. William Wyman Fiske’s account of the Cramphorne family includes descendants Edmund1, John1, and Abraham1 Browne, Isaac1 Heath, and Phebe1 (Perry) Desborough. In addition, several other immigrants were connected to the Cramphorne family.

Unpublished Vital Records of Union, Connecticut, by Scott Andrew Bartley, is also concluded in this issue. Several entries in these records give a date of birth with the phrase “But not Born in the Town of Union.”

New England Articles in Genealogical Journals in 2015 indexes articles in fifteen journals by surname, place, and some subjects.

– Henry B. Hoff and Helen Schatvet Ullmann
The Higginson Family
of Berkeswell, Warwickshire,
and Its American Descendants

Daniel Clark of Windsor, Connecticut
Rev. Josias Clark of New York, Boston, and Jamaica, West Indies
Isabel Overton, wife of Rev. Ephraim Huit of Windsor
Nicholas and Robert Augur of New Haven, Connecticut
Hester (Augur) Coster of New Haven
Robert, Humphrey, and Christopher Higginson of Virginia

Clifford L. Stott*

Eben Putnam’s *Higginson Family in England and America*, published in 1903, provided the pedigree of a Higginson family of Berkeswell, Warwickshire, beginning with John Higginson, yeoman, who died in 1540. Putnam presented evidence of connections to American colonists Robert1 Higginson of Virginia and Rev. Francis1 Higginson of Salem, Massachusetts. Evidence for the latter connection was largely based on a naming pattern and other circumstances. To date, the link to Francis remains tentative, but further investigation found many other immigrants who descend from the Higginsons of Berkeswell.

The present article builds on the work of Putnam and other researchers, corrects errors, and introduces new material that shows how the Higginson family were ancestral to at least nine seventeenth-century immigrants to the American colonies. Some of these immigrants returned to England, but others remained and became the ancestors of large families. Still other descendants of John Higginson came to the New World as merchant adventurers but did not establish permanent homes there. More immigrants and adventurers can be linked to the Higginson family by marriage.

**Genealogical Summary**

1. **JohnD/E Higginson** of Berkeswell, Warwickshire, yeoman, was born say 1480. He died between 10 December 1540, when he executed his will, and 4 February 1540/1, when is was proved. He married **Joan _____**, who was dead by 29 Nov 1573, when the will of their son Thomas referred to his mother “Jone” as deceased.

   John was probably the son of John and Ellen Higginson of Berkeswell, who were admitted to the Guild of St. Ann of Knowle in 1498. Sixteen years later, in 1514, John Higginson of Berkeswell and his wife Joan were admitted to the guild. By 1533, John was master of the guild. In the same year, his sons John

* Special thanks to Leslie Mahler, FASG, for calling the author’s attention to key documents regarding the Higginson links to the Spencer and Benyon families.
The New England Historical and Genealogical Register

Summer

The Guild of St. Ann of Knowle, also known as the Guild of Knowle, was a religious, social, and charitable organization that attracted members from throughout Warwickshire and beyond, but especially in the vicinity of Knowle. The fifteenth-century guild house is still standing in Knowle, a few miles from Berkeswell.

John was clearly related to a large Higginson family in Wem, Shropshire, 65 miles to the northwest. John's sons John and possibly Nicholas were living in Wem in 1540 when John made his will. The son John, who was established in Cotton in the parish of Wem, was made overseer to the will of a Thomas Higginson of Cotton, dated 25 June 1558, proved 27 October 1558. The will of Thomas Higginson of Berkeswell, below, mentions several Higginson relatives, including a cousin Allen Higginson, presumably the Allen Higginson, clerk, who witnessed the will. Rev. Allen Higginson was buried in Wem on 13 April 1597. At least three different Allen Higginsons have been identified in Wem parish registers and probate records in the sixteenth century.

The following is a transcription of John Higginson's will:

In the name of god amen in th' yere of our lord 1540 the 10 day desemb' I Jhon higison of barkswell yoman... I bequethe unto my son Thomas a spruce table & th' indenture & tacke of Follolande yf het it happen th' forsaid Thomas to desses [decease] so ever the yere th' said tacke be expiryd th' I will th' vi of my yongist chelld[ren] shall have th' Rest of th' yers tu [due?] th' for said tacke. It[em] I bequethe to gregory my son my tacke & indenture wiche I bought of Roger haddon on this codission th' Jone my wife shalle have th' p[ro] phets therof unto th' said gregory bequited yf she kype hir soole. It[em] I bequethe to the forsaid gregory v marks of money ij heyfers & my best gowne & a sellv' spone. It[em] I bequethe unto nycolas my son v marks of money & my second gowne ij heyfers & a sellv' spone p[ro]vidid allways th' other [either?] of th' forsaid chelld[ren] gregory & nycolas do dy b[efore] ever th' be maryd th' then I will th' longer lyver shall have th' decisors p[ar]te It[em] I bequethe to margery Radforthe my dowghth' th' best [p...illegible] att th' desses of Jone my wyffe. It[em] I bequethe to Alis my dowghth' x'. It[em] I bequethe to elizabeth my dowghth' x' I bequethe to margarett my dowghtt' x' I bequethe to elyn my dowghtt' x marks p[ro]vided allways th' yf het happen any of my before namyd dowghtt' to dy before th' of my before namyd dowghtt' to be maryd th' then I will th' thy' porision of money & godds wiche th' forsaid dowghtt' or dowghtters shole have gode shall remane among th' longer livers. It[em] I bequethe to alis margarett elizabethe & elyn ech on[e] of th's a sellv' spone to pray for th' sole of maystris

1 W. B. Bickley, The Register of the Guild of Knowle In the County of Warwick, 1451–1535 (Walsall, Staffs.: W. W. Robinson, 1894), 128, 210, 267.
2 Prerogative Court of Canterbury, registered wills, 63 Noodes, PROB 11/41/208.
3 Parish registers of Wem, Shropshire [FHL 1,895,095].
4 Rev. Allen Higginson was born say 1532. He received a B.A. from Oxford University 18 January 1552/3 and M.A. 1 July 1557. He was a fellow of Balliol College 1557–1560 (Joseph Foster, Alumni Oxonienses: Members of the University of Oxford, 1500–1714, 4 vols. [Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1891–1892], 2:707).
5 Consistory Court of Lichfield, original wills, 1540–1546, box 4 [FHL 0,095,405].
6 A tack was a lease of land, usually farmland or pasture. The term was more commonly used in northern England and Scotland.
7 "If she keep her[sel]f sole," i.e., as long as she remains a widow. This construction is used in three places in the will.
Burway  It[em] I will th' my before namyd dowghtters shall not marry w'out the will & consent of Jone my wyffe & Thomas my son for & yf th[vij] doo th' I wyll th' porshon & parte of goods & money wyche th' childe sholde have hadd shall remane unto thos cheld[ren] th' berulyd by th' cownesell of th' forsaid Jone & thomas  It[em] I will th' my sons in th' lawe Rauffe olyver & Rolande Radforthe be overseers & see th' my abouenamyd sons and dowghtt' have th' bequest unto th'em bequethed  It[em] I bequethe to Jone my wyfe a goblett of sellver & vj selver spones for solonge tyme as she dothe kepe bir soole & yf she fortune to marry th' en to elyne th' goblett of selv' & th' vj selv' spones unto nychol' th' here yt shall benamyd ys [illegible] unto gregory Nycholas margery Joys elyn elizabethe & Margery[8] unto ev' of them equall p[ar]te  It[em] I bequethe unto Jone my wiffe my endenture & tacke of th' felde caulyd west Burnefelde for tyme of her lyfe she lyve soole but yf she fortune to marry th'em I wyll th' my cheld[ren] th' berulyd by th' cownesell of th' forsaid Jone & thomas  It[em] I will th' Thomas my son cheld[ren] xl th' first yere of his entring th' is for to say unto gregory vj viijd & to Nycholas vj viijd & to alis vj viijd & elyn vj viijd & elizabethe vj viijd & margery vj viijd & yf hit fortune th' forsaid Thomas to dye o' th' yere be expyred th'em he to make his assigns whom he lyst p[ro]vided allways th' yf my son Thomas Refuse to pay this xl th' en I wyll th' my cheld[ren] gregory nycholas elyn & margaret shall have th' tacke of th' sayd felde cauled wasp[er]ton durynge th' yers of th' indenture  It[em] I bequethe unto Thomas my son vj selvr sponys th' wyche were my fath[er]'s It[em] I wyll th' agnes higison my cosin shalle Reserve of nycholas higison of Shropshire dwelling in th' p[ar]ishe of wem iij kyne for the bequest of th' fath' of th' sayd agnes  It[em] I Reservyd xxxvj s of th' legasies for th' said agnes for th' wiche xxxvj s I wyll th' Jone my wyfe shalle deliv' unto th' for said agnes iij kyne  It[em] nycoas higison of Shropshire shall pay unto th' above namyd agnes for hire of thos iij kyne th' he has yerely v'  It[em] I bequethe unto Robert higison vj viijd  It[em] I bequethe unto Thomas Radforth vj viijd  It[em] I bequethe unto Robert olyve'r vj viijd  It[em] I bequethe unto agnes olive'r vj viijd  It[em] I bequethe unto agnes olive'r vj viijd  It[em] I bequethe unto agnes wallta[n] of coventtre iijs iiijd  It[em] I bequethe unto ev'y one of my godchellder[en] iijd  It[em] I bequethe unto margaret bamforthe iijd  It[em] I wyll th' Jone my wyffe shall make penycolle[sic?] for my solse also I make Jone my wyfe my sole executrix & she to reserve my detts & to take all & pay & th' Rysedew of my go[o]dts nott bequethed I gave them unto Jone my wyffe & she to do for my sols helthe as she thinkythe best  It[em] I make gregory mathew my ov'seer to se this my last wyll p[er] formyd & done & he to have for his labr' vj viijd unto [torn] wytneseth Sr John Fauckenr clerke Roland Radforth Thomas Higison w' other mo.  It[em] I bequethe to John higison my son dwelinge in cottan vj selv' spones whiche he hathe all Redy on this condision th' th' sayd John shall make no busines w' none of my enemy for yf he doo th' I wyll th' th' forsayd John shall deliv' th' vj spones whyche he hath already unto gregory & nychol' my sons.

Children of John and Joan (_____ ) Higginson, order uncertain:

2. i. THOMAS[C/D] HIGGINSON, b. say 1505; m. AGNES SPENCER.
   ii. JOHN HIGGINSON, living in Cotton in the parish of Wem in 1540. He died in Cotton between 28 Oct. 1575, when he executed his will, and 27 Jan. 1575/6, when his estate was inventoried. He m. MARGERY ______. John's

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[8] Margery is mentioned twice in this series; Margaret was probably intended for one of them.
will mentions his wife and children Jane and Margaret. More than one widow Margery Higginson was buried in Wem.

iii. **Nicholas Higginson**, b. say 1510. It is unclear whether the son Nicholas is identical to the Nicholas Higginson of Wem, mentioned in his father’s 1540 will. Nicholas was also mentioned in the will of his brother Thomas in 1573. Eben Putnam thought he went to Claybrooke, Leics., 20 miles east of Berkeswell, and became father of Rev. John Higginson (ca. 1545–1624), whose son Rev. Francis Higginson (1586–1630) emigrated to Salem, Massachusetts. This conjecture is based primarily on the prevalence of the name Nicholas in Rev. John Higginson’s family, he having had an older brother and a son named Nicholas. A Nicholas Higginson, perhaps this one, was buried in Claybrooke in April 1581. Until additional evidence is found, the relationship between Nicholas and John is regarded as a working hypothesis.

iv. **Margery Higginson;** m. before 1533 **Roland Radforth or Radford.** The will of Roland “Radford” of Berkeswell, dated 26 Aug. 1553, proved 14 Oct. 1555, mentions his wife Margery and children Robert (eldest son), William, Gregory, and Thomas Radford, and unnamed daughters. Roland Radford and wife Margery were admitted to the Guild of Knowle in 1533.

v. **Alice Higginson.** One of John Higginson’s daughters was apparently the wife of Rauffe Oliver, who is mentioned in John Higginson’s 1540 will, but Rauffe’s wife has not been identified.

vi. **Elizabeth Higginson.**

vii. **Margaret Higginson.**

viii. **Elyn Higginson.**

ix. **Joyce Higginson.**

x. **Gregory Higginson,** b. say 1531, probably the youngest son, based on probable age at marriage; bur. Great Packington, Warws., 29 March 1556. Gregory was “of Barkyswell” when he m. Great Packington 27 Oct. 1555, **Joyce Geare** of the latter parish. His will, dated 2 March 1555/6, proved 20 April 1556, mentions his wife Joyce and an unborn child “wyche my wyffe goyth wt.” A son Gregory was b. posthumously and bp. in Great Packington 22 Aug. 1556. Widow Joyce Higginson m. (2) Great Packington 3 Aug. 1561, Oliver Mathew of Berkeswell.

2. **Thomas**

**Higginson (John),** of Berkeswell, yeoman, was born say 1505. He died between 29 November 1573 and 10 February 1573/4, the dates

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9 Consistory Court of Lichfield, original wills, 1577 #95, online image at http://www.findmypast.co.uk. The will was proved 30 September 1577.
11 Consistory Court of Lichfield, original wills, 1555–1567, box Q-R [FHL 0,095,509].
12 Bickley, *Guild of Knowle* [note 1], 268.
13 Parish registers of Great Packington, Warwickshire [FHL 0,555,370].
14 Consistory Court of Lichfield, original wills, 1556 #84, online image at http://www.findmypast.co.uk.
of the execution and probate of his will.\textsuperscript{[15]} He married \textbf{Agnes Spencer}, daughter of William and Agnes (Heritage) Spencer.\textsuperscript{[16]} Agnes Spencer’s ancestry will be the subject of a forthcoming article. From his father, Thomas inherited the lease of Follolande or Fillowelande, which he bequeathed to his son Robert. Thomas apparently acquired Wasperton Field from his siblings, which he also bequeathed to Robert.

The following is a transcription of Thomas Higginson’s will:

\begin{verbatim}
I will my bodie to be buried with \[i\]n the p\[ar\]ish Church where it shall please god that I shall departe this transitore lief in suche place as my executour shall thinke most mete and convenient . . . I give iiijl to be lent yearlie to the poore of barkeswell in suche order as my mother Joane higginson late Deceased hath given vijl Item I give to everie of my godchildren iiij d Item I give unto Ursula my daughter fouerscore pounds And unto Eliz my daughter fouerscore pounds upon condicon that my said Daughters shall maruye w\[h\]t the consent of Robert higginson and Thomas higginson my sonses and other their frends And if anye of them will not be ruled[?] and doe marrye without their consent Then I will that she that shall so marrie shall have but xll and the other xl to be equallie devided amonge all the rest of my daughter And also if it fortune anye of my said daughters to die or dep\[ar\]te this lief before she be married Then I will that the Longer livers of them shall have xll [illegible] of the said fouerscore pounds and the rest to be equallie devided among all the rest of my daughters Item I give unto Thomas higginson my sone five pounds my sixe oxen my waynes\textsuperscript{[17]} tumbulls plowes harows w\[h\]t yokes and towes to the same belonging three quarters of Rye fouer quarters of otes w\[h\]t the Strawe that the said corne shalbe threshed onte [one?] halfe the haie in my heath end field barne, and my terme of yeres which I have in Ryddinge Item I give unto Dorothy handslappe my Daughter one cowe in calfe Item I doe give unto Joyce Benyon my daughter my blacke mare and hir coulte and a golde ringe worth xvs Item I give unto Thomas Benyan my sone in Law my beste fillye and my terme of yeres which I have in Blackfennes Item I give unto George higginson my sonne Twentie pounds all my household stuffe w\[h\]t in the house and my terme of yeres in hall meadows upon condicon that he shalbe ruled and governed by his frends And if it fortune that my said
\end{verbatim}

\textsuperscript{15} Prerogative Court of Canterbury, registered wills, 10 Martyn, PROB 11/56/81.

\textsuperscript{16} Walter C. Metcalfe, ed., \textit{The Visitation of Northamptonshire made in 1564 and 1618–19 with Northamptonshire Pedigrees from various Harleian MSS} (London: Mitchell and Hughes, 1887), 48 [1564 visitation], 196 [1618–19 visitation]. In both visitations, the husband of Agnes Spencer is called Thomas “Higgens” of Barkswell. His identification as Thomas Higginson of Berkeswell is found in the wills of three close relatives of Agnes (Spencer) Higginson. The will of Agnes’s brother Thomas Spencer of Little Everdon, dated 26 June 1576, proved 26 August 1576, mentions his “cosen” [niece] Elizabeth Higginson, apparently the daughter of Thomas Higginson (Prerogative Court of Canterbury, registered wills, 23 Carew, PROB 11/58/322). Thomas Spencer’s son William married Elizabeth Milney. William died without issue in 1593. His widow, Elizabeth Spencer of Little Everdon, executed a will on 11 September 1620, proved 17 November 1621, in which she gave legacies to several Willmer and Benyon cousins, all descendants of Thomas Higginson and his wife Agnes Spencer, her late husband’s aunt (Prerogative Court of Canterbury, registered wills, 408 Dale, PROB 11/138/421; also recorded as proved 17 November 1622, and registered 113 Savile, PROB 11/140/433). Marie Hill, widow, of Meriden, Warwickshire, daughter of William and Julian (Spencer) Willmer (and niece of Agnes Spencer, wife of Thomas Higginson), executed her will 1 December 1595 (proved 4 February 1595/6), leaving legacies to various cousins, many of them children of Thomas Higginson (Prerogative Court of Canterbury, registered wills, 9 Wallop, PROB 11/65/52).

\textsuperscript{17} Waynes are wagons.
sone George doe die before he be married Then I will that all suche Legacies as I before have given him shalbe equalie devided betwene Robert higginson and Thomas higginson my sonnes . . . Item I give unto all my married children all my wood in buwsall wood to be devyded amongst them Item I give unto my brother John higginson my best cloke Item I give to my brother Nicholas higginson my spruce Jerkin[18] Item I give unto my cozen Allen higginson his horse grasse in wasperton-fields during my terme of yeres therin all my glasses stilling glasses[19] and in money fortie shillings Item if my sone in lawe Nicholas higginson does make an estate of all his Lands in Aynowe[20] unto my daughter Dorothey his wief duringe hir lief as he promised me Then I will he have tenne pounds which I promised him Item I give unto Adam higginson xxx to be paied everie weke vjd Item I give unto Thom[a]s benion son of John Benyan my sone in Lawe iiij vjs viijd Item I give unto valentyne higginson v Item I give unto Thomas higginson my sone Roberts sonne v Item I will that Thom[a]s Benian my sone in Lawe shall have twentie pounds And at the payment of the said xxl unto the said Thomas Benian I will that the saied Thomas shall have no children by my daughter his wief neither make her an estate of vjl xiijs iiijd by the yere during hir Lief and to remane to the heres of their two bodies lawfullie begotten for ever Item I give unto Robert higginson my sone my Lease of the Fullowelande and wasp[er]tn fields whom I doe make my whole executour And doe make my frends John Myles an Thomas Benian my overseers of this my last will and testament witnesses Allen higginson clerke Leonard Frecleton Richard Sloughe Hugh Higginson.

Children of Thomas and Agnes (Spencer) Higginson, order uncertain, listed in order of appearance in Thomas's will:

i. Ursula Higginson, m. before 1 Dec. 1595, _____ Walforde, when she received a legacy of 5 shillings in the will of her cousin, Marie Hill, widow, of Meriden, Warws.[21]

ii. Elizabeth Higginson, b. say 1557; d. Orlingbury, Northampton, 16 Jan. 1636, “late wife of Robert Willmer Esq late of Everton deceased,” and bur. Sywell, Northampton, the next day.[22] She m. her first cousin Robert Willmer, son of William and Julian (Spencer) Willmer.[23] Robert d. Everton, Northampton, and was bur. Sywell, 21 Dec. 1612. Elizabeth received a legacy of £6 13s 4d in the will of her uncle Thomas Spencer in 1576.[24] She also received 5 shillings in the will of her cousin Marie

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[18] Spruce meant fine or smart in appearance. A jerkin was a close-fitting jacket or short coat, usually sleeveless. A spruce jerkin was an obsolete term meaning a jerkin made of spruce leather imported from Prussia, hence fine or smart.

[19] Perhaps glassware used for distilling.


[21] Called “cosen Ursaley Walforde” in the will of Marie Hill in 1595. Ursula’s mother and Marie’s mother were sisters (see note 16).

[22] Parish registers of Sywell, Northamptonshire [FHL 6,129,014].


Hill in 1595. Her cousin Elizabeth Spencer, widow, of Little Everdon, bequeathed her a gold ring valued at 40 shillings in 1620. Gold rings were also given to Elizabeth Willmer's son Sir William Willmer and his wife, valued at 29 shillings each.\textsuperscript{25}

Children of Robert and Elizabeth (Higginson) Willmer:\textsuperscript{26}

1. Sir William Willmer.\textsuperscript{27}

2. Dorothy Willmer, bp. Everdon 29 Jan. 1581/2;\textsuperscript{28} m. by 1608 (date of father's will) Thomas Andrew.

3. iii. Robert B/C Higginson, b. say 1539; m. (1) _____; (2) Alice Thorne; (3) Joane _____.

iv. Thomas Higginson, a tanner in Berkeswell; d. there before 31 Oct. 1616, when his widow and son Robert Higginson administered his estate.\textsuperscript{29} He m. Margerie _____. Thomas Higginson of Berkeswell, tanner, leased a meadow in Fletchampstead 20 March 1589/90, from Sir Thomas Leigh of Stoneleigh.\textsuperscript{30} Thomas Higginson bought additional land in the parish of Coleshill from John Cowper, gent., of Coleshill on 30 Aug. 1598.\textsuperscript{31} Thomas received 5 shillings in the will of his cousin Marie Hill, widow, of Meriden, in 1595. Marie Hill also left legacies to Thomas's daughter Katherine and “all the rest of his children.” Thomas Higginson was appointed overseer in the will of his brother-in-law John Benyon in 1596, and he was mentioned in the will of his brother-in-law Thomas Benyon in 1608.

v. Dorothy Higginson, b. before 1540, as she was mentioned that year in her grandfather's will. She m. Nicholas Hanslap, son of Thomas and Jane (Goodwyn) Hanslap.\textsuperscript{32} In 1595 Dorothy “Hansloppe” received a legacy of 5 shillings in the will of her cousin Marie Hill.

vi. Joyce Higginson, m. John Benyon of Stoneleigh, Warws., whose will dated 8 March 1596, proved 13 Oct. 1597,\textsuperscript{33} mentions wife Joyce, six children, and brother Thomas Benyon. A debt of 13s 14d for “broome & roddes” owed by George Higginson is mentioned. Thomas Higginson “my brother in lawe” and Thomas Benyon “my owne brother” were overseers and witnesses to the will. In 1595 Joyce received a legacy of 5 shillings in the will of her cousin Marie Hill.

4. vii. Isabel B/C Higginson, b. say 1550; m. Thomas Benyon.

\textsuperscript{25} Prerogative Court of Canterbury, registered wills, 408 Dale, PROB 11/138/421.

\textsuperscript{26} Visitation of the County of Warwick in the Year 1619 [note 23], 135. Both children were mentioned in the will of their father, Robert Willmer of Everdon, gent., dated 29 March 1608, proved 8 January 1612/3 (Prerogative Court of Canterbury, registered wills, 2 Capell, PROB 11/121/12).

\textsuperscript{27} William was called Sir William Willmer, knight, in the will of his cousin Elizabeth Spencer in 1620.

\textsuperscript{28} Parish registers of Everdon, Northamptonshire [FHL 6,124,409].

\textsuperscript{29} Consistory Court of Lichfield, Act Books, 12:194 [FHL 0,095,278].

\textsuperscript{30} Leigh of Stoneleigh, Miscellaneous Deeds, Shakespeare Centre Library and Archive, Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire, DR 18/1/985.

\textsuperscript{31} Birmingham City Archives, W. B. Bickley, antiquarian, MS 3069/Acc1906-002/192847.

\textsuperscript{32} Visitation of the County of Warwick in the Year 1619 [note 23], 257.

\textsuperscript{33} Consistory Court of Lichfield, original wills, 1597, box H [FHL 095,315].
viii. **George Higginson**, living in 1596 when he was mentioned in the will of his brother-in-law John Benyon. In 1595 he received a legacy of £6 13s 4d in the will of his cousin Marie Hill.

*(to be continued)*

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This article presents evidence to show that John Ramsdell, who was in Lynn, Massachusetts, from about 1631 to his death in 1688, was the same man as John “Ravensdale,” who was made a freeman of Massachusetts Bay on 6 May 1635, and had been named in the 1627 will of Isaac Johnson as a servant. Johnson also mentioned “cosen Nathanaell Turner” in the will. Turner can be identified as Captain Nathaniel Turner of Lynn and later of New Haven, Connecticut, whose servant about 1632 was John Ramsdell.

John Ramsdell of Lynn

John Ramsdell lived in Lynn from at least 1631 until his death on 27 August 1688, and was the father of at least eight children.[1] Two statements of his age exist: one in a court deposition,[2] the other his age at death. Neither inspires great trust, but both happen to agree on a birthdate in late 1601 or early 1602. The given name of his wife, Priscilla, is known only from the record of her death in Lynn on 23 January 1675/6.[3] She is also mentioned, but not named, in a 12 April 1675 deed of gift where John transferred his farm and land in Lynn to his son Aquila.[4] Nowhere is her age or her maiden surname given.

John Ramsdell was first definitely recorded as a member of a quarterly court jury in 1638,[5] but he had been in Lynn for several years already. We know this because in 1673 he testified that he had been familiar with the Lynn-Marblehead road for forty-two years, thus since 1631.[6] Also, in 1657 he deposed that “twenty-five years ago [i.e., in 1632], when he was a servant of Captain Torner, his master and other inhabitants of Lynn, before it was a town, fenced in Nahant” and “That by reason of these householders fencing, they had put their cattle there without molestation all these years.”[7] Nahant is

2 Records and Files of the Quarterly Courts of Essex County, Massachusetts, 9 vols. (Salem, Mass.: Essex Institute, 1911–1975), 2:43.
3 Vital Records of Lynn [note 1], 2:573.
5 Records and Files [note 2], 1:7.
6 Ibid., 5:183–184.
7 Ibid., 2:43.
the peninsula extending from Lynn into the sea, and is only about a hundred yards wide at its narrowest point.

**Nathaniel Turner**

Nathaniel Turner, John Ramsdell’s master, was a prominent colonist who was at Lynn in the 1630s, was later involved with the New Haven Colony, and was lost at sea in 1646. He had a wife, whose name is not recorded, and children. His title came when he was made “captain of the military company at Saugus” on 4 March 1633/4. His English origins have been considered unknown.

**John Ravensdale of Lynn**

A John Ravensdale became a freeman of Massachusetts Bay on 6 May 1635 together with known Lynn men. Genealogists dating back to Savage have thought of Ravensdale as a surname distinct from Ramsdell, and have treated John Ravensdale of Lynn as completely separate from John Ramsdell of Lynn. Thus Robert Charles Anderson created a profile for John Ravensdale in *The Great Migration Begins* and *The Winthrop Fleet*, neither of which mentions John Ramsdell. Roselyn Listernick’s article on John Ramsdell does not mention John Ravensdale.

**John Ravensdale, Servant to Isaac Johnson**

On 20 April 1627, Isaac Johnson of Boston, Lincolnshire, a wealthy young man soon to become a prominent member of the Massachusetts Bay Company, left a small bequest of three pounds to “my servant” John Ravensdale in the earliest of his extant wills. While nothing directly links this John Ravensdale to the one who became a freeman in Lynn in 1635, Robert Charles Anderson’s opinion in *The Great Migration Begins* was that it “would not be surprising”

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10 Anderson, *Winthrop Fleet* [note 8], 639.

11 Ibid., 554; Shurtleff, *Records of the Governor and Company of the Massachusetts Bay* [note 9], 1:371.


13 Listernick, “John Ramsdell of Lynn” [note 1], *The Essex Genealogist* 10:25 et seq.

if these two John Ravensdales were the same person,\textsuperscript{[15]} and in \textit{The Winthrop Fleet} he linked the two records together in a single sketch.\textsuperscript{[16]}

\textbf{Isaac Johnson}

Isaac Johnson and his wife, Lady Arbella Fiennes, both came to Massachusetts with the Winthrop Fleet in 1630 but died later that year. Johnson had sent cattle and a party of servants to New England in 1629, in advance of his own arrival.\textsuperscript{[17]} Isaac Johnson came from a wealthy, although not titled, family, and had links to several places in Lincolnshire and Rutland in England. Stamford in Lincolnshire was his parents’ native town, where they were married, and where he was baptized in 1601.\textsuperscript{[18]} North Luffenham in Rutland was where his grandfather served as parson and died in 1625.\textsuperscript{[19]} Boston in Lincolnshire was described as his residence in his 1627 will.\textsuperscript{[20]} Sempringham in Lincolnshire was where his wife Arbella’s family had built a manor house on the site of a dissolved monastery.\textsuperscript{[21]} Arbella’s father was Thomas, 3rd Earl of Lincoln, who also owned Tattershall Castle about 20 miles north of Sempringham.\textsuperscript{[22]}

In July 1629 Isaac Johnson was at Sempringham when he wrote to Emmanuel Downing inviting him and John Winthrop there for a meeting to plan the Massachusetts Bay settlement.\textsuperscript{[23]}

\begin{flushleft}
\textsuperscript{15} Anderson, \textit{Great Migration Begins} \[note 8\], 3:1551.
\textsuperscript{16} Anderson, \textit{Winthrop Fleet} \[note 8\], 554–555.
\textsuperscript{20} \textit{Winthrop Papers} [note 14], 2:49.
\textsuperscript{23} \textit{Winthrop Papers} [note 14], 2:102–103.
\end{flushleft}
Evidence That John Ramsdell and John Ravensdale Were the Same Man

In 1997 Mary Ellen Wright, a Ramsdell descendant, noticed the John Ravensdale profile in The Great Migration Begins and began to suspect that it might refer to the same person as John Ramsdell. One initial thought was that Ravensdale might simply be a mistranscription of Ramsdale (a variant of Ramsdell). She examined the handwritten original of Johnson’s will, which, however, definitely reads Ravensdale. She was not able to locate the original freemen’s lists and she put the question aside at the time.[24]

In 2016, the author revisited the problem while carrying out research on the Ramsdell family for Mary Ellen Wright, but found only the thinnest thread of evidence directly connecting John Ramsdell to John Ravensdale. It turned out, though, that a stronger web connects John Ramsdell to Nathaniel Turner, Turner to Isaac Johnson, and Johnson to John Ravensdale. This evidence, described in four points below, allows us to reach new and useful conclusions about the relationships between these men.

(1) John Ravensdale’s freemanship and John Ramsdell’s jury service

On 27:1:1638 (i.e., 27 March 1638), John Ramsdell served on a jury at the Essex Quarterly Court in Salem for the first of eleven recorded times.[25] The 1638 jury consisted of twelve men. Of these, the other eleven all had been made freemen of Massachusetts Bay Colony at some point prior to their jury service.[26] Early records of freemanship in Massachusetts are relatively complete.[27] If we maintain the belief that John Ramsdell was not John Ravensdale, he would be the only juryman who had not been made a freeman, despite having been in Lynn since at least 1631. The more likely conclusion is that John Ramsdell had been made a freeman in 1635 under the name of John Ravensdale.

(2) John Ramsdell’s involvement with cattle on Nahant

Mary Ellen Wright to Jonathan Galli of NEHGS, 5 August 1997, and Jonathan Galli to Mary Ellen Wright, 2 October 1997; photocopy of the original will, held by Mary Ellen Wright, likely obtained from the Winthrop Papers at the Massachusetts Historical Society.

Records and Files [note 2], 1:7; the subsequent ten jury appearances are at 1:26, 89, 153, 169; 2:59, 124, 224; 3:6, 73, 321. It is interesting to note that the members of the court present on 27 March 1638 included John Humphreys (Isaac Johnson’s wife’s sister’s husband), Roger Conant (a distant relative of Johnson by marriage; see Robert Charles Anderson, “The Conant Connection: Part Two . . . ,” Register 148 (1994):114, 127), and Captain [Nathaniel] Turner, John Ramsdell’s former master.

In the first appearance (Records and Files 1:7) he was called John Ramsden, as he also was in two later court records: in November 1663 (3:117) and in November 1668 (4:86, with [his son] Aquila Ramsden). Dr. George Redmonds, an expert on English surnames, has confirmed that Ramsden for Ramsdell was a typical variant for the time (email from Robert Charles Anderson to the editor, dated 13 February 2017; see also George Redmonds, Dictionary of Yorkshire Surnames [Donington; Shaun Tyas, 2015], 600).

Shurtleff, Records of the Governor and Company of the Massachusetts Bay [note 9], 1:79, 366 (Woodbury); 1:80, 36 (Leech); 1:79, 366 (Palfrey); 1:369 (Massy); 1:369 (Davenport); 1:374 (Venner); 1:368 (Norton); 1:369 (Rednap); 1:372 (Lightfoot); 1:373 (Parker); 1:369 (Hedges).

In 1657, Thomas Dexter sued the town of Lynn, claiming title to the Nahant peninsula.[28] Dexter lost the case, but it was reopened by his heirs in 1678.[29] Many long-time Lynn residents were called to testify, among them John Ramsdell (as mentioned above).

One of the deponents was William Dixey. In two depositions in 1657 and 1680 ([/81], Dixey described his arrival in New England and his early involvement with Lynn and Nahant. He explained that Isaac Johnson had been his master, and mentioned what appears to have been correspondence between Isaac Johnson and Governor John Endicott at Salem about where an advance party of colonists should settle. Dixey “and the rest of his Master’s company” came to New England in June 1629 and with Endicott’s apparent approval eventually settled at Saugus (as Lynn was then called). They cut grass for their cattle, which they kept on Nahant.[30] Another deponent in the Dexter lawsuit, John Sibley (a servant of Richard Saltonstall), also referred to “Mr. Johnson’s” cattle having been kept on Nahant twenty-eight years previously to 1657, i.e., in 1629.[31] It is helpful to keep in mind that for the first few years after Lynn was inhabited in 1629, its residents were predominantly servants and their masters rather than families.[32]

William Dixey, who later settled in Beverly, was born about 1607 and died between 1688 and 1690.[33] William Dixey’s English origins have been unknown beyond the fact that he was Isaac Johnson’s servant and was possibly related to Thomas Dixey, who was in Salem by 1637.[34] A potential clue to William Dixey’s family is that Isaac Johnson, in his 1627 will, left thirty pounds to “my servant Robert Dyxie,” citing his “faithfull service.” It is promising that from 1628 to 1630 a marriage for a Robert Dixie and two baptisms for his daughters were recorded at St. Botolph’s in Boston, Lincolnshire, where Isaac Johnson resided in 1627.[35] There are Dixey records in this parish stretching back into the 1500s, including the marriage of a William Dicsey and Alice Cressy on 19 January 1584/5,[36] but no baptism which would match William Dixey of Beverly.

The testimony of William Dixey and John Sibley tells us that servants of Isaac Johnson kept cattle on Nahant in 1629. Meanwhile, John Ramsdell reported that three years later — after Johnson’s death in 1630 — he helped to fence Nahant for cattle for a different master, Nathaniel Turner. This does not by itself prove that John Ramsdell had previously been a servant to Isaac Johnson, but it does prepare a stage on which such a hypothesis can reasonably be set

28 Records and Files [note 2], 2:34; on Thomas Dexter generally, see Anderson, Great Migration Begins [note 8], 1:540–545.
29 Ibid., 7:124.
30 Ibid., 7:127; Essex County Deeds, 5:107. The testimony is abstracted in Anderson, Winthrop Fleet [note 8], 607.
31 Records and Files [note 2], 7:129.
34 Davis, Massachusetts and Maine Families [note 33], 1:421, says that Thomas and William were “without doubt” related, but does not explain further.
36 Ibid., 1:20.
forth. When we see that a John Ravensdale was a servant to Johnson in 1627 in England, this hypothesis becomes much more plausible.

(3) Onomastic evidence

John Ramsdell named a son Isaac.[37] Although the Ramsdell children’s birthdates are not certain, Isaac was probably John’s oldest son.[38] If John Ramsdell and Johnson’s servant John Ravensdale were the same person, Isaac would have been named for his father’s recently deceased master and (at least intended) benefactor.

(4) Isaac Johnson had a relative named Nathaniel Turner

Buried towards the end of Isaac Johnson’s 1627 will is a bequest of five pounds “to my cosen Nathanaell Turner.”[39] No researcher seems to have picked up on the significance of this before now, perhaps because the paths of Johnson’s and Turner’s careers in New England did not cross, the name Turner is common, the will is very long (with bequests to about thirty people), and there has previously been no indication that this Nathaniel Turner was the same as the Captain Nathaniel Turner of New England.

But evaluating the court testimony of William Dixey, John Sibley, and John Ramsdell together shows that in 1632, Turner’s servants were continuing the work on improving pasturage conditions in Nahant that Johnson’s servants had begun in 1629.

And if we accept the equation of John Ramsdell and John Ravensdale based on the evidence above, that strengthens the independent link between Isaac Johnson and Captain Nathaniel Turner: in 1627 John Ramsdell was a servant to Johnson, in 1630 Johnson died, and by 1632 Ramsdell was a servant to Turner. It almost seems as if Turner might have in some sense inherited Ramsdell’s services from Johnson.

It may also be noteworthy that on 7 November 1632, Nathaniel Turner, along with Peter Palfry and Roger Conant, was deputized to lay out land in Saugus for John Humphrey.[40] Humphrey was married to Isaac Johnson’s wife’s sister.[41]

Strengthening the case is the fact that Nathaniel Turner gave the name Isaac to the second of his two sons, who was baptized in New Haven in 1640.[42]

With these links, the Nathaniel Turner who later lived in Lynn and was John Ramsdell’s master becomes the obvious candidate to be the Nathaniel Turner in Isaac Johnson’s 1627 will.

Their relationship would be socioeconomically unsurprising. Turner was well educated and held many important positions in New England,[43] which accords with the Johnson family’s education and prominence. In the 1640s Turner was among New Haven’s more wealthy residents, though his wealth was not on a
Their relationship would also explain why Turner initially settled at Lynn and not elsewhere in the colony.

The Phonological Plausibility of a Ravensdale/Ramsdale Alternation

While the alternation of the names Ravensdale and Ramsdale may be zoologically far-fetched, it is phonologically straightforward. In the early 1600s the vowel shift which ultimately changed the stressed vowel of English *raven* from [a] to [ei] was not complete, so in many regions the vowel sounds of the words *raven* and *ram* were more similar to each other than they are today. Dr. George Redmonds, an expert on English surnames, has confirmed that the shift from Ravensdale to Ramsdale or Ramsdell is “absolutely OK.”

A Possible Origin in Sempringham, Lincolnshire

A cursory search of the English parish registers index at familysearch.org shows early Ramsdell/Ramsdale entries clustered in northern England and the less common Ravensdale name in Lincolnshire. Notably, among these are several Ravensdale and Ramsdell/Ramsdale entries in Sempringham, the home of Isaac Johnson’s wife Arbella. Isaac Johnson was at Sempringham just around the time when he would have been trying to recruit servants to go to New England.

The Sempringham parish registers, which survive with gaps from 1558, contain fifteen entries under variations of the surname Ravensdale during the years 1575 to 1626, and eighteen entries under variations of the surname Ramsdale during the years 1636 to 1693. All these entries clearly relate to members of the same family. Thus the same surname transition (from Ravensdale to Ramsdell) that we observe in records of John Ramsdell in New England occurs independently in the Sempringham parish records. This strengthens the conclusion that John Ramsdell and John Ravensdale were the same man.

The Sempringham parish registers are missing from Easter 1599 to Easter 1603, and disordered and incomplete from 1633 to 1661. But among the surviving entries is one for a John Ravensdale, son of Francis Ravensdale, baptized 10 October 1607. No death or marriage for him was found in the registers.

A will and an estate inventory survive for Francis Ravensdale, laborer of Pointon (a village in the parish of Sempringham). The will, dated 9 May 1636,
mentions wife Margerie, son Francis, and daughter Grace Ravensdale. Among the will's provisions, Francis bequeathed his wife and daughter each a cow and a calf. The inventory, dated 11 July 1636, makes it clear that Francis was involved in dairying. He owned no real property, but among his possessions “in the milkehouse” were a fifteen-pound pot of butter, twenty-three small cheeses, and two “milkepans,” and he had several head of cattle.

Even though John was not named in Francis's will, John still may have been Francis's son. John could have received his portion previously and would in any case have had no practical use for any of Francis's property. John Ramsdell's later involvement with keeping cattle on Nahant, as well as his long career as a husbandman in Lynn, would be unsurprising fates for the son of a dairyman. It would be wise, though, to investigate other contemporary Ravensdales and Ramsdells in Lincolnshire before drawing any conclusions.

Sempringham parish registers fill out the picture of Francis's life. He married Alice Edwards on 27 August 1603 and had children Grace, baptized 6 June 1604, John, baptized 10 October 1607, and Anne, baptized 15 October 1609. His wife Alice was buried 8 November 1609, and his daughter Anne was buried 4 March 1609/10. His next marriage was not recorded, but his son Francis was baptized 19 September 1614. An Alice Ravensdale, who was buried in Sempringham 29 August 1623, could have been a daughter, perhaps named for his first wife. The widow “Margeri” or “Margaret” Ravensdale, evidently Francis's wife, was buried 29 April 1638.

Stamford, Connecticut

The land making up the town of Stamford, Connecticut was originally purchased by Nathaniel Turner for the New Haven Colony on 1 July 1640. At the time of purchase it was called Rippowam(s) or Toquams. Shortly afterwards it was purchased by a group from Wethersfield who subsequently settled there. On 6 April 1642, the town's name was changed from Rippowams to “Stamforde” by the General Court of New Haven Colony. Aside from general agreement that the name was somehow inspired by Stamford in Lincolnshire or possibly one of the other Stamfords in England, it seems that no one knows why. As one Stamford historian put it, “There appears to be nothing in the

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49 Consistory Court of Lincoln, registered wills, vol. 133, folio 213 [FHL 0,198,891].
54 Hoadly, Records of New Haven from 1638 to 1649 [note 44], 69.
records to show definitely why this name was selected."[55] He added that "It is to be regretted ... that a point of so much interest in the early history of Stamford must remain without the definite and authoritative decision of some formal record made at the time."[56]

Since Isaac Johnson's parents were from Stamford in Lincolnshire, Nathaniel Turner may have had connections to that Stamford too. Nathaniel Turner was not a deputy to the New Haven General Court at the 6 April 1642 meeting, but he was frequently involved with the court both before and after that date,[57] so it is not inconceivable that he might have had a hand in renaming the town as Stamford and might have had personal reasons for such a choice.

How Were Isaac Johnson and Nathaniel Turner Related?
The author has begun trying to confirm a relationship between Isaac Johnson and Nathaniel Turner, and presents the information below for the benefit of anyone wishing to continue.

Nathaniel Turner's English origins have never been established. One male-line descendant of Nathaniel Turner has tested his Y-DNA at FamilyTreeDNA and joined the Turner Y-DNA project. This person is in haplogroup I and does not match any other Turner lineage in the project.[58]

A Nathaniel Turner married Margery "Haukslye" at St. James, Clerkenwell, London, on 16 October 1620.[59] A Rebecka Turner, daughter of Nathaniel and Margery Turner, was baptized at St. Andrew, Holborn, London, on 29 May 1629.[60] "These records bear further investigation, as Nathaniel Turner of New Haven had a daughter Rebecca for whom Anderson estimates a birthdate of 1629. A 1620 marriage would fit with the estimated birthdates of his other children and with his being a contemporary of Isaac Johnson.

In about 1638, Isaac Johnson's father, Abraham Johnson, wrote a history of his own and his two wives' families in the hope that it would help him receive a coat of arms. An incomplete abstract of this unusual manuscript (which is of interest in several ways) was published in the Register in 1854.[61] The whereabouts of the original document are unknown to the author, but a copy of it, made in 1901, is held at the Bodleian Library.[62] The name Turner does not appear in it at all.
In the manuscript, Abraham Johnson uses the word “cousin” in its modern sense of parent’s sibling’s child.\textsuperscript{63} However, the document also states that Abraham Johnson was an only child and that Isaac Johnson’s mother, Anna (Meadows) Johnson, had only one surviving sibling.\textsuperscript{64} Abraham calls this sibling Margery Meadows, and says that she married William Walker and had as sole issue a son William. Indeed, Isaac Johnson mentioned “my kinsman Mr. William Walker of Stamford” in his 1627 will.\textsuperscript{65}

Thus, not only do we not find any Turners in Abraham Johnson’s manuscript, but his account makes it seem that we have to cast a net wider than Isaac Johnson’s first cousins by blood in looking for a Turner relative. Nathaniel Turner might have been a more distant cousin, he might have been a step-cousin through Isaac Johnson’s stepmother or one of Abraham Johnson’s two stepmothers, he might have been a cousin by marriage through Isaac’s wife, or Isaac Johnson might not have used the word cousin in the modern sense after all.

One possibility worth further investigation involves Abraham Johnson’s great-aunt Frances Lacy, who married John Beville of Sawtry, Huntingdonshire (between Stamford and Peterborough). Abraham Johnson mentions the Beville family in his manuscript.\textsuperscript{66} John and Frances (Lacy) Beville’s daughter Elizabeth Beville married Stephen Turner of Sawtry.\textsuperscript{67} Their grandchildren would have been Isaac Johnson’s third cousins.

\textit{Ian Watson (www.ianwatson.org) teaches at a university in Norway and has been involved in genealogy since his teens. This article is partly based on research funded by Mary Ellen Wright of Lake Forest, Illinois, a descendant of John Ramsdell.}

Mrs Hopkinson January 1901.” Aleta Brown kindly made digital images of the document for the author.

\textsuperscript{63} On the different meanings of the word “cousin” see New English Dictionary on Historical Principles \textsuperscript{note 45}, 2:1097.

\textsuperscript{64} Abraham Johnson manuscript \textsuperscript{note 62}, at leaf 13.

\textsuperscript{65} Winthrop Papers \textsuperscript{note 14}, 2:54–55.

\textsuperscript{66} Abraham Johnson manuscript \textsuperscript{note 62}, at leaf 8.

William7 Trowbridge, alias William Bent (1791–1853), of Framingham, Massachusetts, and Sherbrooke, Nova Scotia

George R. Nye*

In his 1872 genealogy of the Trowbridge family, Rev. Frederick W. Chapman wrote that William7 Trowbridge, born in Framingham, Massachusetts, 20 June 1791 to John and Mary (Bent) Trowbridge, “married Eliza Jordan and lives at St. Marys, Nova Scotia.”[1]

In his 1908 Trowbridge genealogy, Francis Bacon Trowbridge wrote that the same William7 Trowbridge settled in Nova Scotia, “took the name of his mother’s family, Bent, and was known as William Bent.”[2] Neither author cited a source for his statements.

William’s descendants in St. Marys Township and its principal village, Sherbrooke — the area in which William spent most of his adult life — know him by the surname of Bent. Some have rejected the undocumented assertion in the 1908 Trowbridge genealogy. This article will show clearly that William Bent of St. Marys Township was born William Trowbridge, son of Captain John and Mary (Bent) Trowbridge of Framingham.[3] A genealogical summary of William’s children and grandchildren follows.

William Trowbridge’s Family

William7 Trowbridge was born 20 June 1791 in Framingham, Massachusetts, to Captain John6 and Mary (Bent) Trowbridge,[4] who were married in the adjacent town of Sudbury 23 April 1776.[5] Captain John Trowbridge taught

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* This article is dedicated to the memory of my late friend Terrence M. Punch, cm, MA, D.LITF., CG(C), FRNSHS, FRSAI (1937–2017) of Halifax, Nova Scotia. Terry Punch was an educator, genealogist, writer, and a mentor, in the field of genealogy, in the Atlantic provinces of Canada. He was instrumental in setting up the Genealogical Institute of the Maritimes to certify genealogists. He was founding president of the Genealogical Association of Nova Scotia (GANS), and was elected a fellow of the Royal Nova Scotia Historical Society and of the Royal Society of Antiquarians in Ireland. He was made a Member of the Order of Canada on 26 November 2010.


3 In a previous article, the present author documented the family of Thomas3 Trowbridge: George R. Nye, “Thomas3 Trowbridge (1677–1725) of Newton, Massachusetts, and Canterbury, Connecticut,” Register 169 (2015):308–318; 170 (2016):58–65 and 348–349. At page 317, one of Thomas’s grandchildren was Lt. Col. John5 Trowbridge of Framingham, Massachusetts, who, with his first wife, Margaret Farrar, were William7 Trowbridge’s grandparents.

4 Vital Records of Framingham, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850 (Boston: NEHGS, 1911), 196.

5 Vital Records of Sudbury, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850 (Boston: NEHGS, 1903), 278.
school and became Framingham's schoolmaster in 1789. In 1792 the Captain was one of the founding twenty-five proprietors of Framingham Academy.\footnote{Rev. William Barry, \textit{A History of Framingham, Massachusetts, including Plantation, from 1640 to the Present time} (Boston: James Munroe and Company, 1847), 79, 80.}

William had three brothers, all born in Framingham:

- Edmund, born 30 April 1777, later was a farmer in Framingham.\footnote{\textit{Vital Records of Framingham} [note 4], 195. Trowbridge, \textit{Trowbridge Genealogy} [note 2], 551.}
- John, born 12 June 1778, and later settled in Cambridgeport, Massachusetts, where he was a successful merchant.\footnote{\textit{Vital Records of Framingham} [note 4], 195. Trowbridge, \textit{Trowbridge Genealogy} [note 2], 550–551.}
- Josiah, born 28 September 1785.\footnote{\textit{Vital Records of Framingham} [note 4], 195.} He became a physician in Buffalo, New York. He was captured by the British during the War of 1812 and later discharged by a British officer.\footnote{Michael Rizzo, \textit{Through the Mayors’ Eyes} (Buffalo, N.Y.: Old House History, 2005), section on Dr. Josiah Trowbridge at 1–5. He was mayor of Buffalo from 14 March 1837, until the city council accepted his letter of resignation on 21 December 1837 (http://historicbuffalo.com/people/dr-josiah-trowbridge/).}

William’s father, Captain John Trowbridge, Esquire, died testate on 28 July 1825.\footnote{\textit{Vital Records of Framingham} [note 4], 470.} In his will, dated 5 May 1824 and recorded 25 Oct 1825,\footnote{Middlesex County Probate Records, File 22814, John Trowbridge will, dated 5 May 1824 [FHL 0,421,541]; \textit{Middlesex County, MA: Probate File Papers, 1648–1881}, File 22814, John Trowbridge estate, Summary of Probate, filed 10 August 1825, recorded 25 October 1825, online at AmericanAncestors.org.} he provided for his wife, sons, and grandchildren. Apparently there was an estrangement between John Trowbridge and his youngest son, William, as John was unsure about the distribution of the legacy to William:

> I give to my son William Trowbridge one thousand dollars, to be paid [to] him at any time within ten years from and after my decease, when he or his heirs or any other person duly authorized by him or them to receive it shall apply for the same, but if the said William nor his heirs or any other person duly authorized by him or them shall [not?] apply within said ten years, my will is that my executor pay to my son Edmund, the interest annually on one third part of said thousand dollars & at his decease the principal to his children as before directed respecting the fifteen hundred dollars [given, in item two, to Edmund’s children upon Edmund’s decease]. Also that he pay to my son Josiah one third part of said thousand dollars & that he retain the other third part for his own use.

William’s mother, Mary (Bent) Trowbridge, died testate, aged 88, on 30 January 1844.\footnote{\textit{Vital Records of Framingham} [note 4], 470.} In her will, dated 23 February 1839, and codicil, dated 4 February 1841, approved and recorded 25 June 1844,\footnote{Middlesex County, MA: Probate File Papers, 1648–1881, File 43298, Mary Trowbridge estate, will dated 23 February, 1839, and Codicil, dated 4 February 1841, approved, allowed and recorded 25 June 1844, online at AmericanAncestors.org.} Mary mentioned her son William and one of his daughters:

3. I give to my son William Trowbridge all my china ware, my brass fire set, all my silver plate, my best set of knives and forks, and three hundred dollars . . .

4. I give to my granddaughter Mary Trowbridge, daughter of William
Trowbridge, my gold necklace . . . after paying my just debts and necessary expenses of settling my estate, he [my executor] pay one fourth part of the remainder to my sons John, Josiah and William. That the income of the fourth part be paid yearly to my son Edmund and upon his death pay in equal amounts the principal to his surviving children.

Mary (Bent) Trowbridge’s probate file contains an affidavit by her executor, Warren Dixon of Framingham, sworn at Suffolk [County], 5 October 1844, before a justice of the peace. Mary was receiving a federal pension of $45 per month for her late husband’s military service. Under the Act of 4 July 1836, his children were entitled to half the monthly pay. The affidavit identifies her children and their places of residence, including William Trowbridge of St. Marys, Nova Scotia. As will be shown, St. Marys, Nova Scotia, was the home of William Bent. No record is found there of any man named William Trowbridge.

William Bent of Nova Scotia

The earliest official record of William Bent was found in a deed between Wentworth Taylor and his wife Esther to John Taylor, all of St. Marys River, then in Sydney County (later Guysborough County), dated 22 November 1815, registered 18 March 1816, on the oath of William Bent. When William Bent moved to the Township of St. Marys, he became aware of the illiteracy among his fellow settlers. He operated a boarding house and began to teach school in his kitchen. He received a grant of £25 from the Provincial Treasurer in February 1817 for “Teaching an English School in St. Marys from December 1815 to December 1816.” The 1817 census of Nova Scotia lists William Bent in the Township of St. Marys, Sydney County, as one man, living alone, of American origin.

When William Bent of St. Marys River filed a petition for Crown land on 7 April 1817, he stated that he was

a native of Massachusetts, age twenty-five year, came to this Province about five years ago and has resided upwards of a year and a quarter at St. Marys. Taught public school at Sherbrooke on said River to the satisfaction of his employer . . . Petitioner being desirous of becoming a British subject and a resident of this Province, has made a tract of land which he has proceeded to survey and on which he has and is now making improvements, and therefore

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16 Affidavit of Warren Nixon, executor for Mary Trowbridge’s estate (see note 14). Nixon certified that Mary was a pensioner, and that she left children Edmund of Framingham, Josiah of Buffalo, N.Y., and William of St. Marys [District], Nova Scotia.
17 Sydney County Deeds, A:60. Guysborough County was set off from Sydney County in 1836.
18 Florence MacDonald, Sherbrooke As I Remember It (Sherbrooke, Nova Scotia: Sherbrooke Village Commission, 1987), 40. Ms. MacDonald (1895–1983) was a Municipal Clerk and a member of the St. Marys Historical Society.
humbly prays that he may obtain as grant of said tract of land or such part thereof to include his said improvements as may be thought proper.

After giving a physical description of the land adjacent to the Antigonish branch of the St. Marys River, William concluded:

Petitioner hopes to prove himself useful to this community and dutiful and loyal subject of the British Government and laws and humbly prays your Lordship’s humane and generous consideration to the prayer of this petition and petitioner as in duty bounds will ever pray.


William married Mary Eliza Jordain in Glenelg, then in Sydney County, on 20 April 1821.[22] She was the daughter of a French Protestant, Peter Jordain, and his Presbyterian wife, Margaret Crawford, who were married at St. Matthew’s Presbyterian Church in Halifax, Halifax County, on 19 January 1791[23] and settled in Chezzetcook, Halifax County [east of Halifax], before moving to St. Marys in 1812.[24]

William Bent became a prominent member of his community. In 1826, he was elected as a Presbyterian Elder.[25] In 1828 the Nova Scotia Legislature passed an act for the relief of dissenting congregations (that is, other than the Church of England). A decade later, at the initial congregational meeting in Sherbrooke on 29 March 1838, William Bent, Esq., was chosen chairman of the meeting and was requested to draw up a deed of incorporation in conformity to the said act. This deed also included a description of the parcel of church land in Sherbrooke and eleven fundamental rules of the constitution for the Presbyterian Church of Sherbrooke Village, and was signed by seventy members of the congregation.[26] William Bent was one of the three trustees elected and he served for nine years.[27]

He evidently was also a census taker in 1838, for the census of St. Marys Township contains the following declaration, sworn on 29 October 1838:

I, William Bent of St. Marys, do solemnly swear that the account of the inhabitants in the aforementioned settlements make up either from my own knowledge, or from the information of the heads of families herein named, or

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[22] Trowbridge, *Trowbridge Genealogy* [note 2], 555. This marriage was likely performed by Rev. Alexander Lewis, who was called by the Presbyterian Congregation on 16 October 1818. This church's marriage register was lost in a fire. The agreement between Rev. Lewis and the Presbyterian congregation contains the signature of Peter Jordain [Sr.]. The original document was sent to the author by June (MacHattie) Tate of Melrose, Nova Scotia. A digital copy was deposited in the Archives of the Atlantic School of Theology, Halifax.
[23] St. Matthew’s Presbyterian [now United] Church records, transcripts, Nova Scotia Archives microfilm 15037. The original records were lost in a fire.
[27] Ibid., 28.
from their neighbours, and contain nothing I actually know or have reason to believe to be untrue. [Signed] William Bent.[28]

In this census William's occupation was “Trader” and his household had a total of thirteen persons.[29]

In 1840 the township of St. Marys was reorganized into the District of St. Marys effective 1 January 1841.[30] On 14 June 1841 William Bent was appointed Clerk of the Peace.[31] In 1847 William Bent, John W. McKeen, and John McIntosh were appointed commissioners to superintend repair work on the courthouse, and in 1852 William Bent was appointed Commissioner of Schools.[32]

**William Bent’s Land Transactions in St. Marys Township and Sherbrooke**

On 17 March 1826, William Bent purchased for £150 from Samuel and Margaret McKeen, 150 acres, bounded by his father-in-law, Peter Jordain, and William Whidden, on the north side of the west branch of St. Marys River, at the mouth of Mill Brook.[33] William mortgaged the property to Kenneth McDonald of Antigonish on 1 July 1828. It was released 19 April 1831.[34] He sold this property 29 January 1842, as William Bent, Esquire, to Thomas Lysiard [sic] of Halifax, gentleman, for £140. Mary Bent appeared on 9 March 1842 and released her dower rights.[35]

On 14 February 1829, Andrew Jordain mortgaged the property to the executors [Thomas Glencross, Esq. and William Bent] of the last will and testament of the late Mr. Peter Jordain, for £400, conditional on the payment of 6 pounds, 13 shillings, and 4 pence yearly, on the 25th of March, during the natural life of Andrew's mother, Margaret Jordain. This mortgage was released 2 May 1834.[36]

On 23 August 1833, William Bent, then of Sherbrooke, purchased for £150 from Wentworth Taylor of Guysborough, land in the town plot of Sherbrooke, including water lot #2, totaling 37½ square rods, and the square field opposite

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28 1838 census, St. Marys Township, Guysborough County, Nova Scotia [FHL #13762295].

29 Ibid.


32 Jennie Cruickshank to George R. Nye, letter dated 14 February 1989. Mrs. Cruickshank (1903–1999), a school teacher, was secretary and second chairperson of the Sherbrooke Historic Village Commission. She served twenty years as local school trustee followed by two decades on the municipal board. She and her husband Graham were former custodians of the Sherbrooke Presbyterian Church Records and did research for the present author in the records of St. James Presbyterian Church (which was dissolved in 2007).

33 Sydney County Deeds, B:45.

34 Sydney County Deeds, B:47.

35 Sydney County Deeds, C:1. Thomas Lydiard, born in Halifax in 1798, was the eldest son of Scottish brewer Samuel Lydiard of Halifax.

36 Sydney County Deeds, B:141. Peter Jordain’s will has not been found.
On 1 September 1852, William sold this property to James Rupert Nickerson and Matilda Ann Nickerson, heirs of David Nickerson, for £30."38"

On 15 March 1841, John McDonald of Sherbrooke sold to William Bent, Esquire, of St. Marys, for £45, 100 acres lying on the west side of St. Marys River, above Sherbrooke, “at the mouth of a small brook” below Big Eddy, and two undivided shares in the school house and school house lot, within the town plot of Sherbrooke."39"

On 1 August 1848, William Bent, Esquire, and his wife Mary, sold for £50, one-half of the undivided lot “at the mouth of a small brook” to John McIntosh."40"

On 15 August 1850, William Bent, Esquire, sold to Christopher Whitman [his son-in-law] 41 acres of land for £40 from the 100-acre lot William purchased in 1841. This deed was registered 9 January 1851 on oath of Joseph McLane [another son-in-law]."41"

On 15 August William Bent, Esquire, sold an additional 40 acres of the 100-acre lot to Christopher Whitman for £30."42"

On 20 December 1841, William Bent purchased from Margaret Blanchard, widow, of Pictou, Nova Scotia, lot #12 in the town plot of Sherbrooke, being 100 acres, for £15."43"

On 17 April 1843, William purchased from James Fisher and Elizabeth, his wife, for £50, 1 acre of land on the southern side of the foot of College Lake, including a building erected for a grist mill."44" The grist mill and property were sold on 6 June 1844 to Hugh McDonald for £120."45"

William Bent must have been unwell in 1852, as he spent the year selling his residual property. On 1 September 1852, he sold to James Rupert Nickerson water lot #2 and a 37-square rod field for £30, the land to be held in common and released when the children became age 21."46"

On 26 May 1853, he sold to Israel Nickerson Jr. 100 square rods within the town plot of Sherbrooke Village, for £20."47"

William Bent died less than two months after the date of his conveyance to Israel Nickerson, Jr. The inscription on William’s grave marker, in Riverside Cemetery, Sherbrooke, shared with his wife, reads as follows:"48"

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"37" Sydney County Deeds, B:43.
"38" Sydney County Deeds, D:631.
"39" Sydney County Deeds, B:375.
"40" Sydney County Deeds, D:51.
"41" Sydney County Deeds, C:445.
"42" Sydney County Deeds, C:328.
"43" Sydney County Deeds, C:56.
"44" Sydney County Deeds, C:85.
"45" Sydney County Deeds, C:87.
"46" Sydney County Deeds, D:631.
"47" Sydney County Deeds, C:471.
"48" Gravestone inscription, Riverside Cemetery, Sherbrooke, Nova Scotia, photographed by the author in 1973. A photograph of this gravestone is on FindaGrave.com, memorial no. 85469575.
In Memory of
WILLIAM BENT, ESQUIRE,
DIED JULY 6, 1853, AGED 62 YEARS
Also His Wife
MARY
DIED AUG. 10, 1869, AGED 69 YEARS

Will of William Bent, Esquire

In his will dated 6 May 1853, proved and registered 4 August 1853, William Bent, Esquire, bequeathed to his wife, Mary Bent, her widow’s third for the rest of her life. He left to his son John Bent and to his son-in-law Christopher Whitman all the remainder of his estate, along with the one-third bequeathed to his wife, after her decease, subject to the following conditions:49

That John Bent and Christopher Whitman pay daughters Mary McDaniel, Margaret McLane, Eliza McIntosh, Sarah Bent, Harriet Bent and Caroline Bent the sum of ten Pounds each amounting to sixty pounds to be paid as follows: The legacies in yearly payments of ten pounds to commence at the expiration of five years after the my decease, with Mary McDaniel, the eldest and so on in rotation by paying one legacy of ten pounds annually, until sixty pounds is paid; further that when single daughters Sarah Bent, Harriet Bent and Caroline Bent are married, said John Bent and Christopher Whitman shall furnish each with a feather bed and milk cow, above their ten pound legacy. And further that my homestead be occupied in common by my widow Mary Bent, Christopher Whitman and John Bent for a period of 5 years after my decease or until such time as Christopher Whitman has built a dwelling house for himself assisted by John Bent, on my homestead property. The homestead farm shall then become the exclusive property of John Bent subject to one consideration that Harriet Bent and Caroline Bent shall be allowed by said John Bent to make this house their home so long as they shall remain single and unmarried. Should John Bent and Christopher Whitman desire to have the lands bequeathed to them divided, and they cannot mutually agree upon such a division, a division shall be made by two indifferent men, one chosen by each party, with power to choose a third person if necessary. It is understood that the lot of land formerly conveyed by the testator to Christopher Whitman and having been a part of the homestead farm shall be considered in the said division as forming a part of Christopher Whitman’s share or half in the said division. Upon agreement Christopher Whitman and John Bent shall give each other a good and sufficient release.

William appointed Christopher Whitman and John Bent executors, unless William died before John turned 21, in which case Christopher Whitman would act alone until John reached that age. The will, signed at Sherbrooke, was witnessed by Abner P. McKenzie, John McIntosh, and John McKenzie.

The Trowbridge Name in William Bent’s Family

In early 1945, William’s great-granddaughter “Bessie” Trowbridge Hutton inquired of her mother’s half-sister, Mrs. Norman Hubley, the origins of her middle name, Trowbridge. Mrs. Hubley wrote:

You are the only one in our family to bear that name strange to say. That was grandfather Bent’s right name. His father set his two sons in business in New Jersey. They did not make a success of their business. Their home was at East Cambridge, Boston. He wrote home that he was leaving for parts unknown, if he made good, they would hear from him, if not do not worry... He drifted down to Nova Scotia and adopted his mother’s name William Bent, dropped the Trowbridge. He just settled up at Glenelg; went into the lumbering business[51] and made good. While there, he married Grandmother Mary Jordan.[52] Her people came from Maryland, when the Loyalists immigrated to N.S.[53] They had seven daughters and one son who drowned, when he was a young man. All the daughters were married and settled [in] Sherbrooke.

Grandfather was in the post office one day; the postmaster said there is a letter here for J.W.B. Trowbridge. Grandfather said, “It is for me.”... After he married he moved to Sherbrooke, started a store in connection with his lumber business [and] accumulated quite a bit of wealth.

He was very much respected and looked up to as he was chief magistrate in the town.[54] He had an Aunt Mrs. Chaplin,[55] used to write him once or twice a year. There is a book published with the genealogy of the Trowbridge family.[56]

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50 No evidence has been found of William Trowbridge and a brother in business in New Jersey. However, in 1807 the [U.S.] Embargo Act closed American ports, including Boston and environs, to British ships and prohibited American ships from all foreign trade, with devastating effects.

51 William Bent purchased a saw mill in St. Marys in 1821 (St. Marys Township Deeds, in Guysborough County Deeds, A:335 [FHL 0,806,006]. He was to pay Thomas Pye 8 pounds, 10 shillings per year for four years from date 16 February 1821. “Index of Deeds Books A and B, St. Marys Court House, Sherbrooke, Guysborough Co., N.S.” Register 118 (1964):42, shows that William was a former resident of Halifax in 1821.

52 See note 22.

53 No trace has been found of the Peter Jordain family in Loyalist records of Maryland.

54 Sessions of St. Marys [note 31], 1.

55 Mrs. Chaplin was possibly Sarah, daughter of William’s brother John Trowbridge; she married Dr. Charles F. Chaplin of Cambridgeport, 11 November 1835 (Vital Records of Cambridge, Massachusetts to the Year 1850, 2 vols. [Boston: NEHGS, 1914–1915] 2:394), but she was William’s niece, not his aunt. She died 30 December 1886 and was buried in Mount Auburn Cemetery, Cambridge, beside her husband, (FindaGrave.com, memorials nos. 138665590 and 112008417, with photograph of gravestone). This date indicates she was alive when Rev. Frederick Chapman compiled his 1872 Trowbridge genealogy between 1850 and 1854, as stated in his Preface. They possibly exchanged correspondence as Dr. Chaplin’s death on 17 August 1857 was included in his book, as well as the information on William Bent’s brothers and their families. According to Francis Trowbridge’s 1908 Trowbridge genealogy, Sarah and her family lived in Cambridgeport (page 551). That could explain Mrs. Hubley’s statement that her grandfather came from East Cambridge (which was close to Cambridgeport). Perhaps Francis Trowbridge had access to Mrs. Chaplin’s notes after her death.

56 Chapman, Trowbridge Family [note 1], 286. (William and his wife only of St. Marys, N.S.); Trowbridge, Trowbridge Genealogy [note 2], 555, (William, wife, children and the latter’s spouses and dates of marriage).
This Aunt wrote [the] information of Grandfather and his family. His brother's name was Uncle Josiah . . . [57]

Among William Bent's Nova Scotian descendants, only one official record has been found recording the Trowbridge name. The Nova Scotia death certificate of William's granddaughter Harriet (McLane) Stevenson of Brickton, Annapolis County, identifies her mother as Margaret Bent Trowbridge of Sherbrooke, Guysborough County.[58]

**Conclusion**

Mrs. Hubley’s letter explains that her grandfather William Bent’s real surname was Trowbridge, and that he had a brother Josiah.[59] William Trowbridge of Framingham did have an older brother by that name.[60] Mrs. Hubley revealed that her grandfather’s information in the book was provided by a family member who regularly corresponded with him.[61] In William Bent’s 1817 petition for land he stated that he was born in Massachusetts.[62] His age at death indicates he was born about 1790–1791, which matches William Trowbridge’s year of birth.[63] A document found in William Trowbridge’s mother’s estate file identifies his place of residence as St. Marys, Nova Scotia,[64] but St. Marys records do not include a man by that name. Together, these pieces of evidence support Francis Bacon Trowbridge’s claim that William Trowbridge of Framingham was William Bent of Nova Scotia.

Why would William Trowbridge have gone to Nova Scotia? He was familiar with the British province, as members of both his mother’s and his father’s families were well established in Annapolis Valley there. David and Samuel Bent settled in 1760.[65]

Mrs. Norman Hubley (Aneroid, Saskatchewan) to Miss B. T. Hutton (c/o Dr. P. H. Brearly, West Philadelphia, Penna.), letter dated, 18 March 1945; copy provided by Ron and Molly Frishmuth. Mrs. Hubley was Mary Catherine9 “Kate” Cruickshank (1865–1947), William Bent’s granddaughter through his daughter Eliza. Miss Hutton was Elizabeth “Bessie” Trowbridge10 Hutton (1884–1950). Bessie’s mother, Mary Anna9 (McIntosh) Hutton, was Mrs. Hubley’s half-sister.


Hubley to Hutton [note 57].


Hubley to Hutton [note 57].

Land petition [note 21].

Gravestone inscription for William Bent [note 48].

Affidavit of Warren Nixon, executor for Mary Trowbridge's estate [note 16].

William’s mother, Mary Bent, was a daughter of John (John 2–1) and Molly (Stacy) Bent (Allen H. Bent, “The Bent Family,” Register 48 [1894]:288–290, 294; Allen H. Bent, *The Bent Family in America*...[Boston: David Clapp & Son, 1900], 27–28). The latter source includes Mary’s cousins in Annapolis Valley, Nova Scotia: David1 Bent (at 37) and Samuel1 Bent (at 48).
Annapolis County, Nova Scotia. Their son Jonas Gates of Nova Scotia was given a legacy by William’s paternal great-grandmother Mehetabel (Eaton) Trowbridge.

### Genealogical Summary

1. **William7 Bent [Trowbridge]**, son of Captain John6 (Lieut. Colonel John5, John4, Thomas3, Deacon James2, Thomas1) and Mary (Bent) Trowbridge, was born in Framingham, Middlesex County, Massachusetts, 20 June 1791. He died 6 July 1853, aged 62, and was buried in Riverside Cemetery, Sherbrooke, Guysborough County, Nova Scotia. He married in Glenelg, Guysborough County, 20 April 1821, **Mary Eliza Jordain**, born in Chezzetcook, Halifax County, Nova Scotia, 12 August 1800, baptized in Halifax 12 November 1802, daughter of Peter and Margaret (Crawford) Jordain. Mary died 6 August 1869, aged 69, and was buried with her husband in Riverside Cemetery.

William may have attended Framingham Academy in Massachusetts, as his father was schoolmaster and one of its founders. William assumed his mother’s surname of Bent when he immigrated to Nova Scotia from Massachusetts in 1812. In Sherbrooke, William was a schoolteacher, a justice of the peace, and a trustee and an elder of the Presbyterian Church. In 1852 he was appointed commissioner of schools. William’s will, dated 6 May 1853, was proved 4 August 1853.

On 1 February 1868, widow Mary Bent and the heirs of William Bent, Esquire, sold to Hugh McDonald, Esquire, lot #12 in the Town Plot of Sherbrooke, being 100 acres, for 80 dollars. The deed was signed by Mary Bent, widow, as well as her six surviving daughters and their husbands.
2017

William Trowbridge alias William Bent

Children [surname Bent] of William7 Bent [Trowbridge] and his wife Mary Jordain, the first three born in Glenelg, the rest in Sherbrooke:[77]

2. i. Mary8 Bent, b. 10 April 1822,[78] m. John McDaniel.
   ii. Sarah Bent, b. 1 Sept. 1823; d. Sherbrooke in Oct. 1833, aged 10.[79]
3. iii. Margaret Bent, b. 2 April 1825;[80] m. Joseph McLane.
4. iv. Elizabeth “Eliza” Bent, b. 1 or 2 July 1827,[81] m. (1) John A. McIntosh; m. (2) William Cruickshank.
5. v. Infant Bent, b. 1829; d. Sherbrooke 1829, aged 6 weeks.[82]

77 William Bent will [note 49], names all living children except [Jane] Elizabeth, wife of Christopher Whitman. Unless otherwise indicated, the children's birth dates and places are from Trowbridge, Trowbridge Genealogy [note 2], 555–556; the published information may have been provided by William Bent's correspondent, Mrs. Chaplin, as stated by William's granddaughter (Hubley to Hutton [note 57]).

78 1881 Census of Canada, Sherbrooke, Guysborough County, Nova Scotia, p. 14, microfilm C-13167, online at FamilySearch.org. The census entry supports the birth year.

79 Gravestone inscription, Riverside Cemetery [note 69]: “Sarah Bent d. October 1833, AE 10 yrs.,” on the same gravestone as her brother John Bent and her infant brother. Sarah's place of death is based on the residence of her parents.

80 Trowbridge, Trowbridge Genealogy [note 2], 555.

81 Trowbridge, Trowbridge Genealogy [note 2], 555, indicates she was born 1 July 1827, but the 1901 census states she was born 2 July 1827 (Sherbrooke, p. 7, family no. 71, Library and Archives of Canada [LAC] online at www.bac-lac.gc.ca › Home › Censuses › Census of 1901).

82 Gravestone inscription, Riverside Cemetery, [note 69]; Infant Son, aged 6 wks,

83 Trowbridge, Trowbridge Genealogy [note 2], 555; 1901 census, Sherbrooke [note 81], household of Christopher Whitman, says his wife Jane was born 11 July 1834, clearly an incorrect date in light of her sister Sarah's date of birth of 27 October 1834.

84 Trowbridge, Trowbridge Genealogy [note 2], 555, lists her date of birth as 27 October; the same date appears on her gravestone in Riverside Cemetery. Her death record lists her date of birth as 6 October 1834 (NS Historical Vital Statistics [note 58], citing Guysborough deaths, 1920, Book 68, p. 218).


86 Trowbridge, Trowbridge Genealogy [note 2], 555, lists her date of birth as 1 September 1841, which may be based on family information. Her age at marriage was 24, indicating she was born ca. 1842–43.


89 1881 census of Canada, Indian Harbour, Guysborough County, p. 3, family no. 11, LAC microfilm C13167, online at www.bac-lac.gc.ca › Home › Censuses › Census of 1881. He was listed as a widower, age 53.
1827,\footnote{89} d. after the 1891 census,\footnote{91} son of Robert T. and Nancy (Hewitt) Kennedy.\footnote{92} No record of children was found.\footnote{93}

x. Caroline Bent, b. 1 or 9 March 1843;\footnote{94} d. Fort Ellis, Lower Stewiacke, Colchester Co., N.S., 31 Jan. 1924, aged 80, bur. Pine Grove Cemetery, East Stewiacke;\footnote{95} m. Presbyterian Church, Sherbrooke,\footnote{96} 23 Jan. 1866, Alexander Weir,\footnote{97} b. ca. 1837,\footnote{98} d. British Columbia 20 Oct. 1884,\footnote{99} son of George and Christine (McDonald) Weir.\footnote{100} No record of children was found.

(\textit{to be continued})

\textit{Major George R. Nye, CD, DDS, FICD, is a retired Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon, and is descended from the “gateway ancestor” Thomas Trowbridge, and in this current article from Margaret Bent and her husband Joseph McLane. He may be contacted at 91 Hill Crescent, Red Deer, Alberta, Canada T4N 6G3 or geoRnye001@shaw.ca.}

\footnote{89} Robert H. Kennedy–Harriet Bent marriage record [note 88].
\footnote{91} 1891 census of Canada, Indian Harbour, Guysborough County, p. 27, family no. 121, LAC file no. 30953-148115, online at www.bac-lac.gc.ca > Home > Censuses > Census of 1891. He was listed as single, age 64.
\footnote{92} Robert H. Kennedy–Harriet Bent marriage record [note 88].
\footnote{93} Other writers have attributed children Edna and Parker to this couple. However, children by those given names were mentioned in the undated will of Fannie Kennedy, widow of Robert Kennedy of Wine Harbour, Guysborough County, in Guysborough County Wills, p. 13). Fanny A. Lucas and Robert T. Kennedy married in Guysborough in 1886 (NS Historical Vital Statistics [note 58], citing Guysborough marriages, 1886, book 1814, p. 136, no. 60).
\footnote{94} 1901 census of Canada, Sherbrooke, Guysborough County, p. 4, dwelling 33 (see note 81), which indicates she was born 9 March 1843; Caroline Weir death certificate, NS Historical Vital Statistics [note 58], citing Truro, Colchester County, deaths, 1924, book 112, p. 206, which lists her date of birth as 1 March 1843, as reported by “foster daughter” Caroline Fulton (actually the decedent’s niece).
\footnote{95} Caroline Weir death record [note 94]; Caroline Weir obituary, \textit{Truro Daily News}, 1 February 1924, copy provided by Nan Harvey, Archivist, Colchester Historical Society, Truro, Nova Scotia. A digital image of the gravestone in Pine Grove Cemetery for Caroline, wife of Alexander Weir, 1843–1924, was provided to the present author by Al McFadden.
\footnote{97} Alexander A. Weir–Caroline Bent marriage record, NS Historical Vital Statistics [note 58], citing Guysborough marriages, 1866, Book 1814, p. 8, no. 29.
\footnote{98} Calculated from his stated age of 29 at the time of his marriage in January 1866 (see note 97).
\footnote{99} McCormick and McCormick, \textit{Presbyterian Witness, 1848–1887} [note 85], 4:1768, Alexander Weir obituary, citing issue of 11 April 1885. The abstract states he died 20 October on board the steamer \textit{Teaser} in British Columbia, in his 55th year \textit{sic}, a shipbuilder and resident of Sherbrooke, N.S., who had moved to British Columbia in 1880.
\footnote{100} Alexander A. Weir–Caroline Bent marriage record [note 97].
The earliest reference to George I Robinson found was the record of the birth of his oldest child in Watertown, Massachusetts, on 7 January 1683/4. His ancestry has not been determined, and so he is treated as the immigrant. The only good published treatment of his family concentrated on his son David, and merely listed the births of the other children. Earlier publications had misidentified David as the son of William II (William I) Robinson. A 1985 Robinson genealogy identified the wrong George Robinson as the immigrant ancestor.

1. George I Robinson of Watertown was born say 1657 (age 25 at the birth of his first known child). When he died in 1726, he was said to be of Weston. He married first in 1683 or earlier, Sary/Sarah Reed, born in Woburn 12 February 1665/6, daughter of George II (William I) and Elizabeth (Jennison) Reed. Sary died in Watertown 5 May 1703.

1 Watertown Records comprising the First and Second Books of Town Proceedings with the Land Grants and Possessions also the Proprietors' Book and the First Book and Supplement of Births Death and Marriages (Watertown, Mass.: Fred G. Barker, 1894), Births, etc., 54.
3 Ibid., The American Genealogist 67:136.
4 Opal Hanson, The Family History and Genealogy of Sarah and Munson Robinson (Racine, Wisc.: Shorecrest Printing, 1985), 14–17. See below for details.
6 Charles Hudson, History of the Town of Lexington, Middlesex County, from Its First Settlement to 1860, 2 vols. (Boston and New York: Houghton Mifflin, 1913), 558 (page 191 of the Genealogical Register), and Nora Emma Snow, The Snow-Estes Ancestry, 2 vols. (Hillburn, N.Y.: privately printed, 1939); 1:328. Both give the date of marriage as 12 December 1685, which is too late.
8 Clarence Almon Torrey, New England Marriages Prior to 1700, 3 vols. (Boston: NEHGS, 2011), 2:1285, shows George Robinson’s wife Sarah as Sarah Reed. The three sources Torrey lists are secondary sources and all say that Sarah Reed, daughter of George and Elizabeth (Jennison) Reed, married a Robinson. The three sources are Lucius R. Paige, History of Cambridge, Mass., 1630 to 1877 (Boston: H. O. Houghton, 1877), 637, and the two sources cited in note 6.
George Robinson married second in Watertown 4 August 1703, Sarah (______) Behony. She was the widow of Peter Behony, who died in 1700, and the mother of his two children Sarah Behony and Peter Behony. George's second wife survived him and died after 21 June 1728, when she signed with her mark on a deed in which her son David was selling land in Weston.

George and his first wife, Sary, had a son George Robinson in 1685, and Sarah (George's second wife) and her first husband had a daughter Sarah Betoney/Behony born on 12 August 1688. The Rising article says George Robinson the father married the daughter Sarah Behony on 4 August 1703, but this seems unlikely because Sarah would have still been only age 14. It seems more reasonable that George Robinson Sr. married the widow Sarah Behony after the death of Peter, her first husband. George and his first wife Sary had their first child Beriah in 1683/4. Sarah Behony had her daughter Sarah in 1688. So George Robinson Sr. and the widow Sarah Behony probably would have been close in age.

In 1694 George lived in the western part of Watertown where he was one of a list of subscribers for a committee to consider building a new meeting house. The issue of the location of the meeting house was a divisive one. More people lived in the western precincts than in East Watertown. They were tired of traveling all the way to East Watertown, and wanted to put the meetinghouse in a more central location. They decided on the location of the current intersection of Belmont Street and Lexington Street in Belmont. But the East Watertown residents decided to hire their own minister and remain at the original meetinghouse. This split was the first step in the formation of the town of Waltham in 1738.

George was one of the founders of the church established 11 October 1709 by William Williams in “the West part of Watertown. Commonly called Watertown Farms. – made a distinct town 1 January 1712/13 called Weston”.

At the meeting of the Watertown selectmen on 10 March 1709/10 it was agreed to pay George Robinson to keep “Old widdow Sanger until the third of April next Ensuing” and then on 15 February 1713/14 it was ordered to pay “George Robinson for supporting of the Widow Sanger.”

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10 Watertown Records Comprising the Third Book of Town Proceedings and the Second book of Births Marriages and Deaths to End of 1737 also Plan and Register of Burials in Arlington Street Burying Ground (Watertown, Mass.: Fred G. Barker, 1900), 17.
11 Middlesex County, MA: Probate Files, 1648–1871, File 1477, Peter Behoni, online at AmericanAncestors.org.
12 Watertown Records comprising the First and Second Books [note 1], 62, Sarah Betoney Daughter of Peter and Sarah Betoney Borne 12 Aug [1688].
13 Ibid., Peter Betoney son of Peter and Sarah Betoney Borne 13 March [1689/90].
14 Middlesex County Deeds, 27:422.
16 Watertown Records Comprising the First and Second Books [note 1], 54.
17 Watertown Records Comprising the Third Book of Town Proceedings [note 10], 75.
18 Email from Marie Daly of NEHGS to the author, dated 31 January 2015, “Query re Watertown Records Vol.2:pg.75.”
19 Weston Births, Deaths and Marriages [note 5], 383–384.
20 Watertown Records Comprising the Third Book of Town Proceedings [note 10], 194, 219.
On 10 January 1721/2, George and his second wife Sarah sold a 15-acre piece of land in Weston to Samuel Jennison. Samuel was a cousin of Sary, George's first wife.\footnote{Samuel’s father was a brother of Sary’s mother, Elizabeth (Jennison) Reed (Mary Walton Ferris, Dawes-Gates Ancestral Lines, 2 vols. [Milwaukee, Wisc.: Wisconsin Cuneo Press, 1943], 1:369–373).}

One of the witnesses was Joshua Biglo, their daughter-in-law, Mary (Learned) Robinson’s uncle.\footnote{Middlesex County Deeds, 23:86. The 15 acres bordered land already owned by Samuel Jennison and land formerly belonging to Caleb Grant. The land owned by Samuel Jennison may have been the land Samuel purchased from his brothers William Jennison and Robert Jennison in 1715 (Middlesex County Deeds, 17:556). The deed says the land was “granted to our honored Uncle Capt. William Jennison late of Watertown 150 acres in the ninth division of farmland.” Although I have not found how George and Sarah acquired their 15 acres, it may also have been some of the land originally granted to Capt. William Jennison. This would tend to support the statement above that Sary’s mother was Elizabeth (Jennison) Reed.}

There is some confusion in an earlier Robinson genealogy about George Robinson of Watertown. In The Family History and Genealogy of Sarah and Munson Robinson, Opal Hanson includes pages from a Robinson genealogy titled “George Robinson of Dudley, Massachusetts.”\footnote{Hanson, The Family History and Genealogy of Sarah and Munson Robinson [note 4], 15–17, from “Robinson Genealogy, Volume VI, George Robinson of Dudley Massachusetts.”}

These pages say that George of Watertown was the son of George Robinson who married Mary Bushnell 3 October 1657 in Boston.\footnote{[Ninth] Report of the Record Commissioners Containing Boston Births, Baptisms, Marriages and Deaths, 1630–1699 (Boston: Rockwell & Churchill, 1883), 62.}

George and Mary (Bushnell) Robinson did indeed have a son George who was baptized in Boston 30 March 1658.\footnote{Ibid., 64.}

He and his wife Elizabeth had eight children all of whom were born in Boston between 1680 and 1695.\footnote{Ibid., 58.} Elizabeth died 7 July 1697.\footnote{Ibid., 57.} Clearly this George of Boston could not be George of Watertown who with his wife Sary had a child Beriah born in 1683\footnote{Watertown Records Comprising the First and Second Books [note 1], 57.}

The four sons of George Robinson and his first wife — George, John, Ebenezer, and Samuel — appear to have left Watertown and Middlesex County after their mother died and their father remarried. In the land records for Worcester County there are twenty-six Robinson deeds listed in the grantor/grantee indexes prior to 1744. The only first names on these deeds are George, John, Ebenezer, and Samuel, strong evidence that George’s sons moved to Worcester County.

Children of George and Sary (Reed) Robinson all born in Watertown:

1. Beriah Robinson, b. 7 Jan., 1683\footnote{Samuel’s father was a brother of Sary’s mother, Elizabeth (Jennison) Reed (Mary Walton Ferris, Dawes-Gates Ancestral Lines, 2 vols. [Milwaukee, Wisc.: Wisconsin Cuneo Press, 1943], 1:369–373).}

2. ii. George Robinson, b. 1 July 1685;\footnote{Ibid. George born 1680, 152; John born 1684, 163; Martha born 1687, 176; Nathanll born 1689, 185; died 1690, 194; Nathanll born 1690, 191; Robert born 1692, 202; Sarah born 1693, 208; Martha born 1695, 223.} m. (1) Mary Learned; (2) Lydia (Bayley) Jeffards. There appears to be a duplicate birth record for George exactly one year later 1 July 1686.\footnote{Ibid. 237.}
3. iii. John Robinson, b. 4 March 1688/9.\footnote{Ibid., 61} m. Sarah Morse.

iv. Ebenezer Robinson, b. 22 Sept. 1692.\footnote{Ibid., 65.} According to Daniels’s history of Oxford one of George Jr.’s sons was Ebenezer. This is not supported by either George’s will or his land transactions. It is highly likely that the Ebenezer that Daniels refers to is actually this Ebenezer, George’s brother. Daniels says that Ebenezer “it is thought, had no family.”\footnote{George F. Daniels, History of the Town of Oxford, Massachusetts, with Genealogies and Notes on Persons and Estate (Oxford, Mass.: the author and the town, 1892), 666.} This is supported by the fact that there are no vital records for Ebenezer in Oxford or the surrounding towns. In May 1724 Ebenezer bought 50 acres from [his brother] George for £28. The land adjoined George’s land.\footnote{Worcester County Deeds, 9:128.} In 1727 Ebenezer purchased another 9 acres for £12.\footnote{Worcester County Deeds, 9:129.} Both transactions were recorded in March 1736/7. In 1748 when Ebenezer’s brother George transferred land to his son Samuel, the land was partly described as bordering the land of Ebenezer Robinson.\footnote{Worcester County Deeds, 26:200.}

v. Samuel Robinson, b. 13 Oct. 1695.\footnote{Watertown Records Comprising the Third Book of Town Proceedings [note 10], 5.} There are several records for Samuel Robinson in Worcester County but none of them has been shown to be for Samuel Robinson son of George Robinson.

Children of George and Sarah (_____)(Behony) Robinson born in Watertown:

4. vi. David Robinson, b. 15 May 1704;\footnote{Ibid., 26.} m. (1) Mary/Marcy/Mercy Segur; (2) Ruth (_____ ) Fowler.

5. vii. Jonathan Robinson, b. 14 Feb. 1705/6;\footnote{Ibid., 32.} m. (1) Martha Bruce; (2) Patience Hunting; (3) Abigail ______.

2. George Robinson was born in Watertown 1 July 1685. He died in Dudley 13 April 1752.\footnote{Vital Records of Dudley, Massachusetts, to the End of the Year 1849 (Worcester, Mass.: F. P. Rice, 1908), 279; Worcester County, MA: Probate Files, 1731–1881, File 50851, George Robinson, online at Ancestry.org.} He was listed as George Robinson of Dedham when he married, first, in Dedham 17 January 1706/7, Mary Learned.\footnote{Don Gleason Hill, The Record of Births, Marriages and Deaths, and Intentions of Marriages in the Town of Dedham, Massachusetts, Volumes 1 & 2, 1638 – 1845 (Dedham, Mass.: Dedham Transcript, 1886), 247; Vital Records of Sherborn, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850 (Boston: NEHGS, 1911), 166.} She was born in Sherborn 13 April 1686, the daughter of Isaac and Sarah (Bigelow) Learned.\footnote{Vital Records of Sherborn [note 40], 149 (parents’ marriage); Eugenia Learned James, Learned Family in America (St. Louis, Mo.: Setco Printing Co., 1967), 7.} Mary (Learned) Robinson died in Dudley 30 June 1750.\footnote{Vital Records of Dudley [note 39], 279.} George married second in Dudley 16 December 1750, Lydia (Bayley) Jeffards.\footnote{Ibid. 215.}
She was born in Newbury, Massachusetts, 25 November 1695, daughter of Joseph and Priscilla (Putnam) Bayley, and widow of John Jeffards.

On 2 April 1710, George Jr. and Mary Robinson of Dedham sold to Joseph Lovel Sr. a “certain piece of meadow containing two acres and a half... situated and being within the limits and bounds of the above Town of Dedham in the Northerly part thereof next to... Watertown.” One of the witnesses on the deed was Peter Bethoney, George Jr.’s half-brother. The deed was recorded 8 April 1723.

According to Daniels’s history of Oxford, George “bought in 1719 of William Dudley 500 acres lying on the west side of Chaubunagungamaug Lake, which with later purchases from Josiah Kingsbury and others included most of the present East Village at Webster.”

On 9 May 1723, William Dudley sold to George Robinson “now living in Oxford late of Needham... Land between the town of Oxford and Killingley in the colony of Connecticut... bounded as follows northerly on the land of... Robinson... from a heap of stones near unto Chabunnagungamoag Pond... about two hundred acres... also a piece or parcel of meadow and swampy land southwesterly of the land containing 24 acres more or less.” This deed was not recorded in Worcester County until 12 May 1807.

The fact that George is listed as late of Needham is significant. His half-brother David is also listed as of Needham in land transactions, and Rising in her article about David Robinson, points out that it is likely that the boundaries around George Robinson Sr.’s land altered over time. “In 1702, Watertown and Dedham connected in the southwest section of Watertown. In 1713, that part of Watertown became Weston; and, in 1711 Needham was formed from the northern part of Dedham (the area is now Wellesley).”

On 24 March 1736/7 three land transactions in Worcester County involving George were recorded:

- On 12 May 1724, George sold 50 acres in Oxford, Suffolk County (Worcester County was created in 1731), to [his brother] Ebenezer Robinson. The land bordered the land of Isaac Learned (probably George’s brother-in-law).
- On 21 March 1736/7, George sold another 9 acres in Oxford to Ebenezer. The land bordered the land Ebenezer already owned.
- Also on 21 March 1736/7, George bought from Josiah Kingsbury “a certain piece of land lying upon both sides of the brook

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46 Middlesex County Deeds, 23:206.
47 Daniels, History of Oxford [note 32], 666.
48 Worcester County Deeds, 166:500.
51 Worcester County Deeds, 9:129.
Running northwestward out of a pond known by the name of Chabxmogonbemooge Pond bounded . . . land of said Robinson.”[52]

Between 1738 and 1749 George gave land in Dudley to each of his five children.[53] On 25 February 1739/40, a piece of land owned by William Dudley was sold at auction for taxes owed the town of Dudley. George signed the deed as one of the selectmen.[54] On 17 December 1751, George sold to his son Silas for £15/6/8 “a certain sedar swamp and upland in Dudley . . . . 40 acres.”[55]

When George died in 1752 he left a third of his estate to “my beloved wife Lydia.” He left the remainder of his estate to his two oldest sons Paul and Silas. The will states that he gave his son Samuel five shillings because he had previously given him land by deed. George had actually gifted land to all of his children, but Samuel’s gift is the only one mentioned in George’s will. George left bequests to his Wakefield and Thompson grandchildren, the children of his two deceased daughters Mary and Sarah.[56]

A Robinson Family Cemetery in Webster (created from Dudley and Oxford in 1832) is shown on FindaGrave.com, but with no photographs of the cemetery or any gravestones.[57] The cemetery is supposed to contain gravestones for George and Mary (Learned) Robinson and for their son Silas and his family.[58]

Children of George and Mary (Learned) Robinson; births of all but the youngest recorded in Needham at one time.[59]

i. Mary Robinson, b. 13 Aug. 1708; d. by 19 March 1752 (date of her father’s will); m. (1) Sutton, Mass., 3 Aug. 1725, Joseph Wakefield; b. ca. 1702, d. Oct. 1746,[60] m. (2) Dudley 4 April 1747, Nathaniel Jones.[61]


52 Worcester County Deeds, 8:288.
54 Worcester County Deeds, 14:369.
56 See note 39.
57 The cemetery is not listed in David Allen Lambert, A Guide to Massachusetts Cemeteries (Boston: NEHGS, 2002).
58 FindaGrave.com, memorial nos. 155133779 (George), 155133845 (Mary), and 155133990 (Silas)
60 Vital Records of Sutton, Massachusetts, to the End of the Year 1849 (Worcester, Mass.: F. P. Rice, 1907), 381 (marriage); Homer Wakefield, Wakefield Memorial . . . (Bloomington, Ill.: privately printed, 1897), 138. Mary is listed in her father George Robinson’s 1752 will as Mary Wakefield alias Jones deceased (see note 39).
61 Vital Records of Dudley [note 39], 233.
62 Ibid., 282.
iii. Eliakim Robinson, b. 12 Sept. 1714; d. Dudley Jan. 1734.\(^65\)

iv. Paul Robinson, b. 2 July 1717; d. after 1763;\(^66\) m. (1) intentions in Dudley 23 April 1737, Mary Jeons [sic, Jones?], d. Dudley 8 March 1747/8;\(^67\) m. (2) Dudley 19 Oct. 1749, Hannah Trumble.\(^68\)

v. Silas Robinson, b. 19 Nov. 1721; d. Dudley 4 Sept. 1801;\(^69\) m. Oxford 14 Sept. 1743, Susanna Moore;\(^70\) b. Oxford supposedly 25 Jan. 1728/9, but more likely ca. 1725,\(^71\) daughter of Collins and Bersheba (Woods) Moore;\(^72\) d. Dudley 8 May 1792 “in 64th year”\(^73\) Silas Robinson served in the American Revolution as a private from Dudley.\(^74\)

vi. Samuel Robinson, b. Dudley 9 June 1726;\(^75\) d. by 15 March 1773 when an inventory of his estate was ordered;\(^76\) m. Oxford 25 Aug. 1748, Hannah Learned;\(^77\) b. Oxford 12 July 1730, daughter of Isaac and Sarah (How) Learned.\(^78\)

3. John Robinson was born in Watertown 4 March 1688/9. He died sometime after 16 April 1746 when he quitclaimed land in Oxford.\(^79\) He married in Sherborn or Weston 26 October 1713, Sarah Morse.\(^80\) She was

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\(^{65}\) Vital Records of Dudley [note 39], 279.
\(^{66}\) Ibid., 100 (birth of daughter Phebe 5 June 1764).
\(^{67}\) Ibid., 215 (marriage), 279 (death).
\(^{68}\) Ibid., 215.
\(^{69}\) National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, Silas Robinson, Ancestor #A097743, online at services.dar.org/public/dar_research/search/. See note 58 for cemetery information.

There is a probate file for Silas Robinson (Worcester County, MA: Probate Files [note 39], File 50921), which says only, “1773 Receipts of advancement of Reuben Robinson, George Robinson and Eliakim Robinson, papers missing,” with a reference to records at 12:262. These three men were adult sons of Silas Robinson. However, Worcester County Probate Records, 12:262 [FHL 0,856,281], include receipts from these three men, all acknowledging monies received from their “honored father,” with no indication he was dead.

\(^{70}\) Vital Records of Oxford [note 63], 228; Vital Records of Dudley [note 39], 215;
\(^{71}\) Vital Records of Oxford [note 63], 83; Massachusetts, Town and Vital Records, 1620–1988, Oxford Births, Marriages and Deaths, p. 38, image 28, with question marks after the dates of birth for Susanna and two of her siblings, online at Ancestry.com.
\(^{73}\) Vital Records of Dudley [note 39], 279.
\(^{75}\) Vital Records of Dudley [note 39], 100.
\(^{76}\) Worcester County, MA: Probate Files [note 39], File 50914, Samuel Robinson.
\(^{77}\) Vital Records of Oxford [note 63], 228.
\(^{78}\) Ibid., 69; James, Learned Family [note 41], 10–11.
\(^{79}\) Worcester County Deeds, 21:287.
\(^{80}\) Vital Records of Sherborn [note 40], 166; Weston Births, Deaths and Marriages [note 5], 266.
born in Sherborn 5 January 1689[90?], [81] daughter of Daniel and Elizabeth (Barbour) Morse. [82] Sarah died after 1732 when her last child was born.

On 24 May 1736, Ebenezer Learned sold 120 acres in Oxford to John Robinson. Two days later John Robinson in turn executed a note against the land to Ebenezer Learned to be paid in one year. [83] As noted above, on 16 April 1746, John Robinson quitclaimed the same piece of land back to Ebenezer Learned. [84]

Children of John and Sarah (Morse) Robinson:


v. Timothy Robinson, b. Oxford 6 July 1726. [94]

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[81] Vital Records of Sherborn [note 40], 69.
[84] Vital Records of Wrentham, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850 (Boston: NEHGS, 1910), 180.
[85] Vital Records of Oxford [note 63], 228.
[86] Vital Records of Sudbury, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850 (Boston: NEHGS, 1903), 34 (birth), 184 (parents’ marriage).
[87] Weston Births, Deaths and Marriages [note 5], 8, spelled “Robison.”
[88] Vital Records of Oxford [note 63], 305 “in her 19th year.”
[89] Weston Births, Deaths and Marriages [note 5], 8.
[90] Vital Records of Oxford [note 63], 228; Vital Records of Sutton [note 60], 224.
[92] Vital Records of Oxford [note 63], 96, 97; Hester on page 97 and Esther on page 96 appear to be the same person.
[93] Ibid., 97. Possibly both Timothy and Esther/Hester moved to Pomfret, Windham County, Connecticut, married and had families there, but this hypothesis is based only on the similarity of names and the relative closeness of Pomfret to Oxford (Barbour Collection of Connecticut Vital Records, citing Pomfret Vital Records, 1:101, Esther Robinson married Jabez Dike, 9 June 1748; 1:105. Timothy Robinson married Kezia Goodell, 5 January 1757). There is a Timothy Robinson in the Barbour Collection, from Durham Vital Records, 262, 349, who could also be the Timothy in the Pomfret marriage. There is an Esther Robinson in the Barbour Collection, citing East Haven Vital Records, TM1:248, who could be the Esther in the Pomfret marriage.
4. **David Robinson** was born in Watertown 15 May 1704. He was “of Marlborough,” Middlesex County, when he died about February 1793, about three months before 17 May 1793 when Jonathan Robinson was ordered to appear in court. He married first, in Newton 20 July 1726, **Mary/Marcy/Mercy Seger** who was born in Newton, daughter of Henry and Sarah (Bishop) Segur. She drowned 7 February 1746. David married second, in Newton 31 October 1753 **Ruth (_____) Fowler**, who apparently died before him as she is not mentioned in his probate file.

On 21 November 1726, David provided bond for guardianship of his nephew Caleb Segor. The probate for Henry Segur Sr. in 1726 indicates that David Robinson and his wife (Henry’s daughter Marcy) were read the notice to appear.

On 21 June 1728 David sold 41 acres in Weston. His mother Sarah and his wife Mercy yielded their dower rights. This same land had previously been owned by his father George Robinson.

This David possibly was the David Robinson in Capt. Robert Fuller’s company from Needham, who served as a private for five days in September of 1747.

On 9 October 1793, Moses Eames posted bond as administrator on the estate of David Robinson late of Marlborough, cordwainer. His inventory, consisting almost entirely of clothing and shoemaker’s equipment, amounted to only £6 3d and his debts to £17 16s 11d.

5. **Jonathan Robinson** was born in Watertown 14 February 1705/6. He died in Marlborough 24 February 1793 aged 87. On 12 March 1793 Abigail

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95 Vital Records of Oxford [note 63], 96.
96 Middlesex County, MA: Probate Files [note 11], File 19363. Jonathan was erroneously identified as David’s father.
97 Vital Records of Newton, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850 (Boston: NEHGS, 1905), 373 (as Mary, Mercy, or Marcy).
98 Ibid., 173 (birth, as Mercy), 242 (parents’ marriage); Francis Jackson, A History of the Early Settlement of Newton . . . with a Genealogical Register of its Inhabitants, Prior to 1800 (Boston: Stacy and Richardson, 1854), 402, which erroneously says she married Daniel Robinson.
99 Vital Records of Newton [note 97], 496, as “Marcy.”
100 Ibid., 283, 367, David of Natick, “late of Needham,” and Ruth Fowler, “sometime of Natick.” The intention, noting Ruth was a widow, was recorded in Natick (Thomas C. Baldwin, Vital Records of Natick, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850 [Boston: Stanhope Press, 1910], 143).
101 Middlesex County, MA: Probate Files [note 11], File 20042.
102 Ibid., File 20045.
103 A detailed description of this land transaction and the conclusion that the land was previously owned by George Robinson are provided in Rising, “David Robinson (1704–1793) of Watertown” [note 2], The American Genealogist 67:139
105 Middlesex County, MA: Probate Files [note 11], File 19363.
and Patience Robinson requested that Samuel Hunting administer the estate of Jonathan Robinson "late of Marlborough."[107]


In 1790 "Jona" Robinson was listed in Framingham, a male 16 or over with a male under 16 and two females.[115] Jonathan "prob. lived on 'the Leg,' which was set off to Marlborough."[116] His farm is described in his probate file as 60 acres of land bordered by the land of Benjamin Clark, Ephraim Potter, Uriah Parmeter, and Ebenezer Eames, and by a town way laid out on the Sudbury town line. The way led from Jonathan's house to the county road from Sudbury to Marlborough. Additional pieces were also set off to his widow and the remaining two-thirds were sold on 18 December 1794.[117]

The probate papers tell a story of controversy as several of the children — Jonathan, Elisha, George [sic], Mary, Martha and Timothy Whitcomb, Sarah Estabrook, and Hepzibah Lyon — tried unsuccessfully to have Samuel Hunting removed as administrator of the estate on 8 October 1793. A third account, exhibited on 15 April 1795, shows that distribution was to all of those except George but including also Mary, a daughter of Lydia Brown, who was married to Levi Parmenter, and also Patience Russell.[118]

Children of Jonathan and Martha (Bruce) Robinson, born in Framingham:

i. Martha Robinson, d. 12 Dec. 1729.[119]

ii. Martha Robinson, b. 10 July 1730;[120] m. Sudbury, Mass., 1 Jan. 1750/[1?], Timothy Whitcomb,[121] b. Lancaster 1 July 1724, son of

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107 Middlesex County MA: Probate Files [note 11], File 19387.
109 Vital Records of Framingham, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850 (Boston: NEHGS, 1911), 35 (birth); Winifred Fahey Pelley et al., "Thomas Bruce of Sudbury and Marlborough, Massachusetts," Register 136 (1982):301.
110 Ibid., 367; Hanson, Vital Records of Needham [note 108], 143; Massachusetts, Town and Vital Records, 1620–1988, Needham Vital Records, 12, image 593.
111 Vital Records of Framingham [note 109], 462.
112 Ibid., 367.
113 Abigail is listed as Jonathan’s widow in his probate file.
114 Vital Records of Marlborough, Massachusetts, to the End of the Year 1849 (Worcester, Mass.: Franklin P. Rice), 388, “in her 97th year.”
115 1790 U.S. Census, Framingham, Middlesex County, Massachusetts, roll 4, p. 1 of 4.
116 Barry, History of Framingham [note 106], 384.
117 Middlesex County, MA: Probate Files [note 11], File 19387.
118 Ibid.
119 Vital Records of Framingham [note 109], 462.
120 Ibid., 174.
121 Vital Records of Rutland, Massachusetts, to the End of the Year 1849 (Worcester, Mass.: Franklin P. Rice, 1905), 187; Vital Records of Sudbury [note 87], 262.
Joseph and Elizabeth (Wheeler) Whitcomb, d. perhaps Marlborough after 1 June 1800.\footnote{122}


iv.\th Jonathan Robinson, b. 9 March 1734/5;\footnote{129} m., intentions in Stow, Mass., 26 April 1756, Eunice Jewell,\footnote{130} b. Stow 19 Feb. 1735/6, daughter of John and Eunice (_____) Jewell.\footnote{131}

v.\th Eliakim Robinson, b. 16 Aug. 1737;\footnote{132} d. after 1793.\footnote{133}

vi.\th Lydia Robinson, b. say 1740; m. _____ Brown.\footnote{134} On 15 April 1795, Oliver Prescott, judge of probate, ordered that £5–13–4 be paid to Mary, wife of Levi Parmenter and daughter of Lydia Brown, deceased, daughter of Jonathan Robinson.\footnote{135} Levi and Mary Parmenter had children born in Sudbury 1792–1807.\footnote{136} Levi Parmenter, b. Sudbury 8 May 1763, son of Micah and Rebecca (Clark), Parmenter,\footnote{137} was of Sudbury when he made his will on 16 Jan. 1826, naming his wife Mary and children.

\footnote{122}{Henry S. Nourse, The Birth, Marriage, and Death Register, Church Records and Epitaphs of Lancaster, Massachusetts, 1643–1850 (Clinton, Mass.: W. J. Coulter, 1890), 57 (birth); Austin W. Spencer, “Joseph and Elizabeth (Wheeler) Whitcomb of Middlesex County, Massachusetts, and Some of their Descendants” Register 169 (2015):249, which cites the 1800 census for Timothy.}

\footnote{123}{Vital Records of Framingham [note 109], 174.}

\footnote{124}{Worcester County, MA: Probate Files [note 39], File 19304. On 23 March 1784, widow Sarah Estabrook signed a document, witnessed by Samuel Estabrook, who as Samuel Estabrook, millwright, was one of the bondsmen. This Samuel Estabrook was evidently identical with Samuel Estabrook, Junior, who married in Holden 21 May 1772, Sarah Marshal (Vital Records of Holden, Massachusetts, to the End of the Year 1849 [Worcester, Mass.: Franklin P. Rice, 1904], 127, as confirmed by the 1773 census of Holden, showing Samuel Estabrook with a household of four and Samuel Estabrook jr. with a household of three (Samuel Chenery Damon, The History of Holden, Massachusetts, 1667–1841 [Worcester, Mass.: Wallace and Ripley, 1841], 142). See also William Booth Estabrook, Genealogy of the Estabrook Family (Ithaca, N.Y.: Andrus & Church, 1891), 34, which says Samuel Estabrook, Junior, died in 1816.}

\footnote{125}{Vital Records of Holden [note 124], 127.}

\footnote{126}{Vital Records of Sherborn [note 40], 35; Estabrook, Genealogy of the Estabrook Family [note 124], 28–29, 44–45, which, however, says he died in Enfield, Mass., before 1778.}

\footnote{127}{Vital Records of Holden [note 124], 209.}

\footnote{128}{Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors in the War of the Revolution [note 74], 5:389.}

\footnote{129}{Vital Records of Framingham [note 109], 174.}

\footnote{130}{Vital Records of Stow, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850 (Boston: NEHGS, 1911), 193.}

\footnote{131}{Ibid., 53; Pliny Jewell, The Jewell Register . . . (Hartford, Conn.: Case, Lockwood and Co., 1860), 30.}

\footnote{132}{Vital Records of Framingham [note 109], 174.}

\footnote{133}{In Eliakim’s father’s probate file, a list of what the children received during Jonathan’s lifetime includes “Eliakim Robinson a Shoemaker trade valued at 16.0.0” (see note 117).}

\footnote{134}{Middlesex County, MA: Probate Files [note 11], File 19387, Jonathan Robinson. But an entry at FindaGrave.com, memorial no. 131134825, says Mary, wife of Levi Parmenter, was the daughter of Samuel and Mary Brown.}

\footnote{135}{Middlesex County MA: Probate Files [note 11], File 19387.}

\footnote{136}{Vital Records of Sudbury [note 87], 108, Mary Brown Parmenter, born 14 October 1803.}

\footnote{137}{Ibid., 107; Glenn E. Wright, Gale Stroud, and Gerrie Jones Yates, eds., Descendants of Deacon John Parmenter, Proprietor of Sudbury, Massachusetts, 1639 (La Habra, Calif: Pioneering Parmenters of America, 2009), 67, 124–125.}
recorded in Sudbury.\textsuperscript{138} He d. Sudbury 11 April 1749, aged 85 years, 11 months, and Mary d. there 7 July 1849, aged 80 years, 4 months, thus b. ca. March 1769.\textsuperscript{139}

vii. George Robinson, b. say 1743. If he belongs in this family, he evidently d. between 8 Oct. 1793 and the distribution in 1795.\textsuperscript{140}

viii. Hepzibah Robinson, b. 6 Oct. 1745;\textsuperscript{141} d. after 1795;\textsuperscript{142} m. (1) intentions in Princeton, Mass., 5 March 1774/[5], Nehemiah Lyon of Hubbardston, Mass.,\textsuperscript{143} b. Roxbury, Mass., 21 Feb. 1750, son of Nathaniel and Mary (Lyon) Lyon.\textsuperscript{144} Hepzibah m. (2) Shutesbury, Mass., 1 Dec. 1793, Boice Kimball, both of Shutesbury,\textsuperscript{145} b. Wenham, Mass., 18 June 1731, d. Shutesbury 13 May 1802, son of Ebenezer and Elizabeth (Carr) Kimball, and widower of Rebecca Haward.\textsuperscript{146}

ix. Mary Robinson, b. 26 March 1748;\textsuperscript{147} d. after 1794.\textsuperscript{148}

x. Elisha Robinson, b. 27 Aug. 1751;\textsuperscript{149} d. 3 Aug. 1819 aged 72 [sic], bur. Riverside Cemetery, Sunderland, Mass.,\textsuperscript{150} or Elmwood Cemetery, Holyoke, Mass.;\textsuperscript{151} m. Sudbury 25 Nov. 1773, Eunice Rice;\textsuperscript{152} b. Sudbury, Mass., 11 March 1751, daughter of John and Thankful (______) Rice;\textsuperscript{153} d. 25 Jan. 1834 aged 87 (sic), bur. Riverside Cemetery.\textsuperscript{154} In 1790 an Elisha Robinson was enumerated in Granby, Hampshire Co., Mass., a male 16 or over, four males under 16, and three females.\textsuperscript{155} Since an item in one account in Jonathan’s probate file refers to the administrator’s trip to Granby, this Elisha was probably his son.\textsuperscript{156}
Children of Jonathan and Patience (Hunting) Robinson born in Framingham:

xi. Patience Robinson, b. 7 May 1754;\textsuperscript{157} d. after 28 Feb. 1797;\textsuperscript{158} m. Marlborough 1 May 1794, as his second wife, Nathaniel Prentice Russell,\textsuperscript{159} b. Bolton, Mass., 27 July 1751, son of Eliezer and Tabitha (Prentice) Russell,\textsuperscript{160} d. Marlborough 17 March 1812.\textsuperscript{161} She (as Patience Robinson) and her father Jonathan’s third wife Abigail signed the request to appoint Samuel Hunting administrator of her father’s estate on 12 March 1793.

xii. Eunice Robinson, bp. 7 Sept. 1760;\textsuperscript{162} d. probably before Aug. 1790.\textsuperscript{163}

Marion Vermazen worked in the computer industry in Silicon Valley for thirty years. She is now retired and lives in Reno, Nevada. Her father, Donald Robinson, is a male-line descendant of Jonathan and Eunice (Jewell) Robinson. Marion may be contacted at marion.vermazen@gmail.com.

\textsuperscript{157} Vital Records of Framingham [note 109], 174.
\textsuperscript{158} Vital Records of Marlborough [note 114], 163 (birth of daughter Patience).
\textsuperscript{159} Ibid., 305. See also Frances (Davis) McTeer and Frederick C. Warner, “The Willis Family of Sudbury, Mass.,” Register 114 (1960):199, for the marriage of a child and Nathaniel’s full middle name.
\textsuperscript{160} Vital Records of Bolton, Massachusetts, to the End of the Year 1849 (Worcester, Mass.: Franklin P. Rice, 1910), 72 (birth as “Nathaniel Prentis Rucel”); Lexington, Mass., Record of Births, Marriages and Deaths to January 1, 1898 (Boston: Wright & Potter, 1898), 145 (parents’ marriage).
\textsuperscript{161} Vital Records of Marlborough [note 114], 388.
\textsuperscript{162} Vital Records of Framingham [note 109], 174.
\textsuperscript{163} Eunice is not listed in her father’s probate. Since her sister Patience was living and unmarried, Eunice is probably not one of the two females in the 1790 census (see note 115).
The Families of Amariah Rockwell of Coventry, Connecticut, and His Son, David Rockwell of Coventry

Kenneth W. Rockwell

The Rockwells in colonial Connecticut are comprised of three families: those descending from William Rockwell, who died in Windsor in 1640; the descendants of John Rockwell, a settler of Stamford in 1641; and the family of Josiah Rockwell, who died in Norwich in 1676. These families are known to have been related based on a DNA testing project, but documentation is lacking to show the exact connection.[1] The descendants of Josiah Rockwell have been incompletely researched. A privately printed genealogy by Arlene Bell made a start, but was quite incomplete and contained several errors.[2] This article will focus on one branch of that family, Amariah (Daniel3, Josiah2–1), and resolve a misunderstanding concerning two sons, Daniel and David.

Amariah and Martha (Kingsbury) Rockwell of Norwich, Connecticut, settled in Coventry, Tolland County, Connecticut, where the vital records include the births of the following children:[3]

- Daniel Rockwell, born 27 July 1753.
- Martha Rockwell, born 8 August 1755.
- Irenah Kingsbury Rockwell, born 2 July 1758.
- Jabez Rockwell, born 4 June 1760.
- Amariah Rockwell, born 22 November 1762.
- Amariah Rockwell, born 10 June 1765.
- Daniel Rockwell, born 8 March 1768.
- Tabitha Rockwell, born 6 November 1771.

The records also include the death of one of these children:

- Daniel Rockwell, died 2 May 1777.

Amariah Rockwell later settled in Langdon, Cheshire County, New Hampshire, purchasing land there on 22 November 1790, from Benjamin Palmer of Langdon. The boundary description includes mention of a neighboring property owned by his son Jabez Rockwell, who settled there first.[4] Amariah was of Langdon when he signed his will on 14 January 1800, which

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3 Coventry, Connecticut, Town Records [FHL 0,003,861 and 1,376,123], 1:335; Susan Whitney Dimock, Births, Marriages, Baptisms and Deaths from the Records of the Town and Churches in Coventry, Connecticut, 1711–1844 (New York: Baker & Taylor, 1897), 193.
4 Cheshire County, New Hampshire, Deeds, 16:435.
was probated on 17 February 1800.[5] The will mentions the living children listed above (all except for Amariah and Daniel), but also the “heirs of my son David Rockwell.” A summary: to grandson William Wilson, 40 acres of land in Langdon, and all of Amariah’s right in a sawmill; to daughter Irenah K. Rockwell, 10 acres; to daughter Tabitha Prentiss, 5 acres; half of the remainder of his real estate to son Jabez, and the other half of the remainder to “heirs of my son David Rockwell deceased, to be equally divided between them”; and his personal estate to “my four children, viz. Jabez, Martha, Irenah K. Rockwell, Tabitha Prentiss, and the heirs of my son David,” to be divided into five equal shares.

As a result of these records, reconstructions of this family[6] add son David without a birth date, and state the oldest child, Daniel, died before 1768, when another child was given the same name, and that the second Daniel was the one who died in 1777. The lack of a death record for the first Daniel was not unique, as this appears to have happened with the first son named Amariah; he certainly died before the second one was born in 1765. Neither is there record of the second Amariah’s death, although that could have occurred elsewhere than in Coventry.

However, two other records require a rewrite of the account of this family, in regard to the two Daniels. An entry in the Windham probate records reads:

At a court of probate held in Lebanon in the District of Windham 24th June 1785. Present William Williams Esq., Judge: This court grants Letters of Administration on the Estate of Daniel Rockwell dec’d to Amariah Rockwell of Coventry, father of sd decd. who gave Bond accordingly with Josiah Rockwell of Lebanon surety, to exhibit into the Registry of said Court an Inventory of said deceased’s Estate on or before the first Tuesday of Septr. next ensuing, also to render to this Court a just account of his administration thereon on or before the first Tuesday of June 1786.[7]

A related document dated the same day, 24 June 1785, apparently went missing and did not get transcribed into the official record; it was auctioned online in 2007 and reads as follows:

These may inform & Certifie Whom it may Concern that Mr Amariah Rockwell of Coventry is duly appointed Sole Administrator on the Estate of his Son Daniel Rockwell of sd Town late a Soldier in the Connecticut Line of the Continental Army Decd & has given Bonds according to Law.[8]

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6 Such as in Bell, Descendants of Josiah Rockwell [note 2], 14, and Kingsbury, History of Langdon [note 5], 568–659.
7 Windham, Connecticut, District Probate, special volume 5, page 87 [FHL 0,005,927].
8 The auction notice, found via Google at http://www.liveauctionworld.com, item 30151, sold on 25 October 2007, reads: “William Williams Autograph Document Signed “Wm Williams Judge/Probate,” one page, 6” x 7.5”, Lebanon, District of Windham Connecticut. June 24, 1785. In full, “These may inform & Certifie Whom it may Concern that Mr Amariah Rockwell of Coventry is duly appointed Sole Administrator on the Estate of his Son Daniel Rockwell of sd Town late a Soldier in the Connecticut Line of the Continental Army Decd & has given Bonds according to Law.” Noted to be signed by Williams “in the absence of yr Clerk.” Amariah Rockwell (1728–1800) was the father of Daniel Rockwell (1753–1777) who died at the age of 23 on 2 May 1777 in Coventry, Connecticut.
Clearly, this son Daniel could not have been the one born in 1768. In order to be old enough to serve as a soldier of the Revolution, he must be the one born in 1753. And if he was living until 1777, how does one explain the naming of the child born in 1768? A logical solution is that this latter son was not named Daniel but David. The two names look quite similar, particularly in the cursive. The writing clearly reads, “Daniel,” but the clerk may have been working from another script and transcribed it incorrectly, after which published copies of the official record (such as Dimock) perpetuated the error.

Although little else is known about this David, his family can be reconstructed with the aid of land records associated with his father’s estate.

**Genealogical Summary**

1. **Amariah**<sup>4</sup> Rockwell, son of Daniel<sup>3</sup> (Josiah<sup>2–1</sup>) and Tabitha (Hartshorn) Rockwell,<sup>9</sup> was born in Norwich, Connecticut, 29 October 1728.<sup>10</sup> He died in Langdon, New Hampshire, between 14 January 1800 and 17 February 1800 (date of will and probate).<sup>11</sup> He married in Norwich 21 March 1753, **Martha Kingsbury**.<sup>12</sup> She was born in Norwich on 15 August 1733, daughter of Ephraim and Martha (Smith) Kingsbury, who were married in Norwich on 3 July 1728.<sup>13</sup> Amariah and Martha settled in Coventry, where their children were born. Several land records document the family there, beginning with a deed dated 15 March 1753, when Edmund Grover of Coventry sold two parcels in Coventry’s Second Society, totaling 55 acres with a house and barn, to “Amariah Rockwell of Norwich.”<sup>14</sup> The Second Society was the northern parish of Coventry. Records of this church lack baptism and membership lists from the years when Amariah Rockwell’s family lived there, but Amariah’s name appears at least once in the Society’s records.<sup>15</sup> Other deeds of note were gifts to Amariah’s two surviving sons: to Jabez on 6 December 1782,<sup>16</sup> Both had fought in the American Revolution. William Williams, a member... With light folds, the document is in very fine condition.”

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<sup>9</sup> *Vital Records of Norwich, 1659–1848* (Hartford, Conn.: Society of Colonial Wars in the State of Connecticut, 1913), 1:23, 40; James Savage, *A Genealogical Dictionary of the First Settlers of New England*, 4 vols. (Boston: Little, Brown, 1860–1862), 3:558; Bell, *Descendants of Josiah Rockwell* [note 2], 2, 3, 6, 13–14. This line was also published for Orin Rockwell in “Records of Early Church Families,” *Utah Genealogical and Historical Magazine* 26 (1935):153. My study of the family agrees on this descent, except that the magazine article also claimed that Josiah<sup>1</sup> was probably the son of William<sup>1</sup> Rockwell. No records have demonstrated any connection between William of Windsor and Josiah of Norwich.

<sup>10</sup> *Vital Records of Norwich* [note 9], 1:23.

<sup>11</sup> See note 5.

<sup>12</sup> *Vital Records of Norwich* [note 9], 1:311.


<sup>14</sup> Coventry Deeds, 4:127.

<sup>15</sup> Coventry, Connecticut, Second Congregational Church records, 1740–1917, vol. 1, Society meetings, 1740–1788 [FHL 0,003,862]. On 26 February 1770, Amariah Rockwell was one of those chosen to receive the Society rates for the year ensuing (p. 46).

<sup>16</sup> Coventry Deeds, 7:29.
and to David on 14 December 1790.[17] His next (and last) deed was the sale of a parcel to David on 28 May 1791, in which he described himself as “Amariah Rockwell of Landon, county of Cheshire & State of New Hampshire.”[18] These two dates bracket his migration north. Amariah is listed in Coventry in the 1790 census, indexed as “Amorialo Rockwell.”[19] In Langdon, he was chosen “culler of lumber” at a town meeting held on 6 March 1792.[20]

Children of Amariah4 and Martha (Kingsbury) Rockwell, born in Coventry:

i. Daniel5 Rockwell, b. 27 July 1753; d. Coventry 2 May 1777, unmarried. He served as a soldier in the American Revolution.

ii. Martha Rockwell, b. 8 Aug. 1755. In the Coventry town records, immediately after the birth records for the children of Amariah and Martha, is another that reads: “William Willson ye son of Martha Rockwell was born Oct. 9, 1777.” Martha was unmarried at the time, but her father recognized him as a grandson, giving him a legacy in his will. Martha later m. Thomas Johnson, and they were living in Langdon when they sold her share in Amariah's land in Langdon on 27 March 1809.[21] William Wilson appears to have become an active and valued member of the community. At the annual town meeting held in March 1822, he was chosen Third Selectman, and on March 1824, he was chosen Second Selectman.[22]

iii. IrenaH Kingsbury Rockwell, b. 2 July 1758; m. Langdon 17 March 1800, Jedediah Smith,[23] b. Ashford, Conn., 11 Nov. 1754, son of Samuel and Mehitable (Wadkins) Smith,[24] d. Langdon 33 [sic] Sept. 1832 aged 80.[25] They lived in Langdon when, on 24 July 1816, she sold her share in a land parcel inherited from her father to her sister, Tabitha Prentiss of Langdon.[26]

iv. Jabez Rockwell, b. 4 June 1760; d. Warehouse Point, East Windsor, Conn., 19 July 1825 aged 75,[27] m. Tolland, Conn., 2 Oct. 1783, Irene Porter of North Coventry, b. 6 March 1765, daughter of Jonathan and Lois (Richards) Porter, d. Coventry 16 July 1837.[28] Six children were

17 Coventry Deeds, 8:270.
18 Coventry Deeds, 8:272.
19 1790 U.S. Census, Coventry, Tolland County, Connecticut, roll 1, p. 142.
20 Kingsbury, History of Langdon [note 5], 658.
21 Cheshire County Deeds, 54:311.
22 Langdon town records, 1:391, 417 [FHL 0,015,196].
26 Cheshire County Deeds, 76:73.
28 Kingsbury, History of Langdon [note 5], 659; Stiles, Ancient Windsor [note 27], 2:658.
recorded in Langdon.\(^{29}\) A few land records are found for Jabez in Coventry, including a deed dated 27 Dec. 1790, in which Amariah of Coventry and Jabez Rockwell “of Langdon, County of Cheshire, State of New Hampshire,” jointly sold a parcel of about 42 acres to Minor Hillard of Tolland, Conn.\(^{30}\) Jabez was enumerated in Langdon in 1790.\(^{31}\) Jabez and Irene may have moved to Langdon with her brother, Amaziah Porter, who also lived there, and Jabez owned land there by 1791. Jabez held a number of positions in the Langdon town government, and was chosen First Selectman at the annual town meeting on 1 March 1791, and Town Clerk and Treasurer on 6 March 1792.\(^{32}\) Jabez and Irene joined the Langdon church, but left by 1794, perhaps after selling the land to his father.\(^{33}\) They moved to Hartford County and lived at Warehouse Point in East Windsor, where he was a “mechanic.” On 19 Feb. 1823, Jabez and Irena Rockwell of East Windsor sold to Daniel Avery of Coventry a piece of land, 6 acres and 80 rods, that “fell to the sd Irena as her portion out of the estate of her hon. Father Jonathan Porter, late of Coventry deceased.”\(^{34}\) Jabez was living in East Windsor, Conn., when on 3 Jan. 1801, he sold to Jessannah Kittridge of Walpole, N.H., a 12-acre parcel of land in Langdon, “being all the land set off to me by the committee to divide the estate of Amariah Rockwell.”\(^{35}\)

v. Amariah Rockwell, b. 22 Nov. 1762; evidently d. young.

vi. Amariah Rockwell, b. 10 June 1765. He may be the Amariah Rockwell who paid a poll tax in Langdon in 1809–1810,\(^{36}\) but if so, he was not mentioned in his father’s will. Nothing else is known, and the Langdon town records do not show him holding any positions during these or adjacent years. An alternative identity for the Langdon man is the son of Jabez Rockwell, although Stiles states that Jabez’s son lived in Columbia, Conn. (just south of Coventry), and died unmarried.\(^{37}\)

2. vii. David Rockwell, b. 8 March 1768; m. Polly Case.

viii. Tabitha Rockwell, b. 6 Nov. 1771; m. Thomas Prentiss. On 24 July 1816, she purchased her sister Irenah’s share in their father’s estate. He was probably the “Thos Printis” in the 1800 census of Langdon with


\(^{30}\) Coventry Deeds, 8:303.

\(^{31}\) 1790 U.S. Census, Langdon, Cheshire County, New Hampshire, roll 5, p. 127.

\(^{32}\) Langdon town records [note 22], 1:56–57.

\(^{33}\) Kingsbury, *History of Langdon* [note 5], 659. This appears to be speculation on Kingsbury’s part, as no actual deed to this effect was recorded. Another clue that Stiles was Kingsbury’s source is the wording for details of one of the children of Jabez. “Oren” [actually Orin], born in 1784, was described by both Kingsbury and Stiles as joining the Mormons “early in life . . . and dying at Salt Lake City.” That was not this man, but his son, Orrin Porter Rockwell. Orrin the father died at Nauvoo, Illinois, 22 September 1839, according to the “Church families” article cited in note 9. See also the entry for him at *Early Latter-day Saints*, http://www.earlylds.com/getperson.php?personID=1134864&tree=Earlylds.

\(^{34}\) Coventry Deeds, 15:79.

\(^{35}\) Cheshire County Deeds, 36:113.

\(^{36}\) Kingsbury, *History of Langdon* [note 5], 659.

a male and a female 26–44 and three females under 10.[38] However, Thomas has not been found as a head of household in the 1790 or 1810 censuses.

2. David5 Rockwell, son of Amariah4 and Martha (Kingsbury) Rockwell, was born on 8 March 1768 and died before 6 June 1797, when [his father-in-law] Benjamin Case of Coventry was appointed administrator of his estate.[39] He married Polly Case, although a marriage record has not been found. That she was the daughter of Benjamin and Abigail (Richardson) Case of Coventry[40] is shown by Benjamin Case’s will, dated 29 September 1794 and proved on 18 April 1801. The will provides for “my well-beloved wife” (without naming her), and includes a list of “the sums which my daughters have heretofore received toward their part or portion,” including Polly Rockwell.[41]

David left few records during his lifetime, but he lived in Coventry, where land records document his presence through 14 April 1792, when he sold to Elijah Weston two parcels he had purchased from Weston on 1 April 1791.[42] An inventory of David’s personal estate was made on 30 June 1797, and a portion thereof set off for his widow, Polly Rockwell, on 4 July 1797. On 25 February and 29 March 1799, some articles were sold to cover debts, including a set of “cuppers [cooper’s] tools, which may indicate that David was a cooper by trade.[43] One of his descendants addressed a query to David H. Van Hoosear, a genealogist of Fairfield County, Connecticut, who published a newspaper column including:

ROCKWELL-CASE: David Rockwell, b. in Massachusetts or Connecticut, d. at sea. Who were his parents? Md. Mary “Polly” Case. She md. 2d after his death Alpheus Underwood; md. 3d Dea. Amos Langdon; md. 4th Hezekiah Butter; md. 5th, Jas. Thorp Rhodes. She d. 1855, aged 86, and buried in New Marlboro, Mill River [Berkshire Courier]. Thought to be dau. of Benjamin and Abigail Case.

The query gives details on two sons, Joseph Whitfield Rockwell, who lived in New Marlborough, Berkshire County, Massachusetts, and Harry Rockwell, who lived in Chatham [now East Hampton], Connecticut.[44]

David may have lived at Warehouse Point, East Windsor, Connecticut, for a time, as did his brother, Jabez, for David’s son Harry was reportedly born there in 1796. The widow Polly’s second marriage, to Alpheus Underwood,
The probate records of Amariah Rockwell do not name the children who were David’s heirs, or even how many there were, but the Langdon land records answer these questions. The son Joseph was living in New Marlborough on 5 October 1812 when he and Anson Dodge, also of New Marlborough, sold and quit-claimed to William Wilson “two fifths of a certain tract or parcel of land in said Langdon . . . containing about sixteen acres . . . it being the same land which the late Amariah Rockwell deceased by his last will and testament conveyed to the heirs of his son David Rockwell deceased.”[47] This description suggests that David had five children, and land records identify them.

Children of David5 and Polly (Case) Rockwell:

i. **Joseph Whitfield6 Rockwell**, reportedly b. 25 Aug. 1788.[48] Joseph served in the War of 1812 and held the rank of Captain when he led a militia company from 14 Sept. to 30 Oct. 1814. He was living in Dwight, Livingston Co., Illinois, when he applied for a pension in 1871. In his pension application he stated that he married Harriet Hine on 11 March 1811 in Tyringham, Berkshire Co., Mass.[49] The marriage was recorded in New Marlborough; however, it appears to be one of three recorded on 9 Feb. 1812. It lists Joseph’s residence as New Marlborough, and Harriet’s as “Harrington, Ct.” [sic, Harwinton].[50] Either Joseph was misremembering his own marriage date, or the marriage was recorded nearly eleven months late, which is quite likely.

ii. **Hiram Rockwell**, b. say 1790. He was living in New Marlborough on 20 Aug. 1816 when he sold to Anson Dodge “one undivided fifth of a certain piece of land lying in the town of Langdon . . . being the same land that was given by Amariah Rockwell now deceased to the heirs of David Rockwell now deceased, the whole land containing by estimation fifteen acres.”[51] This deed is the only record found of Hiram, so even his position in the family’s birth order is uncertain, but he was certainly an adult by 1816.


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45 Register of Births, Marriages, and Deaths in the Town of New Marlborough, 1734–1918 [FHL 0,250,275], Births, 1:49; Marriages, 1:49, 55, 57.
46 Charles R. Hale Collection of Newspaper Deaths and Cemetery Inscriptions, Connecticut State Library, from the Hartford Courant, 2 March 1813 [FHL 0,003,398].
48 Van Hoosear, “Genealogical & Historical Information” [note 44].
49 War of 1812 Pension Applications, file S.O. 21608, copied and sent to the author by descendant Gary Wright.
50 Register of New Marlborough [note 45], Marriages, 1:29.
51 Cheshire County Deeds, 78:155–156.
52 Photograph of the gravestone online at FindaGrave.com, memorial no. 111904797, the birth and death information from the annotation.
53 Register of New Marlborough [note 45], Marriages, 1:29. Rev. Jacob Catlin officiated.
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b. 16 March 1788, son of John and Abigail (___) Dodge of New Marlborough,[54] d. 29 April 1858, bur. with Harriet.[55] Anson and Harriet Dodge, on 7 June 1814, sold a parcel of land in Langdon “being the same land that was given by Amariah Rockwell deceased to the heirs of David Rockwell deceased.” Anson Dodge also purchased the shares of two of Harriet’s siblings, Hiram and Helena, but then sold this land to William Wilson. One of these sales was on 29 Oct. 1817,[56] probably Hiram’s share; the other was sold along with Joseph W. Rockwell’s share in 1812, as noted above.

iv. Helena Rockwell, b. ca. 1793; d. New Marlborough 18 Jan. 1875 aged 82, the cause being “apoplexia”[57] m. 9 Dec. 1813, Peter J.F.S. “Bettekor”[58] [spelled “Betticher” in the deeds] of New Marlborough, with Rev. Jacob Catlin officiating.[59] They were of New Marlborough when, on 12 Feb. 1814, they sold and quitclaimed to Anson Dodge all title in the 15-acre parcel in Langdon bequeathed by Amariah Rockwell to the heirs of David Rockwell.[60] No births of children for this couple are found in New Marlborough. The 1820 census shows no children in their household.[61] The 1830 household shows two males under 5.[62] Perhaps they “had a late start”; however, there are two males age 30–39, so the boys could be connected with the other man, whoever he was.

v. Harry Rockwell, reportedly b. Warehouse Point, East Windsor, Conn., 18 Jan. 1796, according to the query published by Van Hoosear, but the birth is not recorded in the town’s vital records. He d. 17 Oct. 1886, aged 89 years, 3 months, and was bur. in the Young Street Cemetery in East Hampton, Conn.[63] He m. Esther Niles of Chatham,[64] b. there 29 Oct. 1797, daughter of Elisha and Naomi (Ackley) Niles.[65] She d. 17 Oct. 1886, aged 89, and was bur. in the Young Street Cemetery.[66]

According to a newspaper printed on Monday, 27 July 1835, “Singular Marriage: In Jan. 1817, Mr. Harry Rockwell was married to Esther Niles, by Rev. Mr. West, of East Hampton. In Oct. 1819, business called Mr. Rockwell to Savannah, from which place he intended to return in 6 months. He returned the 4th of the present month, having been absent

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54 Ibid., Births, 1:12.
55 Photographs of the gravestone and of Anson himself are online at FindaGrave.com, memorial no. 111904863.
56 Cheshire County Deeds, 78:511.
57 Register of New Marlborough [note 45], Deaths, 2:24. This record identifies Helena’s parents as David and Polly Rockwell, but the place of her birth is blank.
58 Ibid., Marriages, 1:33.
60 1820 U.S. Census, New Marlborough, Berkshire County, Massachusetts, roll 48, p. 21, spelled “Betticker.”
62 Photograph of Harry with unsourced annotation on FindaGrave.com, memorial no. 8276184.
63 Van Hoosear, “Genealogical & Historical Information” [note 44].
64 Barbour Collection of Connecticut Vital Records, citing Chatham Vital Records, 200 (birth and parents’ marriage). The name of Chatham was changed to East Hampton in 1915. See also Anne McKee Niles, John Niles of Dorchester and Braintree, Massachusetts . . . (Springfield, Mo.: the author, 2004), 65.
65 Photograph of Esther’s gravestone on FindaGrave.com, memorial no. 25358450.
over 16 years. During his absence, Mrs. Rockwell obtained a divorce & was a second time married. With her second husband, she lived until his death, which happened March 12, 1831, and from that time to the present time she has remained a widow. On Saturday, July 4, Mr. Rockwell arrived in Chatham, East Hampton Society, and found her in the same house in which he had left her in 1819, and on July 9th, they were again married, by Rev. Mr. Loper of Middle Haddam.[66] Decades later, a longer, perhaps embellished version of this saga appeared in a county history.[67]

Harry was in Chatham when, on 18 Nov. 1817, he sold land in Langdon to William Wilson, “the same land that was given by Amariah Rockwell deceased to the heirs of David Rockwell deceased, it being one equal undivided fifth of said land divis’d to the heirs of David Rockwell deceased.”[68] On 18 Aug. 1832, Charles Haling and wife Caroline quitted to Esther Evans of Chatham all rights in a tract of land in Chatham “being land distributed to the said Caroline Haling by the distributors on the estate of her father George Evans, late of Chatham deceased.”[69] This document probably identifies Esther’s second husband as George Evans. Then on 5 Aug. 1836, Roswell and Sybil Brooks of Chatham, quitted to Esther Evans of Chatham all rights in an 8-acre parcel “given to us in the distribution of the estate of George Evans, late of Chatham.” The parcel bordered on land held by Lydia Evans, George H. Evans, and Harvey Evans.[70] They, along with Caroline Haling, were apparently children of George Evans by a former wife. Harry Rockwell had to surrender this land in February 1844 to pay a debt to Charles H. Buell of Chatham, after the latter won a judgment against him at a County Court held in Middletown in Oct. 1843.[71] But the land returned to the family a decade later. On 10 July 1855, Charles H. Buell of Chatham, for $60, quitted to “Edwin Almerin Rockwell” of Chatham his title to a parcel of land in Chatham, “it being property set to me on execution no. 2, dated January 19, 1844.”[72] Esther’s father is identified by a deed dated 10 Jan. 1837, when Elisha Niles of Chatham, for $23.04 received from Harry Rockwell, conveyed to “my grandson Henry Edward Rockwell of said Chatham” 5¾ acres.[73] Henry Edward

66 Joan M. Dixon, National Intelligencer and Washington Advertiser Newspaper Abstracts, vol. 11 (Bowie, Md.: Heritage Books, 2006), 397. The first marriage is not in the vital records of Chatham, but the second one is: Harry Rockwell, of New Marlborough, and Esther Evans, of Chatham, 9 July 1835 (Chatham Vital Statistics [FHL 1,480,162], Marriages, 1:328; also in the Barbour Collection with this citation).
68 Cheshire County Deeds, 75:492.
69 Chatham Deeds, 22:93.
70 Chatham Deeds, 22:36.
71 Chatham Deeds, 24:494.
72 Chatham Deeds, 30:55.
73 Chatham Deeds, 23:560.
was apparently the child of Harry and Esther’s first marriage. Edwin, age 10 in 1850,[74] was from their second marriage.[75]

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74 1850 U.S. Census, Chatham, Middlesex County, Connecticut, roll 44, p. 322A.
75 Edwin was buried in the Young Street Cemetery in East Hampton; a photograph of his gravestone is on FindaGrave.com, memorial no. 47824000. Another child of Harry and Esther was buried there: Horatio Rockwell, died 8 September 1839; a photograph of his gravestone is on FindaGrave.com, memorial no. 47824017.
Jedediah Smith’s Book of the Records of Marriages in Blandford, Massachusetts

Helen Schatvet Ullmann

The American Genealogical-Biographical Index (AGBI) indexes the old genealogical column of *The Boston Transcript*. While most of the entries are queries and answers about specific families, once in a while one finds transcripts of old records. In the 10 February 1932 issue appears:

Note 2482. The following list of marriages from 1806 [sic] to 1816 was recently found in an old record book kept by Jedediah Smith, a former Justice of the Peace in Blandford, Mass. The five marriages at the end are of his own children. E.Y.S.\[1\]

However, the last sentence is misleading. While the marriages of three of Jedediah's children, George, William Eli, and Rhoda Smith, are in the following list of marriages, the six [sic] noted at the end were grandchildren. A sketch of Jedediah Smith and his family is being prepared for the NEHGS project, *Western Massachusetts Families in 1790.*

While Blandford vital records have never been published, many of these marriages are included in Blandford vital records in *Massachusetts, Town and Vital Records, 1620–1988*, online at Ancestry.com.[2] Also, in that database many intentions of marriage have been indexed on cards, but the Ancestry database does not identify them as intentions. Significant differences noted in the online vital records, a few perhaps due to typesetting errors in the *Transcript*, appear in brackets below. Marriages that Smith did not report to the town are starred.[3]

Jan. 7, 1802 Johnathan Phelps and Jane Alderman both of Blandford.
Feb. 7, 1802 William Henry and Hannah Watson both of Blandford.
April 1, 1802 Andrew Lloyd and Bertsey Hunt both of Blandford.
Feb. 9, 1803 David Hall and Submit Drake both of Blandford.
Mar. 24, 1803 Asa Weaver and Anne Scott both of Blandford.
April 24, 1803 Jeremiah Barnes and Betsey Robinson both of Granville.
June 2, 1803 Calvin Rose of Granville and Betsey Haskil of Blandford.
Oct. 6, 1803 Curtis Robinson and Rhoda Barns both of Granville.
Oct. 11, 1803 Amos Barns and Abigail Swetman both of Granville.
Nov. 6, 1803 Jacob G. Frost of Granville and Lydia Bowers of Blandford.

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1 E.Y.S. was Elizur Yale Smith.
3 Another version of these records (with minor differences) is Susan Tiffany, ”Jedediah Smith’s Book of the Records of Marriages, 1802–1816,” typescript (1935) in the R. Stanton Avery Special Collections Dept. of NEHGS, Mss A 2452. Neither version says where the original was located.
Mar. 22, 1804 Heman Leonard and Rebeca Frary both of Blandford.
Mar. 26, 1804 David Boies and Elizabeth Gibbs both of Blandford.
May 6, 1804 Phineas King and Betsey Knox both of Blandford.
Oct. 4, 1804 Davis Richards and Dorcas Osborn both of Blandford.
Oct. 17, 1804 David Phelps and Polley Wooldredge both of Blandford.
Oct. 18, 1804 George Smith of Blandford and Clarissa Parker of Granville.
Feb. 17, 1805 Joel White Jr. of the royal Grant State of New York and Isabella Stewart of Blandford.
Sept. 11, 1805 David Blair and Polly Boies both of Blandford.
Oct. 15, 1805 William Scott and Hannah Bartlet both of Blandford.
Mar. 13, 1806 David Parks and Miss Sally Hamilton both of Blandford.
Mar. 27, 1806 Mr. Pardon Sherman and Miss Esther Babb both of Blandford.
April 20, 1806 Mr. Samuel Holland of Greenfield and Miss Betsey Knox of Blandford.
Sept. 4, 1806 Mr. Jesse Barns of Granville and Miss Roxana Whorfield [Watfield?] of Blandford.
Sept. 11, 1806 William Eli Smith of Blandford and Sally Barns of Granville.
Mar. 9, 1807 Joseph [Josiah] Remington and Sally Sherman both of Granville.
*May 28, 1807 Mr. Levi Brown of Russell and Miss Mehitable Sacket of Blandford. [Intentions on that date.]
*Sept. 22, 1807 Mr. Levi Frost and Miss Betsey Slocum both of Blandford. [Only intentions appear in vital records.]
*Nov. 8, 1807 Mr. Jacob Green Frost and Miss Huldah Remington both of Granville.
Mar. 7, 1809 Mr. Luman Spelman and Miss Susanah Parker both of Granville.
*Aug. 24, 1809 Mr. James Lindsey and Miss Sally Sacket both of Blandford. [Only intentions appear in vital records.]
*Aug. 30, 1809 Mr. Horrice Whorfield and Miss Polly Cook both of Blandford. [Only intentions appear in vital records.]
*Jan. 4, 1810 Mr. Joseph Williams and Miss Susan Hall both of Granville.
*Feb. 27, 1810 Mr. Ely Bracket and Miss Sally Noble both of Blandford. [Only intentions appear in vital records.]
*Mar. 1, 1810 Mr. Oliver Root of Southwick and Miss Olive Cannon of Blandford.

(to be continued)

Helen Schatvet Ullmann is associate editor of the Register.
11. **Cornelia Ann Johnson aka Carter** (*Nancy Margaret, William H.*), was born in Tyringham, Massachusetts, 5 June 1862.\(^{245}\) She died in Springfield 6 March 1940 of congestive heart failure, and was buried in Oak Grove Cemetery there.\(^{246}\) She married first, in Springfield 28 June 1883, **John J. Elkey**, son of John Sterling and Maria (Jackson) Elkey.\(^{247}\) He was born in East Granby, Connecticut, about February 1863.\(^{248}\) He died in Boston, Massachusetts, 3 April 1921 of a ruptured aortic aneurysm, and was buried in Fairview Cemetery there.\(^{249}\) The Elkeys divorced about 15 June 1890,\(^{250}\) and she married second, in Springfield 23 November 1891, **Howard Lewis Vanall**, son of Henry and Anna (Freeman) Vanall.\(^{251}\) He was born in Springfield 2 October 1857.\(^{252}\) The date and place of his death are unknown. He married first in Springfield 21 April 1878, a white woman named Agnes

\(^{245}\) Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, 150:78 (no given name stated); Cornelia Ann (Carter) Vanall death certificate, Office of the City Clerk of Springfield, 1940, certificate 433; 1900 U.S. Census, Springfield Ward 5, Hampden County, Massachusetts, E.D. 586, roll 652, p. 11B.

\(^{246}\) Cornelia Ann (Carter) Vanall death certificate [note 245]; “The funeral of Mrs. Cornelia Vanall...55 Oak street,” *Springfield Sunday Union and Republican*, 10 March 1940, p. 4A, col. 4. She was buried in section G, grave 9212 (email from Tracy G. Taylor, Office Manager, Oak Grove Cemetery, to the author, 10 June 2015).

\(^{247}\) Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, 343:475 (as Cornelia A. Carter).

\(^{248}\) Ibid. His age in their marriage record calculates to a birth in 1863, but in the 1900 census he gave his birth month and year as July 1864. Since his father was absent from March 1864 to November 1865, perhaps the earlier birth date is more likely. His parents’ marriage record provides his mother’s maiden name (Albert Carlos Bates, *Sundry Vital Records of and Pertaining to the Present Town of East Granby, Connecticut, 1737–1886* [Hartford, Conn.: the author, 1947], 40).

\(^{249}\) John J. Elkey death certificate, Registry of the City of Boston, 1921, certificate 2955.


\(^{251}\) Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, 415:650 (as Cornelia A. Carter). In their marriage record Howard Vanall listed his mother’s maiden name as Jones, but it was Freeman in her death record (Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, Deaths, 1906, 86:272). This may indicate that she was previously married to a man named Jones or may simply be a clerical error. No evidence of a previous marriage for her was located, and the only heirs to her estate were her Vanall children.

\(^{252}\) Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, 105:462 (as Lewis Vanall). Howard and Cornelia’s full middle names are found in the birth record of their daughter Elsie Ann Vanall, born 30 October 1898 (Vital Records, 1870–1917, and Death Indexes, 1870–1909 [Springfield, Massachusetts], Births, 1895–1908 [FHL 0,480,763]). Additionally, Howard was the only Vanall son whose age in the 1865 census fits this birth record (1865 Massachusetts State Census, Springfield, dwelling 552).
Larkin, daughter of John and Mary (_____) Larkin, born in England about 1857. Nothing further is known of his first wife.

By 1870 Cornelia Johnson had assumed her stepfather’s surname. She was called Cornelia Carter in all subsequent records, including both of her marriages, and Edward Carter was listed as her father on her death certificate. She lived in the Springfield area virtually all her adult life and was a talented, self-taught artist.

Her first husband, John Elkey, was raised in East Granby by his mother, his Civil War veteran father having died when he was just ten. Elkey worked as a bartender at the Haynes Hotel, now an historic site in downtown Springfield. After his divorce from Cornelia Carter, he moved to Boston, where he worked as a porter. He married at least three more times: second, in Boston 30 June 1892, Carrie Plat, daughter of Amos and Susan (_____), who was born in New Haven, Connecticut, about 1866; third, about 1894, Josephine _____, born about May 1872 in Connecticut, and fourth, before 1920, Sarah _____, who was born about 1871 in Connecticut. In 1898 a Nellie L. Elkey, wife of John Elkey of Pleasant Street, Boston, attempted suicide by jumping from the window of a Boston hotel. Possibly Nellie was the same woman as Josephine, his wife of six years, who resided with him on Pleasant Street in 1900.

Cornelia Carter’s second husband, Howard Vanall, abandoned her after eight years of marriage, and his subsequent whereabouts are unknown. The 1914 obituary of his brother Charles described Howard Vanall as a resident of New Haven, Connecticut, but he was not listed in its city directory for that year. Howard Vanall and his brother Benjamin were listed as “residence

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253 Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, 298:349.
254 “Elcha’s Work Known From Coast to Coast,” Pittsburgh Courier, Pittsburgh, Pa., Saturday, 7 June 1924, p. 1, col. 7. Howard and Cornelia Vanall lived in Hampden from about 1892 to about 1897 (Springfield City Directories [note 154], 1892:342 and 1897:433).
256 “Charles H. Van All,” Springfield Union, Friday, 27 March 1914, p. 15, col. 5. A namesake nephew—Howard Vanall (1898–1929), a teamster—was listed in the New Haven city directories from 1916 through 1919 (New Haven, Connecticut, City Directories, 1916:867; 1917:904;
unknown” when each received $447.73 in the distribution of their mother’s estate on 17 May 1917. The administrator placed the brothers’ portions in separate accounts at Hampden Savings Bank.[263]

In the 1900 census Cornelia and her children were enumerated in her parents’ household.[264] From 1901 to 1906, Springfield city directories listed Cornelia as a boarder in her parents’ home. From 1907 through 1910, it listed her as a widow.[265] Confusingly, in 1910 she was enumerated in the federal census with Howard Vanall, at 92 Pendleton Avenue, though that year’s city directory listed her as a resident in her father’s home, and Howard Vanall was not listed in the directory at all.[266] Cornelia was not associated with the Pendleton Avenue address in any other records.[267] Two “daughters”—Mary, born about 1901, and Carrie, born about 1903—were listed with the family in this already suspect census record, which is the only evidence for the girls’ existence. There are no birth records for them, nor are there subsequent records of any kind. Oak Grove Cemetery, where the other members of the family are buried, has no interment records for either of these girls. If the family did indeed reside together at the Pendleton Avenue address, these two girls may have been short-term, informal adoptees, examples of which have been seen elsewhere in the extended Johnson family. Another possibility is that Howard Vanall did return home for a brief period, bringing two daughters by another mother. However, the latter scenario conflicts with Cornelia’s statements in her 1929 petition to claim his estate.

On 15 August 1929, Cornelia A. Vanall petitioned the Hampden County Probate Court for the property of her husband, Howard L. Vanall, stating that he left his residence about eight o’clock on the evening of 12 April 1899 “and did not thereafter return, nor did he go to his place of employment.” His

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263 Hampden County Probate, Ann Vanall, File 36627, 1905.
264 1900 U.S. Census, Springfield, roll 652, E.D. 586, p. 11B.
267 Two members of the Vanall family had documented associations with Pendleton Avenue during this period: Cornelia’s son William Edward Elkey (aka Edward Elcha) was listed as a boarder at 92 Pendleton Avenue in 1911. A Charles Vanall, possibly Cornelia’s twenty-year-old son, was listed as a resident at 57 Pendleton Avenue in 1914 (Springfield City Directories [note 154], 1911: 235; 1914:878).
assets consisted solely of the then still active savings account from his mother’s estate, which, with accumulated interest, was valued at $782.93. On 2 October 1929, attorney Donald M. Macaulay—appointed receiver of the property of Howard L. Vanall, absentee—petitioned the court for maintenance payments to Cornelia, who needed clothing and had “no other means of support.” Cornelia Vanall received ten court-ordered distributions from 7 November 1929 through 5 September 1930, totaling $490.00. Finally, on 29 October 1930, the court ordered distribution of the estate balance as follows: Cornelia A. Vanall of Springfield, one-third; Charles H. Vanall of New York City, two-ninths; Edith M. Weldon of Springfield, two-ninths; Elise [sic] A. Cruse of Springfield, two-ninths.\textsuperscript{268}

From 1915 to 1927 Cornelia (Carter) Vanall had her most stable period of residence, at 685 Union Street, with her daughter Elsie. In 1929 and 1930 she resided in the newly-wed Elsie’s household at 221 Tyler Street. By 1933 the city directory once again listed her as a widow, living at 55 Oak Street, where she had an uninterrupted residence until her death in 1940.\textsuperscript{269}

Child of John J. and Cornelia Ann (Carter) Elkey:

12. i. **William Edward Elkey aka Elcha**, b. 18 Oct. 1885;\textsuperscript{270} m. (1) Ada J. Harris; (2) Anna Brown; (3) Martha _____; (4) Ellen Walker.

Children of Howard Lewis and Cornelia Ann (Carter) (Elkey) Vanall:

ii. **Edith May Vanall**, b. Hampden, Mass., 11 April 1892;\textsuperscript{271} d. Springfield 11 June 1942, bur. Oak Grove Cemetery;\textsuperscript{272} m. (1) Springfield 9 May 1913, **William Rodolphus Brewster**, son of William Rodolphus and Ella E. (Dolphin) Brewster;\textsuperscript{273} b. Springfield 21 Dec. 1890;\textsuperscript{274} d. there 29 Oct. 1918 of pneumonia, bur. Oak Grove Cemetery;\textsuperscript{275} m. (2) ca. 1923 **William Henry Weldon**, son of Stuart and Grace (Jones) Weldon;\textsuperscript{276} b. Sharon, Conn., 2 April 1892 or 4 April 1894.\textsuperscript{277}

\textsuperscript{268} Hampden County Probate, Howard L. Vanall, File 57243 [note 261].


\textsuperscript{270} Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, 358:487.

\textsuperscript{271} Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, 421:611.

\textsuperscript{272} “Mrs. William Weldon,” Springfield Sunday Union and Republican, 14 June 1942, p. 6A, col. 2.

\textsuperscript{273} Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, 619:188.

\textsuperscript{274} Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, 403:548. The date of birth listed on his death record is 25 December 1889.

\textsuperscript{275} William R. Brewster death certificate, Office of the City Clerk of Springfield, 1918, certificate 2156.


d. Framingham, Mass., 16 Feb. 1950 of emphysema and cardiac arrest; bur. Oak Grove Cemetery. He m. (1) _____ _____; m. (3) by ca. 1944, Margaret E. _____.

On 27 Jan. 1938, Edith Mae [sic, May] Weldon received $450.34, one-half of the current value of the portion of her grandmother's estate inherited by her uncle Benjamin Vanall, a sailor, who left home in August 1895, "presumably to go on a voyage and has not been heard from nor heard of since."

iii. CHARLES HENRY VANALL, b. Hampden 13 April 1894; d. Manhattan 14 Nov. 1935 of tuberculosis; bur. Silver Mount Cemetery, Staten Island; m. Suffield, Conn., 27 Jan. 1913, MARTHA WHITTY, daughter of John and Carrie (Frasher) Whitty, b. Springfield ca. 1892. They divorced in April 1926.


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279 His draft registration card in 1917–1918 (see note 277) says he was married.
280 Springfield City Directories [note 154], 1944:701.
281 Hampden County Probate, Benjamin Vanall, File 67705, 1936.
282 Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, 439:657.
283 Charles H. Vanall death certificate, City of New York, Department of Health, Manhattan, 1935, certificate 24353.
284 Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, 619:171, recorded in Springfield.
285 “Superior Court Has 485 Cases,” Springfield Daily Republican, Friday, 16 April 1926, p. 9, col. 3.
286 Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, 457:689 (birth), 472:816 (death). She was buried in section B, grave 726 (email from Tracy G. Taylor, Office Manager, Oak Grove Cemetery, to the author, 10 June 2015).
287 Massachusetts Vital Records, 475:805.
288 “Mrs. William Cruse,” Springfield Union, Monday, 24 February 1975, p. 19, col. 2. She was buried in section 34, grave 273 (email from Tracy G. Taylor, Office Manager, Oak Grove Cemetery, to the author, 10 June 2015).
289 William Henry Cruse–Elsie Ann Vanall marriage certificate, Office of the City Clerk of Springfield, 1929, certificate 175. It was a first marriage for Elsie Vanall and a second for William Cruse.
291 “William H. Cruse,” Springfield Daily Republican, Thursday, 26 September 1946, p. 10, col. 2; William Henry Cruse death certificate [note 290]. He was buried in section G, grave 9229 (email from Tracy G. Taylor, Office Manager, Oak Grove Cemetery, to the author, 10 June 2015).
292 1910 U.S. Census, Hartford Ward 3, roll 132, E.D. 164, p. 4A.
On 27 Jan. 1938, Elsie Cruse received the other half of the portion of her grandmother’s estate inherited by her uncle, Benjamin Vanall.[293]

Possible children of Howard Lewis and/or Cornelia Ann (Carter) (Elkey) Vanall:[294]

vi. Mary Vanall, b. ca. 1901.

vii. Carrie Vanall, b. ca. 1903.

12. **William Edward Elkey aka Edward Elcha** (*Cornelia Ann Johnson aka Carter, Nancy Margaret, William H.*), was born in Springfield 18 October 1885. He died of heart disease in Manhattan 21 October 1939, and was buried in the Hart’s Island potter’s field.[295] He married first in Springfield 18 February 1909, Ada J. Harris, daughter of George D. and Ada May (Brace) Harris.[296] She was born in St. Albans, Vermont, 18 March 1894, died of tuberculosis in Springfield 20 March 1925, and was buried in Oak Grove Cemetery.[297] He married second in Manhattan 21 October 1914, Anna Brown, daughter of Hemlitt and Josephine (King) Brown, born in Charleston, South Carolina, about 1887.[298] He married third before 1925, Martha _____, born about 1900.[299] He married fourth in Manhattan 20 February 1928, Ellen Walker, daughter of William and Julia (Swann) Walker, who was born in Washington, D.C., about 1901.[300] Nothing further is known about Edward Elcha’s wives. His death certificate shows his marital status as single, yet it gives the relationship of the informant, “Martha Elcha Brown,” as his common-law wife. A brief obituary in the *New York Amsterdam News* listed his mother and his “estranged widow” as survivors.[301]

“Martha Elcha Brown” may have been the Martha Brown, widowed black domestic worker, who died in Manhattan 24 March 1945 aged 44. Her death certificate stated that she was born in Richmond, Virginia, 20 October 1900, to George and Sarah (Lewis) Brown.[302]

Yet unexplained was his relationship to Marie (Gonzalez) Elcha, a jazz singer and actress. Mentioned as his wife in newspaper articles dating from 1928 through 1933, it appears she may have been a fifth partner, but her chronological placement among his relationships is uncertain.[303]

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293 Hampden County Probate, Benjamin Vanall, File 67705 [note 281].
294 1910 U.S. Census, Springfield Ward 5, roll 592, E.D. 628, p. 7B.
295 Edward Elcha death certificate, City of New York, Department of Health, Manhattan, 1939, certificate 21985.
296 Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, 587:170 (marriage). They had two sons, Gerald and William, whose birth and death records (see below) prove that William Edward Elkey was the same man as the Edward Elkey who married Ada J. Harris.
297 Ada J. Elkey death certificate, Office of the City Clerk of Springfield 1925, certificate 503.
298 New York, New York City Marriage Records, 1829–1940, 1914, certificate 27758 [FHL 1,613,994].
299 1925 New York State Census, New York County, Assembly Dist. 19, E.D. 36, p. 12.
300 New York, New York City Marriage Records, 1829–1940, 1928, certificate 5713 [FHL 1,653,338].
302 Death Certificates (Manhattan, New York), 1919–1948, 1945, certificate 7243 [FHL 2,132,436].
303 “Starring in Miller Show,” *Pittsburgh Courier*, Saturday, 9 June 1928, p. 1, 2nd section, col. 2; “Helen Menken Comes to the Majestic Theater in ‘Lily White,’ Revealing the Heartbreaks of a Mulatto,” *Brooklyn Daily Eagle*, Tuesday, 13 May 1930, p. 21, col. 1; “Checker Night Club Favorite,”
Early in his career William Edward Elkey worked as a sign painter, but by 1911 he had switched to photography, apprenticing with George H. Van Norman, a noted Springfield art photographer. He left for New York City in 1912, but was back in Springfield the next year, equipped with a new surname. He established his own photography studio at 154 Hancock Street, but by late 1914 he had returned to New York City for good. When he married for a second time in October 1914, his first wife Ada was not only still living but still considered herself his spouse. In New York he worked first with Aime Dupont Studio before joining Strand, another established house, in 1919. In 1920 he opened his own business under the name The Elcha Company, catering to the theatrical trade. When it failed, he returned to Strand, but by 1923 he had once again embarked on his own, opening Progress Studios on West 46th Street. His photographic portraits of Harlem stage productions, as well as noted performers and artists such as W. C. Handy, Langston Hughes, Noble Sissle, and Eubie Blake, among others, have graced theater lobbies, show programmes, album covers, and countless pages of books and websites. His photographs of blues singer Bessie Smith are classics, though their creator's name is rarely mentioned.

In addition to his portrait and theater work, he acted in cameo roles and was a staff photographer for the New York office of the Pittsburgh Courier. He was also an accomplished painter. A 1930 exhibit of Elcha's nude oil paintings was closed by order of the New York Society for the Suppression of Vice, until a judge declared them “masterful” and reopened the exhibit. He painted scenery for stage productions and helped create ornate, romanticized backdrops for his friend and fellow photographer James Van Der Zee, a Berkshire County native who settled in New York about 1906. Elcha's own studio portraits are stark

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304 His occupation was listed on his sons' birth records (see below); “G. H. Van Norman, Art Photographer,” Springfield Weekly Republican, Thursday, 27 November 1924, p. 12, col. 4.
306 1920 U.S. Census, Springfield Ward 2, roll 702, E.D. 105, p. 14B. No record of a divorce was found for Elkey and his first wife Ada. She listed her status as married in the 1920 census, and she was described as Edward Elkey's wife on her death certificate. In the 1914 record of his second marriage, “William Edward Elcha” stated he was single and that it was his first marriage.
307 “Elcha Opens A New Studio Uptown,” The Billboard, Cincinnati, Ohio, Saturday, 13 November 1920, p. 14, col.3; “J. A. Jackson’s Page,” The Billboard, Saturday, 8 January 1921, p. 29, col. 4, and an advertisement for The Elcha Co. on p. 43; “Here and There,” Pittsburgh Courier, Saturday, 15 September 1923, p. 11, col. 4; “Elcha's Work Known From Coast to Coast” [note 254].
308 Edward Elcha biography [note 30]; “Nude Paintings of Race 'Photog' Leads to Raid by 'Simon Pures,'” Pittsburgh Courier, Sat., 12 April 1930, p. 6, 2nd section, col. 4.
in comparison to Van Der Zee’s popular, sentimentalized images, yet all the more artful for their simplicity. Edward Elcha undoubtedly lived a creatively rich life, though he may never have found financial success. In 1912, while still in Springfield, he pled guilty and was fined twenty dollars for the theft of a camera from a local photography studio. The *Pittsburgh Courier*, a keen promoter of Elcha’s work, described Progress Studios as “a flourishing business,” yet he still found it necessary to supplement his income as a newspaper photographer and scenery painter, and he often borrowed cameras from his friend James Van Der Zee.[310] The bulk of Elcha’s work pre-dates the 1930s, and little is known about his last decade of life. By the 1940s both men were sliding into obscurity, but Van Der Zee—by virtue of his longevity—enjoyed a career revival and is today the better-known photographer. Recent decades have seen renewed interest in Elcha’s work and impact. Fashion photographer Anthony Barboza has shared a number of Elcha images from his private collection on one of his websites. Public collections of Elcha’s photographs can be found at New York City’s Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, Columbia University’s Rare Book & Manuscript Library, and the Harry Ransom Center at The University of Texas at Austin.[311]

Children of William Edward and Ada J. (Harris) Elkey:


The many unanswered questions about Edward Elcha’s life are symptomatic of the larger information void for the entire Johnson family. Like other African-Americans throughout this country’s history, their story is an intrinsic piece of the American saga that must be further studied and told. In many respects—frequent child mortality, economic hardship, reliance on an extended network of family support, and migration in search of opportunity—their

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312 Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, 583:192, his first name spelled “Jerald.”

313 *Springfield Republican*, Tuesday, 18 September 1928, p. 7. This obituary named his father Edward Elkey “of this city” and grandmother Mrs. Ada M. Chambers, also of Springfield.

314 Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, 599:181.

315 Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, Deaths, 1911, 94:394.
experiences mirror those of their white contemporaries. But the Johnsons’ lives were also played out against a backdrop of, at best, indifference from the white community, and more often discrimination or downright abuse. The family’s perseverance in the face of systemic racism, through both defeat and achievement, demonstrates “the generally unacknowledged multifaceted nature of the black experience in these United States.”\[316\] Modern-day descendants of William and Betsey (Smith) Johnson can be found in Hampden and Berkshire Counties, and perhaps elsewhere as well. Hopefully, they will continue the search for information on the lives of their early ancestors, and to add to our knowledge about subsequent generations.

(concluded)

The Wylley and Cramphorne Families of Hertfordshire and Their Contribution to the Great Migration

William Wyman Fiske

(concluded from Register 171 [2017]:153)

PART TWO: THE CRAMPHORNE FAMILY OF SAWBRIDGEWORTH

The importance of the Cramphornes[100] to the ancestry of early Massachusetts immigrants Edmund, John, and Abraham Browne, sons of Edmund[8] (WilliamB) and Mary (Cramphorne) Browne, as well as William Heath of Roxbury's first wife Mary Cramphorne, has already been recognized.[101] In addition, Phebe1 (Perry) Desborough was the daughter of Thomas and Mary (Cramphorne) Perry,[102] but the John Perry who married Phebe Cramphorne in 1614 was not the New England ancestor of that name.[103] There are significant inaccuracies about the Cramphornes that have now become firmly rooted in the Internet. Additional corrections to this family are necessary in order to accurately portray their role within the network into which the Wylley family has recently been placed.[104]

First, the Sawbridgeworth parish registers show the maiden name of Mary (Cramphorne) Browne's mother, who married William Cramphorne in Sawbridgeworth 21 July 1560,[105] to be "Plowewrighte" rather than Plowe.[106] This is corroborated by the 1572 will of Thomas Plowrighte of Willingale

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100 The name Cramphorne can be found in Sawbridgeworth in the Lay Subsidy Rolls for 1307 when Richard and John Cramphorn paid 9 3/4 d and 13 1/4 d apiece (Brooker and Flood, Hertfordshire Lay Subsidy Rolls 1307 and 1334 [note 43], 29–30). In 1324 on the Saturday before the Feast of St. Gregory (March 12th) 17 Edward II. "a certain Robert Stode, son of William Cramphorn de Sabrichesworth, took refuge in the church of St. Martin-le-Grand (London) and . . . acknowledged . . . he had feloniously killed a certain Agnes, daughter of Thomas de Badele at Sobbery, with a staff called 'fagotstaf'" (Reginald R. Sharpe, ed., Calendar of Coroners Rolls of the City of London, A.D. 1300-1378 [London: Richard Clay and Sons, Ltd., 1913], 80).

101 Smith and Sanborn, Ancestry of Eva Belle Kempton, Part I [note 7], 169–193. Although Mary (Cramphorne) Heath did not emigrate, her son Isaac Heath emigrated and left descendants (Anderson, Great Migration Begins [note 89], 2:901–904; Valerie Dyer Giorgi, William Heath of Roxbury, Massachusetts, and Some of His Descendants (Santa Maria, Calif: the author, 1993), 3–7 et seq.


104 See Figure in Part 1 of this article (Register 171 [2017]:134–135).

105 Parish registers of Great St. Mary's Church, Sawbridgeworth, Hertfordshire [FHL 0,991,395].

106 As reported in Smith and Sanborn, Ancestry of Eva Belle Kempton, Part I [note 7], 173, 194.
Doe, Essex, singleman, who names his brother-in-law William Cramphorne executor.[107]

Second, it has been suggested that this same Joan (Plowright) Cramphorne, wife of William Cramphorne, might be the “Jone Cramphorn of Chaundelers wydow” who was buried in Sawbridgeworth 2 March 1604/5.[108] Rather, Joan Cramphorne “of Chandlers” (maiden name unknown) was the widow of George Cramphorne [no. 2 in the Genealogical Summary below], who left a will dated 7 December 1574 and proved 18 April 1575,[109] naming, among others, his wife Johan and son Thomas to whom he leaves both his tenement “called Challons als Chandlers” and “three peces of lande lieng in Stockeley.”

Third, and most important, the Thomas Cramphorne who married Mary Lyndesell in Sawbridgeworth on 21 September 1580 and subsequently fathered Mary (Cramphorne) Heath, first wife of William Heath of Roxbury, cannot be the Thomas, son of William Cramphorne, who was baptized in Sawbridgeworth 27 July 1561, as that would make him barely 19 at the time of his marriage.[110] Rather, Mary Lyndesell’s husband was the son of the aforesaid George (no. 2 below), named in the 1574 will as the heir to “Challons als Chandlers.” Examination of the original will of Thomas Cramphorne, dated 1 March 1613/4 [11 James I],[111] shows it to be critically damaged along the left side, missing significant parts of text. The surviving portion does not mention the property Challons/Chaundelers but does bequeath “three akers & a half be it more or less now called Stockeley” to his son John, presumably the same “three peces of lande lieng in Stockeley” left by George to his son Thomas in 1574.[112]

107 ERO [Essex Record Office], Commissary Court, Essex and Hertfordshire Jurisdiction, D/ABW 28/328. Will dated 26 June 1572 and proved 23 July 1572.
109 Court of the Archdeaconry of Middlesex (Essex and Herts Division), ERO, D/AMR 3/234 [FHL 0,094,730, abstracted in Brigg, *Herts Genealogist and Antiquary* [note 12], 2:39.
110 This misplaced paternity for Thomas Cramphorne first appears in Spencer Miller’s treatment of the family in a 1939 article: Spencer Miller, “The Millers of Bishop’s Stortford, co. Herts, England,” *The New York Genealogical and Biographical Record* (1939) 70:244, and is continued in Smith and Sanborn, *Ancestry of Eva Belle Kempton, Part I* [note 7], 194. Similarly, the Thomas baptized in Sawbridgeworth 20 November 1580 is unlikely to have been the son of Thomas and Mary (Lyndesell) Cramphorne, as the baptism took place only one month after their marriage.
111 ERO, Commissary Court, Essex and Hertfordshire Jurisdiction, D/ABW 11/117, abstracted in Smith and Sanborn, *Ancestry of Eva Belle Kempton, Part I* [note 7], 194. Thomas does name his sons John and Thomas (youngest), daughter Mary and wife Mary. The will was proved 27 September 1616.
112 What Thomas Cramphorne’s will lacks in detail is made up by the 6 April 1630 will of his widow Mary, proved in Bishop’s Stortford 28 February 1631/2, which names daughter Ester, wife of Thomas Miller; son-in-law John Perry; son-in-law William Heath; son John Cramphorne and wife Mary; and Thomas Cramporne the son of Daniel Cramphorne her son. The will names Daniel and John Cramphorne executors, with son-in-law Thomas Miller to act as overseer, and was witnessed by Jane Bukner and Thomas Miller (ERO, Commissary Court, Essex and Hertfordshire Jurisdiction, D/ABW 51/262). A transcript of the will appears in Smith and Sanborn, *Ancestry of Eva Belle Kempton, Part I* [note 7], 194–195. In his will dated 15 August 1638, Thomas and Mary’s son John Cramphorne (of Sawbridgeworth) leaves the property called “Chandlers als Chaloners” to his eldest son Thomas along with other properties recognizable from the will of his grandfather George. John’s will also names wife Mary; brother Daniel Cramphorne; brother-in-law John Perry; younger sons John, Daniel and Samewell; and daughters Mary, Martha and Sara (ERO, Commissary Court, Essex and Hertfordshire Jurisdiction, D/ABW 55/29).
The property in Sawbridgeworth, alternatively named “Chandlers” and “Chaloners,” appears earlier in a 1547 charter in the British Library in which a William Cramphorne made a grant of “Chaloners” to his son George.\[^{113}\] This same William of Sawbridgeworth left a Consistory Court of London will, dated 14 April 1550, proved 23 May 1550,\[^{114}\] in which he named wife Cycelie and sons William, George, Nicholas, and John. Additional insights into this family are found in a series of depositions regarding rights and title to land in the manor of Sawbridgeworth taken 8 January [31 Elizabeth] 1588/9.\[^{115}\] The defendant George Cramphorne was identified as the eldest son of George Cramphorne, deceased, who was, in turn, the eldest son of William Cramphorne, deceased. John Cramphorne of Harlow in the county of Essex, husbandman, “of the age of 71 years or thereabouts,” was named as the son of the same William Cramphorne. This William was described as a very old

\[^{113}\] British Library Department of Manuscripts: Add Charter 56918. Translated from the Latin by Duncan Harrington, F.S.A., L.H.G. Know all men present and future that I William Cramphorne of Sabrygworthe in the county of Hertford have given granted and by this my present charter have confirmed to George Cramphorne my son all that my two messuages lands and tenements meadows grazing and pastures rents reversions and services with all and singular their appurtenances called Chaloners and Thomas Adams in Sabrygeworthe in the county aforesaid who lately had it of me and my heirs together with John Adam of Gedleston Ralph Pery and George Mathew from the gift grant and and charter of confirmation of Henry Adam of Ware, John Cokkes of Wydforde Thomas Elyot of the same Robert Grave of Ware in the county aforesaid and John Josselyn of Sheryng in the county of Essex as by his charter made to me bearing date the seventeenth day of March in the twentieth year of the reign of King Henry the Eighth fully shows and appears to have and to hold the aforesaid messuages lands and tenements my meadows grazings and pastures rents reversions and services with all and singular their appurtenances called Chaloners and Thomas Adams lying in Sawbrygeworthe in the county aforesaid to the aforesaid George Cramphorne his heirs and assigns for ever of the chief lords of that fee for the services owed and of right accustomed . . . I have affixed my seal given at Sawbrygeworthe aforesaid the twenty third day of April in the first year of the reign of King Edward the sixth . . . Dorse: seisin delivered and taken in the presence of Richard Hubbert John Adams of Baseleys Thomas Goodday Edmund Bellof John Cramphorne Ralph Adam Ralph Krowche George Dowcett Rober Dier and others the day and year within written.

\[^{114}\] I am indebted to Leslie Mahler, FASG, for the initial identification of the will (Consistory Court of London, registered wills, register Horn, f. 9 [FHL 0,094,171]; emphasis added). “In the name of god Amen The xiiith day of Aprill in the yere of oure lorde god a Thowsande fyve hundrethe and fyftie in the fourthe yere of the Reigne of or soverayne lorde Edwarde the vith . . . I William Cramphorne of Sabrydgeworthe beinge of pfecete memoreye laude and prayse bee to god . . . ffyrste I doo appointe to bee myne Executors George Cramphorne and Nycolas Cramphorne And John Cramphorne to bee the overseer of this will ffyrste I will that Cicelie my wyf and Elizabeth grave have all manner of housholde stuff that I have to be devyded bytwene them by eynyne porcions ffurther more I will that Cicelie my wyf have all the wheate that I have at kokars and all the malte that I have at this house Exepte two quarters furthermore I will that Cicelie my wyf have all the Corne Upon the grounde Exepte an Acree and an half lyenge in brodefeldfe furthermore I will that Cicelie my wyf have vi Sheepe and vi lambes beinge at beltots Item I will that William Cramphorne my sone have iiiL viiiid to bee payed at the monythes day Item I will that the iiiL that William Mathewe owithe to me shalbee bestowyed in the highe waye by myne executors furthermore I will that the xls that Thomas Presson owithe to me shalbee bestowyed in the highewaye lyke wyse by myne Executors . . . Item I make and ordeyne of this my laste will and testament my sone George Cramphorne and my sone Nycolas Cramphorne my true and faithfull Executours and I will my sone John Cramphorne to bee the overseer of this my will and testamente whereof these bearinge wytnes Thomas gooddaye ‘Thomass ganson and Nycolas ffoote with othermore.”

\[^{115}\] The National Archives, E133/6/812.
man of above 80 years of age [near 100 scored through] when the said lands were taken from him and also very deaf and “a very [sic] simple plaine honest man but in the lawe verie ignorant.” Statements recorded 15 January of the same year present a different picture,[116] recording that William Cramphorne, grandfather of the complainant George, “lost his lands for refusing to pay two years rent for his fine of his copyhold lands [and was] called by the earl of Essex’s men an ould sneking fellowe.”

By the mid-1540s the Cramphornes of Sawbridgeworth and surrounding Hertfordshire parishes were a relatively large family. The 1545 Subsidy Rolls for the Hundred of Braughing, Hertfordshire, show the following Cramphornes residing in Sawbridgeworth: William (paying xiijs iiiijd), Nicholas (paying iiiijd), George (paying xvijd), John (paying iijd), and John Jun. (paying iijd). In neighboring parishes there were: two William Cramphornes in Gilston (paying vs viijd and jd respectively), a Thomas Cramphorne in Eastwick (paying xiiijd), and a John Cramphorne in Bishop’s Stortford (paying iiis iiiijd).[117]

Cramphorne Descendants in New England

As mentioned above — and as shown in the figure in Part 1 of this article — Mary Cramphorne (no. 1.iii.2 below) married Edmund A Browne (William B), and three of their sons immigrated to Massachusetts. [118] In addition, there were ties between the family of George B Cramphorne (no. 2 below) and that of William B Browne. Two of George Cramphorne’s children, Elizabeth and George, married William B Browne’s children Laurence and

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[117] Briggs, Herts Genealogist and Antiquary [note 12], 2:274–275, 277. The elder John Cramphorne of Sawbridgeworth is presumed to be the son who ultimately removed to Harlow, Essex (see Genealogical Summary, 1.ii below). Neither Thomas Cramphorne of Eastwick nor John Cramphorne of Bishop’s Stortford are named in William’s will. Thomas of Eastwick’s precise relation to the Sawbridgeworth family cannot be stated with certainty. It is likely that he was a close relation of William Cramphorne, based on the proximity of Eastwick to Sawbridgeworth (three miles) and the use of the name Thomas by George Cramphorne (1.i below) for his son and (apparent) eldest heir. This Thomas Cramphorne the elder of Eastwick made his will, framed as an agreement as to disposition of debts owed him by his sons), on 20 October 1588; the document was proved 24 September 1590 (Commissary Court of London. Original Will vol. 17 fol. 292 [FHL 0,094,100]. Children named are Thomas Cramphorne the younger, Robert Cramphorne, Denys Cramphorne, Anthony Cramphorne, Alice Calden [sic, Colldam, see below] of Waltham and Jone Bevis of Much Paringdon. The document was witnessed by Thomas Cramphorne, Edward Bland, John Addams, and signed by John How Scrivner, George Eliot, Stephen Adams. Thomas Cramphorne of Eastwick, Hertfordshire was born say 1518, and was buried in Eastwick 13 August 1590. Joan Cramphorne “ye wyfe of Thomas” was buried in Eastwick 15 June 1585. Alice Cramphorne married in Eastwick 6 June 1563, Henry Colldam (Parish Registers of St. Botolph, Eastwick, Hertfordshire [FHL 0,991,374]. A full discussion of this particular Cramphorne line is beyond the scope of this study, which remains focused on familial associations with known New England descendants. Should such a connection be uncovered, a more complete summary of Thomas Cramphorne of Eastwick would be forthcoming.

Annys, and Laurence Browne was a witness to George Cramphorne's will in 1574.

George's daughter Mary (Cramphorne) Perry was mother to Phebe (Perry) Desborough of Roxbury, Massachusetts. Phebe in turn was first cousin to Abraham Perry, who married Agnes (Wylley) (Denison) (Gace) Wall's stepdaughter Agnes Wall (stepsister to William Denison of Roxbury). Abraham and Agnes (Wall) Perry were direct ancestors to five New England immigrants. It seems clear that we cannot look at any of these families in isolation and also that the Cramphornes make up a significant part in the overall network of associations hitherto explored.

One Cramphorne will from this period has long been tied to the ancestry of Robert Burnap of Reading, Massachusetts, namely, that of Agnes Cramphorne of Stanstead Abbots, Hertfordshire, dated 16 May 1564, published elsewhere. Through her daughter Alice (Cramphorne) Burnap, wife of Thomas Burnap of Stanstead Abbots [see the figure in Part One, lower left], Agnes was grandmother to Joan (Burnap) Reddington (the paternal grandmother of New England immigrants Abraham and John Reddington). Also through her daughter Alice, the 1564 testatrix was great-grandmother both to Massachusetts immigrant Robert Burnap of Reading (who appears twice on the figure in Part One, in the lower left corner and with his marriage to Agnes Miller in the upper right corner) and to Robert’s sister Mary Burnap, who married Daniel Cramphorne (no. 2.iii.2 below). Daniel also appears twice on the figure, as he was brother to Mary (Cramphorne) Heath, William’s first wife.

No Cramphornes were recorded in Stanstead Abbots in the 1545 Subsidy Rolls, making it likely that at the time Agnes made her will in 1564 she was living in the household of her son-in-law, Thomas Burnap, who was of that parish in 1545. The identity of her husband remains unknown, but there probably was some relation to the Sawbridgeworth family. Perhaps Agnes's

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119 The Laurence Browne who witnessed George Cramphorne's will is presumed to be the brother of Edmund Browne (William5), and therefore uncle to John1 and Abraham1 Browne of Watertown, Massachusetts (Smith and Sanborn, Ancestry of Eva Belle Kempton, Part I [note 7], 169–171). It is likely that Laurence and Annys Browne, identified in the wills of their parents WilliamB and Joan Browne, married siblings Elizabeth and George Cramphorne, respectively: Laurence married in Sawbridgeworth 28 September 1561, Elizabeth Cramphorne, and Annys Browne married George Cramphorne in Sawbridgeworth 4 July 1569 as his first wife.


125 Brigg, Herts Genealogist and Antiquary [note 12], 2:274.
husband was a brother of William Cramphorne of Sawbridgeworth (no. 1 below), which would have been comfortably outside the constraints of consanguinity imposed by Daniel’s marriage to Mary Burnap.[126]

Of possible greater interest is the 1644 marriage of John Hanchet of Roxbury, Massachusetts, whose English origin is unknown, to Elizabeth, the widow of John Perry of that town.[127] John Perry was the step-grandson of Agnes (Wylley) (Denison) (Gace) Wall and the brother of William Heath’s second wife Mary (Perry) Heath. As shown in the figure in Part One, William Heath’s first wife Mary was the daughter of Thomas[8] Cramphorne (no. 2.iii.4 below).

After the death of his first wife, buried in Sawbridgeworth 29 July 1587 as Annys the wife of George Cramphorne, George Cramphorne (no. 2.iv below) married second in Sawbridgeworth 8 December 1588, Elizabeth (Hanchet) Stileman. Elizabeth’s maiden name is inferred from the will of her mother Elizabeth Hanchet of Great Burstead, Essex, widow, dated 8 July 1607, which names the Stileman and Cramphorne children of her daughter Elizabeth Cramphorne.[128] A full discussion of the Hanchet family is beyond the scope of this study, but it does seem probable that the origin of John Hanchet of Roxbury might well be found upon closer scrutiny of this connection.

Genealogical Summary of the Cramphorne Family

1. William C Cramphorne of Sawbridgeworth, Hertfordshire, was born say 1480, and died between 14 April 1550 (the date of his will) and 23 May 1550 (the date his will was proved). He named, amongst others, wife Cicely and sons William, George, Nicholas, and John, probably not in order of birth. As discussed above, statements recorded 15 January 1588/89, years after William’s death, report William Cramphorne as having lost his lands for refusing to pay two years rent for his fine of his copyhold lands, and that he was called by the earl of Essex’s men an “ould sneking fellowe.”

Children of William C Cramphorne, perhaps with Cecily, the wife named in his will:

2. i. George B Cramphorne, b. say 1514; m. Joan _____.

[126] It is of possible interest that both William Cramphorne in 1550 and Agnes, in 1564 provided bequests to an Elizabeth Grave. William divides “all manner of household stuff that I have” evenly between his wife Cicely and Elizabeth Grave, relationship unstated. In 1564 Agnes left to John Grave “a payer of towene shetes & a plaine towel” and to Elizabeth Grave “a blacke cowe a payer of towene shetes, a hogge” (no relationship between John and Elizabeth given).


[128] ERO, Commissary Court, Essex and Hertfordshire Jurisdiction, D/ABW 20/93. Elizabeth named Henry Cramphorne, George Cramphorne, Deborah Cramphorne, and Anna Cramphorne, all children less than 21 years of age of her daughter Elizabeth Cramphorne; and William Styleman, Elizabeth Stileman, Eleanor Styleman, Mary Styleman, and Jone Styleman, the son and daughters of her daughter Elizabeth Cramphorne from the first marriage. The daughter of William Styleman is also mentioned. Also named are Edward Meade the son of Edward Meade, neighbor Elizabeth Beckman, godson Richard Farr the son of Richard Farr gent of Great Burstede, and godson Walter Farr the son of Benjamin Farr gent of Buttesbury. The will was witnessed by John Beckman, John Mylborne and Thomas Hatt. Probate granted to William Styleman 7 August 1607.
ii. John Cramphorne, b. ca. 1517. On 8 Jan. 31 Elizabeth I [1588/9] depositions were taken in which John Cramphorne of Harlow, Essex, “husbandman of the age of 71 years or thereabouts” was identified as the son of William Cramphorne, deceased, of Sawbridgeworth. John m. by 1553–1555 Anne _____, during which time a Chancery suit names John Cramphorne and Anne, his wife, defendants, along with others, concerning a property in the Manor of Harlow.[129] Amongst deeds relating to Harlow, the Essex Record Office has one that states that on 20 Nov. 1581 John Cramphorne surrendered to John Havor “6a. of land, being parcel of a croft (12a.) called Twelve Acres, late parcel of ‘Roughey Halle’ [Roffey Hall] . . . [reserving the following to John Cramphorne and son William Cramphorne] copyhold of the Manor of Harlow Bury in Harlow.”[130]

iii. William B Cramphorne, b. say 1520; m. Sawbridgeworth 21 July 1560, Joan Plowright. William was alive 23 July 1572 when Thomas Plowright of Willingale Doe, Essex, singleman, named his brother-in-law William Cramphorne executor.[131]

Children of William and Joan (Plowright) Cramphorne, all baptized in Sawbridgeworth:

1. Thomas Cramphorne, bp. 27 July 1561.
3. William Cramphorne, bp. 9 Dec. 1564.

iv. Nicholas Cramphorne, b. say 1522; bur. Sawbridgeworth 28 May 1559. In May of 1548 Nicholas Cramphorne and George Matthew surrendered to William Waller three acres of land in “Further Sayesfeld.” On 7 Aug. 1559 the same court[132] recognized the out of court surrender from William Waller, since deceased, to the use of wife Agnes Waller and, after her decease, to son John Waller. The property at that time was described as three acres of land in a field called “Further Sayesfelde, late in occupation of William Cramphorne.” The three acres in Further Sayesfelde would appear to have passed from William to Nicholas and George Matthew (relationship unknown),[133] sometime prior to May 1548, at which time they surrendered the three acres to William Waller.

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129 Court of Chancery, The National Archives, C 1/1327/78-84. Short title: Aylmer v Adynngton. Plaintiffs: Christopher, grandson and heir of Thomas Aylmer. Defendants: Thomas Adynngton, John Cramphorn, Anne, his wife, and John Fawssett (Forsssett) and Magdalen, his wife. Subject: Cottage and land in the said Adynngton’s manor of Harlow. Essex.
131 ERO, Commissary Court, Essex and Hertfordshire Jurisdiction, D/ABW 28/328 [note 106].
132 Both transactions are recorded in Court Roll entries for the Manor of Sawbridgeworth, Hertfordshire, ERO, D/DU 752/2.
133 The will of John Mathew of Bishop’s Stortford, dated 24 January 1505 (ERO, Commissary Court, Essex and Hertfordshire Jurisdiction, D/ABW 25/4), names daughter Agnes Cramphorne, which might suggest that John Mathew’s connection lies with William Cramphorne’s mother. John Mathew also named son Thomas, less than 21, and mentions the house he, the testator, dwells
2. **George B Cramphorne** (*William C*) of Sawbridgeworth, Hertfordshire, was born say 1514 and was buried in Sawbridgeworth 19 March 1574/5. He married, possibly as a second wife, **Joan _____**, who was buried in Sawbridgeworth 2 March 1604/5 as “Jone Cramphorn of Chaundelers widow.” The will of George Cramphorne “the elder” of Sawbridgeworth was dated 7 December 1574 and proved 18 April 1575. He named wife Johanne; son George; daughters Marie (under 21) and Grace (under 21); daughters Elizabeth, and Katherine; godson William Browne; and John and Johan the children of Richard Wall. Wife Johanne was to be sole executrix, and brother John Cramphorne was to be supervisor. As discussed above, it is the property in Stockeley named in the will of Thomas A Cramphorne, combined with the appearance of the property Challen[er]s als Chandlers in the will of John Cramphorne (*Thomas A, George B, William C*), that identifies Thomas as the son of George B (*William C*) rather than the son of William B (*William C*). George’s will was witnessed by Laurence Brown and Mark Pearce.

**Children of George B Cramphorne:**

i. **Elizabeth Cramphorne**, b. say 1542; m. Sawbridgeworth 28 Sept. 1561, **Laurence Browne**, son of William B and Joan (_____). Browne, and

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134 Court of the Archdeaconry of Middlesex (Essex and Herts Division), ERO, D/AMR 3/234.

135 Some of the properties named were the following (emphasis added): “my messuage or tenement wherein I nowe dwell called Challen[er]s als Chandlers . . . one pece of lande lieng in purchefelfe conteninge halfe an acre & one pece of pasture ground comunely called Forebery . . . one crofte called Lonsonsley . . . one other crofte of pasture ground communely called Cowleies cont iiiij acres adjoining to the saide crofte called Leionsley one crofte called Longecerote . . . one grove of wode called wren parkcrofte . . . one other crofte called ffryers croft with hoppet called Thomas Adams . . . ad[j]oineth to the gronde called Mistellwell belonging to ffryers one close cont halfe an acre called Gratton meade, the southe heade abutteth to the lane leading to Widford one pece of land cont iacre and lieth in Cobies crofte one hoppet adjoining to the saide crofte called Cobies with one pece of land adjoining to the saide hoppet called Little Blackleake containing one acre, one other crofte called Little Blackley als Parcke valey cont iij acres abutting upon olde parkemeade, three peces of land lieng in Stockeley . . . one pece of Permenters between them, one pece of medowe lieng in Hallison . . . one crofte called Birchcrofte . . . and one pece of land lieng in Stonecrofte als Stonerfelfe . . . .”

The “one other crofte called ffryers croft with hoppet called Thomas Adams” is presumed to be amongst the “two messuages lands and tenements meadows grazing and pastures rents reversions and services . . . called Chaloners and Thomas Adams in Sabrygeworthe” left to George B from his father William C (footnote 113 above).

136 Richard Wall “the younger” of Sawbridgeworth, son of Nicholas C Wall, has been summarized elsewhere; see Fiske, “Wall Family of Essex, Part Two” [note 91], *The American Genealogist* 80:111–112. “Katen ye wife of Richard Wall,” buried Sawbridgeworth 19 March 1603, was probably the daughter Katherine named in George Cramphorne’s will. As discussed above, Richard Wall acted as a witness to the will of his [presumed] brother-in-law, Thomas A Cramphorne (*George B, William C*). In turn, Thomas’s son Daniel was named as overseer by Richard Wall in his will dated 29 June 1623.
The will of Laurence Brown of Waltham Holy Cross, weaver, dated 25 Feb. 1615/[6?] and proved 16 Sept. 1616,\textsuperscript{138} names sons William and Edward; daughter Sara; grandchildren Philip Browne and Sara Goteridge; wife Elizabeth (executor); and son John (overseer). Thomas Cramphorne and John Cramphorne who witnessed the document, were presumably his nephews, sons of brother-in-law Thomas Cramphorne.

Children of Laurence and Elizabeth (Cramphorne) Browne, all baptisms and burials in Sawbridgeworth:

2. Anthony Browne, bp. 31 Aug. 1567 as son of Laurence. Not mentioned in his father’s will.
3. Laurence Browne, bp. 2 June 1577 (no father given); bur. 6 June 1577.
4. Edward Browne, bp. 5 Oct. 1578 as son of Lawrence.
5. Elizabeth Browne, bp. 16/17 March 1581/2.
6. Sara Browne, alive in 1616 when mentioned in her father’s will, presumably the Sara Browne bp. Sawbridgeworth 4 April 1585, the same day that [her cousin] Sara Perry, daughter of Thomas Perry, was christened.

ii. Katherine Cramphorne, b. say 1544; probably m. Richard Wall “the younger” of Sawbridgeworth, who has been discussed elsewhere.\textsuperscript{139} She was bur. Sawbridgeworth 19 March 1603 as “Kateren ye wife of Richard Wall.” The will of Katherine’s father George mentions, along with godson William Brown, John and Johan, the children of Richard Wall. Richard Wall acted as a witness to the 1616 will of his [presumed] brother-in-law, Thomas Cramphorne [see no. iii. below]. In turn, Daniel Cramphorne (son of Katherine’s brother Thomas) was named as overseer by Richard Wall in his will dated 29 June 1623.

Children of Richard and Katherine (Cramphorne) Wall:

1. John Wall, alive with five sons at the time of his father’s will in 1623.
2. Joan Wall, alive in 1623; m. Much Hadham, Herts., 9 June 1584, Henry Ingold.\textsuperscript{140}
4. Mary Wall, alive in 1623; m. John Snow, who was named as an overseer in his [father-in-law] Richard Wall’s will.

\textsuperscript{137} The English ancestry of these Brownes may be found in Smith and Sanborn, Ancestry of Eva Belle Kempton, Part I [note 7], 169–179. See also Anderson, Great Migration Begins [note 89], 1:244–246 (Abraham), 255–259 (John), and Robert Charles Anderson, The Great Migration, Immigrants to New England, 1634–1635, Volume A–B (Boston: NEHGS, 1999), 416–418 (Edmund). At 417 is a discussion of the possibility that Matthew Ines of Boston married a sister of Abraham, John, and Edmund Browne.

\textsuperscript{138} Commissary Court of London, London Division, Registered Will vol. 22 fol. 594 [FHL 0,094,104].


\textsuperscript{140} Parish registers of Great [Much] Hadham, Hertfordshire [FHL 0,991,376].
5. Grace Wall, alive in 1623; m. Much Hadham 29 June 1590, Edward Samon.
6. Elizabeth Wall, alive 1623; m. Sawbridgeworth 28 May 1599, Edmund Wymmington.
7. John Wall, alive in 1623 ("younger son John" in his father's will).

iii. Thomas A Cramphorne, b. say 1546; bur. Sawbridgeworth 23 Aug. 1616; m. there 21 Sept. 1580, Mary Lyndesell. Details of the will of Thomas Cramphorne, dated 1 March 1613/4 and proved 27 Sept. 1616, have been published elsewhere. Richard Wall (uncle of immigrant James Wall of Exeter and Hampton, N. H.), who married Thomas’s sister Katherine (no. ii. above), was a witness along with Thomas Pidgrome. The will of Thomas Cramphorne's widow Mary, also abstracted in the original study of this family, was dated 6 April 1630 and proved 28 Feb. 1631. Mary’s will names daughter Ester, wife of Thomas Miller; son-in-law John Perry; son-in-law William Heath; son John Cramphorne and his wife Mary; and Thomas Cramphorne the son of Daniel Cramphorne her son. The will named Daniel and John Cramphorne to be executors, with son-in-law Thomas Miller to act as overseer. Witnesses were Jane Bukner and Thomas Miller.

Children of Thomas A and Mary (Lyndesell) Cramphorne; all baptisms and burials in Sawbridgeworth:

1. George Cramphorne, bp. 9 June 1583; bur. 21 July 1584 as “George Cramphorn infant.”
2. Daniel Cramphorne ["Abraham" crossed out in register with "Daniell" written below], bp. 24 April 1585. He was called “Husbandman” of Sawbridgeworth on 14 Sept. 1610, when he and Mary Burnap “spinstor” of Hunsdon, Herts., obtained a license to marry in Little Ilford, Essex, the same day and place as Mary’s brother Thomas Burnap and Mary Elliot of Hunsdon. Both couples were married by Mary’s brother-in-law Rev. John Morse of Little Ilford, who had also married Mary’s sister Dorothy Burnap. Daniel was of Bishop’s Stortford by the time his mother Mary’s will was written.
3. Phebe Cramphorne, b. say 1588; bur. Sawbridgeworth 27 Aug. 1627; m. there 10 Nov. 1614, John Perry, bp. there 25 Aug. 1588, d. between 18 Oct. 1653 and 19 Feb. 1655, son of John and Annes (Pierce) Perry. As discussed elsewhere, this was not

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141 ERO, Commissary Court, Essex and Hertfordshire Jurisdiction, D/ABW11/117; Smith and Sanborn, Ancestry of Eva Belle Kempton, Part I [note 7], 194.
142 ERO, Commissary Court, Essex and Hertfordshire Jurisdiction, ref: D/ABW 51/262; Smith and Sanborn, Ancestry of Eva Belle Kempton, Part I [note 7], 194–195.
145 Smith and Sanborn, Ancestry of Eva Belle Kempton, Part I [note 7], 195.
the immigrant John Perry who was established in New England by 1632 and therefore an unlikely candidate to be overseer of the 1638 will of brother-in-law John Cramphorne (no. 5 below).\[147\]

4. *Mary Cramphorne*, bp. 12 Jan. 1591/2; bur. Ware End, Great Amwell, Herts., 24 Nov. 1621; m. Great Amwell 10 Feb. 1616/7, as his first wife, William Heath, who settled in Roxbury, Mass., b. by 1591, d. Roxbury 29 May 1652, son of William and Agnes (Cheney) Heath.\[148\]

5. *John Cramphorne*, bp. 25 March 1594;\[149\] d. between 15 Aug. 1638 and 28 Sept. 1638 (dates of will and probate);\[150\] m. Mary _____, named in his will. The will specifically names property transferred by George Cramphorne to his son Thomas in 1575,\[151\] as well as the testator’s brother-in-law John Perry. John’s sister Phebe Cramphorne had married John Perry, hence the use of the term brother-in-law.


\[147\] Ibid., *The American Genealogist* 82:139.

\[148\] *Anderson, Great Migration Begins* [note 89], 2:901–904.

\[149\] The will of ThomasA Cramphorne, damaged as it is, strongly suggests that John was the eldest son — and Thomas was specifically named the youngest. Daniel is not mentioned in the surviving portions. Certainly John had inherited the bulk of his father’s estate by the time John made his will, in which he acknowledged Chandlers Lease purchased from his brother Daniel, whom he made executor. Regardless of the birth order of John and Daniel, it is unlikely that the Thomas Cramphorne baptized in Sawbridgeworth 20 November 1580 was of this family, as previously reported (Smith and Sanborn, *Ancestry of Eva Belle Kempton, Part I* [note 7], 195), since this Thomas was baptized only one month after the marriage of Thomas and Mary (Lyndesell) Cramphorne (see note 110).

\[150\] ERO, Commissary Court, Essex and Hertfordshire Jurisdiction, D/ABW 55/29, emphasis added: “In the name of god amen the fifteenth day of August in the yeare of our lord 1638 . . . I John Cramphorne of Acions in Sabridgworth in the Countie of hartford yeoman . . . viz I give & bequeath unto Mary my wife & to her Executors & Administrators & Assignes my house called Chandlers together with the outhouses barns stables & all other buildings whatsoever . . . and alsoe the yards orchards & gardens therunto belonge . . . one crofte of arable land called Lycelsey conteininge by esimacon five acres more or less lyinge & betwenee a field called wrenspark on the weast & a meade called Cowles on ye Easte . . . Itm one Crofte of pasture ground called Chandlers lease lynghe betweenee a field called Croles al Colliggs on the weast and a pasture called Newehoppet on ye east Itm one pasture called Newehoppett conteininge one acre & one Roode more or lesse lynge betweene the barne yard on ye North & the aforesayd field called Lycencsly on the South Itm one meade called heather cowlease . . . lyinge betweene the field called Lysencesly & the land of Willm Burton on the East Itm one Crofte called Barnes Crofte . . . unto her the saide Mary my wife . . . unto the full . . . terme of fifteen yeares thence . . . and after the expiracon of the sayd terme . . . unto Thomas my eldest sonne & to his heyres for ever . . . [provisions made for his three daughters Mary, Martha and Sara] . . . Itm I give & bequeath unto Mary my wife . . . my feidle or crofte of gronde called wrenspark . . . my field or crofte of land called Cooles al Colbiggs . . . conteininge by esimacon six acres . . . in Sabridgworth . . . abutteth upon a crofte of pasture ground called Chandlers lease on the Easte . . . I latly purchased to me & my heers forever of Daniel Cramphorne my brother . . . [to Mary also for term of fifteen years after which it is to revert to his three younger sons John, Daniel and Samuel in equal portions]. I ordeine & make Daniel Cramphorn my brother my soole executor . . . & John Perry my brother in lawe & John Foskew of Nazinge in the Countie of Essex my overseers.” Will witnessed by John Foskew and Elizabeth Wright. Proved 28 September 1638.

\[151\] See note 135.
7. *Hester Cramphorne*, bp. 1 Jan. 1599/1600; m. Sawbridgeworth 13 March 1626/7, *Thomas Miller* of Bishop's Stortford, son of Thomas and Agnes (_____ ) Miller, and brother of Massachusetts immigrants Elizabeth (Miller) Heath, wife of Isaac of Roxbury; Agnes (Miller) Burnap/Burnett, wife of Robert of Reading; Margaret (Miller) Waterman, wife of Thomas of Roxbury; and Joseph Miller of Roxbury.[152]

8. *Thomas Cramphorne*, called youngest son in his father's 1613/4 will, but not in his mother’s 1630 will.

iv. *George Cramphorne*, b. say 1548; m. (1) Sawbridgeworth 4 July 1569, Annys Browne, son of William[8] and Joan (_____ ) Browne, and sister of Laurence Browne who m. Elizabeth Cramphorne (see above). Annys "ye wife of George Cramphorn" was bur. Sawbridgeworth 29 July 1587. George m. (2) Sawbridgeworth 8 Dec 1588, Elizabeth (Hanchet) Stileman. The will of Elizabeth Hanchet of Great Burstead, Essex, widow, dated 8 July 1607,[153] names her daughter Elizabeth Cramphorne, and grandchildren Henry Cramphorne, George Cramphorne, Deborah Cramphorne, and Anna Cramphorne, all children of her daughter Elizabeth Cramphorne and all less than 21 years of age; Jone Stileman, daughter of “my daughter Elizabeth Cramphorne”; Edward Meade, the son of Edward Meade; neighbor Elizabeth Beckman; the daughter of William Stileman, at day of marriage or at age 21; William Stileman, Elizabeth Stileman, Eleanor Styleman, Mary Styleman, and Jone Styleman, the son and daughters of daughter Elizabeth Cramphorne.

Children of George and Annys (Browne) Cramphorne, all baptisms and burials in Sawbridgeworth:

3. *Sara Cramphorne*, bp 8 Nov. 1585; bur 19 May 1586.

Children of George and Elizabeth (Hanchet) (Stileman) Cramphorne, all named in their maternal grandmother’s 1607 will; all baptisms in Sawbridgeworth:

6. *George Cramphorne*, possibly the George Cramphorne bp. 16 Nov 1589, no father given.
7. *Henry Cramphorne* (twin), bp. 13 July 1595 as “Harry” s. of George Cramphorne.
8. *Deborah Cramphorne* (twin), bp. 13 July 1595 as “his other d.”
9. *Anna Cramphorne*.

v. *Mary Cramphorne*, b. after 1553 (since underage in her father’s 1574 will); bur. Sawbridgeworth 28 June 1612 as Mary Perry, widow. Her father George, in his 1574 will, named daughters in the order Mary and Grace,

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[153] ERO, Commissary Court, Essex and Hertfordshire Jurisdiction, D/ABW 20/93.
both underage. The later birth years for Mary and Grace would suggest that his marriage to Joan might have been a later marriage following the loss of his first wife, who possibly was the mother of his four older children.

Mary Cramphorne m. Sawbridgeworth 25 Sept. 1581, Thomas Perry, b. say 1535, bur. Sawbridgeworth 30 July 1607, son of Thomas and Elizabeth (_____) Perry,\(^{154}\) and uncle of Abraham A Perry of Sawbridgeworth.\(^{155}\) Her placement as the daughter of George Cramphorne was initially based on the coincidence that both she and her brother Thomas Cramphorne named daughters Phebe, an unusual name in the Sawbridgeworth registers at that time, combined with the fact that she was unmarried and under 21 at the time of George’s 1574 will. Less circumstantial is Mary’s appointment of Daniel Cramphorne and Thomas Pigeon as overseers of her will, dated 23 June 1612.\(^{156}\) Thomas Pigeon’s mark as witness appears on the wills of both Mary’s husband Thomas Perry in 1607 and her brother Thomas Cramphorne in 1616. The children of Thomas and Mary (Cramphorne) Perry, who included Phebe (Perry) Desborough of Roxbury, Mass., have been summarized elsewhere.\(^{157}\)

vi. Grace Cramphorne, bp. Sawbridgeworth 28 Sept. 1561 as “daughter of George Cramphorne”; d. after 7 Dec. 1574 when she was mentioned in her father’s will.\(^{158}\)

\(^{154}\) Fiske, “Perry Family of Sawbridgeworth” [note 3], The American Genealogist 82:189, 276–278.
\(^{155}\) Ibid., The American Genealogist 82:280. See Figure in Part 1 of this article (Register 171 [2017]:134–135).
\(^{156}\) ERO, Commissary Court, Essex and Hertfordshire Jurisdiction, ref: D/ABW 30/175. For details see Fiske, “Perry Family of Sawbridgeworth” [note 3], The American Genealogist 82:277.
\(^{158}\) As Grace was not a common name, it is remotely possible she was identical with Grace, wife of Edmund Browne, buried in Sawbridgeworth 19 October 1586.
The Reverend mr Ebenezer Wyman Departed this Life January the 30th Day 1745
Abigail Ward Wife to [torn] Ward Departed this Life January 5th Day 1746/7[7]
Lydda Walker Wife to Benjamin Walker Departed this Life January the 19th Day 1746/7
Rachel Enos Wife to Joseph Enos De[part]ed this Life February the [erasure] 25th Day 1746/7
Elizabeth Badger Wife to Daniel Badger Junr Departed this Life March the 12th 1747
Anna Hendrakes wife to Israel Hendrackes Depa[rted] this Life November the 8th 1743
[very faint entry] … Departed this Life June the 26th 1747
Joseph Preson Son [to] Joseph Preson and Mary Preson his Wife Departed this Life June the 28th 1747
Daniel Badger Son to Daniel Badger Junr and Elizabeth Badger his Wife Departed this Life August the 11th 1747
[Samull?] Lawson Son to John Lawson and [Jennet?] Lawson [illegible] ye 9th 1747
Tabitha Ward Daughter to Uriah Ward and Elizabeth [Ward his Wife] departed this Life September ye 26th 1748
[last entry at bottom of page illegible]

[p. 179]
[illegible]ett paull daughter to Robert paull and his wiff mehittabell paull was b[orn] [torn]ary the twenty sixth on thousand seven hundred and twenty Eight
[torn – illegible] paull daughter to Robert paull and his wiff mehittabell paull was born october the Eighten day on thousand seven hudnred and twenty nine
mehittabel paull daughter to Robert paull and his wiff mehittabell paull was b[orn] on october the sixteenth day on thousand seven hundred and thirty foure

7 Barbour Collection, citing Union Vital Records, Death Book No. 1, p. 2b, wife of John, died 5 January 1746.
Benjamin Walker son to Benjamin Walker and his wife Lidea Walker was Born in Union this seventeenth day of March 1735

Sarah Stickney daughter to Amos Stickney and his wife Hepzibah was Born in Union November 01 1735

Rebecca Lawson daughter to John Lawson and his wife Janett Lawson was Born the fourteenth day of August 1719

[The Lawson entries below written together as one paragraph]

Jezball Lawson Daughter to John Lawson and his wife Janett Lawson was Born the fourteenth day of April 1721

John Lauzon son to John Lauzon and his wife Janett Lauzon was Born the thirtieth day of June 1724

Thomas Lawton son to John Lauzon and his wife Janett Lauzon was Born on October the second day 1727

Jezball Lauzon Daughter to John and his wife Janett Lauzon was Born the fourteenth day of April 1721

Mary Paull daughter to Matthew Paull and his wife Sarah Paull was Born the sixteenth day of November 1728 [1722?]

Mary Paull daughter to Matthew Paull and his wife Sarah Paull was Born the six and twentieth day of March 1737 [illegible]

Sarah Paull daughter to Matthew Paull and his wife Sarah Paull was Born the fifth and twentieth day of May 1726 [illegible]

John Paull son to Matthew Paull and his wife Sarah Paull was Born the third day of July 1731

Eune Paull daughter to Matthew Paull and his wife Sarah Paull was Born the twentieth day of August 1734

[illegible] Walker Daughter of Nathanell Walker Junr and his wife Dinah [W]alker was Born the 12th day of December 1736

[The Ward entries below written together as one paragraph – some hard to read]

[illegible] an Ward Son to Gamaliel Ward and Damarius [illegible] was Born the second day of March 1728 [illegible]

William Ward Son to Gamaliel Ward and Damarius was Born the 12th day of April 1732

Mary Ward Daughter to Gamaliel Ward and Damarius was Born the first day of March 1734

[illegible] Ward Daughter to Gamaliel Ward and Damarius [Damaras Ward was] Born the 28th day of March 1737

[illegible] Daughter to Benjamin Walker and Lidea [walk his] wife was Born [illegible]d day of March [illegible]
Badger Son to Henery Badger and Mary Badger . . . of August 1738
Rebekah Badger Daughter to . . . Rebekah Badger his Wife Was borne
November y' 22 . . .
. . . h Stickne [sic] Was Daughter to Amas Stickney and his . . . borne y' 8th day of April 1739
Elizebeath Paul Da . . . hew Paul and his Wife Sarah Paul W[as] Borne . . .
y' 28th day of May . . .
. . . hew Paul Son to Matthew Paul a[nd] . . . of May 1739
James Paul Son to . . . Was Born May th[e] . . .
[crossed out entry] . . . 1729
. . . Ward Daughter of John Ward and . . . Ward his . . . 10th . . . 40
Mary [?] Badger Daug[hter] . . . ry Badg[er] . . . [B]adger his wife Was Borne
Marc[h] 20 [20 crossed out? – then lost section] . . . 1739/40
[?James Macknall] Son to Alexandr[e] Macknall and Elizabeth Macknall h[is wife
was] Born y' 12th [day?] of March 1740
Anne badger Daughter to [Daniel Badger and] Patience Badger his Was [sic]
Born September 23th [torn]
Elisabet[h] Badger Daughter [to] Daniel B[adger and] [E]lisabet[h] Badger his
wif[e w]as Born [torn]

[At least one entire entry is lost, but judging by the short length of the surviving
page, there were likely five or more.]

(concluded)
New England Articles
in Genealogical Journals in 2015

Henry B. Hoff

This annual feature in the Register indexes certain genealogical journals nineteen months after the close of the publication year. Not all articles in each journal are included. Some articles are not relevant to New England, some are too general, and others are insufficiently documented.

Listed below are fifteen journals indexed (with abbreviations). Next is an index to surnames, places, and some subjects occurring in the titles of articles (or commentary) in these journals in 2015. The index is to the bibliography by author that follows; “a&c” is used to indicate additions and corrections to articles since 2000 (only the original author is cited).

Photocopies of articles for personal research can be obtained (for a fee) from libraries or from NEHGS Research Services (AmericanAncestors.org → Services Tab → Services and Products → Photocopy Services).

AA  American Ancestors
AAJ  American Ancestors Journal (annual supplement to the Register; 2014 was its final year)
CA  Connecticut Ancestry
CN  The Connecticut Nutmegger
GMN  Great Migration Newsletter
MASSOG  MASSOG: A Genealogical Magazine for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts
MD  Mayflower Descendant (not published in 2015)
MG  The Maine Genealogist
MQ  The Mayflower Quarterly
NGSQ  National Genealogical Society Quarterly
NHGR  The New Hampshire Genealogical Record (not published in 2015)
NYGBR  The New York Genealogical and Biographical Record
Register  The New England Historical and Genealogical Register
RIR  Rhode Island Roots
TAG  The American Genealogist
TEG  The Essex Genealogist
TG  The Genealogist
VG  Vermont Genealogy
Adams: see Coughlin
Adelson: see Dwyer & Ginsburg
African-American: see Beaudrault; Betlock; DeBoise; MacGunnigle; Sewall
Allen: see Mellen
American Revolution: see Wiggin
AmericanAncestors.org: see Vail; Vail, Sturgis & Carter
Andrews: see DeBoise; Hinman
Annetts: see Winterhalter
Artists: see Norton; Sundeen
Bailey: see Anderson
Baker: see Baker
Barker: see Fiske & Fiske
Barnard: see Blodgett
Barnes: see Keroack
Bartlett: see Anderson; Martin
Bassett: see Henderson
Bates: see Tomlinson
Bennett: see Jessup; Wolfe
Betterley: see Mahler
Billington: see Arthaud
Blyth: see Norton
Boston Sea Fencibles: see Betlock
Bouchier: see Hatcher
Bowers: see Natale
Bowman: see Anderson & Nasman
Bray: see Anderson
Bristol: see Lamar
Browe: see Hatcher
Bull: see Fiske
Bunce: see Clark
Bursley: see Bursley
Button: see Lucey
Campbell: see Dwyer
Census 1790: see Wolff
Chapman: see Marr
Chapouil: see Brunelle & Shaw
Charnock: see Sharpe
Chatham, Conn.: see Patch
Civil War: see Applegate; Bailey; DeBoise; Dwyer; Grandchamp
Clark: see Blount
Clarke: see Hurtuk; Swanson
Clason: see Jessup
Cobb: see Haggerty
Connecticut Historical Society: see Tomlinson
Connor: see Jessup
Cooper: see Salls
Crofut: see Jessup
Cuffe: see Betlock
Curtis: see Arthaud; Hinman
DaCosta: see Nelson
Davenport: see Calkins
Day: see Hubbard
Deboise: see DeBoise
Decoster: see Nelson
Devereux: see Sharpe
Dickinson: see Salls
DNA: see Calkins; Sheppard
Drake: Beaudrault
Drew: see Gardner
Dwyer: see Dwyer
Dyer: see Bursley
Early Vermont Settlers to 1784: see Bartley
East Greenwich, R.I.: see MacGunnigle
East Hampton, Conn.: see Patch
Eaton: see Switlik
Edson: see Perreault
Eggleston: see Harris; Wadleigh
Eldred: see Smith
Elwyn: see Stott
Everson: see Edwards
Fairbank: see Haggerty; Lindgren
Fairfield Co., Conn.: see Hart; Jessup; Locke
Ferguson: see Watson
Ferris: see Wolff
Fornication: see Ryan
Freeman: see DeBoise; West
Fry: see MacGunnigle
Gardiner: see Switlik
Gardner: see Switlik
Garret: see Hatcher
Ginsburg: see Dwyer & Ginsburg
Gleason: see Claassen
Goatley: see Mahler
Goodrich: see Campanelli
Great Migration: see Anderson
Greens Farms, Conn.: see Dempsey
Greenwood: see Sharpe
Griffith: see Cassarino
Harriander: see Hanson
Hart: see Hart
Haswell: see Farmerie
Hosley: see Fitzpatrick
Hoxie: see Henderson
Hoyt: see Keroack
Hubbard: see Hubbard
Humphrey: see Ruddock
Immigrants: see Dwyer & Ginsburg; Hart; Locke
Jefts: see Fitzpatrick
Jewish Organizations: see Call; Garner
Johannsdotter: see Locke
Katherine Gibbs School; see Doherty
Kellogg: see Principe
Kingsbury: see Salls
Kittery, Me.: see Blair
Kneeland: see Hurtuk
Kusinitz: see Dwyer & Ginsburg
Landerholm: see Locke
Larrabee: see Owen
Ledoux: see Dwyer
Lincoln, Mass.: see Wigg
Lockwood: see McDonald
Lombard: see Stott
Lothrop: see Bursley
Mason: see Anderson; Coughlin
Mass. Land Records: see Kenney; Krea
Mass. Probate: see Sturgis; Ullmann
Mayflower Families: see Hurtuk; MacGunnigle
McLean: see Arthaud
Merick: see Fitzpatrick
Millard: see Krause
Minor: see Beaudrault
Minot: see Fitzpatrick
Moger: see Jessup
Morehouse: see Belcher
Morgan: see Benson
Native Americans: see Winterhalter
New Canaan, Conn.: see Galvin
Newton: see Champion & Bamberg
Norton: see Coughlin
Oakley: see Hatcher
Ogden: see Hart
Osborne: see Mahler
Owen: see Owen
Palmer: see Mathew & Bamberg
Parke: see Benson; West
Parker: see Lindgren
Parsons: see Dwyer
Pasko: see Watson
Paternity Suits: see Ryan
Peake: see West
Pelham: see Fraser
Perament: see Jessup
Perkins: see Bursley; DeBoise
Perry: see Krea; Wolff
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Woollacott: see Woollacott

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Quarterly News

Please note these recent NEHGS developments. For more news, and more detail, read American Ancestors magazine and, of course, consult AmericanAncestors.org, your portal to all that NEHGS has to offer.

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Final Great Migration Newsletter
The Great Migration Study Project arrived at its culmination with Robert Charles Anderson’s final newsletter in December 2016. A compendium of all twenty-five volumes (100 issues) is now available, or add the last five Volumes 21–25 to your previously published compendia. Note that each separate compilation has been indexed independently; if you want or need a single, complete index of all volumes, you should purchase the complete Volumes 1–25 publication.

The Descendants of Robert Winthrop of New York
During the seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries, the Winthrop family of Massachusetts produced three colonial governors in three generations; if the third was less potent than the first two, this feat must still be considered remarkable. The family, having reached a kind of apogee by 1700, did not—as would so many early New England families—then fade away. One line drifted south, to Connecticut, and then settled in New York City in the late eighteenth century. It was this branch of the Winthrop family to which Robert belonged, and by the time he was born in 1833 the family was well-established in Manhattan. This book by Scott C. Steward and Chip Rowe offers a full review of this line of the family in England and America from the beginning of the sixteenth century to the present day. Modern-day descendants include recent U.S. Ambassadors to Great Britain, Sweden, and Luxembourg, as well as a recent U.S. Undersecretary of Agriculture. More than one hundred heads of family descending from Robert Winthrop are covered.

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