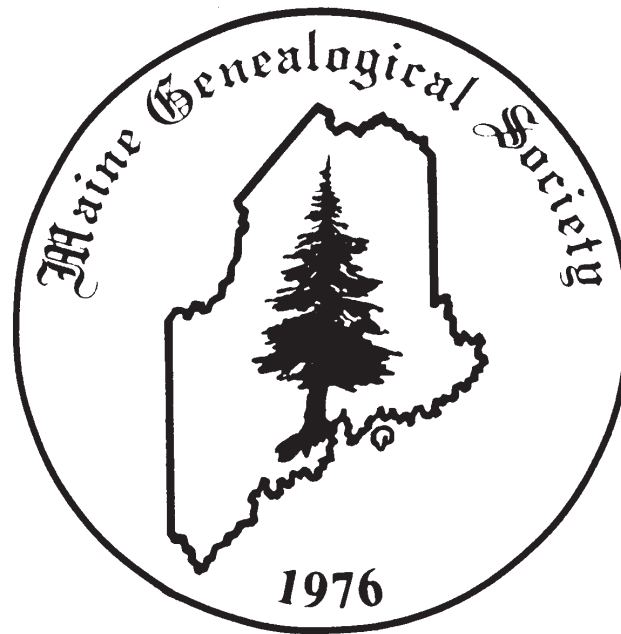


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The Maine Genealogical Society

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Recent Publications

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Early Families of Kennebunkport, Maine, 442 pp., 7" x 10", index, printed endleaves, illustrations, **\$65.00**. Order from the author: Frederick R. Boyle, 887 Main Street, Apt. 3, Sanford ME 04073

MARINERS AND TRADERS:
THREE ENTANGLED NATHANIEL KENTS
OF PLYMOUTH COUNTY, MASSACHUSETTS, AND MAINE

By Michael F. Dwyer, FASG

As a descendant of *Mayflower* passengers Edward Doty and Richard Warren, Lusanna⁵ Ford (*Alice*⁴ *Warren*, *Sarah*³ *Doty*, *Edward*²⁻¹), wife of Elisha Kent of Marshfield, Massachusetts, has been the subject of five-generation sketches which include the births only and marriages of her sixth-generation children.¹ The initial impetus of this study sought to research more assiduously all details of Lusanna and Elisha's children and spouses, especially in documenting the migration from Marshfield to Maine of their sons Warren and Charles Kent and daughters Lucy (Kent) Besse and Sarah (Kent) (Samson) Carver. My investigation soon hit a roadblock with their tenth child, Nathaniel Kent, born in Marshfield on 25 December 1760. Did he marry Abigail Weston in Brunswick, Maine, on 6 October 1784?

A *Mayflower* five-generation sketch of Henry Samson descendant Abigail⁵ Weston (*Deborah*⁴ *Simmons*, *Rachel*³ *Samson*, *Caleb*², *Henry*¹) alerted me to conflicting claims of parentage for Nathaniel Kent. This entry averred that Abigail Weston's husband, Nathaniel Kent, was born around 1760, an unrecorded child of Joseph and Lydia (Thomas) Kent.² Chasing down the source of the "unrecorded child" led me to two competing entries for Nathaniel Kent in *The Kent Genealogy*. Thus, before plunging any further into Lusanna (Ford) Kent's children, I needed to sort which Nathaniel was correct—only to discover a *third* Nathaniel Kent whose details melded into the other two. Extricating this longstanding thicket begins with evaluating the entry in *The Kent Genealogy*.

NATHANIEL KENT, TRADER, OF AUGUSTA, MAINE

At first glance, it seems L[loyd] Vernon Briggs's *The Kent Genealogy* is more credible than typical late-nineteenth genealogies in its many excerpts of deeds, guardianships, and wills. Briggs, however, inadvertently amplified the confusion among seemingly contemporary men named Nathaniel Kent, as is evident in this vignette:

NATHANIEL,⁴ son of Elisha,³ mar. *Abigail* . . . He was a mariner, and resided in Marshfield, where, in 1775, he was a member of Capt. Abijah Crocker's Co. under

¹ *Mayflower Families Through Five Generations*, 11, Part 1: Edward Doty, by Peter B. Hill, 2nd ed. (Plymouth, Mass., 2009), 90 [image, americanancestors.org].

² *Mayflower Families Through Five Generations*, 20, Part 3: Henry Samson, by Jane Fletcher Fiske (Plymouth, Mass., 2006), 410.

Gen. John Thomas. Later he became a trader of Augusta County [*sic*], Me., then a yeoman of Waldoborough, Me. His widow d. in Duxbury in 1828.³

Following this entry, Briggs cited, without volume or page, a dozen Plymouth County deeds. The first two, from Nathaniel Kent, mariner, of Marshfield, recorded the surrender of wife Abigail Kent's dower:

Nath^l Kent of Marshfield, mariner, in consideration of \$108.83 paid by Luther White of Marshfield, cordwainer, conveyed about three acres of salt marsh lying in Marshfield, Abigail wife of Nath^l Kent named [dated 23 Dec. 1800].⁴

Nath^l Kent of Marshfield, mariner, in consideration of \$146.25, paid by Judah Thomas of Marshfield, yeoman, conveyed slightly more than three acres of salt marsh in Marshfield, Abigail wife of Nath^l Kent named [dated 31 Aug. 1801].⁵

In abstracting the next two deeds, Briggs assumed that they pertained to the same Nathaniel above:

Nath^l Kent of Augusta, Co. of Kennebec, trader, in consideration of \$65 paid by William Kent of Marshfield, mariner [dated 10 Sept. 1802].⁶

Nath^l Kent of Waldoborough, Co. of Lincoln, in consideration of \$200 paid by Ichabod Kent of Duxbury, yeoman, conveyed the farm on which Ichabod Kent now dwells, bounded by land of Lydia Delano and Henry Chandler [dated 13 Oct. 1812].⁷

Time for a Gordian knot moment and boldly cut loose the wrong Nathaniel: As will be documented, deeds with wife Abigail Kent all refer to Nathaniel Kent of Duxbury and Marshfield (1759–1838). About seventeen years his junior, a different Nathaniel Kent is the one who migrated to Maine. How did the two men of the same name get so confused? Adding to this muddle of recurring first names among Kent kin, we also have problems of two Abigail Kents to sort out, namely the *wife* of Nathaniel (1759–1838), and Abigail Kent, *single woman*, whom Briggs incorrectly identified as Nathaniel's widow. Ironically, the administration of the estate of Abigail Kent, *single woman*, not a widow, of Duxbury, who died on 12 June 1827, unequivocally affirms the identity of the man who lived in Waldoboro, Maine.

Nathaniel Kent, a trader, was born in Duxbury, Massachusetts, on 12 September 1776, only surviving son of Ichabod and Abigail (Hunt) Kent.⁸ He moved between Duxbury and Maine as early as 1 June 1798 when Shubael Hinckley of Hallowell sold for \$60 to Nathaniel Kent, trader, a tract of land in Hallowell.⁹ On 18 April 1799, William Dorr of Hallowell sold to Nathaniel Kent, merchant, ten

³ L[loyd] Vernon Briggs, *Genealogies of the Different Families Bearing the Name of Kent* (Boston, Mass., 1898), 61.

⁴ Plymouth Co. Deeds, 134:225, 23 Dec. 1800.

⁵ Plymouth Co. Deeds, 90:256, 31 Aug. 1801.

⁶ Plymouth Co. Deeds, 97:31, 10 Sept. 1802.

⁷ Plymouth Co. Deeds, 122:97, 13 Oct. 1812.

⁸ *Vital Record of Duxbury, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850* (Boston, Mass., 1911), 101.

⁹ Lincoln Co. Deeds, 40:233.

acres.¹⁰ Two years later, on 17 October 1801, Nathaniel sold back that same parcel to William Dorr.¹¹

A further misinterpretation that arises from examining in isolation the two Maine deeds of 1802 and 1812 from Nathaniel Kent, trader, assumes he resided continuously in Maine between those two dates. In fact, trader Nathaniel moved back to Duxbury where he married Sarah Southworth Turner on 24 November 1804.¹² Their first three children, Sarah Ann, Jane, and Lucy, were recorded in Duxbury.¹³

In 1810 Nathaniel Kent headed a household of four in Duxbury, preceded by that of his father, Ichabod Kent.¹⁴ By 1812, however, Nathaniel lived in Waldoboro when he sold for \$200 to his father, Ichabod, the farm where Ichabod now lived.¹⁵ While Nathaniel's last five children—Clarissa, Ichabod, Abigail, Otis, and Frederick—did not have their births recorded in Maine, their census and death records indicate they were born in the vicinity of Waldoboro.

Were it not for the faintly readable gravestones in Brookland Cemetery in Waldoboro, we might not have known Nathaniel Kent died in Philadelphia, two years after the death of his wife, Sarah. Since guardians for their children were not appointed until eight years after Nathaniel's death and only months after the death of his unmarried sister, Abigail Kent, on 12 June 1827,¹⁶ it seems probable Abigail served as guardian of Nathaniel's children.

Three records clearly identify the children of Nathaniel and Sarah Kent. First are the records of their guardianship. On 19 May 1828, Silvanus Smith of Duxbury was appointed guardian of Nathaniel Kent's children under the age of fourteen: Lucy, Clarissa, Ichabod, Abigail, Otis Winsor, and Frederick Sebastian Cabot Kent. Daughter Jane Kent, then living in Duxbury, and over the age of fourteen, chose as her guardian Samuel Frazer.¹⁷

Secondly, the administration of single woman Abigail Kent's estate distributed assets to her sisters: Jane Ames, Desiah Emmons, and the children of her late brother Nathaniel Kent. Interestingly, Abigail's inventory included twenty books.¹⁸

Lastly, the will of Anna (Soule) (Turner) Fish, mother of Sarah Southworth (Turner) Kent, of Waldoboro, Maine, dated 2 July 1833, leaves one dollar each to

¹⁰ Kennebec Co. Deeds, 1:153.

¹¹ Kennebec Co. Deeds, 3:474.

¹² *Duxbury VRs* [note 8], 323.

¹³ *Duxbury VRs* [note 8], 101–2.

¹⁴ Nath^l Kent household, 1810 U. S. Census, Duxbury, Plymouth Co., Mass., p. 223.

¹⁵ Plymouth Co. Deeds, 122:97.

¹⁶ *VRs Duxbury* [note 12], 390.

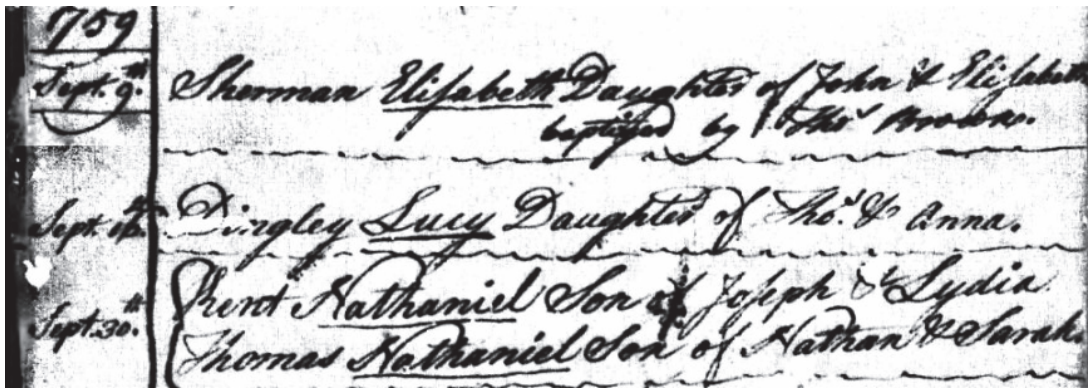
¹⁷ Plymouth Co. Probate Records, #12038 [DGS #4818345, image 512].

¹⁸ Abigail Kent administration, 1827, Plymouth Co. Probate Records, #12034 [DGS #4818345, images 472].

grandchildren Sarah Ann Kent, Jane Turner, Lucy, Clarissa, Ichabod, Abigail, Otis, and Frederick Kent, children of Nathaniel Kent deceased.¹⁹

NATHANIEL KENT (1759–1838), MARINER OF DUXBURY

The Henry Samson entry describing fifth-generation *Mayflower* descendant Abigail Weston’s husband, Nathaniel Kent, as “probably an unrecorded son of Joseph and Lydia (Thomas) Kent,” can now be declared with certainty. Baptismal records of the First Church of Marshfield do indeed reveal two Nathaniel Kents, both baptized in 1759:²⁰



1759, Sept. 30th Kent Nathaniel Son of Joseph & Lydia Thomas

As noted in the Samson sketch, Nathaniel’s birth was not recorded in town records. A deed of July 1785 proves that Joseph and Lydia’s son Nathaniel lived to maturity. Joseph Kent and Lydia Kent, his wife, of Marshfield, for ninety-five pounds paid by their sons John and Nathaniel Kent, mariners, sold the homestead of the late John Thomas. Abigail Kent witnessed the deed.²¹

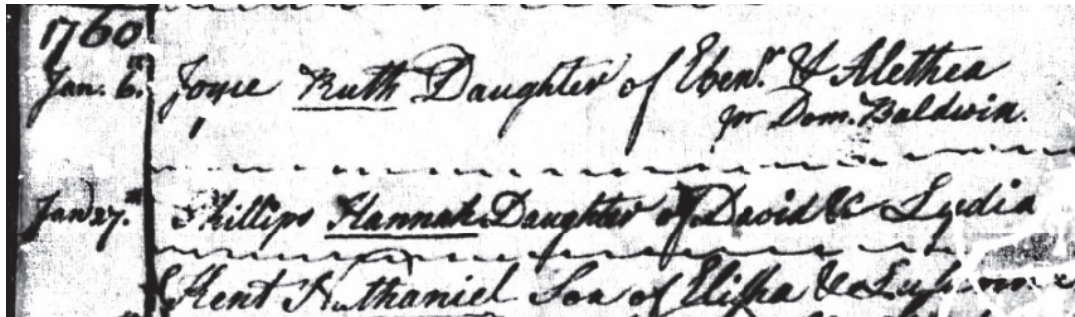
Farther down on the same page of the church record is that of the second Nathaniel, son of Elisha and Lusanna, baptized 27 January 1760. The date is not exactly compatible with the dates in the earliest version of Marshfield town records of two sons named Nathaniel, one born 25 December 1757 and died two years later, and the second born 25 December 1760.²² That the town register records the births in three close columns, out of chronological order, suggests that errors may have crept in. Whatever was the correct birth date of Elisha and Lusanna Kent’s son Nathaniel, no evidence has been found that he lived to maturity.

¹⁹ Lincoln Co. Probate Records, 46:13. Anna Soule had m. (1) (int.) Waldoboro, 25 Dec. 1784, Alexander Turner, and m. (2) (int.) Waldoboro, 11 Oct. 1804, William Fish (Marlene A. Groves, *Vital Records of Waldoboro, Maine* [Rockland, Maine, 2008], 15, 23).

²⁰ Mass. Town and Vital Records, Marshfield, Baptisms, original, p. 55 [image, ancestry.com].

²¹ Plymouth Co. Deeds, 64:122.

²² Robert M. Sherman and Ruth Wilder Sherman, comps., *Vital Records of Marshfield, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850* (Camden, Maine, 1993), 76, 77.



1760, Jan 27th Kent Nathaniel Son of Elisha & Lusanna

A mariner, Nathaniel Kent served for two years in the Revolution. In his pension application of 21 November 1820, he declared that he lived “at rent”; his family consisted of “a wife, aged 58 years, of feeble health, and three minor daughters, neither of them equal to their support.” Later testimony in support of Abigail’s widow’s pension gives context to why the couple, having declared their marriage intention in Marshfield, married in Brunswick, Maine:

I Abigail Weston aged seventy five years depose & say that I was present & saw Nataniel Kent & Abigail Weston married at Brunswick Maine on the sixth day of October Seventeen hundred & eighty four. I went from Marshfield in a vessell with Nathl Kent to Brunswick to attend the marriage & have a perfect recollection of the time & circumstances they were married by the Rev. Mr Eaton who lived about eleven miles from Brunswick.²³

In Duxbury’s 1850 census, Abigail Kent, age 84, headed a household with unmarried daughters Abigail, 55, and Mariah, 51; widowed daughter Deborah Soule, 47; grandson Daniel Soule, 25, shoemaker; and two boarders, Ezra Dimon, 15, and Olive Chandler, 12.²⁴

KENTS OF KENT’S HILL

We can now return to my original quest of documenting all of Elisha and Lusanna (Ford) Kent’s children. Elisha Kent of Marshfield acted as grantor in at least seven Plymouth County deeds, but only two make explicit connection to his son William Kent, mariner. On 5 October 1785, Elisha Kent sold for £570 to son William Kent, mariner, three pieces of land, a total of eighty-three acres in Marshfield, including the farm where he lived.²⁵ Lusanna made her dower’s mark in the presence of Charles Kent and Lucy Kent. The last deed, on 25 May 1786 from Elisha and Lusanna, is the sale for £35 of a wood lot which came from “hon^d father, Mr. John Kent of Marshfield, deceased.”²⁶ Elisha and Lusanna, likely by then living

²³ Revolutionary War pension #W14986. Samuel Eaton was the minister at Harpswell, Maine.

²⁴ Abigail Kent household, 1850 U.S. Census, Duxbury, Plymouth Co., Mass., p. 77B.

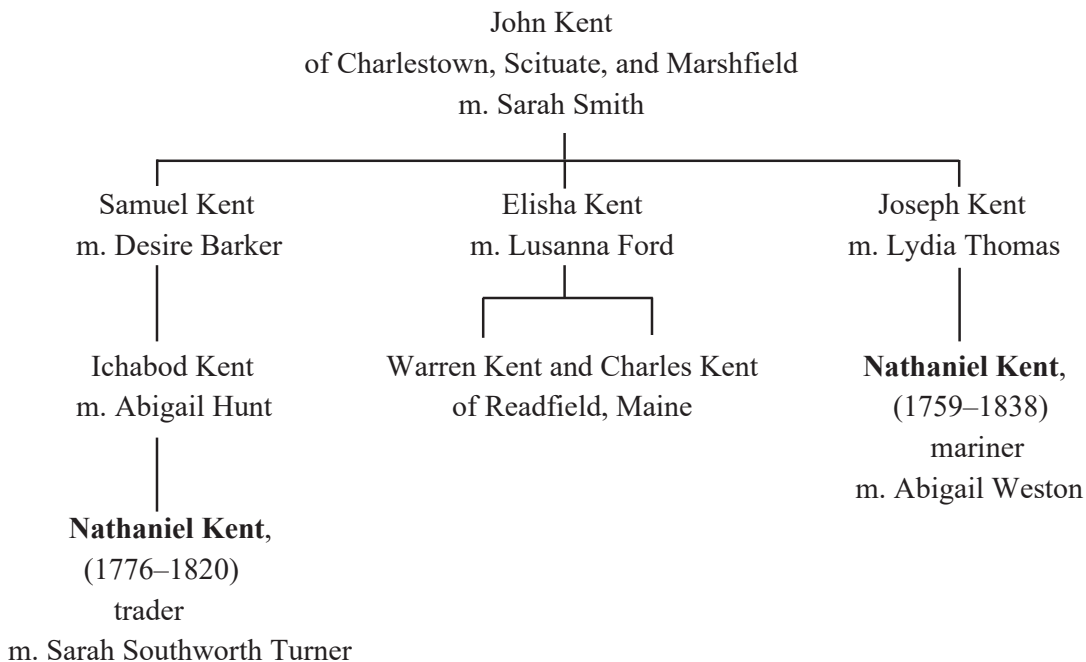
²⁵ Plymouth Co. Deeds, 64:192.

²⁶ Plymouth Co. Deeds, 66:257.

with their son William, probably died not long after these deeds were made, as their presence cannot be inferred from the 1790 census.

With no inheritance coming from their father, it may explain why Charles and Warren Kent, with their families, made their way to Maine along with their then-unmarried sister Lucy. The Kent genealogy states: “In company with two of his brothers, [Charles] moved to Readfield, Me., and settled on Kent’s Hill.”²⁷ The implied third brother here was, in fact, John Kent of Mount Vernon, Maine, on 3 June 1807.²⁸ Descendants of the Kent’s Hill Kents entwined once again in successive generations with recurring surnames. Lucy Kent, unmarried in 1785, joined her brothers in Winthrop, Maine, where she wed Ebenezer Besse, a Revolutionary War veteran with three daughters. Only one child, Elisha Besse (ca. 1791–1881) was born to this union.²⁹

A simplified chart below shows that Nathaniel Kent, trader, was the first cousin, once removed, of Nathaniel Kent, mariner. The number of mariners among the Duxbury and Marshfield Kents also points towards ongoing travel aboard coastal sailing from Massachusetts to Maine long before the establishment of railroads.



²⁷ Briggs, *Genealogies of the Name of Kent* [note 3], 61.

²⁸ Nathaniel Kent to John Kent of Mt. Vernon, wife Betsey (Plymouth Co. Deeds, 126:170). John Kent (1755–1835), son of Joseph and Lydia (Thomas) Kent, was the brother of Nathaniel who m. Abigail Weston (Plymouth Co. Deeds, 64:122 [see note 21]). John’s widow, Betty/Betsey, obtained a Revolutionary War widow’s pension after his death (#W26757).

²⁹ Michael F. Dwyer, “Lucy Besse: to Maine and Back,” *The Maine Genealogist* 32(2010): 177–83.

GENEALOGICAL SUMMARIES

1 **ICHABOD⁴ KENT** (*Samuel³, John²⁻¹*) was born in Marshfield, Massachusetts, 13 December 1744, son of Samuel and Desire (Barker) Kent.³⁰ He died in Duxbury, Massachusetts, 7 December 1824.³¹ He married in Duxbury, 8 July 1771, ABIGAIL HUNT.³² She was born circa 1748, daughter of Thomas and Jane (Weston) Hunt,³³ and died 31 May 1842, aged 96 years [*sic*], 6 months.³⁴ Ichabod, a mariner and later a yeoman, served briefly in Revolution. Abigail applied for a Revolutionary War widow's pension in 1836.³⁵

Children of Ichabod⁴ and Abigail (Hunt) Kent, b. Duxbury:³⁶

- 2 i NATHANIEL⁵ KENT, b. 12 Sept. 1776; m. SARAH SOUTHWORTH TURNER.
- ii JANE KENT, b. 18 July 17[78?],³⁷ d. Boston, Mass., 14 Aug. 1857, aged 80;³⁸ m. Duxbury, 1 Dec. 1801, AMOS AMES,³⁹ b. Duxbury, ca. 1778, son of Amos and Hannah (Decrow) Ames, d. Duxbury, 26 Sept. 1858, aged 80.⁴⁰ He was a mariner.
- iii DESIRE KENT, b. 26 July 1780, d. Boston, Mass., 1 June 1835, aged 55;⁴¹ m. Duxbury, 7 Dec. 1801, JONATHAN EMMONS,⁴² b. Boston, ca. 1771, son of Samuel and Rachel (Love) Emmons,⁴³ d. Boston, Mass., 8 Feb. 1828, aged 57.⁴⁴
- iv ABIGAIL KENT, b. 27 Feb. 1784, d. Duxbury, 12 June 1827.⁴⁵ Ichabod Kent deeded land to Abigail Kent, single woman, 16 May 1817.⁴⁶
- v SALLY KENT, her birth not recorded, d. 16 Dec. 1792.⁴⁷
- vi LUCY KENT, d. 7 Jan. 1793.⁴⁸

³⁰ *Marshfield VRs* [note 22], 76; his parents m. Marshfield, 14 Nov. 1728 (*ibid.*, 146).

³¹ *Duxbury VRs* [note 8], 390.

³² *Duxbury VRs* [note 8], 272.

³³ Briggs, *Genealogies of the Name of Kent* [note 3], 55; Abigail was 88 on 29 Dec. 1836, implying a birth year of about 1748 (Revolutionary War pension #W21513); Thomas Hunt and Jane Weston m. Duxbury, 28 April 1848 (*Duxbury VRs* [note 8], 268).

³⁴ *Duxbury VRs* [note 8], 390. Her age at death, probably exaggerated, implies she was born about Nov. 1745, which would have been more than two years before her parents' marriage.

³⁵ Revolutionary War pension #W21513.

³⁶ *Duxbury VRs* [note 8], 101, some entries worn.

³⁷ While the day and month are legible, the year of birth is not visible on the record. Her age at death would suggest the year was 1777, but that would have been just 10 months after the birth of her brother Nathaniel. 1778 seems more reasonable.

³⁸ Mass. VRs 1841–1910, 112:281.

³⁹ *Duxbury VRs* [note 8], 272.

⁴⁰ Death record, Mass. VRs 1841–1910, 121:238, naming his parents as Amos and Hannah; his parents m. Marshfield, 19 July 1769 (*Marshfield VRs* [note 22], 150).

⁴¹ Boston Deaths from 1801 to 1848 inclusive [DGS #7009384, image 27].

⁴² *Duxbury VRs* [note 8], 271.

⁴³ Edward Neville Emmons, *The Emmons Family Genealogy* (Syracuse, N.Y., 1905), 26.

⁴⁴ Boston Deaths from 1801 to 1848 inclusive [DGS #7009384, image 27], he called Jonathan B. Emmons on the death record.

⁴⁵ *Duxbury VRs* [note 8], 390.

⁴⁶ Plymouth Co. Deeds, 129:164.

⁴⁷ *Duxbury VRs* [note 8], 390.

⁴⁸ *Duxbury VRs* [note 8], 390.

2 **NATHANIEL⁵ KENT** (*Ichabod⁴, Samuel³, John²⁻¹*) was born in Duxbury, Massachusetts, 12 September 1776, son of Ichabod and Abigail (Hunt) Kent.⁴⁹ He died in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 3 July 1820, aged 46 years, 8 months [*sic*].⁵⁰ He married in Duxbury, 24 November 1804, SARAH SOUTHWORTH TURNER.⁵¹ She was born probably in Waldoboro, [calc.] 16 October 1785, daughter of Alexander and Anna (Soule) Turner.⁵² She died probably in Waldoboro, 25 December 1818, aged 33 years, 2 months.⁵³ Nathaniel was described in deeds as a trader.

Children of Nathaniel⁵ and Sarah Southworth (Turner) Kent:⁵⁴

- i SARAH ANN⁶ KENT, b. Duxbury, 6 June 1806, d. Duxbury, 19 Sept. 1876;⁵⁵ m. Duxbury, 21 Dec. 1834, BRADFORD WESTON,⁵⁶ b. Duxbury, 22 July 1810, son of Asa and Eunice (Bradford) Weston,⁵⁷ d. 15 Sept. 1890.⁵⁸
- ii JANE KENT, b. Duxbury, 30 Aug. 1808, d. 18 April 1883, aged 74y 7m 18d, and bur. in Hilton Cemetery, Bremen;⁵⁹ m. Waldoboro, 31 Dec. 1832, THOMAS TURNER of Bremen,⁶⁰ b. [calc.] 22 Sept. 1794, probable son of Robert and Elizabeth (Rhoades) Turner,⁶¹ d. 18 Aug. 1864, aged 69y 10m 26d.⁶²
- iii LUCY KENT, b. Duxbury, 24 July 1810, d. Waldoboro, 27 Jan. 1841, aged 30y;⁶³ m. (int.) Waldoboro, 25 Nov. 1837, CHARLES SAMSON Jr.,⁶⁴ b. Waldoboro, 5 April 1810, son of Charles and Sarah (Thomas) Samson,⁶⁵ d. Marshfield, Mass., 10 May 1869.⁶⁶
- iv CLARISSA T. KENT, b. ca. 1812, d. Waldoboro, 14 Sept. 1843, aged 31y.⁶⁷

⁴⁹ *Duxbury VRs* [note 8], 101.

⁵⁰ Gravestone photo, Brookland Cemetery, Waldoboro, findagrave.com #48893934. The inscription states he died in Philadelphia.

⁵¹ *Duxbury VRs* [note 8], 272.

⁵² See note 19.

⁵³ Gravestone photo, on same stone with husband, findagrave.com #48893933.

⁵⁴ The first 3 recorded in *Duxbury VRs* [note 8], 101–2. The 1828 guardianship record [see note 17] names daughter Jane (over 14) and the children under 14: Lucy, Clarissa, Ichabod, Abigail, Otis Winsor, and Frederick Sebastian Cabot Kent.

⁵⁵ Mass. VRs 1841–1910, 284:278.

⁵⁶ *Duxbury VRs* [note 8], 272.

⁵⁷ *Duxbury VRs* [note 8], 188; his parents m. 15 Dec. 1807 (*ibid.*, 329).

⁵⁸ Mass. VRs 1841–1910, 482:645.

⁵⁹ Gravestone photo, findagrave.com #176260652.

⁶⁰ Groves, *Vital Records of Waldoboro* [note 19], 60.

⁶¹ In 1830 Thomas Turner and Robert Turner were living side by side in Bremen (U.S. Census, Bremen, Lincoln Co., Maine, p. 77); Thomas Turner purchased land from Robert Turner, both of Bristol, 19 Feb. 1817 (Lincoln Co. Deeds, 93:121), Bremen being set off from Bristol in 1828; Elizabeth's maiden name from Revolutionary War Pension #W26561.

⁶² Gravestone photo, Bremen, findagrave.com #176260525.

⁶³ Groves, *Vital Records of Waldoboro* [note 19], 311, citing gravestone, Brookland Cemetery.

⁶⁴ Groves, *Vital Records of Waldoboro* [note 19], 107.

⁶⁵ Groves, *Vital Records of Waldoboro* [note 19], 73; his parents m. (int.) 5 May 1798 (*ibid.*, 3).

⁶⁶ Mass. VRs 1841–1910: 221:323.

⁶⁷ Groves, *Vital Records of Waldoboro* [note 19], 311, citing gravestone, Brookland Cemetery.

- v ICHABOD KENT, b. [calc.] June 1813, d. Boston, Mass., 26 July 1889; age 76y 1m;⁶⁸ m. 25 Feb. 1840, ANN MARIA JORDAN,⁶⁹ b. Ellsworth, 10 March 1820, daughter of Sylvanus M. and Temperance Lee (Langdon) Jordan,⁷⁰ d. Cambridge, Mass., 15 March 1881, aged 61y.⁷¹
- vi ABIGAIL KENT, b. [calc.] March 1815, d. Cambridge, Mass., 6 Oct. 1881, aged 66y 7m;⁷² m. (int.) Waldoboro, 18 March 1837, JOSEPH DAVIS,⁷³ bp. Warren, Maine, 15 July 1810, son of Samuel and Ann (Davis) Davis,⁷⁴ d. 11 Jan. 1884, aged 74y.⁷⁵
- vii OTIS WINSOR KENT, b. Ellsworth, Maine, 5 June 1816, d. 2 Dec. 1882;⁷⁶ m. (1) Ellsworth, 15 Dec. 1839, CATHERINE W. JORDAN,⁷⁷ b. Ellsworth, 27 Aug. 1819, daughter of Benjamin and Sarah (Smith) Jordan,⁷⁸ d. Ellsworth, 3 June 1846, aged 27y;⁷⁹ m. (2) aft. 1850 census, MARIAM C. REDMAN, b. 18 Nov. 1829, daughter of Francis and Rebecca (Murch) Redman,⁸⁰ d. Ellsworth, 18 Nov. 1921, aged 91y 10m 19d.⁸¹ In 1850 Otis Kent, 32, joiner, headed a household with his mother-in-law, Sarah Jordan, 59, daughter Adelaide, 9, and Albert Jordan, 16, joiner.⁸² Otis served briefly in Co. B., 6th Maine Infantry. Miriam applied for a Civil War widow's pension on 10 July 1890.⁸³
- viii FREDERICK SEBASTIAN CABOT KENT, b. Waldoboro, 29 Dec. 1817, d. 17 June 1889 and bur. in Hillside Cemetery, Bremen;⁸⁴ m. int. Waldoboro, 8 June 1844, HARRIET WINCHENBACH;⁸⁵ m. (2) Brooklyn, N.Y., 26 Nov. 1849,

⁶⁸ Mass. VRs 1841–1910, 402:251.

⁶⁹ Adelbert Jean Annonson, comp., and Roland Gene Jordan, ed., *The Family Jordan* (n.p., 2001), 453.

⁷⁰ Annonson & Jordan, *The Family Jordan* [note 69], 190, 453.

⁷¹ Mass. VRs, 1841–1910, 329:58, her parents named on the death record.

⁷² Mass. VRs, 1841–1910, 329:73.

⁷³ Groves, *Vital Records of Waldoboro* [note 19], 107.

⁷⁴ Cyrus Eaton, *Annals of the Town of Warren* (Hallowell, Maine, 1851), 390–91.

⁷⁵ Groves, *Vital Records of Waldoboro* [note 19], 314, citing gravestone, Brookland Cemetery.

⁷⁶ Gravestone photo, Woodbine Cemetery, Ellsworth, findagrave.com #121909652, the stone giving his full dates of birth and death.

⁷⁷ Annonson & Jordan, *The Family Jordan* [note 69], 271.

⁷⁸ Annonson & Jordan, *The Family Jordan* [note 69], 99–100, 271.

⁷⁹ Gravestone photo, Beechland Cemetery, Ellsworth, findagrave.com #90808781.

⁸⁰ Maine VRs, 1670–1921 [DGS #5011622, image 2398]; her parents m. 19 March 1829 (James H. Wick, *Vital Records of Castine, Maine* [Rockland, Maine, 2009], 153).

⁸¹ Death record, Maine VRs, 1670–1921 [DGS #5011622, image 2398], her father named on the record; her parents m. 19 March 1829 (James H. Wick, *Vital Records of Castine, Maine* [Rockland, Maine, 2009], 153); gravestone photo, Woodbine Cemetery, Ellsworth, findagrave.com #121909651; “Ellsworth Woman Dead at Age 92,” *Evening Express* (Portland, Maine), 22 Nov. 1921, p. 24.

⁸² Otis Kent h/h, 1850 U.S. Census, Ellsworth, Hancock, Maine, p. 31B.

⁸³ Miriam Kent, Civil War widow's pension, appl. 433030, cert. 300296.

⁸⁴ Gravestone photo, findagrave.com #211193564.

⁸⁵ Groves, *Vital Records of Waldoboro* [note 19], 118. That there is no record of their marriage recorded and that Harriet Winchenbach, aged 30, was in the household of Zachariah Stover in 1850 (1850 Census, Waldoboro, Lincoln Co., Maine, p. 209B) suggest that the marriage did not take place.

SARAH WESTON,⁸⁶ b. Bremen, [calc.] 20 July 1823, daughter of Eliphaz and Elizabeth (Longfellow) Weston, d. Bremen, 3 May 1911, aged 87y 9m 13d.⁸⁷

ELISHA³ KENT (*John*²⁻¹) was born in Marshfield, Massachusetts, 22 July 1712, son of John and Sarah (Smith) Kent.⁸⁸ He died after 25 May 1786 when he sold to his son William a piece of woodland in Marshfield that he had inherited from his father, John Kent.⁸⁹ He married in Marshfield, 11 June 1741, LUSANNA FORD.⁹⁰ She was born in Marshfield, 1 October 1723, daughter of Peleg and Alice (Warren) Ford.⁹¹ She died after 25 May 1786 when she co-signed with her husband.

Children of Elisha³ and Lusanna (Ford) Kent:⁹²

- i WILLIAM⁴ KENT, b. 31 Oct. 1742, d. after 30 Dec. 1831;⁹³ m. Marshfield, 1 April 1773, MARY SAMPSON,⁹⁴ b. [calc.] 30 April 1751 and bp. Scituate, Mass., 17 Nov. 1751, daughter of Charles and Mary (Church) Sampson,⁹⁵ d. 15 Jan. 1828, aged 76y 8m 15d.⁹⁶
- ii SMITH KENT, b. 2 Oct. 1744; m. Boston, 12 Jan. 1775, MARY GRAY.⁹⁷ He was a privateer in the Revolution, master of the brigantine *Hawke* in 1776 and 1777.⁹⁸
- iii ELISHA KENT, b. 13 Sept. 1746, reportedly d. at sea.⁹⁹
- iv PELEG KENT, b. 4 Oct. 1748, d. 11 Sept. 1819 in his 71st year and bur. in Chapel Cemetery, Marshfield;¹⁰⁰ m. Marshfield, 18 Oct. 1778, BETTY FORD,¹⁰¹ b. 31 May 1747, daughter of Samuel and Sarah (Rogers) Ford,¹⁰² d. 20 Dec. 1816, aged 69y, and bur. in Chapel Cemetery, Marshfield.¹⁰³

⁸⁶ "Married," *Gospel Banner* (Augusta, Maine), 15 Dec. 1849, p. 3.

⁸⁷ Maine VRs, 1670–1921 [DGS #5011622, image 2313], the record naming her parents; gravestone photo, Hillside Cemetery, Bremen, findagrave.com #21193588.

⁸⁸ *Marshfield VRs* [note 22], 31; his parents m. 22 Dec. 1692 (*Vital Records of Scituate, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850*, 2 vols. [Boston, 1909], 2:172).

⁸⁹ Plymouth Co. Deeds, 66:257.

⁹⁰ *Marshfield VRs* [note 22], 178.

⁹¹ *Marshfield VRs* [note 22], 91; her parents m. 10 May 1716 (Lee D. van Antwerp, comp., and Ruth Wilder Sherman, ed., *Vital Records of Plymouth, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850* [Camden, Maine, 1993], 91).

⁹² Children recorded in *Marshfield VRs* [note 22], 76–77, not in chronological order.

⁹³ Plymouth Co. Deeds, 175:10–11, William Kent life lease to his son Elisha Kent.

⁹⁴ *Duxbury VRs* [note 8], 300.

⁹⁵ *Scituate VRs* [note 88], 1:315; her parents m. 19 June 1740 (*ibid.*, 2:254).

⁹⁶ Gravestone photo, Chapel Cemetery, Marshfield, findagrave.com #142614837.

⁹⁷ *Boston Marriages, 1752–1809*, Boston Rec. Comm. Report, 30(Boston, 1902):88.

⁹⁸ *Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolutionary War*, 17 vols. (Boston, 1896–1908), 9:136.

⁹⁹ Briggs, *Genealogies of the Name of Kent* [note 3], 58.

¹⁰⁰ Gravestone photo, findagrave.com #142614856.

¹⁰¹ *Marshfield VRs* [note 22], 174.

¹⁰² *Marshfield VRs* [note 22], 102.

¹⁰³ Gravestone photo, findagrave.com #142614780.

- v LUCY KENT, b. 5 Oct. 1750, d. prob. after 1820;¹⁰⁴ m. (int.) Winthrop, Maine, 2 Sept. 1787, EBENEZER BESSE,¹⁰⁵ b. Wareham, Mass., 7 March 1754, bp. 28 April 1754, son of Jabez and Margery (Norris) Besse, d. Peru, Maine, 24 Oct. 1846.¹⁰⁶
- vi PHEBE KENT, b. 15 July 1752, d. [calc.] 25 July 1753.¹⁰⁷
- vii CHARLES KENT, b. 7 Jan. 1754, d. in March 1825, age 71y, and bur. in Kent's Hill Cemetery, Readfield;¹⁰⁸ m. Marshfield, 27 Jan. 1780, RUTH BAKER,¹⁰⁹ b. Marshfield, 10 Oct. 1755, daughter of John and Ruth (Barker) Baker,¹¹⁰ d. 10 June 1838, aged 82y 11m [*sic*].¹¹¹ Charles apparently lived in the part of Winthrop (where he was counted in 1790 with a household of six) that was set off as Readfield in 1791 (where he headed a household of eight in 1800).¹¹²
- viii SARAH KENT, b. 19 Feb. 1756, d. after 1830 when she was living in Vinalhaven, Maine;¹¹³ m. Marshfield, 2 March 1780, MELZAR SAMSON of Duxbury,¹¹⁴ bp. Scituate, Mass., 17 Nov. 1751, son of Charles and Mary (Church) Samson, and brother of Mary above,¹¹⁵ d. before 7 Feb. 1787, when William Kent, mariner, and Sarah Samson, widow, both of Marshfield, were appointed to administer the estate of Melzar Samson, late of Duxbury, mariner.¹¹⁶ Sarah m. (2) Marshfield, 26 March 1801, STEPHEN CARVER,¹¹⁷ b. Marshfield, 2 April 1743, son of Caleb and Abigail (Sherman) Carver,¹¹⁸ d. prob. shortly before 23 Oct. 1824, when widow Sarah Carver informed the probate court that Stephen had died possessed of real and personal estate.¹¹⁹ Stephen had m. (1) 10 Dec. 1772, Deborah Kent, "both of a place called the Fox Islands."¹²⁰
- ix NATHANIEL KENT, b. 25 Dec. 1757, d. March 1759.¹²¹
- x NATHANIEL KENT, b. 25 Dec. 1760. No reliable evidence has been found to indicate this Nathaniel lived to adulthood.

¹⁰⁴ Ebenezer Besse household, 1820 U.S. Census, Wayne, Kennebec Co., Maine, p. 664.

¹⁰⁵ Winthrop VR, Marriages 1787–1884, p. 12 [DGS #7596986, image 344].

¹⁰⁶ Dwyer, "Lucy Besse" [note 29], 181.

¹⁰⁷ *Marshfield VRs* [note 22], 76. She lived "one year & ten Days."

¹⁰⁸ Gravestone photo, findagrave.com #80679550.

¹⁰⁹ *Marshfield VRs* [note 22], 175.

¹¹⁰ *Marshfield VRs* [note 22], 95; her parents m. 24 Feb. 1742/3 (*ibid.*, 172).

¹¹¹ Gravestone photo, Kent's Hill Cemetery, findagrave.com #80679576.

¹¹² Charles Kent household, 1790 U.S. Census, Winthrop, Lincoln Co., Maine, p. 46; 1800 U.S. Census, Readfield, Kennebec Co., Maine, p. 55.

¹¹³ Sarah Carver household, 1830 U.S. Census, Vinalhaven, Hancock Co., Maine, p. 86.

¹¹⁴ *Marshfield VRs* [note 22], 175.

¹¹⁵ *Scituate VRs* [note 88], 1:315; his parents m. 19 June 1740 (*ibid.*, 2:254).

¹¹⁶ Plymouth Co. Probate Records, #17593 [DGS #5061169, image 250].

¹¹⁷ *Marshfield VRs* [note 22], 264.

¹¹⁸ *Marshfield VRs* [note 22], 81; the 10 Jan. 1759 will of Ebenezer Sherman of Marshfield mentions his daughter Abigail Carver (Plymouth Co. Probate Records, #18103 [DGS #5077214, image 1828]). No marriage record found for Caleb Carver and Abigail Sherman.

¹¹⁹ Hancock Co. Probate Records, #1026 [DGS #4140909, image 1555].

¹²⁰ "Marriages from Lincoln County Records," *The Maine Historical Magazine* 9[1894]:140.

¹²¹ *Marshfield VRs* [note 22], 77.

- xi WARREN KENT, b. 20 Dec. 1764, d. Readfield, 28 May 1834, aged 69y 5m, and bur. there in Kent's Hill Cemetery;¹²² m. Harvard, Mass., 19 Dec. 1786, BETHIAH TURNER,¹²³ b. [calc.] 20 Aug. 1768, daughter of Simeon and Bethiah (Ford) Turner,¹²⁴ d. 1 Sept. 1829, aged 61y 11d,¹²⁵ and bur. in Kent's Hill Cemetery. On 15 Feb. 1790, Warren and his brother Charles Kent, both yeomen of Winthrop, purchased lot #204 in Winthrop.¹²⁶ Warren headed his household from 1790 to 1830.¹²⁷ Like his brother Charles, he likely lived in the part of Winthrop set off as Readfield in 1791. In his will dated 15 March 1834 and probated the last Tuesday of June 1834, Warren Kent of Readfield, yeoman, named his four sons Nathaniel, Dwelley, Warren, and Martin H. Kent, and three daughters Betsey Besse, Eunice Hunt, and Rozella Kent.¹²⁸
- xii LUSANNA/ELSIE KENT, b. 22 April 1766 ("Elsie") and bp. 11 May 1766 ("Lusanna").¹²⁹ No further information.
- xiii son KENT, stillborn 17 March 1769.

NATHANIEL⁴ KENT (*Joseph³, John²⁻¹*) was born in Duxbury, Massachusetts, circa 1759 and baptized there 30 September 1759, son of Joseph and Lydia (Thomas) Kent.¹³⁰ He died in Duxbury, 11 April 1838, aged 78.¹³¹ He married in Brunswick, Maine, 6 October 1784, ABIGAIL WESTON.¹³² She was born probably in Duxbury, [calc.] 3 June 1765, daughter of Jacob and Deborah (Simmons) Weston, and died in Duxbury, 13 September 1855, aged 90 years 3 months and 10 days.¹³³ Nathaniel was described in deeds as a mariner. In 1855, Abigail Kent, 90, headed her household in Duxbury, which also included her sister-in-law Betsey Kent, 89, and daughters Abigail Kent, 62, Mariah Kent, 58, and Deborah Soule, 54.¹³⁴

¹²² Gravestone photo, findagrave.com #80679728.

¹²³ *Vital Records of Harvard, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850* (Boston, 1917), 187.

¹²⁴ Will of Simeon Turner of Harvard, Mass., dated 17 May 1802 and naming his "Daughter Bethiah wife of Warren Kent" (Worcester Co., Mass., Probate, 30:307); her parents m. 11 April 1751 (*Marshfield VRs* [note 22], 161).

¹²⁵ Gravestone photo, findagrave.com #80679741.

¹²⁶ Lincoln Co. Deeds 25:205.

¹²⁷ Warren Kent household, 1790 U.S. Census, Winthrop, Lincoln Co., Maine, p. 46; 1800–30 U.S. Censuses, Readfield, Kennebec Co., Maine, pp. 55 (1800), 691 (1810), 649 (1820), 287 (1830).

¹²⁸ Kennebec Co. Probate Records, K-2 [DGS #5429399, image 832].

¹²⁹ Mass. Town and Vital Records, Marshfield, Baptisms, original, p. 59 [image, ancestry.com]. Two different names likely refer to the same child, with the baptism following at the age of 1m.

¹³⁰ Mass. Town and Vital Records, Marshfield, Baptisms, original, p. 55 [image, ancestry.com]; his parents m. 28 Feb. 1743 (*Marshfield VRs* [note 22], 159).

¹³¹ Death of Nathaniel, Duxbury VR 390 [note 12], Rev. War pension

¹³² Joseph C. Anderson II, comp., *Vital Records of Brunswick, Maine, 1740–1860, and the Forsaith Book of Brunswick Family Records* (Rockport, Maine, 2004), 95.

¹³³ Death record, Mass. VRs 1841–1910, 94:186, the record naming her parents; her parents m. 25 Dec. 1755 (*Duxbury VRs* [note 8], 330).

¹³⁴ Abigail Kent household, 1855 Mass. State Census, Duxbury, p. 45.

Children of Nathaniel⁴ and Abigail (Weston) Kent:

- i SARAH SMITH⁵ KENT, b. Marshfield, [calc.] 24 Sept. 1786, d. Duxbury, 12 April 1870, aged 83y 6m 18d;¹³⁵ m. Duxbury, 15 Dec. 1807, SAMUEL HUNT Jr.,¹³⁶ b. Duxbury, 26 Jan. 1784, son of Thomas and Susanna (Fuller) Hunt,¹³⁷ d. there, 24 June 1861, aged 77y 5m.¹³⁸
- ii THOMAS KENT, b. [calc.] 6 July 1788, d. 2 Dec. 1792, age 4y 4m 26d, and bur. in the Old Winslow Burying Ground, Marshfield.¹³⁹
- iii ABIGAIL KENT, b. ca. 1793, d. Duxbury, 2 Aug. 1880, age 87.¹⁴⁰
- iv MARIA KENT, b. [calc.] 7 March 1797, d. Duxbury, 29 Jan. 1887, age 89y 10m 22d.¹⁴¹
- v DEBORAH W. KENT, b. [calc.] 11 Feb. 1801, d. Duxbury, 24 Sept. 1862, aged 61y 7m 13d;¹⁴² m. Duxbury, 8 Dec. 1822, DANIEL SOULE,¹⁴³ b. Duxbury, 14 Oct. 1796, son of Nathaniel and Lydia (Freeman) Soule,¹⁴⁴ lost at sea ca. 1825.¹⁴⁵
- vi HANNAH T. KENT, b. [calc] 9 Oct. 1803, d. Marshfield, 2 April 1897, age 93y 5m 23d;¹⁴⁶ m. Duxbury, 27 Jan. 1833, THOMAS DURFEE HATCH,¹⁴⁷ b. Marshfield, 10 Dec. 1807, son of Jabez and Keturah (Gullifer) Hatch,¹⁴⁸ d. Marshfield, 19 Aug. 1890, aged 82y 7m 19d.¹⁴⁹
- vii NATHANIEL KENT, b. [calc.] 28 Nov. 1806, d. 13 Dec. 1806, aged 15d.¹⁵⁰

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¹³⁵ Death record, Mass. VRs 1841–1910, 230:307, the record naming her parents. *Duxbury VRs* [note 8], 97, citing family record of Samuel Hunt, gives her birth date as 13 Sept. 1786.

¹³⁶ *Duxbury VRs* [note 8], 272.

¹³⁷ *Duxbury VRs* [note 8], 97.

¹³⁸ Mass. VRs 1841–1910, 148:310, his parents named on the record.

¹³⁹ Gravestone photo, findagrave.com # 27718637.

¹⁴⁰ Mass. VRs 1841–1910, 320:278, her parents named on the record.

¹⁴¹ Mass. VRs 1841–1910, 383:345.

¹⁴² Mass. VRs 1841–1910, 157:337.

¹⁴³ *Duxbury VRs* [note 8], 271.

¹⁴⁴ *Duxbury VRs* [note 8], 161; his parents m. Jan. 1794 (*ibid.*, 312).

¹⁴⁵ *Mayflower Fams. Through 5 Gens.*, 20, Part 3: Henry Samson [note 2], 411.

¹⁴⁶ Mass. VRs 1841–1910, 473:661, the record naming her parents.

¹⁴⁷ *Duxbury VRs* [note 8], 271

¹⁴⁸ *Marshfield VRs* [note 22], 217; his parents m. 25 Sept. 1800 (*Duxbury VRs* [note 8], 262).

¹⁴⁹ Mass. VRs 1841–1910, 410:431.

¹⁵⁰ Gravestone photo, Old Winslow Cemetery, Marshfield, findagrave.com #22205775.

THE ORIGINS AND MAINE DESCENDANTS OF JOHN KING AND MARY (STOWELL) OF BOSTON

(continued from p. 90)

By John D. Beatty, CG

2 **RICHARD² KING** was born apparently in Boston or Watertown about 1718, probably just before or soon after his parents' marriage. Claims that he was born specifically on 30 December 1718 are without foundation,¹⁶⁹ and are in conflict with the proven date of birth of his sister Mary on 8 June 1719.¹⁷⁰ He died at Dunstan Landing, Scarborough, Maine, on 27 March 1775, aged either 57, according to town records,¹⁷¹ or in his 57th year, according to an unpublished obituary,¹⁷² and was buried from Second Congregational Church there on 30 March.¹⁷³ His grandson William Southgate also claimed his age at death as 57 years.¹⁷⁴

He married first, in Scarborough, 20 November 1753, SEBELLA/SYBILLA/ISABELLA BRAGDON.¹⁷⁵ She was called "Isabella" in the vital records of York, Maine, and this variant remains the usual spelling in biographical accounts of her son Rufus King. She was the daughter of Samuel and Tabitha (Banks) Bragdon, born in York, 8 August 1731,¹⁷⁶ and died in Scarborough, 19 October 1759.¹⁷⁷ The marriage record refers to her specifically as being of York and the daughter of Samuel Bragdon. She was buried as "Sybilla, wife of Richd King" from the Second Congregational Church, Scarborough, on 20 October 1759.¹⁷⁸

Richard married second, at the Second Congregational Church, Scarborough, 31 January 1762, MARY BLACK.¹⁷⁹ A cousin of Sebella, she was the daughter of

¹⁶⁹ See, for example, "Richard King," findagrave.com #145012804. This biographical sketch, otherwise undocumented, refers to a King memorial tablet near Dunstan Corner in Scarborough, erected perhaps in the 19th century, in which only the year "1718" appears for his birth date.

¹⁷⁰ *Boston Births from A.D. 1700 to A.D. 1800*, Boston Record Commissioners' Report, 24(Boston, 1894):137.

¹⁷¹ Wick, *Vital Records of Scarborough* [note 71], 159, citing TRs Book 1690–1873, 1:1.

¹⁷² Richard King unpublished obituary, 28 March 1775, Erving-King Papers [note 72], Box 1, Folder 4.

¹⁷³ Scarborough 2nd Church records [note 56], p. 51 (verso), Richard King death, 30 March 1775.

¹⁷⁴ William S. Southgate, "History of Scarborough from 1633 to 1783," *Collections of the Maine Historical Society* 3(1883):193.

¹⁷⁵ Wick, *Vital Records of Scarborough* [note 71], 18, citing TRs Book 1:223.

¹⁷⁶ Lester MacKenzie Bragdon and John Eldridge Frost, *Vital Records of York, Maine* (Camden, Maine, 1992), 21. These records show August. Both the intention and marriage of Richard and "Isabella" were also recorded at York on 15 Sept. and 20 Nov. 1753 (*ibid*, 138).

¹⁷⁷ Pitman, *Boyd-Patterson Ancestry* [note 6], 79.

¹⁷⁸ Wick, *Vital Records of Scarborough* [note 71], 159. See also "King-Southgate," *NEHGR* 38 (1884):342.

¹⁷⁹ Wick, *Vital Records of Scarborough* [note 71], 18, citing TRs Book 1:1. See also "King-Southgate," *NEHGR* 38(1884):342.

Samuel and Dorcas (Bragdon) Black, born in York, 8 October 1736, and died in Scarborough on 28 May 1816.¹⁸⁰ Richard's granddaughter, Dorcas King⁴ Leland (*Dorcas*,³ *Richard*²), wrote: "[Mary] was married at a mature age & removed from York in Maine, where she had spent her youth in the school of virtue & industry, to Scarborough, an obscure town in the same State. Her husband (Richard King) was a man of large stature & powerful intellect, & at the time of her marriage a widower with a family of three children & a number of slaves."¹⁸¹

According to Cutter, Richard spent his early life with Stowell relatives in Newton, Massachusetts. "He was apprenticed to learn the trade of housewright, and in 1730 formed a partnership with Ebenezer Thornton, a shipbuilder of Watertown, Massachusetts."¹⁸² There he was introduced to the lumber business and began procuring timber for house and ship building.¹⁸³ In 1745, during King George's War, he participated in the siege of Louisbourg, then called Annapolis Royal, on Cape Breton Island. He received from Governor Shirley an appointment as Commissary of Subsistence and as captain of a unit that laid siege to the fortress under Sir William Pepperell.¹⁸⁴

Richard was of Watertown when, with his maternal uncles Samuel and Richard Stowell, he obtained land grants in Township No. 4 in what would eventually become Paris, Maine.¹⁸⁵ According to Cutter, he was still of Boston in 1748 when he purchased from William Cleaves for £380 "a certain lot of land on west and northwest side of a river running by a place called Dunstan Landing in Scarboro, beginning bounds at the mouth of a creek up said river, on the west side, above Dunstan Landing."¹⁸⁶ On 15 November 1748, he purchased from Nathan Knight a second lot on the east side of the road leading to the Landing.¹⁸⁷

Richard prospered as a dealer and exporter of timber, which became a vital component of Maine's growing shipbuilding trade in the middle of the eighteenth century. He built a water-powered sawmill on the northeast side of the Blue Point Road as well as an earthen dam for its millrace.¹⁸⁸ Later, he moved to Dunstan Landing in Scarborough, where he continued to deal in lumber, making masts for ships, which

¹⁸⁰ Wick, *Vital Records of Scarborough* [note 71], 18, citing TRs Book 1:1.

¹⁸¹ Dorcas King Leland, "Sketch of My Grandmother King," Bath, Maine, 14 Jan. 1848, transcript by unknown writer in the Erving-King Papers [note 72], Box 23, Folder K48.

¹⁸² Cutter, *Gen. and Fam. History of Connecticut* [note 7], 2:1005.

¹⁸³ John Alsop King obituary, NEHGR 21(1867):377.

¹⁸⁴ Ernst, *Rufus King: American Federalist* [note 9], 5; see also Henry Bond, *Genealogies of the Families and Descendants of the Early Settlers of Watertown, Massachusetts* (Boston, 1860), 326.

¹⁸⁵ Rufus King, "King, Hyde, Stowell, Sawyer," NEHGR 48(1894):214; see also Stowell, *Stowell Genealogy* [note 55], 50. See also Lapham and Maxim, *History of Paris, Maine* [note 79], 24.

¹⁸⁶ Cutter, *Gen. and Fam. History of Connecticut* [note 7], 2:1005. See also York Co. Deeds, 30:12, William and Bethia Cleaves to Richard King.

¹⁸⁷ Leonard B. Chapman, *Monograph on the Southgate Family* (Portland, Maine, 1907), 8.

¹⁸⁸ Augustus F. Moulton, *Grandfather Tales of Scarborough* (Augusta, Maine, 1925), 17.

he exported to England and the West Indies. He also opened a store.¹⁸⁹ Rufus King's biographer, Robert Ernst, writes, "Within a short time Richard King had become the most prominent merchant and citizen of Scarborough."¹⁹⁰ H. Minot Pitman notes that he became "one of the largest exporters of timber from Maine."¹⁹¹

Richard's store, in the meantime, became a major trading center. Through it, King bought "fish, lumber, and farm products" and paid his customers in goods from the store, especially rum. "As a natural consequence," writes Dorothy Shaw Libbey, "most of the settlers became more or less heavily indebted to Mr. King."¹⁹² Richard did not press for the collection of debts, allowing some customers to accumulate significant sums on account. "He seems to have been a kindly man," writes historian Le Roy Hight, "lenient towards his debtors and gentle in his relations with everyone. He was of refined taste and with a love for literature. His papers show a familiarity with books, which must have isolated him, in that particular at least, from most of his townsmen."¹⁹³

As he became more prominent at Scarborough, Richard held a variety of local offices. He served as selectman in 1755, 1758, 1759, and 1769.¹⁹⁴ He also served on a committee that determined the boundaries of the town's two parishes.¹⁹⁵ In 1758, as town treasurer, he drew up a list of overdue taxes for the community. Many of those in arrears refused to pay, which fed a growing sense of enmity toward him. In 1765, Richard declined an appointment to serve as constable. John Stewart, a local townsman, sought to impose a fine on him for not serving, but Richard refused either to serve or pay the fine. Benjamin Carter later testified to hearing Stewart tell Richard that he "was poor when he came to Scarbo and that he got his Estate by wronging the Poor, and now we have found you out, and your reign is but short."¹⁹⁶

The debt problem continued to fuel discontent in the Scarborough community, which was exacerbated during the Stamp Act crisis of 1766. Richard himself had reportedly never collected the stamp tax. Those most heavily indebted began to hold secret meetings at the home of a Mr. Henley, and the conflict came to a head on 19 March 1766. Rumors spread that Richard supported the act and had stamped paper in his home. A mob of townspeople, smearing their faces black and calling themselves Sons of Liberty, raided Richard's store and house with the intention of destroying his account books and papers, setting fire to them in the yard. Many became intoxicated from the large supply of rum. Richard reportedly tried to reason with them, but failing, he then hid in the attic under the bed of a sick slave in order to save his life.¹⁹⁷ The

¹⁸⁹ Moulton, *Grandfather Tales of Scarborough* [note 188], 17.

¹⁹⁰ Ernst, *Rufus King: American Federalist* [note 9], 6.

¹⁹¹ Pitman, *Boyd-Patterson Ancestry* [note 6], 79.

¹⁹² Dorothy Shaw Libbey, *Scarborough Becomes a Town* (Freeport, Maine, 1955), 101.

¹⁹³ LeRoy L. Hight, "A Scarborough Tory," *New England Magazine*, 20, no. 4 (June 1899):503.

¹⁹⁴ Libbey, *Scarborough Becomes a Town* [note 192], 269.

¹⁹⁵ Cutter, *Gen. and Fam. History of Connecticut* [note 7], 2:1005.

¹⁹⁶ Benjamin Carter testimony quoted in Ernst, *Rufus King: American Federalist* [note 9], 8.

¹⁹⁷ Southgate, "History of Scarborough from 1633 to 1783" [note 174], 183–84.

mob destroyed furniture, paintings, and kitchenware, tore out doors, woodwork, and paneling, and hurled other objects through the windows.¹⁹⁸ One man threw a hatchet through a window, narrowly missing Mrs. King, then seven-months pregnant, and terrorizing their children.¹⁹⁹ The rioters, signing themselves as the “Suns of liburty,” posted a note on Richard’s gate, writing in colloquial English that if Richard threatened legal action against any of them, “he ma Depend onit that he not onely will have houses and barnes burnt and Consumed but him Self Cut in Peses and burnt TO ASHES.”²⁰⁰ Armed with clubs and muskets, they also threatened the sheriff and constable, who managed to arrest only two of the participants.

Richard vowed redress despite the threats, but he found it difficult to obtain justice. Many of his friends rallied behind him, including Samuel Waldo, Theophilus Bradbury, Stephen Longfellow, and Enoch Freeman.²⁰¹ He obtained a summons from the Superior Court in Boston and gathered witnesses to testify before a grand jury in Falmouth. On 14 May 1767, many rioters returned and burned the King barn to the ground. They also mutilated livestock, stole his agricultural implements, broke windows, and spread human excrement on his door.²⁰² Mary (Black) King cried for help, but her cries were mocked in echo from the perpetrators hiding in the nearby bushes. Later, Mary remarked to her son at the calmness of their father who “could sit down composed and read, when the barn was in flames, and his property destroying by a set of vile wretches whom [as his debtors] he had fed and clothed.”²⁰³

The minutes of Scarborough’s Second Parish, where the King family attended, reflect some of the tumult of the period. Richard and Sebella had joined the church shortly before Rufus’s birth, but only Sebella, as “Sibilla King,” owned the covenant on 16 February 1755, becoming a full-fledged member.²⁰⁴ The couple’s first five children were baptized there between 1755 and 1764, but the sixth child, Dorcas, born in 1766, was not.²⁰⁵ Friction over the Stamp Act had carried over into the church. In July of that year, under John Stewart’s influence, the parish voted to recover the treasurer account books kept by Richard King but evidently lost in the raid.²⁰⁶ Richard countered by bringing a suit against the parish, which appointed Josiah Graffam to act as its agent.²⁰⁷ By 1768, Richard was back in the good graces of the parish when

¹⁹⁸ James S. Leamon, *Revolution Downeast: The War for American Independence in Maine* (Amherst, Mass., 1993), 44.

¹⁹⁹ Ernst, *Rufus King: American Federalist* [note 9], 9.

²⁰⁰ Leamon, *Revolution Downeast* [note 198], 44.

²⁰¹ Southgate, “History of Scarborough from 1633 to 1783” [note 174], 184.

²⁰² Southgate, “History of Scarborough from 1633 to 1783” [note 174], 184.

²⁰³ Mary Black King to Cyrus King, 5 July 1793, quoted in Ernst, *Rufus King: American Federalist* [note 9], 11.

²⁰⁴ Scarborough 2nd Church records [note 56], p. 12.

²⁰⁵ Scarborough 2nd Church records [note 56], pp. 9, 10, 42, 44, 46.

²⁰⁶ Second Parish of Scarborough, Maine, Parish Minute Book, 1759–1865, 15 July 1766, n.p., Maine Historical Society, Portland [DGS #8128422].

²⁰⁷ 2nd Parish Scarborough, Minute Book 1759–1865 [note 206], 19 April 1767.

its membership voted that Richard “was not to be accountable” for the loss of parish financial records, but it continued to be divided into factions.²⁰⁸ The Kings suspected one of its deacons, Jonathan Andrews, of having sympathy for the rioters and instigating them to act, though he had not taken a direct part in the disturbances.²⁰⁹ As a result, the Kings transferred their membership, at least temporarily, to the First Church in Scarborough, where three of their youngest children were baptized on 28 April 1775.²¹⁰ Mary (Black) King refused to take communion as long as the rioters were permitted to do so, while Richard felt wounded by what he considered false Christians in his community.²¹¹

Eventually, Richard succeeded in bringing some members of the mob to trial in Falmouth in July 1774, but his victory was Pyrrhic and failed to compensate for his losses. Silas Burbank, one of the participants who had been among Richard’s closest friends before the attack, later wrote to him a letter from prison to express his pitiable condition, but he did not offer a direct apology.²¹² Richard retained John Adams of Boston as his attorney to bring as many rioters as he could to justice. The sympathetic Adams wrote to his wife Abigail, “The Terror, and Distress, the Distraction and Horror [of Richard King’s family] cannot be described by Words or painted upon Canvas. It is enough to move a Statue, to melt an Heart of Stone, to read the Story. A Mind susceptible of the Feelings of Humanity . . . must burn with Resentment and Indignation at such outrageous Injuries. These private Mobs I do and will detest.”²¹³

Richard and his family managed to live in relative peace for a few years after 1767, but in June 1774, on the eve of the Revolution, trouble returned, when Richard sent a ship laden with lumber to Salem. During the previous month, British troops under the command of General Gage had entered Boston. The ship’s captain, Mulberry Milliken, obtained a license in Salem to enter Boston’s closed harbor and deliver the lumber for use in the construction of barracks for the soldiers, with Richard receiving a good price for the cargo. Richard’s grandson, William Southgate, claimed that the captain acted without Richard’s knowledge or authority.²¹⁴ Milliken’s grandsons, however, contradicted that statement, claiming that Richard had made the deal in secret with British officers.²¹⁵

²⁰⁸ 2nd Parish Scarborough, Minute Book 1759–1865 [note 206], 11 July 1768.

²⁰⁹ Southgate, “History of Scarborough from 1633 to 1783” [note 174], 184–85. See also Libbey, *Scarborough Becomes a Town* [note 192], 102.

²¹⁰ Records of the First Congregational Church, Scarborough, 1728–1778, p. 58, Maine Historical Society, Portland [DGS #7834702].

²¹¹ Ernst, *Rufus King: American Federalist* [note 9], 11.

²¹² Letter of Silas Burbank to Richard King, 17 May 1773, in Southgate, “History of Scarborough from 1633 to 1783” [note 174], 185–86.

²¹³ Letter of John Adams to Abigail Adams, 7 July 1774, *Adams Family Correspondence, volume I* (Boston: Massachusetts Historical Society), digital edition (<https://www.masshist.org/publications/adams-papers/index.php/view/ADMS-04-01-02-0088>).

²¹⁴ Southgate, “History of Scarborough from 1633 to 1783” [note 174], 190.

²¹⁵ Hight, “A Scarborough Tory” [note 193], 504.

News of the shipment brought renewed outrage from some of the King family's neighbors. A company of militiamen from nearby Gorham marched to Scarborough to hold Richard accountable for his actions. They stopped first at a tavern where they forced a confession from a family friend and avowed Tory, Dr. Alden, who had ridden into town to warn Richard of the troop's advancement. Once captured, Alden was forced to stand on a hogshead and recant his views to the soldiers, who then marched to King's house for a similar statement. Richard was obliged to stand on a table in his yard and read a prepared statement. Initially, he had said that the colonists had nothing to hope for in a contest with Great Britain, the first nation of the world, and that this truth had kept him from joining the Whigs. The captain replied, "Down on your knees, Sir, and erase that sentence; these soldiers can't endure that sentiment."²¹⁶ Richard submitted to their demand, and the troops departed triumphant. The experience reportedly left him broken.

In defense of England, Richard later penned an expression of loyalty in 1769:

Our only safety is in remaining firm to that Stock of which we are a Branch; and as a prudent man guards against a Pestilential Air when a plague is in the City, so should we guard against those falls [false] patriots . . . who advise us to resist, break off, and prevent that grand circulation whereby we are become a great Plant, contributing to the Strength and Glory of the Stock, whose Branches cover . . . every Quarter of the Earth and with our own unighted [united] force able to repell at least, if not Totally to concur [conquer] any unity of power that can be formed against us on Earth or Sea."

He added this plaintive question:

Can we merely out of Forwardness because we are rebuked for spurning at the demand, and refusing to pay the three-pence duty on Tea . . . think of calling in foreign aid, and exchanging our fair Possessions with Servitude, our liberties for an Inquisition, and content ourselves to drag out the remainder of our Days in wooden shoes? Great God prevent our madness! Why then this calling to arms?²¹⁷

Richard King died in Scarborough on 27 March 1775, aged either 57 or in his 57th year.²¹⁸ A handwritten obituary in the King papers states:

His ability, assiduity, and uprightness in private life, was the means of his being called to serve his country in a public sphere; where his attention, ready apprehension, and integrity of mind, produced a justness of sentiment, and soundness of judgment honorable to the Magistrate. The Interesting hopes of his future usefulness to the Country, are now Exploded by the hand of providence. The loss to his Tender & amiable Consort, his Children, and other relations, can be only equaled by their inexpressible [*sic*] sorrow."²¹⁹

²¹⁶ Southgate, "History of Scarborough from 1633 to 1783" [note 174], 191–92.

²¹⁷ Richard King quoted in Southgate, "History of Scarborough from 1633 to 1783" [note 174], 191–92. Robert Ernst identifies the paper as a document in Box A, Rufus King Papers, New-York Historical Society (Ernst, *Rufus King: American Federalist* [note 9], 12).

²¹⁸ Wick, *Vital Records of Scarborough* [note 71], 159.

²¹⁹ Richard King unpublished obituary, 28 March 1775, Erving-King Papers [note 72], Box 1, Folder 4.

Richard left no known will, and many early probate records of Cumberland County, Maine, are lost. An extensive probate inventory dated 13 June 1775 was passed down privately among his descendants and survives among the Rufus King papers in the New-York Historical Society.²²⁰

Some out-of-ordinary items in the inventory included a pair of money scales and weights, a looking glass, a birch table with drawers and brasses, a case of old drawers, two “great chairs,” eight other chairs, a large and small walnut table, and a desk and bookcase. There were also books, including Bayley’s *Dictionary*, and Salmon’s *Geographical*, the *Life of the King of Prussia*, *Philosophical Epistles*, *Hoppus’s Measurer*, Caesar’s *Commentaries*, Merchant’s two-volume work on the Bible, John Locke’s work on human understanding, seven volumes of the *Spectator*, and William Douglas’s *Plan of the British Dominions of New England in North America*. There were also several slaves, including a “Negro Man named Rob,” together with “Emmy his Wife and 2 Children,” valued at £26.13.4. His personal estate was worth £462.8.7, while his real estate was valued about £4,378, together with several other tracts of unknown quantity. Finally, he also had a pew in the meeting house at York (from his wife’s family) and another in the Second Parish, Scarborough.²²¹

Richard’s widow, Mary, died in Scarborough, 28 May 1816.²²² Her granddaughter Dorcas King⁴ Leland wrote the following memoir of her:

In my Grandmother’s family, doing good to others was practiced as a part of the economy & was regarded as an imperious duty. The children were trained to acts of charity – to consider the poor & to visit & relieve their wants. It was to this training of Charity that they were indebted for that “largeness of heart,” that “liberality of soul,” for which they were so distinguished. Had this service been delegated to others, the poor might have received a benefit, but the souls of the donors would have remained unblessed.

The Servants in her family were always treated with kindness & received the same watchful care as was given to her children. It was a remark of the Slaves upon receiving their liberty that “they never knew what it was to be Slaves until they were made free.”

I am not able to speak confidently of their condition after they left her Service, but I have an impression that they were provided for out of the family estate. I am very sure that two of them resided in a comfortable house in the neighborhood of a married daughter & that all of their wants were supplied with a liberal hand.

The Moral instruction in the family was derived from the Bible, The Ten Commandments, & the Sermon on the Mount, [which] were considered a sufficient formula.

Were I to describe the person of my Grandmother, it might shock the polite novel reader. I will therefore only say that she had a penetrating black eye, from which all meanness & vice shrunk abashed.²²³

²²⁰ Richard King inventory, 1775, Erving-King Papers [note 72], Box 24, folder 4.

²²¹ Richard King inventory, 1775, Erving-King Papers [note 72], Box 24, folder 4.

²²² Wick, *Vital Records of Scarborough, Maine*, 159.

²²³ Dorcas King Leland, “Sketch of My Grandmother King,” Bath, Maine, 14 Jan. 1848, transcript by unknown writer in the Erving-King Papers [note 72], Box 23, Folder K48.

Children of Richard² King and 1st wife Isabella/Sebella (Bragdon), b. Scarborough:²²⁴

- i RUFUS³ KING, b. 24 March 1755, and bp. 2nd Church, Scarborough, 6 April 1755,²²⁵ d. Jamaica, Queens Co., Long Island, N.Y., 29 April 1827;²²⁶ m. New York City, 30 May 1786, MARY ALSOP.²²⁷
- ii MARY/POLLY KING, b. 2 Nov. 1756, and bp. 2nd Church, Scarborough, 7 Nov. 1756,²²⁸ d. Scarborough, 30 March 1824, according to her tombstone;²²⁹ m. 2nd Church, Scarborough, 24 June 1773, Dr. ROBERT SOUTHGATE.²³⁰
- iii PAULINA KING, b. 1 March 1759, and bp. 2nd Church, Scarborough, 11 March 1759,²³¹ d. Portland, Maine, 26 Feb. 1832, aged 74, and buried in Eastern Cemetery;²³² m. 2nd Church, Scarborough, 3 May 1777, Dr. AARON PORTER of Biddeford.²³³

Children of Richard King and his 2nd wife, Mary (Black), b. Scarborough:²³⁴

- iv RICHARD KING, b. 22 Dec. 1762, and bp. 2nd Church, Scarborough, 23 Jan. 1763,²³⁵ d. Scarborough, 27 Oct. 1830;²³⁶ m. 2nd Church, Scarborough, 21 Jan. 1790, HANNAH LARRABEE.²³⁷

²²⁴ Births from Wick, *Vital Records of Scarborough* [note 71], 18, citing Richard and Sebella (Bragdon) King family record, original p. 223.

²²⁵ Scarborough 2nd Church records [note 56], p. 9; see also Meserve, “King-Southgate” [note 56], NEHGR 38(1884):341.

²²⁶ Grace Episcopal Churchyard (Jamaica, Queens, N.Y.), Rufus King marker, 1827, gravestone photo, findagrave.com #6473810.

²²⁷ *New York Daily Advertiser*, 3 April 1786, cited in Ernst, *Rufus King: American Federalist* [note 9], 66–67.

²²⁸ Scarborough 2nd Church records [note 56], p. 10; see also Meserve, “King-Southgate” [note 56], NEHGR 38(1884):341.

²²⁹ Dunstan Cemetery, Scarborough, Mary King Southgate marker, gravestone photo, findagrave.com #53310086.

²³⁰ Scarborough 2nd Church records [note 56], p. 10; Meserve, “King-Southgate” [note 56], NEHGR 38(1884):342, which errs in giving the marriage date as 29 June 1773. For more information on this family, see Dr. Robert Southgate sketch in Joseph Crook Anderson II, *Maine Families in 1790 Vol. 12* (Waterville, Maine, 2021), 599–603.

²³¹ Scarborough 2nd Church records [note 56], p. 42; see also Meserve, “King-Southgate” [note 56], NEHGR 38(1884):341.

²³² William B. Jordan Jr., *Burial Records 1717–1962 of the Eastern Cemetery, Portland, Maine* (Bowie, Md., 1987), 110; also, gravestone photo, findagrave.com #101709013.

²³³ Scarborough 2nd Church records [note 56], p. 56. For more information on this family, see Dr. Aaron Porter sketch in Joseph Crook Anderson II, *Maine Families in 1790 Vol 8* (Rockport, Maine, 2003), 389–93.

²³⁴ Births from Wick, *Vital Records of Scarborough* [note 71], 159, citing Richard and Mary King family record, original “Births and Deaths 1690–1873,” p. 1.

²³⁵ Scarborough 2nd Church records [note 56], p. 44; see also Meserve, “King-Southgate” [note 56], NEHGR 38(1884):341.

²³⁶ Wick, *Vital Records of Scarborough* [note 71], 165

²³⁷ Scarborough 2nd Church records [note 56], p. 60.

- v SYBILLA KING, b. 8 Sept. 1764, and bp. 2nd Church, Scarborough, 16 Sept. 1764,²³⁸ d. Scarborough, 12 Sept. 1770,²³⁹ and buried as “a child of Richard and Mary King named Sabella” from the 2nd Church, 9 Oct. 1770, the latter date likely erroneous.²⁴⁰
- vi DORCAS KING, b. 20 May 1766, d. Saco, 6 Oct. 1833;²⁴¹ m. 2nd Church, Scarborough, 28 Dec. 1786, JOSEPH LELAND.²⁴²
- vii (Gov.) WILLIAM KING, b. 9 Feb. 1768, and bp. 1st Church Scarborough, 28 April 1775,²⁴³ d. Bath, Maine, 17 June 1842;²⁴⁴ m. Boston, 1 Oct. 1800, ANN NESBETH FRAZIER.²⁴⁵
- viii ELIZABETH LYDEN/BETSEY KING, b. 7 Jan. 1770, and bp. 1st Church, Scarborough, 28 April 1775,²⁴⁶ d. Camden, Maine, 9 June 1853;²⁴⁷ m. 2nd Church, Scarborough, 16 Nov. 1791, Dr. BENJAMIN JONES PORTER.²⁴⁸
- ix CYRUS KING, b. 6 Sept. 1772, and bp. 1st Church, Scarborough, 28 April 1775,²⁴⁹ d. Saco, 27 April 1817;²⁵⁰ m. Saco, 12 Oct. 1797, HANNAH STORER.²⁵¹

(concluded)

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²³⁸ Scarborough 2nd Church records [note 56], p. 46.

²³⁹ Wick, *Vital Records of Scarborough* [note 71], 159, citing “Births and Deaths 1690–1873,” p. 1.

²⁴⁰ Scarborough 2nd Church records [note 56], p. 51; see also Meserve, “King-Southgate” [note 56], NEHGR 38(July 1884):341.

²⁴¹ *Pepperellborough Records* [note 111], 238.

²⁴² Scarborough 2nd Church records [note 56], p. 59; Meserve, “King-Southgate” [note 56], NEHGR 38(1884):342.

²⁴³ Records of 1st Church Scarboro, 1728-1773, page 58, 28 April 1775, Elizabeth Lyden, William, and Cyrus King; register copied by William M. Sargent, 1873; Maine Historical Society, Portland, Maine; FHL microfilm no. 12228.

²⁴⁴ William King marker (1852), Maple Grove Cemetery (Bath, Sagadahoc County, Maine), *Find a Grave*, memorial no. 7232631.

²⁴⁵ Marriages Registered in Boston, no page; “Massachusetts, U.S., Town and Vital Records, 1620-1988,” *Ancestry*, image 6072 of 60705.

²⁴⁶ Records of 1st Church Scarboro, 1728-1773, page 58, 28 April 1775, Elizabeth Lyden, William, and Cyrus King; FHL microfilm, 12228.

²⁴⁷ Maine State Archives, Maine Death Record Cards, Knox County, 1853, P; “Maine, U.S., Death Records, 1761-1922,” *Ancestry*, image 5 of 6.

²⁴⁸ Scarborough 2nd Church records [note 56], p. 60; Meserve, “King-Southgate” [note 56], NEHGR 38(1884):342.

²⁴⁹ Records of 1st Church Scarboro, 1728-1773, page 58, 28 April 1775, Elizabeth Lyden, William, and Cyrus King; FHL microfilm, 12228.

²⁵⁰ *Pepperellborough Records* [note 111], 224.

²⁵¹ *Pepperellborough Records* [note 111], 305.

FOR COUNTRY AND FAMILY: THE DEATH OF CORPORAL JAMES W. MOODY OF WESTON, MAINE

and the Resulting Pension file

By Kenneth Alton Clark

Civil War pension files have almost always provided genealogists with great information: service record, injuries or illnesses sustained, names of family members, vital statistics, and testimonials. They create a more complete view of a veteran, the spouse, or the children. In rare cases, a pension application could be submitted by the parent or parents of a soldier, giving researchers a unique window on the lives of an older generation before, during, and after the war.

A precise set of conditions needed to be met for a parent to consider filing for a Civil War pension. In the case of one soldier, James W. Moody of Weston, Maine, all the boxes were checked. He was the eldest son, born in 1842, and not only still living at home when the war broke out, but clearly providing substantial financial support and business advice to his parents and siblings. Next, James was single and childless, eliminating the typical applicants for a pension down the road: a wife and children. Unfortunately, as well, he died in the war. A private and later corporal in Company I, Eleventh Maine Infantry, he was shot through the right lung during the Battle of Deep Bottom, Virginia, on 16 August 1864, and succumbed to his wound two days later. When the news came home to Aroostook County a few days or weeks later, the devastation must have been complete.

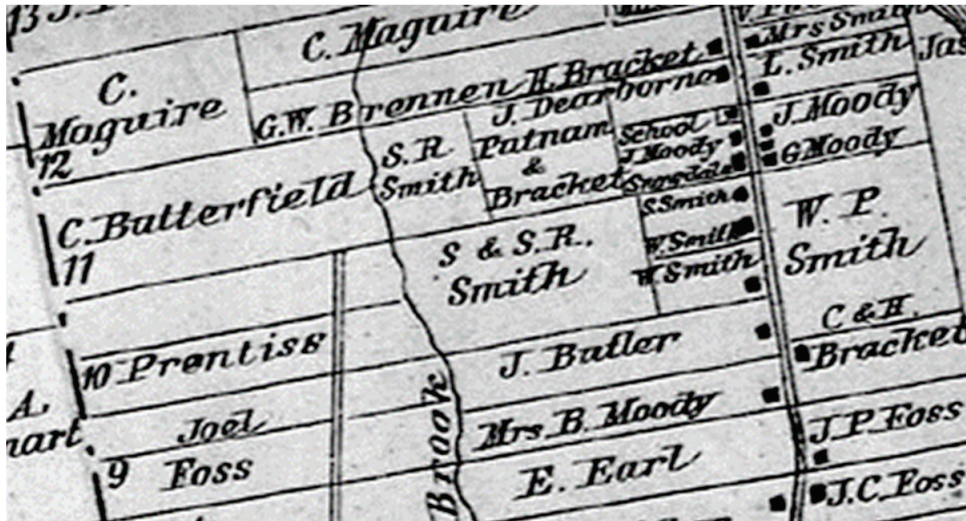
Since only one person could ask for a pension, rather than both parents at once, James's mother, Helen Jane (Mason) Moody or simply Jane as she was called, initiated a long paper trail on 28 June 1880. After her death on 12 December 1899, her husband, James Moody Sr.,¹ filed his own application on 22 May 1900.² The collection contains valuable material in five key areas, a discussion of each of which follows.

Letters Home: James Moody's parents needed to demonstrate clearly that their first-born son provided invaluable financial support for them through his military service. Eight of Corporal Moody's letters home can be found in the pension file, and their inclusion sets a parent application apart. Crucially, they show a significant amount of his military pay being sent home from the front back to Weston, conveyed by tentmates going on furlough or more commonly by way of the "Express Office." For example, on 8 September 1862, just months after enlisting, he

¹ See Kenneth Alton Clark, "The Search for the Parents of Chandler Moody of Prospect and Newport, Maine," *The Maine Genealogist* 24(2002):165–72.

² Invalid Mother Application #273106, 28 June 1880, and Invalid Father Application #720349, 24 May 1900, Certificate #209909. Service rendered by Corporal James W. Moody (Pvt/Cpl, Co. I, 11th Maine Infantry). Records of the Department of Veterans Affairs, National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, D.C.

sent back \$100, which, according to neighbors, was as much as James Sr. made in a year.³ Nearly every letter indicated a sum of money being conducted back to Weston. In addition, updates on close friends or neighbors serving in the same company were also detailed in the correspondence, as well as information about illness, company duties, moods, troop movements, and disposition of the “rebles,” the term by which the enemy was referred. Corporal Moody never stopped thinking of Weston, often inquiring about crops, livestock, farm equipment, and prices, and he worried that his money was not always making it into the hands of his parents.



F. B. Roe and N. Geo. Colby, *Atlas of Aroostook County, Maine* (Philadelphia, 1877)

Neighbors: To verify the challenging financial situation of the parents, numerous statements from neighbors were obtained. These show the close relationships enjoyed in a rural community such as Weston. Living less than a mile away, Hiram Brackett and Edward Earl stated they met James Sr. “as often as three or four times a week.”⁴ Affidavits mention employment undertaken together such as “river driving,” and wages typically earned. According to Stephen and Warren Smith who had “lived [as] next neighbors to said Moodys since 1853,”⁵ young James Moody commonly collected “about one dollar and fifty cents per day,” or “about sixteen or seventeen dollars per month.”⁶ Joseph Butler resided with the Moody family prior to the war and served as an orderly sergeant in Company I with James. On 16 April 1883, he concurred that the family was “poor and needed the money sent for their support.”⁷ In the end, six neighbors—Stephen and Warren Smith, Edward Earl, Arthur Meguire, Hiram Brackett, and Joseph Butler—provided essential testimony to help Jane and James Moody Sr. secure a pension.

³ James W. Moody to Helen and James Moody, 8 Sept. 1862; General Affidavit of Arthur Meguire and Warren Smith, 16 Oct. 1880.

⁴ General Affidavit of Hiram Brackett and Edward Earl, 21 Aug. 1883.

⁵ General Affidavit of Stephen and Warren Smith, 23 April 1883.

⁶ General Affidavit of Stephen and Warren Smith, 19 March 1883.

⁷ General Affidavit of Joseph S. Butler, 16 April 1883.

Financial Situation of Parents: Jane and James Moody had to convince the government that their financial condition was precarious and had been dependent on the money their son earned in the service. Neighbors supplied a bleak picture, backed by a year-by-year inventory of their real and personal estate in Weston. Some described Jane as a “poor woman without any means but her own.”⁸ In 1862 Stephen Smith and Arthur Megguire said the Moody farm consisted of about 100 acres, worth \$400. At the time, the couple owned one cow, one heifer, eight sheep, and one horse, and their personal property was valued at \$150. They added that during the war years, James Sr. earned around \$150 per year, but later that had dropped to about \$50 annually.⁹ Megguire, the town’s postmaster, added in a letter to officials that a \$300 mortgage still loomed over the Moody farm into the 1880s.¹⁰

Health of Parents: The government also wondered why James Moody Sr. could not provide for his family. In her initial application, Jane stated her husband suffered from “chronic rheumatism, heart disease and vertigo.”¹¹ Neighbors Hiram Brackett and Edward Earl confirmed James Sr.’s “left leg [was] withered and partially paralyzed.”¹² As a result, James Sr. underwent three physicals, the results of which are in the file. The first, conducted by their family physician, Dr. Albert Pearson of Danforth, on 16 October 1880, confirmed the chronic rheumatism in the left hip, heart disease, and vertigo.¹³ On 10 September 1883, Dr. Martin L. Porter noticed “the whole left side of his body is partially paralyzed.”¹⁴ Dr. Thaddeus C. S. Berry of Smyrna examined James Sr. at Houlton on 14 June 1884, and stated, “the left leg is atrophied and the whole length by actual measurement [is] two inches shorter than the other,”¹⁵ all of which seemed to limit James Sr.’s ability to work much at all.

Vital Statistics: As with more typical soldier or widow’s files, vital statistics are also included in a parent pension file. The government wanted to know who else the parents were supporting, and so the names of children—siblings of the deceased soldier—were provided, along with birth years and when they were married or left home. Sworn statements about the parents’ marriage are also in these papers.

At last check, the grave marker for James and Jane Moody in the Smith Cemetery on Route 1 in Weston had fallen over on its side. The lettering on Corporal James Moody’s marker, found in a sea of small white gravestones nearly 1,000 miles away in Hampton, Virginia, is fading quickly. Ironically though, through James Moody’s ultimate sacrifice, a unique parent pension file ensued, preserving details about long forgotten lives and reminding us of the struggles and sacrifices endured during and after the Civil War era.

⁸ General Affidavit of Warren P. Smith and Stephen R. Smith, 23 April 1883.

⁹ Affidavit of Stephen R. Smith and Arthur Megguire, 19 March 1883.

¹⁰ Arthur Megguire to W.W. Dudley, 16 April 1884.

¹¹ Declaration for Original Pension of a Mother, Helen J. Moody, 16 June 1880.

¹² General Affidavit of Hiram Brackett and Edward Earl, 21 Aug. 1883.

¹³ Affidavit of Dr. Albert Pearson, 16 Oct. 1880.

¹⁴ Affidavit of Dr. Martin L. Porter, 10 Sept. 1883.

¹⁵ Dr. Thaddeus C. S. Berry, Surgeon’s Examination of a Dependent Relative, 14 June 1884.

FAMILY SUMMARY

JAMES MOODY was born (possibly in Newport, Maine) 16 April 1816, son of Chandler and Susanna (Field) Moody.¹⁶ He died in Weston, Maine, 7 February 1901, aged 84 years, 10 months, and is buried in Smith Cemetery, Weston.¹⁷ He married in Prospect, Maine, 21 October 1838, HELEN JANE MASON.¹⁸ She was born in Prospect, 16 October 1817, daughter of John and Jemima (Nickerson) Mason,¹⁹ died in Weston, 12 December 1899, aged 82 years, 3 months, and is buried with her husband in Smith Cemetery.²⁰ James and Jane moved from Prospect to St. Stephen, New Brunswick, soon after the birth of their first child. On 18 Oct. 1846, James Moody and his brother Benjamin W. Moody of St. Stephen New Brunswick bought 150 acres in Weston,²¹ where James would live the rest of his life. The pension applications describe the financial hardships that he and his family endured.

Children of James and Jane (Mason) Moody:²²

- i SUSAN JANE MOODY, b. Prospect, 14 Feb. 1839,²³ d. Amity, Maine, 11 June 1899, aged 60y 3m 28d, and bur. in South Amity Cemetery;²⁴ m. ca. 1855, CALVIN FARRAR,²⁵ b. Hodgdon, Maine, 26 Nov. 1824, son of Seth and Maria (Dewitt) Farrar, d. Amity, 13 Oct. 1905, aged 81y 11m 5d.²⁶
- ii MARY MOODY, b. St. Stephen, N.B., 18 Feb. 1840, d. 2 May 1857, aged 17y 2m, and bur. in Smith Cemetery, Weston;²⁷ m. 25 Dec. 1856, THOMAS GILPATRICK JR.,²⁸ b. 31 May 1833, son of Thomas and Mary H. (Johnson) Gilpatrick,²⁹

¹⁶ See Kenneth A. Clark, "The Search for the Parents of Chandler Moody of Prospect and Newport, Maine," *The Maine Genealogist* 24(2002):165–72.

¹⁷ Death record, Maine VRs, 1670–1921 [DGS #4703840, image 1500]; gravestone photo, findagrave.com #103772870.

¹⁸ Elizabeth M. Mosher, *Vital Records of Prospect, Maine, Prior to 1892* (Rockport, Maine, 1998), 244.

¹⁹ Mosher, *Prospect VRs* [note 18], 71; her parents m. 19 Oct. 1799 (*ibid.*, 202). Her gravestone gives her birth date as 18 Oct. 1817.

²⁰ Death record, Maine VRs, 1670–1921 [DGS #4703840, image 1380]; gravestone photo, findagrave.com #103773060.

²¹ Aroostook Co. Deeds, 6:328.

²² Names, dates, and birthplaces, except as noted, from the James and Jane Moody family record recorded in Weston (Weston VRs, Vol. 1, n.p. [DGS #7596946, image 84].

²³ Mosher, *Prospect VRs* [note 18], 49; the Weston family record gives her birth date as 11 Feb. 1839 and birthplace as St. Stephen, N.B.

²⁴ Death record, Maine VRs, 1670–1921 [DGS #4544450, image 3635]; gravestone photo, findagrave.com #69469775.

²⁵ Calvin Farrar household, 1860 U.S. Census, Weston, Aroostook Co., Maine, p. 549.

²⁶ Death record, Maine VRs, 1670–1921 [DGS #4544450, image 3798]; gravestone photo, So. Amity Cemetery, findagrave.com #69469243.

²⁷ Gravestone photo, findagrave #121678298.

²⁸ Weston VRs, n.p. [DGS #7596946, image 18].

²⁹ His birth date given on his gravestone; Thomas Jr. aged 17 in Thomas Gilpatrick household, 1850 U.S. Census, Weston, Aroostook Co., Maine, p. 16; his parents m. 15 April 1832 (Thomas Gilpatrick, War of 1812 Pension Application, WC-15449, SC-14642).

- d. 24 July 1864 and bur. in Smith Cemetery.³⁰ He m. (2) Weston, 25 May 1858, Amanda Harris.³¹
- iii JAMES W. MOODY, b. St. Stephen, N.B., 20 Aug. 1842, d. 18 Aug. 1864 from wounds received in the Battle of Deep Bottom, Va. As described in detail above, his parents applied for a pension based on his military service.
- iv THOMAS MOODY, b. St. Stephen, N.B., 18 Aug. 1844, d. Haynesville, Maine, 31 Aug. 1908, aged 66y [*sic*] 13d, and bur. in Smith Cemetery, Weston;³² m. (int.) Weston, 4 May 1869, DELANIA COWAN of Danforth, Maine,³³ b. March 1850, daughter of Asa and Mary A. (Moore) Cowan,³⁴ d. bef. 19 March 1926, when two of her sons expressed “our sincere thanks to our neighbors and friends for their many kindnesses during the recent death of our mother, Mrs. Delania Moody.”³⁵
- v HENRY MOODY, b. St. Stephen, N.B., Aug. 1846, d. Weston, 30 March 1919, aged 68y [*sic*] 7m 15d, and bur. in Smith Cemetery;³⁶ m. Weston, 7 Oct. 1866, HARRIET SMART,³⁷ b. 3 Aug. 1844, daughter of Lewis and Nancy Jane (Brackett) Smart,³⁸ d. 15 Feb. 1927, in her 82nd year, and bur. in Smith Cemetery.³⁹
- vi ELVIRA MOODY, b. St. Stephen, N.B., [prob. Jan.] 1848,⁴⁰ d. Houlton, 20 July 1922, aged 76 [*sic*];⁴¹ m. Houlton, 29 July 1864, WELLINGTON A. GEROW, both of Weston,⁴² b. 14 June 1843, son of Isaac and Jane (Brown) Gerow,⁴³ d. 31 Jan. 1921, and bur. with Elvira in Hodgdon Cemetery.⁴⁴

³⁰ Gravestone photo, findagrave.com #121678299.

³¹ Weston VRs, n.p. [DGS #7596946, image 17].

³² Death record, Maine VRs, 1670–1921 [DGS #5011840, image 1247]; gravestone photo, findagrave.com #121678330.

³³ Weston VRs, n.p. [DGS #7596946, image 32].

³⁴ Her birth date from Thomas Moody household, 1900 U.S. Census, Haynesville, Aroostook Co., Maine, p. 3; Delaney Cowan, age 10, was living in Danforth in 1860 with her parents, Asa Cowan household, 1860 U.S. Census, Danforth, Washington Co., Maine, p. 342; Mary’s maiden name from her death record, Maine VRs, 1670–1921 [DGS #4543998, image 2542].

³⁵ *The Bangor Daily News*, 19 March 1926, p. 2 [image, newspapers.com].

³⁶ Death record, Maine VR, 1670–1921 [DGS #5011840, image 1450]; g.s. photo, findagrave.com #121678318, the stone giving his dates as 1839 [*sic*]–1914.

³⁷ Weston VRs, n.p. [DGS #7596946, image 29].

³⁸ Weston VRs, n.p. [DGS #7596943, image 82]; her parents m. 15 Nov. 1839 (ibid. [image 260]).

³⁹ Obituary notice, *The Bangor Daily News*, 25 Feb. 1927, p. 7 [image, newspapers.com]; gravestone photo, findagrave.com #121678319.

⁴⁰ The birth record in Weston says Aug. 1848, but other records claim January as her month of birth: her gravestone has her date of birth as 15 Jan. 1846, and the 1900 census says Jan. 1850 (Wellington Gerow household, 1900 U.S. Census, Hodgdon, Aroostook Co., Maine, p. 6). She was listed as 3y old in her father’s 1850 household (James Moody household, 1850 U.S. Census, Weston, Aroostook Co., Maine, p. 17).

⁴¹ Obituary notice, *The Bangor Daily News*, 22 July 1922, p. 10 [image, newspapers.com].

⁴² Houlton VRs, n.p. [DGS #7596946, image 23].

⁴³ His full date of birth on his gravestone; Isaac Gerow household, 1850 U.S. Census, Hodgdon, Aroostook Co., Maine, p. 28; Jane’s maiden name from the 1904 death record of her son Israel M. Gerow (Maine VRs, 1670–1921 [DGS #4544459, image 3709]).

⁴⁴ Gravestone photo, findagrave.com #111604913.

- vii THEODORA MOODY, b. after 1850, d. 17 Feb. 1851, aged 3y [sic] 4m.⁴⁵
- viii HELEN M. MOODY, b. [calc.] Jan. 1853, d. 31 March 1856, aged 3y 2m.⁴⁶
- ix WINSLOW W. MOODY, b. Weston, 15 Aug. 1855, d. Weston, 24 Oct. 1929, at the house of his brother Ralph, aged 73y;⁴⁷ m. (int.) Weston, 18 May 1875, ZELKIE BUTLER,⁴⁸ b. Castine, 15 April 1856, daughter of John and Charlotte (Gray) Butler,⁴⁹ d. Greenbush, 17 Aug. 1897, aged 37y [sic].⁵⁰
- x ANDREW MASON MOODY, b. Weston, 15 Aug. 1857, d. Danforth, 17 Aug. 1907, aged 50y 11m 21d, and bur. in Hilltop Cemetery, Danforth;⁵¹ m. (int.) Weston, 4 July 1881, BESSIE DEERING of Orient,⁵² b. Orient, 15 Aug. 1862, daughter of Edwin and Susan (Collier) Deering, d. Wrentham, Mass., 10 June 1959, aged 96.⁵³ Bessie m. (2) Oakland, Maine, 12 April 1918, Bush W. Farrar.⁵⁴
- xi RALPH MOODY, b. Weston, 13 June 1859, d. 21 April 1939 and bur. in Smith Cemetery, Weston;⁵⁵ m. (1) (int.) Danforth, 29 March 1880, MARY ELLA JELLERSON,⁵⁶ from whom he was divorced; m. (2) Danforth, 17 Oct. 1894, LENA FRANCES BEALE,⁵⁷ b. Bangor, 1867, daughter of Charles E. and Eunice (Wentworth) Beale, d. Bangor, 6 March 1943.⁵⁸ Lena had m. (1) Presque Isle, Maine, 12 April 1884, Jesse Marsters of Presque Isle,⁵⁹ with whom she had two children,⁶⁰ and whom she divorced.

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⁴⁵ Gravestone photo, Smith Cemetery, Weston, findagrave.com #121678327. Either her age or date of death, as inscribed on the gravestone, must be in error. She was not listed in her parents' household in 1850. Perhaps 17 Feb. 1851 was her birth date.

⁴⁶ Gravestone photo, Smith Cemetery, Weston, findagrave.com #121678329.

⁴⁷ Death notice, *Bangor Daily News*, 1 Nov. 1929, p. 14 [image, newspapers.com].

⁴⁸ Weston VRs, n.p. [DGS #7596946, image 38].

⁴⁹ James H. Wick, *Vital Records of Castine, Maine* (Rockland, Maine, 2009), 81; her parents m. 21 Jan. 1841 (Penobscot, Maine, vital record typescripts, at Penobscot Town Office, marriages, p. 75).

⁵⁰ Death record, Maine VRs, 1670–1921 [DGS #4703840, image 1291]; gravestone photo, Smith Cemetery, Weston, findagrave.com #241880501.

⁵¹ Death record, Maine VRs, 1670–1921 [DGS #4703840, image 1910]; gravestone photo, findagrave.com #117046793.

⁵² Weston VRs, n.p. [DGS #7596946, image 48].

⁵³ Obituary, *The Bangor Daily News*, 17 June 1959, p. 23 [image, newspapers.com].

⁵⁴ Marriage record, Maine VRs, 1670–1921 [DGS #5011595, image 848].

⁵⁵ Obituary, *The Bangor Daily News*, 22 April 1939, p. 10 [image, newspapers.com]; gravestone photo, findagrave.com, #153894605.

⁵⁶ Danforth VRs, p. 80 [DGS #5011595, image 23].

⁵⁷ Marriage record, Maine VRs, 1670–1921 [DGS #4703840, image 1123].

⁵⁸ Her parentage from her marriage record [note 57]; obituary, *The Bangor Daily News*, 12 March 1943, p. 12 [image, newspapers.com]; gravestone photo, Smith Cemetery, Weston, findagrave.com #153894781.

⁵⁹ Presque Isle VRs, n.p. [DGS #7724799, image 39].

⁶⁰ Obituary, *The Bangor Daily News*, 12 March 1943, p. 12 [image, newspapers.com].

THE PUZZLING PENSION FILE OF OLIVER BOYNTON OF PALERMO, MAINE, AND IOWA

By Laurie A. Murray

The Treaty of Paris, signed 3 September 1783, ended the Revolutionary War between Great Britain and the American colonies. Twenty-nine years later, they were at war again. Escalating events, such as disputes over territorial expansion, restrictions on American trade, and impressment of American citizens by the British culminated in the War of 1812.

When the war broke out, many men enlisted in the regular army to serve their country. Others joined the war under their local militia, as was the case with Oliver Boynton. He appears on the list of men raised at Palermo for service in the War of 1812 in Capt. Job Lord's company, Lieut. J. Cummings's regiment. These men provided service at Belfast from 3 to 20 September 1814.¹

To encourage volunteer enlistments and to reward military service, bounty land warrants were granted by the United States from 1775 to 1885. These warrants provided free land in the public domain, offered in Arkansas, Illinois, Michigan, and Missouri, including Iowa which was part of Missouri from 1812 to 1821.²

In 1813 Congress first authorized pensions for service in the War of 1812. This authorization provided pensions for men receiving service-related disabilities that prevented them from earning a living. In 1871 and 1877, acts were passed to expand eligibility to those veterans serving at least sixty days and their surviving widows, as long as the marriage had taken place before the end of the war. The act of 9 March 1878 provided pensions for surviving soldiers and sailors who had served at least fourteen days and had been honorably discharged. It also provided for their surviving widows, regardless of the date of the marriage.³

A first glance at the pension file for Oliver Boynton suggests this is not a typical pension file, for the applicant bears the name of Asa Boynton. A deeper dive into the file assures this is an unusual case.

WHO WERE OLIVER AND ASA BOYNTON?

OLIVER BOYNTON was born in Alna, Maine, circa 1783, one of four sons born to Oliver and Sarah (Fletcher) Boynton.⁴ By 1804 the family had settled in the town

¹ *Records of the Massachusetts Volunteer Militia . . . War of 1812* (Boston, 1913), 180.

² United States War of 1812 Bounty Land Warrants [familysearch.org] and Western Historical Society, *The History of Cedar County, Iowa* (Chicago, 1878), 173.

³ Index to War of 1812 Pension Files, National Archives, archives.gov; United States War of 1812 Pension Records [familysearch.org].

⁴ John Farnham Boynton and Caroline Harriman Boynton, *The Boynton Family, A Genealogy of the Descendants of William and John Boynton* (n.p., 1897), 157.

of Palermo, which was incorporated from Great Pond Plantation that year.⁵ Oliver, aged 26–45, along with a wife, aged 26–45, and young daughter, aged 0–9, were likely those living in the household of his father, Oliver Sr., in Palermo in 1810.⁶

Oliver appears as a head of household in Palermo in censuses from 1820 through 1850. In 1850 his household was enumerated as: Oliver Boynton, age 66; daughter Sarah A, age 32; son Oliver, age 30; daughter-in-law Lois L., age 28; son Andrew H., age 19; and son Joab, age 26.⁷ His wife, Lucretia, had died 21 January 1846.⁸

He relocated to Iowa with his son Oliver Jr. by 1860, when they were recorded in the census in Farmington Township, Cedar County, Iowa, as: Oliver, age 41; Lois L., age 37; Hellen, age 6; Albina, age 2; and Oliver, Sr., age 76.⁹ He died 31 December 1866, aged 83, and is buried in lot 94, Sharon Cemetery, Sugar Creek Township, Cedar County, Iowa.¹⁰

ASA BOYNTON was born [calc.] 12 May 1797.¹¹ He was a nephew of Oliver Boynton, a son of Oliver's brother Asa [Sr.], and a grandson of Oliver and Sarah (Fletcher) Boynton.¹² Asa married Eunice Brann in Jefferson on 19 April 1827.¹³

Asa probably lived in the household of his father in Palermo in 1810 and in Montville in 1820, as the ages of the males in his father's household are consistent with his birth year.¹⁴ He resided in Patricktown Plantation, now Somerville, in 1827 when he married Eunice. He resided in Jefferson in 1830 and 1840,¹⁵ and Palermo by 1850. In 1850 his household was enumerated as: Asa, age 53; Eunice, age 42; Sophia,

⁵ Milton E. Dowe, *History [of the] Town of Palermo Incorporated 1804* (n.p., 1954), 9.

⁶ Oliver Boynton household, 1810 U.S. Census, Palermo, Lincoln Co., Maine, p. 309.

⁷ Oliver Boynton household, 1850 U.S. Census, Palermo, Waldo Co., Maine, p. 294a.

⁸ Gravestone photo, Hannon Cemetery, findagrave.com #62021141. No record is found for the marriage of Oliver and Lucretia. 2002 email correspondence to this author from John Spear, a descendant of Oliver's daughter Betsey, states that family history passed down by word-of-mouth says Lucretia was a Hodgdon, b. 1788 in South Berwick. The basis is reportedly Bible records of Betsey (Boynton) Spear, the possession of these records unknown. There were many generations of Hodgsons/Hodsdons in Berwick and South Berwick, but no primary record is found for Lucretia's birth. She is not included in Andrew Jackson Hodgdon's, *The Genealogy of the Descendants of Nicholas Hodsdon-Hodgdon of Hingham, Mass., and Kittery, Maine* (Haverhill, Mass., 1904). The findagrave entry states she was Elizabeth Lucretia Hodgdon, b. South Berwick, 20 Sept. 1789, citing no source. A record was found for Betty Legro Hodgdon, bp. Lebanon, 20 Sept. 1789, daughter of Thomas and Molly Hodgson (George Walter Chamberlain, *Vital Records of Lebanon, Maine, to the Year 1892*, 3 vols. [Boston, 1922–23], 1:86), but there is no evidence this is the same person as Lucretia.

⁹ Oliver Boynton household, 1860 U.S. Census, Farmington, Cedar Co., Iowa, p. 121.

¹⁰ Gravestone photo, Sharon Cemetery, findagrave.com #53162510.

¹¹ Calculated from his age at death as inscribed on his gravestone [note 20].

¹² Isabel Morse Maresh, *Vital Records of Liberty, Maine* (Camden, Maine, 1993), 467.

¹³ Marlene A. Groves, *Vital Records of Jefferson, Maine* (Waterville, Maine, 2021), 132.

¹⁴ Asa Boynton household, 1810 U.S. Census, Palermo, Lincoln Co., Maine, p. 309; the household includes 2 males 10–15 (James, b. 1795, and Asa, b. 1797); Asa Boynton household, 1820 U.S. Census, Montville, Lincoln Co., Maine, p. 301; household includes 1 male 16–25.

¹⁵ Asa Boynton [Boynton] household, 1830 U.S. Census, Jefferson, Lincoln Co., Maine, p. 94; Asa Boynton [Boynton] household, 1840 U.S. Census, Jefferson, Lincoln Co., Maine, p. 390.

age 21; Ephraim, age 17; William C., age 15; Eliza C., age 11; Madison, age 7; Loriania, age 4; Naoma, age 2; and Eunice, aged 1 month.¹⁶

Asa remained in Palermo as late as 1860,¹⁷ but was in Somerville in 1870, living in the household of his daughter Loriania and her husband Nelson McDaniel.¹⁸ In 1880 Asa and wife, Eunice, were living with their son William in Palermo.¹⁹ Asa died in Palermo, 16 April 1883, aged 85 years, 11 months, 4 days.²⁰

ASA BOYNTON'S PENSION APPLICATION

The mystery begins in the year 1878, when Asa Boynton applied for a pension under the name of Oliver Boynton. He applied for a pension on 25 March 1878, under the Act of 9 March 1878.²¹

Asa claimed service under Capt. Job Lord's Company, Massachusetts Militia, enlisting at Palermo about 3 September 1814 and honorably discharged at Newcastle on or about 20 September 1814. He alleged that he served as a substitute for Oliver Boynton and answered to the name of Oliver Boynton.

In his application, Asa stated he did not apply for a land warrant, but "his principal [Oliver] he understands applied for and obtained the land warrant on account of his said Asa Boynton's service."

On 20 March 1855, Oliver Boynton, age 71 and a resident of Palermo, did apply for bounty land under the act approved the 3 March, 1855. But he applied on account of his own service, not that of Asa. He stated he entered the military service at Palermo the second day of September, serving under Capt. Job Lord's company, and was discharged at Newcastle on or about the thirtieth day of September 1814. He received no written discharge, but referred to the pay rolls of said company for evidence of service.²² Oliver was granted bounty land for 160 acres in Hamilton County, Iowa, and he assigned it to Milton Fisher on 1 June 1866.²³

Despite Asa's declaration, a search of War of 1812 bounty land warrant applications revealed a rejected application for Asa Boynton, date not provided, with service

¹⁶ Asa Boynton [Boynton] household, 1850 U.S. Census, Palermo, Waldo Co., Maine, p. 294a.

¹⁷ Asa Boynton household, 1860 U.S. Census, Palermo, Waldo Co., Maine, p. 5.

¹⁸ Nelson McDaniel household, 1870 U.S. Census, Somerville, Lincoln Co., Maine, p. 620B.

¹⁹ Wm. C. Boynton household, 1880 U.S. Census, Palermo, Waldo Co., Maine, p. 430A.

²⁰ Gravestone photo, Lenfest Cemetery, Palermo, findagrave.com #13681596.

²¹ War of 1812 Pension and Bounty Land Warrant Application Files, Asa Boynton, SO-31155 [images, fold3.com].

²² Oliver's bounty land application is included in the widow's pension file, War of 1812 Pension and Bounty Land Warrant Application Files, Oliver Boynton, WC-34350 [images, fold3.com], pp. 46-47 (bounty land claim #31007-160-55). Oliver stated he was discharged on or about 30 Sept., while the military records state 20 Sept.

²³ U.S. Dept. of the Interior, Global Land Records, Bureau of Land Management, Patents, Iowa, Oliver Boynton [image, glorecords.blm.gov].

in the War of 1812 under Capt. Job Lord's Massachusetts Militia.²⁴ His rejected bounty land claim is also noted in his pension application file.

Asa Boynton Application Testimonies:

25 March 1878: Asa's application was witnessed by Hattie B. Linscott and Julia A. Black, residents of Palermo, who testified, "they believe him to be the identical person he represents himself to be." According to their testimony, Asa was not able to go to court due to old age, infirmity, and bad traveling. When applying for a pension, the applicant was expected to appear in court and prove his identity. These witnesses served to satisfy the identity requirement. Julia was the wife of Hiram T. Black, who took their sworn testimony, and Hattie was their daughter.²⁵ The attorney representing Asa was Hiram Black's brother R. W. [Richard Wiggins] Black, and they were the sons of Edmund Black,²⁶ who also served in Capt. Cummings's regiment.²⁷ Edmund d. 16 March 1873, prior to Asa's pension application. No familial connection for the Blacks was found to the Boyntons.

7 March 1879: Moses Bradstreet of Palermo and Daniel Greeley of Clinton, formerly of Somerville, certified they served in Capt. Job Lord's company, that Asa Boynton had always lived in Palermo and they had absolute and positive knowledge Asa served in said company as substitute for and under the name of Oliver Boynton. They stated that when said company was called out, Asa Boynton joined the company at Belmont Corner in place of Oliver Boynton. Their War of 1812 service in this company is documented, Moses serving as a sergeant.²⁸ Daniel Greeley from Palermo was b. ca. 1796, and d. Clinton, 14 March 1879.²⁹ No familial connection for these witnesses was found to the Boyntons.

Disposition of Pension Application

The auditor's report from the Treasury Department stated that Oliver Boynton served under Capt. Lord from 3 to 20 September 1814, with two days allowed for travel, for total service and mileage of twenty days. The name of Asa Boynton did not appear as principal or substitute on the rolls of the company. Asa's application was rejected, 10 September 1878, on the grounds that, "there is no evidence of service in the organization in which it is claimed."

²⁴ Bounty-Land Warrant Applications Index, Asa Boynton, warrant #55-328513 [image, fold3.com].

²⁵ Maine VRs, 1670–1921 [DGS #5011846, image 3715].

²⁶ Maine VRs, 1670–1921, Richard W. Black, d. 1897 [DGS #4543975, image 1344]. Hiram's family was living in the same dwelling as Edmund and his wife Comfort in 1850 (Edmund Black and Hiram T. Black households, 1850 U.S. Census, Palermo, Waldo, Maine, p. 297a).

²⁷ *Records of the Mass. Volunteer Militia* [note 1], 179; War of 1812 Pension and Bounty Land Warrants Application Files, Edmund Black, SC-1037 [images, fold3.com].

²⁸ *Records of the Mass. Volunteer Militia* [note 1], 180; War of 1812 Pension and Bounty Land Warrants Application Files, Moses Bradstreet, WC-29527, SC-22627 [images, fold3.com].

²⁹ War of 1812 Pension and Bounty Land Warrants Application Files, Daniel Greeley, WC-24455, SC-244238 [images, fold3.com].

WIDOW'S PENSION APPLICATION

Asa died 16 April 1883 and, on 8 December 1884, his widow, Eunice (Brann) Boynton, applied for a pension as the widow of Oliver Boynton.³⁰ The pension application provides the following details: Oliver Boynton enlisted 3 September 1814; was discharged 20 September 1814; served as a private in Capt. Lord's company of Massachusetts Militia; residence in 1844, Palermo; residence of widow in 1884, Sea Street, Rockland, Maine; maiden name of widow, Eunice Brann; marriage of soldier and widow, Jefferson, 19 April 1827; death of soldier, at Palermo, 15 August 1866; death of widow, 30 May 1891.

The Declaration of Widow, dated 5 December 1884, states Eunice was the widow of Oliver Boynton, the identical Oliver Boynton who enrolled in Capt. Job Lord's Co.; that she was married under the name Eunice Brann to said Oliver Boynton on the 19th day of April 1827, by John Murphy, Esquire, at Jefferson, Maine; and that the said husband died at Palermo, on the 15th day of August 1866.

On 26 December 1884, Eunice Boynton, age 76 and a resident of Rockland, declared that her husband, Oliver, received a land warrant for his service in the War of 1812, but she was unable to provide the date of applying or receiving the service, or the identifying witnesses and magistrate. To her best memory, it was sold to Hiram Black of Palermo, or said Black had something to do with the land warrant. She was unable to find any paper, deed, or document, or any signature of her said husband. Her statement was witnessed by her son-in-law Phineas Hallowell. No record was found of Hiram Black receiving or selling bounty land or of land transfers between Oliver Boynton and Hiram Black. Possibly Hiram assisted Oliver with coordinating the sale of bounty land, but it seems likely Oliver would have chosen someone in Iowa. Hiram Black died 6 October 1889 and is buried in Smith Cemetery, Palermo.³¹

Widow's Pension Application Testimonies:

6 Dec. 1884: Sophia Rackliff, age 50 and a resident of Rockland, declared she knew from living in the neighborhood and personal acquaintance with the parties, and attending the funeral of Oliver Boynton, that he died at Palermo on 15 Aug. 1866. She knew he was the husband of Eunice and that Eunice had never married since the death of her husband Oliver. She also declared that neither Eunice nor her late husband, Oliver Boynton, were ever married previous to their marriage to each other. Sophia was the daughter of Asa Boynton and Eunice (Brann) Boynton, having first married in 1850 Solomon Taylor and marrying second in 1877 Albert F. Rackliff.³²

6 Dec. 1884: Annie E. Taylor, age 31 and resident of Rockland, provided the same testimony as Sophia Rackliff. Annie was the daughter-in-law of Sophia (Boynton) (Taylor) Rackliff, having married Sophia's son Francis A. Taylor in 1878.³³

³⁰ Widow's Pension file [note 22].

³¹ Gravestone photo, Smith Cemetery, findagrave.com #51375356.

³² Gardiner VRs, 3:18 [DGS#8128212, image 235]; Rockland VRs, Marriages 1873–1891, p. 40 [DGS #7834703, image 735].

³³ Rockland VRs, Marriages 1873–1891, p. 50 [DGS#7834703, image 740].

24 Dec. 1884: Franklin W. Potter, age 45 and resident of Rockland, provided the same testimony as Sophia Rackliff. Franklin was the nephew by marriage of Sophia (Boynton) Taylor Rackliff, his mother being Elizabeth Taylor, sister of Solomon Taylor.³⁴

24 Dec. 1884: Naomi [Naoma] T. Hollowell, age 40 and resident of Rockland, provided the same testimony as Sophia Rackliff. The 1893 death record for Naoma T. Hollowell lists her parents as Asa Boynton and Eunice Brann.³⁵ She married Levi Brann in 1867 and Phineas Hollowell in 1879.³⁶ In 1880 she was living in China, Maine, as the wife of Phineas Hollowell with two of her Brann children.³⁷

29 Jan. 1885: S. A. Richardson, Town Clerk of Jefferson, certified he found no record of the marriage of Eunice Bran to Oliver Boynton.

13 March 1885: Naoma Brann, age 37 and resident of Rockland, declared she is the daughter of Eunice and Oliver Boynton, born 3 May 1848, and that her father and mother always lived together as husband and wife until the death of said Oliver Boynton, on 15 August 1866. She stated they were married to each other on 19 April 1827; that she has never heard said marriage called into doubt. She also provided the names and birthdates of the other eight children still living of the thirteen born to Oliver and Eunice Boynton. Naoma Brann is the same person as Naomi Hollowell.

23 March 1885: Sophia Taylor, age 53 and resident of Rockland, declared she is the daughter of Eunice and Oliver Boynton, born 25 Aug. 1831. Her affidavit affirmed the same statements as her sister Naoma Brann. Sophia Taylor is the same person as Sophia Rackliff.

Disposition of Pension Application

The pension reviewer noted the claimant stated the correct service and residence of the soldier and stated her husband received bounty land, but the claimant was unable to give the date or to furnish any signature of her husband.

Under Incidental Matter in the Widow's Brief, the reviewer noted that the town clerk finds no record of the marriage of Oliver Boynton and Eunice Brann. The pension required proof of marriage to the soldier, but this could be satisfied by the affidavits of their children. So, with the testimonies of Sophia and Naoma, the lack of a marriage record became an incidental matter.

A pension was granted to Eunice, the certificate dated 15 January 1886, retroactively commencing 9 March 1878 at the monthly rate of \$8. Eunice received the pension until her death on 30 May 1891, she being last paid \$12 to 4 March 1891.

³⁴ His parents named on his 1914 marriage record to Annie (Allen) Walsh (Maine VRs, 1670–1921 [DGS #5011856, image 577]). For mother's birth, Henry Sewall Webster, *Vital Records of Gardiner, Maine, to the Year 1892*, 2 vols. (Gardiner, 1914–15), 1:171. For parent's marriage, see *ibid.*, 2:430.

³⁵ Naoma T. Hollowell death record, Maine VRs, 1670–1921 [DGS #4544467, image 1499].

³⁶ Somerville VRs, p. 1331 [DGS #7596891, image 139]; Rockland VRs, Marriages 1873–1891, p. 56 [DGS#7834703, image 743].

³⁷ "Fereas" [*sic*] Hollowell household, 1880 U.S. Census, China, Kennebec Co., Maine, p. 175.

TIMELINE OF EVENTS

1783	Oliver born in Alna
1797	Oliver's nephew Asa, son of Asa, b. Palermo
by 1810	Marriage of Oliver and Lucretia
1814	Oliver Boynton War of 1812 service under Capt. Lord from 3 Sept. to 20 Sept. 1814
19 April 1827	Marriage of Asa and Eunice Brann in Jefferson
21 Jan. 1846	Death of Lucretia, wife of Oliver
20 March 1855	Oliver Boynton, age 71 and resident of Palermo, applied for bounty land
by 1860	Oliver relocated to Iowa with son Oliver Jr.
1 June 1866	Oliver assigned bounty land in Hamilton Co., Iowa, to Milton Fisher
15 Aug. 1866	Claimed death of Oliver in pension applications at Palermo
31 Dec. 1866	Actual death of Oliver in Cedar Co., Iowa
9 March 1878	Pensions allowed for War of 1812 surviving soldiers who served for 14 days
25 March 1878	Asa applied for a pension as substitute for Oliver, the application rejected Sept. 1878
16 April 1883	Death of Asa at Palermo
8 Dec. 1884	Eunice, widow of Asa, filed for pension as widow of Oliver
15 Jan. 1886	Pension granted to Eunice
30 May 1891	Death of Eunice at Rockland

QUESTIONS TO PONDER

The pension applications of Asa Boynton and his widow, Eunice, raise several questions:

- 1 Did Asa serve as a substitute for Oliver? If so, why is there no record of his service as a substitute and no record of his receiving pay? And if not, why did company militia men state Asa served in place of Oliver?
- 2 Why did Oliver apply for a Bounty Land Warrant certifying to his service if Asa served as his substitute? Why is there a record of a rejected Bounty Land Warrant for Asa if he didn't apply as he stated in his pension application? Was it processed as part of his pension application?
- 3 Was there a funeral held in Palermo for Oliver? If no, why did witnesses say they attended his funeral in Palermo, a funeral that would have occurred months before his actual death? And if he died in Palermo, wouldn't he be buried with wife Lucretia in Palermo?

- 4 Why did witnesses claim Eunice was the widow of Oliver? Why did Eunice's children claim Oliver, not Asa, was their father?
- 5 Why did daughter Naoma (Boynton) (Brann) Hallowell provide testimony as Naomi T. Hallowell in 1884, but Naoma Brann in 1885 (she married Levi Brann in 1867 and Phineas Hallowell in 1879)?
- 6 Why did daughter Sophia (Boynton) (Taylor) Rackcliff provide testimony as Sophia Rackcliff in 1884, but Sophia Taylor in 1885 (she married Solomon Taylor in 1850 and Albert Rackcliff in 1877)?
- 7 Why are there age discrepancies in the 1884 testimonies of both Naoma and Sophia? Although age discrepancies aren't uncommon in records, it is curious that both daughters provided inaccurate ages by about three years.
- 8 And why did Naoma Brann and Sophia Taylor in their 1885 testimonies, when asked to certify to their parents' marriage, state they were the daughters of Oliver and Eunice, but did not in their 1884 testimonies as Naomi Hallowell and Sophia Rackcliff; instead stating they were neighbors and personal acquaintances? Was the "neighbor and personal acquaintance" a boiler-plate response or was it an intentional omission of kinship?

CONCLUSION

Clearly the pension applications contain some falsehoods, but on whose part?

The War of 1812 service is documented for Oliver Boynton of Palermo under Capt. Job Lord's company from 3 to 20 September 1814. He applied for and received bounty land based on his service and relocated to Iowa where he was buried in 1866. He married a woman named Lucretia who died in 1846 and whose gravestone in Smith Cemetery, Palermo, states she was the wife of Oliver Boynton. There is no record of Oliver marrying Eunice Brann.

War of 1812 records contain no evidence of service by Asa Boynton, as himself or as a substitute for Oliver. There is no record that he received pay and no other non-military record of him going by the name of Oliver. His gravestone bears the War of 1812 marker and a flag; their date of placement is uncertain. Asa's marriage to Eunice Brann is recorded in Jefferson vital records. Were his declarations true?

As for Eunice, she was married to Asa Boynton and was never married to Oliver Boynton. Her children's father was Asa Boynton, not Oliver Boynton. The children of Eunice named in her pension application were listed in the household of Asa and Eunice in census records and not the household of Oliver. Available death and marriage records of the children of Eunice state their father was Asa Boynton.

Oliver died in Iowa on 31 December 1866, not in Palermo on 15 August 1866, and before he was eligible for a pension under the Act of 1878. It is questionable that he had a funeral in Palermo when he resided and was buried in Iowa. There is no gravestone or death record found for Oliver Boynton in Palermo.

Might so many family members, neighbors, and soldiers provide dishonest testimony in pursuit of a pension for Asa and his widow, Eunice? Perhaps some weren't sure of their testimony, but trusted the word of Asa and Eunice. And perhaps some of the testimony was true. But certainly, the children knew their father was Asa. And most certainly, Eunice knew she married Asa, not Oliver Boynton.

All of these ambiguities suggest that Eunice received a pension under questionable pretenses. What is unclear is whether Asa served as an unrecorded substitute. The end result is that Eunice was successful in obtaining a pension by asserting she was married to Oliver Boynton, while her husband, Asa, was not successful by applying under his own name as a substitute for Oliver.

GENEALOGICAL SUMMARIES

OLIVER⁶ BOYNTON (*Oliver⁵, John⁴, Jonathan³, Joseph², John¹*) was born in Alna, Maine, circa 1783, son of Oliver and Sarah (Fletcher) Boynton. He died in Cedar County, Iowa, 31 December 1866, age 83, and is buried in Sugar Creek Township, Iowa. He married by 1810, LUCRETIA —. Lucretia was born circa 1787 and died in Palermo, 21 January 1846, age 58.³⁸

Children of Oliver and Lucretia Boynton:

- i (daughter) BOYNTON, b. say 1808. The identity of this daughter is uncertain. Along with her parents, she was enumerated in her grandfather's household in 1810, under age 10, and in her father's household in 1820, aged 10–15.³⁹ Possibly she is the Permelia Boynton of Palermo who m. Joseph Turner. Census and deeds reveal that Oliver Boynton resided next to David Turner 2nd, father of Joseph Turner. Permelia, however, was b. in 1812, according to her gravestone.⁴⁰ She is not recorded as a daughter of Asa Boynton Sr. or of Samuel Boynton, who also settled in Palermo. An extensive review of vital records, land deeds, probate, and court records have not uncovered the identify of this daughter or the parentage of Permelia.
- ii IVORY BOYNTON, b. Palermo, ca. 1810,⁴¹ d. ca.1863;⁴² m. ca. 1837, LUCY ANN BROWN, b. Rockport, 19 June 1820, daughter of Joseph and Elsy (Perry) Brown,⁴³ d. aft. 15 Jun 1880, when she was living in Glenburn, Maine.⁴⁴ Lucy m. (2) by 1865, Francis Ames/Eames, b. Jefferson, 8 March 1829, son of Francis and Mary (Douglas)

³⁸ See documentation above.

³⁹ Oliver Boynton household, 1810 U.S. Census, Palermo, Lincoln Co., Maine, p. 309; Oliver Boynton household, 1820 U.S. Census, Palermo, Lincoln Co., Maine, p. 294.

⁴⁰ Gravestone photo, Light Cemetery, Washington, Knox Co., Maine, findagrave.com #71221298.

⁴¹ He was age 40 in Ivory Boynton household, 1850 U.S. Census, Palermo, Waldo Co., Maine, p. 293, and age 49 in Jacob Boynton household, 1860 U.S. Census, Palermo, Waldo Co., Maine, p. 4.

⁴² Waldo Co. Probate Records, 31:453: on 8 Dec. 1863, Otis B. Boynton of Palermo, above the age of 14 and son of Ivory Boynton of Palermo, deceased, named Joseph Boynton to be his guardian.

⁴³ Marlene A. Groves, *Vital Records of Camden/Rockport, Maine* (Rockland, Maine, 2006), 50.

⁴⁴ Frank Ames household, 1880 U.S. Census, Glenburn, Penobscot Co., Maine, p. 28B.

Eames,⁴⁵ d. Coloma, Calif., 2 June 1918.⁴⁶ Although there is no record proving Ivory was the son of Oliver, circumstances point to this conclusion. Oliver's household in 1820 included two sons under 10 and included a son 15–19 in 1830.⁴⁷ Ivory was enumerated next to Oliver in 1840,⁴⁸ and was named with Oliver Boynton on an 1839 foreclosure action for lot 6, Range A, in Palermo.⁴⁹ Ivory previously mortgaged this property to Joseph Hewitt in 1837.⁵⁰

- iii BETSEY BOYNTON, b. Palermo, [calc.] Aug. 1813, d. Belfast, 26 Feb. 1886, aged 72y 6m, of consumption;⁵¹ m. (int) Thomaston, 12 May 1841, as his 2nd wife, JAMES REED SPEAR,⁵² b. Thomaston, ca. 1795, son of Joseph and Dolly (Reed) Spear,⁵³ d. Thomaston, 16 July 1879, aged 84y.⁵⁴ James had m. (1) Thomaston, 14 Nov. 1816, Eliza Ulmer,⁵⁵ who d. Thomaston, 13 Oct. 1840.⁵⁶ Betsey and James are bur. in Robbins Cemetery, Thomaston.⁵⁷
- iv SARAH ANN BOYNTON, b. Palermo, ca. 1816, d. 26 Dec. 1853, aged 37y.⁵⁸
- v OLIVER BOYNTON Jr., b. Palermo, 27 June 1818, d. Farmington Twp., Cedar Co., Iowa, 4 April 1897, and bur. in Sharon Cemetery, Sugar Creek, Cedar Co., Iowa;⁵⁹ m. (int.) Washington, 8 May 1849, LOIS LENFEST,⁶⁰ b. Washington, 9 April 1823, probable daughter of Peter and Margaret (Campbell) Lenfest, d. prob. Farmington, Iowa, 8 April 1906.⁶¹

⁴⁵ Groves, *Vital Records of Jefferson, Maine* [note 13], 63.

⁴⁶ California, U.S., Death and Burial Records from Select Counties, 1873–1987 [image, ancestry.com].

⁴⁷ Oliver Boynton household, 1830 U.S. Census, Palermo, Waldo Co., Maine, p. 478.

⁴⁸ Ivory and Oliver Boynton households, 1840 U.S. Census, Palermo, Waldo Co., Maine, p. 373. Ivory's household was listed next to Joseph and Permelia (Boynton) Turner's household.

⁴⁹ Waldo Co. Deeds, 33:514.

⁵⁰ Waldo Co. Deeds, 27:323.

⁵¹ Alfred Johnson, *Vital Records of Belfast, Maine, to the Year 1892*, 2 vols. (Boston, Mass., 1917–19), 2:639. A 2002 email from descendant John Spear [note 8] gives Betsey as a daughter of Oliver. She named a son Oliver Boynton Spear and a daughter Annie Lucretia Spear.

⁵² Marlene A. Groves, *Vital Records of Thomaston, Maine* (Rockport, Maine, 2002), 425.

⁵³ Groves, *Thomaston VRs* [note 52], 64; his parents m. (int.) Thomaston, 29 Nov. 1792 (*ibid.*, 257). James is listed as a son in his father's family record, but his date of birth is not given.

⁵⁴ Charles Samuel Candage, *Records of Rockland, Maine, Prior to 1892, from the Lime Rock Gazette and Rockland Gazette* (Rockport, Maine, 1989), 1087, citing *Rockland Gazette*, issue of 24 July 1879. The death notice states that James was a War of 1812 pensioner.

⁵⁵ Groves, *Thomaston VRs* [note 52], 316.

⁵⁶ Groves, *Thomaston VRs* [note 52], 81.

⁵⁷ Gravestones, Robbins Cemetery, findagrave.com #176992213 and #176991805.

⁵⁸ Gravestone photo, Hannon Cemetery, Palermo, findagrave.com #62022054. The inscription on the stone reads, "Sarah Ann dau of Oliver and Lucretia Boynton."

⁵⁹ Gravestone photo, findagrave.com #53162697, his stone giving his full dates of birth and death. The Findagrave entry cites a death notice in *The Tipton Conservative* [Iowa], published 14 April 1897, saying Oliver and Lois had 7 children, of whom only two daughters survived.

⁶⁰ Marlene A. Groves, *Vital Records of Washington, Maine* (Rockport, Maine, 2005), 58.

⁶¹ Gravestone photo, Sharon Cemetery, findagrave.com #53162756, her stone giving her full dates of birth and death. Peter Lenfest was living in Putnam, now Washington, Maine, in 1820, the only Lenfest family enumerated there that year (Peter Landfist [Lenfest] household, 1820 U.S.

- vii JOAB BOYNTON, b. Palermo, [calc.] Oct. 1821 (gravestone) or ca. 1824 (census),⁶² d. Palermo, 18 Dec. 1865;⁶³ m. Liberty, 22 Aug. 1858, HELEN MATILDA LENFEST and sister of Lois, above,⁶⁴ b. Washington, 22 Nov. 1837, daughter of Peter and Margaret (Campbell) Lenfest,⁶⁵ d. Edgar, Clay Co., Nebr., 14 May 1929.⁶⁶ Helen m. (2) Palermo, 30 Sept. 1868, Daniel J. Northrup,⁶⁷ b. Palermo, 9 June 1827, d. Edgar, Nebr., 13 Nov. 1884.⁶⁸
- viii HIRAM H. BOYNTON, b. Palermo, ca. 1827, d. aft. June 1863 when he registered for the draft, age 35 and resident of Thomaston,⁶⁹ and probably by 1870 when he does not appear in the census; m. Thomaston, 19 June 1854, LUCIA A. YOUNG,⁷⁰ b. Thomaston, 8 Feb. 1834, daughter of William and Eliza (Philbrick) Young,⁷¹ d. Thomaston, 8 June 1902.⁷² Lucia m. (2) Thomaston, 19 Jan. 1871, Percy Montgomery,⁷³ b. Warren, 26 Nov. 1817, son of John and Julia Ann (Howard) Montgomery, d. Warren, 20 Oct. 1918.⁷⁴
- ix ANDREW H. BOYNTON, b. Palermo, ca. 1831,⁷⁵ d. Beaufort, S.C., 26 Dec. 1864;⁷⁶ m. Palermo, 5 Aug. 1855, ELIZA BOYNTON,⁷⁷ b. Palermo, 21 April 1835, daughter

Census, Putnam, Lincoln Co., Maine, p. 302). Margaret's maiden name of Campbell from 1899 Maine VRs death record of son George Lenfest [DGS #4544494, image 165].

⁶² Gravestone, Hannon Cemetery, Palermo, findagrave.com #156260406, death date inscribed 18 Dec. 1865, aged 44y 2m. He was aged 26y in Oliver Boynton household, 1850 U.S. Census, Palermo, Waldo Co., Maine, p. 294, and aged 36y in "Jacob" Boynton household, 1860 U.S. Census, Palermo, Waldo Co., Maine, p. 4.

⁶³ Gravestone, Hannon Cemetery, Palermo, findagrave.com #156260406.

⁶⁴ Elizabeth M. Mosher and Isabel Morse Maresh, *Marriage Records of Waldo County, Maine Prior to 1892* (Rockport, Maine, 1990), 164.

⁶⁵ Helen M. Lenfest, aged 14y, was living in her mother's household in 1850 (Margaret Lenfest household, 1850 U.S. Census, Washington, Lincoln Co., Maine, p. 278); her full birth date given on her gravestone.

⁶⁶ Gravestone photo, Edgar Cemetery, Edgar, Nebr., findagrave.com #62821273. The stone gives her full birth and death dates; obituary notice, *The Edgar Sun* [Edgar, Nebr.], 17 May 1929, p. 1 [image, newspapers.com].

⁶⁷ Mosher & Maresh, *Marriage Records of Waldo County, Maine* [note 64], 393.

⁶⁸ Gravestone photo, Edgar Cemetery, Edgar, Nebr., findagrave.com #62821239. The stone gives his full birth and death dates.

⁶⁹ U.S. Civil War Draft Registrations, 1863–1865, Maine, 3rd District [image, ancestry.com].

⁷⁰ Groves, *Thomaston VRs* [note 52], 503.

⁷¹ Groves, *Thomaston VRs* [note 52], 151.

⁷² Maine VRs, 1670–1921 [DGS #4703840, image 844].

⁷³ Groves, *Thomaston VRs* [note 52], 555.

⁷⁴ Maine VRs, 1670–1921 [DGS #5011840, image 1113]. The record provides his full birth and death information, along with the names of his parents.

⁷⁵ He was age 19 in Oliver Boynton household, 1850 U.S. Census, Palermo, Waldo Co., Maine, p. 294.

⁷⁶ U.S. Registers of Deaths of Volunteers, 1861–1865 [image, ancestry.com] and U.S. Burial Registers, Military Posts and National Cemeteries, 1862–1960, Beaufort National Cemetery, South Carolina. [image, ancestry.com]. This record gives date of death as 27 Dec. 1864, as does his probate record (Administrators' Bonds, Oaths, and Letters, Ceder Co., Iowa, 2:33 [DGS #7592172, image 190]).

⁷⁷ Mosher & Maresh, *Marriage Records of Waldo County, Maine* [note 64], 253.

of Asa Jr. and Eunice (Brann) Boynton [see below],⁷⁸ d. East Providence, R.I., 6 Feb. 1912.⁷⁹ Eliza m. (2) Appleton, 22 Dec. 1866, James A. Rokes,⁸⁰ b. Appleton, 5 Jan. 1824, son of John and Jane (Newbert) Rokes, d. Union, 20 Aug. 1900.⁸¹ Andrew enlisted in the Civil War, 29 Sept. 1864, in Co. D, 15th Iowa Volunteer Infantry and d. in Beaufort, S.C., of disease contracted while marching from Atlanta to Savannah.⁸² His estate was in probate at Cedar Co., Iowa, 8 Aug. 1868, his brother Oliver executor.⁸³

ASA⁷ BOYNTON Jr. (*Asa⁶, Oliver⁵, John⁴, Jonathan³, Joseph², John¹*) was born in Alna, 12 May 1797, son of Asa and Mehitable (Pickard/Packard) Boynton. He died in Palermo, 16 April 1883. He married in Jefferson, 19 April 1827, EUNICE BRANN.⁸⁴ Eunice was born in Jefferson, 18 December 1808, daughter of Richard and Eunice (Rollins) Brann.⁸⁵ She died in Rockland, 30 May 1891.⁸⁶

Children of Asa and Eunice (Brann) Boynton (three of thirteen children unidentified):

- i ANN MEHITABLE BOYNTON, b. 21 Dec 1829, d. Rockland, 6 April 1885;⁸⁷ m. Hallowell, 17 June 1847, HOSEA WEST,⁸⁸ b. Frankfort, [calc.] Nov. 1819, d. Rockland, 9 Oct. 1890, aged 70y 11m.⁸⁹
- ii SOPHIA BOYNTON, b. Palermo, 25 Aug. 1831, d. Rockland, 16 Jan. 1889;⁹⁰ m. Gardiner, 27 Nov. 1850, SOLOMON TAYLOR,⁹¹ b. Gardiner, 6 Jan. 1831, son of Dudley and Tabitha W. (Rankins) Taylor,⁹² d. 10 Dec. 1889.⁹³ Sophia and Solomon divorced in Sept. 1869.⁹⁴ Sophia m. (2) Rockland, 28 July 1877, ALBERT F. RACK-

⁷⁸ Birth date from War of 1812, Widow's Pension file [note 22], p. 36.

⁷⁹ Gravestone photo, North Burial Ground, Providence, R.I., findagrave.com #237259865.

⁸⁰ Elizabeth M. Mosher, *Vital Records of Appleton, Maine* (Rockport, Maine, 1994), 115.

⁸¹ Maine VRs, 1670–1921 [DGS #4703867, image 801]. The record provides his full birth and death information, along with the names of his parents.

⁸² Civil War, Widow's Pensions, Andrew H. Boynton, #WC-89207 [images, fold3.com], and U.S. Civil War Soldier Records and Profiles, 1861–1865 [database, ancestry.com].

⁸³ Cedar Co., Iowa, Probate Records [note 76].

⁸⁴ See documentation above.

⁸⁵ Groves, *Vital Records of Jefferson, Maine* [note 13], 132.

⁸⁶ Her death date provided in the widow's pension file [note 22].

⁸⁷ Birth date given in widow's pension file [note 22], 3. For death record, Marlene A. Groves, *Vital Records of Rockland, Maine* (Rockport, Maine, 2001), 171; gravestone photo, Seaview Cemetery, findagrave.com #227935350.

⁸⁸ Mabel Goodwin Hall, *Vital Records of Hallowell, Maine, to the Year 1892*, 6 vols. (n.p., 1924–29), 2:46.

⁸⁹ Gravestone photo, Seaview Cemetery, Rockland, findagrave.com #227933470.

⁹⁰ Birth date given in widow's pension file [note 22], 3; death record, Groves, *Rockland VRs* [note 87], 167.

⁹¹ *Gardiner VRs* [note 34], 2:220.

⁹² *Gardiner VRs* [note 34], 1:171; his parents m. 10 Nov. 1821 (*ibid.*, 2:483).

⁹³ Gravestone photo, Achorn Cemetery, Rockland, findagrave.com #193768461.

⁹⁴ Knox Co., Supreme Judicial Court, 6:322–23 [DGS #5158256, images 404–5].

- LIFF,⁹⁵ b. Rockland, July 1850, son of Ezekiel and Mary A. (Pearson) Rackliff, d. Rockland, 16 Nov. 1916.⁹⁶
- iii EPHRAIM J. BOYNTON, b. Palermo, [calc.] 11 April 1833, d. Palermo, 22 Feb. 1870, aged 36y 10m 11d;⁹⁷ m. Liberty, 4 Aug. 1859, ANN MARIA (HARLOW) PELTON,⁹⁸ b. ca. 1836, d. aft. 1885 when she appears in the Rockland City Directory as the widow of Ephraim.⁹⁹ Ann had m. (1) Rockport, 15 Nov. 1852, James Madison Pelton,¹⁰⁰ b. Washington, [calc.] 17 July 1830, son of Moses and Jane (Stinson) Pelton, d. Thomaston, 7 Jan. 1894, aged 63y 5m 20d.¹⁰¹
- iv WILLIAM CARLTON BOYNTON, b. Palermo, 27 May 1835, d. Medford, Mass., 29 Oct. 1919;¹⁰² m. Liberty, 16 Sept. 1866, MARINDA EMERSON,¹⁰³ b. abt. 1837, daughter of John and Marinda (Trask) Emerson. She is poss. Mary A. Boynton, wife, age 32y [*sic*], living with William in 1880,¹⁰⁴ but a death record is not found.
- v ELIZA BOYNTON, b. Palermo, 21 April 1835, d. East Providence, R.I., 6 Feb. 1912; m. Palermo, 5 Aug. 1855, ANDREW H. BOYNTON, son of Oliver and Lucretia (—) Boynton (see Andrew H. Boynton above).
- vi WILBERT L. BOYNTON, b. Jefferson, 27 Feb. 1837, d. Somerville, 30 May 1921;¹⁰⁵ m. Rockland, 30 March 1864, MARY JANE GOTT,¹⁰⁶ b. Swans Island, 20 June 1838, d. Rockland, 1 July 1900.¹⁰⁷ Wilbert served in the Civil War with rank of sergeant, enlisting on 30 April 1861 and reenlisting on 9 Feb. 1864. He served in Co. I, 3rd Maine Infantry Regiment, and Co. C, 17th Maine Infantry Regiment. His enlistment record describes him as age 24, light complexion, blue eyes, brown hair, 5 feet 9 inches tall, and occupation of miller. He was discharged for disability, leaving

⁹⁵ Rockland VRs, Marriages 1873–1891, p. 40 [DGS #7834703, image 735].

⁹⁶ Maine VRs, 1670–1921 [DGS #5011858, image 346].

⁹⁷ 1870 U.S. Census Mortality Schedules, Palermo, Waldo Co, Maine, 1; Candage, *Rockland Gazette* [note 54], 816.

⁹⁸ Maresh, *Vital Records of Liberty, Maine* [note 12], 310.

⁹⁹ U.S. City Directories, 1822–1995, Rockland City Directory, 1885 [image, ancestry.com].

¹⁰⁰ Groves, *Vital Records of Camden/Rockport* [note 43], 555.

¹⁰¹ Maine VRs, 1670–1921 [DGS #4703853, image 1877], which incorrectly gives his mother's name as "Mary" Stimpson; his parents' marriage intentions recorded in Groves, *Washington VRs* [note 60], 35, gives his mother as Miss Jane Stinson of Madison. Moses's wife is listed as Jane in census records and the death records of James's siblings. Also, Maine Veterans Cemetery Records, 1676–1918 [DGS #1001833, image 1639].

¹⁰² Mass. VRs, 1841–1925 [DGS #5203452, image 74], the record giving his full dates of birth and death and his parents' names.

¹⁰³ Maresh, *Vital Records of Liberty, Maine* [note 12], 104.

¹⁰⁴ John Emerson household, 1850 U.S. Census, Liberty, Waldo Co., Maine, p. 46a; William C. Boynton household, 1870 U.S. Census, Palermo, Waldo Co., Maine, p. 26; Wm. C. Boynton household, 1880 U.S. Census, Palermo, Waldo Co., Maine, p. 430A.

¹⁰⁵ Maine VRs, 1670–1921 [DGS #5011567, image 1073].

¹⁰⁶ Groves, *Rockland VRs* [note 87], 407.

¹⁰⁷ Maine VRs, 1670–1921 [DGS #4543979, image 1221]. Her father's surname is listed as "Watts" on her death certificate, but her marriage record and the death records of her children give the name as "Gott." She is probably the Mary J. Gott, aged 13, living in the household of John and Abigail (Marchant) Gott in 1850 (John Gott household, 1850 U.S. Census, Swans Island, Hancock Co., Maine, p. 172a).

- service from the U.S. General Hospital at Fairfax, Va., and mustered out 20 March 1865.¹⁰⁸
- vii FRANCIS M. BOYNTON, b. Jefferson, 26 Aug. 1841, d. Los Angeles, Calif., 1 Dec. 1921;¹⁰⁹ m. Medford, Mass., 25 May 1874, MARY JANE MORRISON,¹¹⁰ b. Cape Breton, Canada, 25 Aug. 1849, daughter of Roderick and Katherine (Boyd) Morrison, d. Inglewood, Calif., 10 Jan. 1930.¹¹¹
- viii LORANIA L. BOYNTON, b. Palermo, 19 Jan. 1845 or 19 Jan. 1846,¹¹² d. Somerville, 21 Jan. 1923;¹¹³ m. (1) Palermo, 20 March 1864, WARREN COOPER,¹¹⁴ b. Palermo, 27 June 1831, son of John and Sarah (Marr) Cooper,¹¹⁵ d. Va., 30 May 1864.¹¹⁶ Warren served in the Civil War as a member of Co I, 3rd Maine Infantry Regiment. On the date of his death, the 3rd Maine Regiment was at Totopotomoy, Va., just prior to the battle of Cold Harbor. He was killed in action, dying of his wounds. Prior to this, he was wounded at Gettysburg, 2 July 1863.¹¹⁷ Lorania m. (2) Somerville, (cert.) 27 Dec. 1868, NELSON McDANIEL,¹¹⁸ b. Somerville, 29 July 1843, son of David and Rebecca (Leighton) Mc Daniel,¹¹⁹ d. Somerville, 6 Oct. 1917.¹²⁰ She m. (3) Somerville, (cert.) 2 Dec. 1889, WILLIAM B. McDANIEL,¹²¹ b. Somerville, 24 Oct. 1846, son of James and Mary E. McDaniel,¹²² d. 26 May 1934.¹²³
- ix NAOMA T. BOYNTON, b. Palermo, 3 May 1848,¹²⁴ d. Somerville, 5 July 1893, age 45y 2m 2d;¹²⁵ m. (1) Palermo, 2 April 1866, LEVI W. BRANN,¹²⁶ b. Somerville, 16

¹⁰⁸ Maine State Archives Collections, 1787–1957, Civil War Soldier's Index [DGS #4387560, image 211]; also, U.S. Civil War Soldier Records and Profiles, 1861–1865 [database, ancestry.com].

¹⁰⁹ California County Birth and Death Records, 1800–1994 [DGS #5597668, image 690], the record giving his full dates of birth and death and the names of his parents.

¹¹⁰ Mass. VRs, 1626–2001 [DGS #7011121, image 142].

¹¹¹ California County Birth and Death Records, 1800–1994 [DGS #5587998, image 42], the record giving her full dates of birth and death and the names of her parents.

¹¹² Birth date of 19 Jan 1845, from widow's pension file [note 22]. Somerville VR gives her birth date as 19 Jan 1946 (Nelson McDaniel family record, Somerville VRs, p. 132 [DGS #7596891, image 54]), which is consistent with her age in census records.

¹¹³ Gravestone photo, Sand Hill Cemetery, findagrave.com #70035748. Stone incorrectly gives her birth date as 2 Dec 1889, which is the date of her marriage to William McDaniel.

¹¹⁴ Mosher & Maresh, *Marriage Records of Waldo County, Maine* [note 64], 255.

¹¹⁵ John Cooper family record, Somerville VRs, p. 33 [DGS #7596891, image 26].

¹¹⁶ Gravestone photo, Yorktown National Cemetery, findagrave.com #8298915.

¹¹⁷ U.S. Civil War Soldier Records and Profiles, 1861–1865 [database, ancestry.com].

¹¹⁸ Somerville VRs, p. 174 [DGS #7596891, image 159].

¹¹⁹ David McDaniel family record, Somerville VRs, p. 132 [DGS #7596891, image 54].

¹²⁰ Maine VRs, 1670–1921 [DGS #5011834, image 2754].

¹²¹ Somerville VRs, p. 217 [DGS #7596891, image 366].

¹²² James McDaniel family record, Somerville VRs, p. 130 [DGS #7596891, image 53].

¹²³ Gravestone photo, Sand Hill Cemetery, Somerville, findagrave.com, #70035691.

¹²⁴ Somerville VR gives her birth date as 17 May 1848 (Levi Bran family record, Somerville VRs, p. 24 [DGS# 7596891, image 24]. Age on death record agrees with birth date of 3 May 1848, given in widow's pension file [note 22].

¹²⁵ Maine VRs, 1670–1921 [DGS #4544467, image 1499].

¹²⁶ Mosher & Maresh, *Marriage Records of Waldo County, Maine* [note 64], 367.

June 1832, son of John and Abigail (Heath) Brann,¹²⁷ d. Orting, Pierce Co., Wash., 14 March 1918.¹²⁸ Levi enlisted in the Civil War, 4 June 1861, serving in Co. I, 3rd Maine Infantry Regiment until he was mustered out, 28 June 1864.¹²⁹ He applied for admission to the Soldier's Home in Orting, Pierce Co., Wash., on 26 Feb. 1912.¹³⁰ In his application, he gave his age as 76, stated he was married in Nov. 1866, was a widower, his wife died in 1897, and he had resided in Washington since 1892. He listed two daughters, Mary E. and Alice L., who are the same daughters given as the children of Levi W. and Noama T. Brann in the Somerville VRs.¹³¹ The 1880 census records Levi as divorced.¹³² Naoma m. (2) Somerville, 15 Nov. 1879, PHINEAS HALLOWELL,¹³³ b. China, 30 March 1839,¹³⁴ d. Rockland, 29 March 1908.¹³⁵

- x EUNICE BOYNTON, b. Palermo, 7 July 1850, d. 6 Aug. 1906;¹³⁶ m. Palermo, 24 Nov. 1866, JAMES M. EVANS,¹³⁷ b. Bowdoin, 26 May 1843,¹³⁸ son of Elisha and Mary (Howland) Evans, d. Palermo, 20 Dec. 1912.¹³⁹ Eunice and James divorced in Dec. 1887,¹⁴⁰ but remarried at China, 7 July 1893.¹⁴¹ James enlisted in the Civil War on 17 Feb. 1865, serving in Co. E, 14th Maine Infantry Regiment. He was age 21y 9m, a farmer by occupation, dark complexioned, hazel eyes, black hair, and was six feet tall. He was mustered out 28 Aug. 1865.¹⁴²

Laurie A. Murray (lamurray500@gmail.com) is descended from the Boyntons. She recently retired after forty years in the housing industry and is looking forward to sharing unusual stories discovered in her research of Maine families.

¹²⁷ Somerville VRs gives Levi birth dates of 16 Jun 1831, and 13 Jun 1833, which do not agree with birth date of 16 Jun 1832 on death record (John Bran and Levi Bran family records, Somerville VRs, pp. 15, 24 [DGS #7596891, images 19 and 24]).

¹²⁸ Washington, U.S. Death Records [DGS #4220881, image 2065] and gravestone photo, Washington Soldiers Home Cemetery, findagrave.com #5550600.

¹²⁹ U.S. Civil War Soldier Records and Profiles, 1861–1865 [database, ancestry.com].

¹³⁰ Washington Soldier Home Records, 1891–1945 [DGS #7498832, image 8].

¹³¹ Levi Bran family records, Somerville VRs, p. 24 [DGS #7596891, image 24].

¹³² Geo. S. Brann household, 1880 U.S. Census, Somerville, Lincoln Co., Maine, 544a. A statewide search for the divorce record of Levi and Naoma at mainegenealogy.net, familysearch.org, and ancestry.com, using variations of their names, was unsuccessful.

¹³³ Rockland VRs, Marriages 1873–1891, p. 56 [DGS#7834703, image 743]. Though recorded in Rockland, the records states the marriage took place in Somerville.

¹³⁴ Phineas Hallowell family record in Somerville VRs, p. 87 [DGS #7596891, image 42]; his place of birth from his death record.

¹³⁵ Maine VRs, 1670–1921 [DGS #5011608, image 2962]. His death record does not name his parents.

¹³⁶ Birth date from widow's pension file [note 22], 36; gravestone photo, Sand Hill Cemetery, Somerville, findagrave.com #70440072. Death record not found.

¹³⁷ Mosher & Maresh, *Marriage Records of Waldo County, Maine* [note 64], 367.

¹³⁸ James Evans family record, Somerville VRs, p. 60 [DGS #7596891, image 35]. Place of birth from 1893 marriage record.

¹³⁹ Maine VRs, 1670–1921 [DGS #5011594, image 2659].

¹⁴⁰ Knox Co., Supreme Judicial Court, 16:180.

¹⁴¹ Maine VRs, 1670–1921 [DGS #4544450, image 445].

¹⁴² Maine Civil War Enlistment Papers, 1862–1865 [DGS#5733442, images 101–2] and Maine State Archives Collections, 1718–1957 [DGS #4387595, image 1067].

LINCOLN COUNTY, MAINE, WILL ABSTRACTS
1800–1830

(continued from p. 48)

264. GEORGE DOUGLASS of Litchfield, yeoman [LCP 25:93]

Being at this time weak in body

To my beloved wife Mary, 2 cows and all the sheep I have in Harpswell, and 1/3 of my household furniture; likewise, all the RE I own in Litchfield, Harpswell, and elsewhere so long as she remains my widow.

After the decease of my wife or in case she should marry, that all my RE and PE be divided in equal shares among my 4 children, namely William, Hannah, David, and Sarah.

Appt my wife Mary sole exec.

Dated: 3 Jan. 1823

Signed with his signature (“George Douglass”)

Witnesses: James Libby, Daniel Johnson, Sally Libby

In probate: 18 March 1823

265. JAMES READ of Bowdoinham, Esquire [LCP 25:95]

[No statement of health]

To my beloved sister Rebecca Read, ¼ of all my RE.

To my children, the rest and residue of my estate, both RE and PE, to be divided among them, giving my son Thomas 2 shares, to each of the other children 1 share each, that my children shall not come into the actual use of the same until they arrive at full age.

Appt Thomas Read, my honoured father, exec, to take the charge and custody of my children during their minority, and also to manage and improve the estate hereby bequeathed.

I will that my wife, so long as she remains single and unmarried, shall perform the household work as she heretofore has done, be supported out of the income of the property in a decent and becoming manner, provided she will accept the same in lieu of dower.

Dated: 24 June 1823

Signed with his signature (“James B. Read”)

Witnesses: Samuel Gray, William Lunt, William Booker Jr.

In probate: 25 Aug. 1823

266. MANASSEH SMITH of Wiscasset, gentleman [LCP 25:98]

[No statement of health]

I will that each of my children be made as nearly equal as possible.

Whereas I have paid \$2000 for my son Manasseh Smith for his college and law education and other ways to himself, I will that the same \$2000 be considered as so much towards what he is to have out of my estate.

Whereas I have already given to my dau Hannah Sevey, wife of Samuel Sevey, in goods, and to her husband in money paid amounting to the sum of \$1368, it is my will that the sum be taken into consideration as so much towards the said Hannah’s share of my estate. I also give to my daughter Hannah \$632 more making in the whole a sum equal to \$2000.

Whereas I have paid for my son Joseph E. Smith for his college and law education the sum of \$2000, it is my will that the said \$2000 be considered and taken as so much towards what he is to have out of my estate.

Whereas I have heretofore given to my daughter Mary Hovey, wife of Ivory Hovey Jr., the sum of \$200, it is my will that the sum be considered as so much towards her share out

of my estate. I further give to my daughter Mary \$1800, but if she dies before my decease, then such sum unpaid at her death are to be paid to her children.

I give to my daughters Lydia R. Smith and Lucy Smith, \$2000 each. If either shall continue single and unmarried, they shall have the use and occupancy of my dwelling house, garden & outhouses, and stable, and all my household furniture, horse & chaise and 1 cow.

Whereas I have paid for my son Samuel E. Smith for his college and law education, and otherwise to himself, the sum of \$2000, it is my will that the \$2000 be considered as so much towards what he is to have out of my estate.

Whereas I have paid for my son Edwin Smith for his college and law education thus far the sum of \$1800, it is my will that the \$1800 be considered as so much towards what he is to have out of my estate, and I will that \$200 more shall be paid to the said Edwin to finish his law education with.

To my beloved wife Hannah Smith, the use and improvement of my dwelling house, garden, and outhouses, together with all my household furniture during her life. I also give to my wife the use of all my outlands and creatures together with a sufficiency of my money to make her completely comfortable during her life.

Appt the said Hannah Smith, Lydia Rogers Smith, and Lucy Smith execs

Dated: 11 Aug. 1813

Signed with his signature (“Manasseh Smith”)

Witnesses: Nath^l Coffin, Sam^l Miller, Warren Rice

In probate 6 Sept. 1823

267. WILLIAM STONE of Dresden, mariner [LCP 25:104]

Being weak in body

To my father Jonathan Stone, 20¢.

To my brother Daniel Stone, 20¢.

To my brother Joseph Stone, 20¢.

To my sister Elizabeth, wife of Harris Chadwell, 20¢.

To my sister Mary, wife of Nathaniel Perkins, 20¢.

To my two remaining brothers, James Stone and Nathaniel Stone both of Dresden, all the rest of my RE and PE in equal shares as tenants in common.

Appt Benaiah Cate of Dresden, Gentleman, and Samuel Bishop of Dresden, Counsellor at Law, sole execs.

Dated: 25 May 1823

Signed with his signature (“William Stone”)

Witnesses: Samuel Bishop, Llewellyn W. Lithgow, Benaiah Cate

In probate: 6 Sept. 1823

268. JEMIMA HUES of Wiscasset, widow [LCP 25:127]

Being of a very advanced age

The bank stock valued at \$400, a demand against Capt. John Boynton valued at \$300, a note of Dr. Moses Shaw for \$21 dated Nov 1818, and a note signed by Rev. Doct. Packard for \$50, and cash to make up the balance of the sum of \$800, which \$800 are the amount of proceeds of real estate, viz the wharf sold some years since, I give to be equally divided between Nancy Dow widow of Thomas Dow, Sally Cutter wife of Col. Cutter, Hannah Baker wife of Daniel Baker, and Abigail Babson wife of John Babson.

To Sally Cutter aforesaid, my sideboard which I purchased since the decease of my husband.

To Abigail Babson aforesaid, a cow, carpet, lolling chair, and 3 pairs of sheets of linen, all which were purchased since the decease of my husband.

To my daughter Abigail Babson aforesaid, all the remainder of my estate.

Appt John Babson of Wiscasset, merchant, sole exec.

Dated: 3 July 1820

Signed with her signature ("Jemima Hues")

Witnesses: Warren Rice, Zebediah Thayer, John H. Sheppard

In probate: 10 Oct. 1823

269. ASA SMITH of Alna, yeoman [LCP 25:156]

Being infirm of body

I will that my daughter Lydia, my sons Silas and Ephraim, and the children of my son Asa be paid \$1 each.

To my daughter Ruth Shorey, 1/6 part of all the RE and PE which may belong to me.

To my son Abijah Smith of Waterville in the County of Kennebec, all the rest of the estate.

Appt the aforesaid Abijah Smith exec.

Signed: Waterville, 12 June 1822

Signed with his signature ("Asa Smith")

Witnesses: Jediah Morrill, Nehh. Gitchell, W^m Gitchell

In probate: 12 Jan. 1824

270. HENRY FOSSET of Bristol, yeoman [LCP 25:259]

Being weak of body

To my youngest son, Alexander Fosset, all my RE in Bristol, consisting of my homestead with the buildings and one other lot I purchased of the heirs of James Young; also half the stock remaining on the farm; also all my farming tools & implements of husbandry.

To my eldest son Henry Fosset, of the town of Union, \$100; also, a note of hand for \$100 which I hold against Henry Ewing payable 1 Oct. 1825.

To my second son Samuel Fosset of Strong, \$100; also, a note of hand which I hold against Henry Ewing for \$100 which was payable on 1 Oct. 1822; also, my riding saddle. My wearing apparel I give to my sons Henry and Samuel Fosset to be equally divided.

To my daughters Nancy Russell wife of William Russell, Eleanor Hunter wife of David Hunter, and Mary Young wife of Joseph Young, the remaining half of all my stock; also, \$50 to each daughter; and all my household furniture divided equally between them.

To Rosonna Hunter, daughter of David Hunter, one feather bed and the bedding.

To my granddaughter Annah Fosset, daughter of Henry Fosset of Union, one feather bed and the bedding; also, half a dozen silver teaspoons.

To my granddaughter Nancy Fosset, daughter of David Fosset deceased, \$1.

To my grandson Henry Fosset Russell, son of John Russell, a lot of land in Appleton Plantation, County of Lincoln, which I purchased of David Grafton; also, another lot in Appleton Plantation, which I purchased of Henry Fosset of Union; also, a note of hand which I hold against Henry Ewing for \$100 payable on 1 Oct. 1827; also, half a dozen silver tablespoons, one gun, and one chest. In case Henry Fosset Russell should not live to arrive at age 21, then the several legacies bequeathed to him shall be paid to Henry Fosset 2d, son of Henry Fosset of Union.

To my youngest son Alexander Fosset, all the residue of my estate.

Appt my youngest son Alexander Fosset sole exec.

Dated: Bristol, 2 June 1823

Signed with his signature ("Henry Fosset")

Witnesses: Joseph Washburn, Henry Ewing, Mary Hames

In probate: 22 Jan. 1824

(to be continued)

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