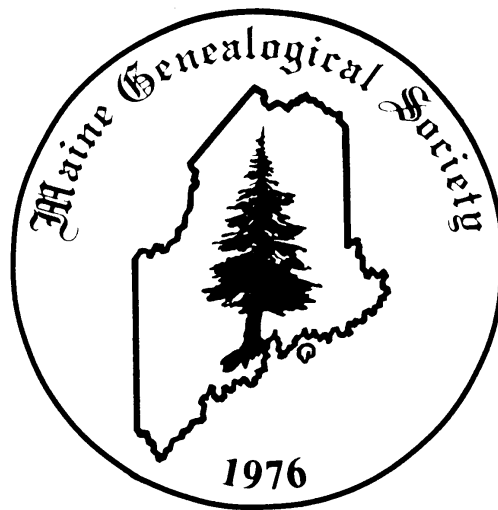


The Maine Genealogist



February 2022
Volume 44, Number 1

The Maine Genealogical Society

P.O. Box 2602, Waterville ME 04903

<http://maineroots.org/>

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The Maine Genealogist (ISSN: 1064-6086) is published in February, May, August, and November. It is printed by Penmor Lithographers, Lewiston, Maine. See back page for membership rates and submission guidelines. For back issues, contact MGS's Sales Manager at <seeker@maine.rr.com>.

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Journal of the Maine Genealogical Society

February 2022

Vol. 44, No. 1

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EDITOR'S PAGE

Every so often I have gotten questions from perplexed researchers about something that looks like an anomaly in the land records. Why, they ask, did my ancestor purchase a piece of property from someone, only to turn around and sell it right back to the same person on the same day?

I have heard some opine that perhaps a mistake had been made and the return sale was simply to reverse the first transaction. Or perhaps one of the parties changed his mind and the counterparty was amenable to taking back the property. Or possibly this was some kind of loophole to avoid a legal or tax problem.

None of these explanations is likely true. In nearly all such cases, the two deeds were executed in tandem to set up a mortgage. As with all legal documents, it is important to read the fine print, and in the case of deeds this means reading what looks like a lot of legalese following the description of the property. What signals that the transaction is a mortgage is the phrase “provided nevertheless” buried in the boilerplate language. The terms of the mortgage, that is the payments and payment schedule, will be detailed in the section that opens with that key phrase.

An example is seen in two deeds executed on 23 August 1811 in Cumberland County (63:169, 418–19). In the first deed, Ebenezer Bragdon of Durham, yeoman, purchased fifty acres of land in Durham from Josiah Little of Newbury, Massachusetts, gentleman, for \$318. On the same day, via the second deed, it appears that Bragdon sold the same property right back to Little for the same \$318. But further down in the second deed we find this language:

Provided nevertheless, that if the said Bragdon his heirs executors or administrators shall pay . . . the sum of three hundred and eighteen dollars on or before the several days of payment, which will be in the year of our Lord 1812, 13 & 14 equably to the term of a certain note given by said Bragdon to said Little . . . then this deed as also said note shall both be void, otherwise shall remain absolute and in force.

In plain English, what this clause is saying is that Bragdon agrees to make yearly payments to Little over three years totaling the \$318, and if he does, this deed transferring the property back to Little “shall be void.” In other words, if Bragdon makes the payments, he keeps the property. If not, the second deed “shall remain absolute and in force,” and the property returns to the seller. This is the same way a mortgage works today, although nowadays the counterparty will most likely be a financial institution.

Often, in the margin of the mortgage deed, a notation will be made by the recorder indicating whether the terms were met. In this instance, we find a good outcome:

Cumberland Ss, 23 April 1817, I Josiah Little have received full satisfaction of this mortgage and do hereby discharge the same.

In the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, before the time when banks can be found on every street corner, it was common in New England to set up a mortgage using two deeds in this manner. The lenders were often wealthy individuals who described themselves with titles such as gentleman, esquire, or trader, and often they had no personal or familial relationship to the persons to whom they lent money.

—Joseph C. Anderson II, Editor

WHO WERE THE PARENTS OF LOVICIA COOK,
WIFE OF HIRAM KINCAID OF MOUNT VERNON, WAYNE,
AND LIVERMORE, MAINE?

By Pamela Jean Davis Green

Documentation of early Maine families is often difficult to find, and records with “close enough” vital information are sometimes conveniently but mistakenly attached to an ancestor. Such has been the case with Lovicia Cook, who married Hiram Kincaid in Augusta, Maine, on 18 October 1845.¹ Three U.S. census schedules document Lovicia and Hiram with their children in Mount Vernon, Wayne, and Livermore in 1850, 1860, and 1870, respectively.² As the widow of Hiram, “Lovisa Kincaid” died 20 July 1877.³ The ages reported on the census schedules and at her death suggest that she was born in the period 1824–26.

Lovicia’s parentage is often attributed to a birth record for Louisa Cook born to Elijah Cook in Raymond, Maine, a few years earlier in 1822 or 1823. While Lovicia’s given name appears as Louisa on some records, and although the 1822–23 birth year is nearly consistent with Lovicia’s age, this study first differentiates Lovicia (Cook) Kincaid who lived in south-central Maine from Louisa Cook who was born in Raymond. Additionally, this research answers the question of who were the parents of Lovicia Cook, wife of Hiram Kincaid.

LOUISA COOK BORN IN RAYMOND

Louisa Cook, born in Raymond, lived a full life in southern Maine. The daughter of Elijah and his second wife, Mary (Chick) (Thompson) Cook, Louisa was born either on 13 February 1823, according to a Raymond birth record, or on 19 October 1822, according to her death record.⁴ In 1830 Louisa, aged about seven, was likely

¹ Ethel Colby Conant, *Vital Records of Augusta, Maine, to the Year 1892*, 2 vols. (Auburn, Maine, 1933–34), 1:263. Her given name is spelled “Lovisa.”

² “Louisa” was aged 24 in Hiram Kincaid household, 1850 U.S. Census, Mount Vernon, Kennebec Co., Maine, p. 382; “Lovica” was aged 35 in Hiram Kincaid household, 1860 U.S. Census, Wayne, Kennebec Co., Maine, p. 1072; “Lovisa” was aged 45 in Hiram Kincaid household, 1870 U.S. Census, Livermore, Androscoggin Co., Maine, p. 351B.

³ Her death was recorded in both Hallowell and Augusta. As Lovisa Kincaid, widow, her age was given as 54 in Mabel Goodwin Hall, *Vital Records of Hallowell, Maine, to the Year 1892*, 6 vols. (n.p., 1924–29), 5:246. As Mrs. Hiram Kincaid, her age was given as 53 in Conant, *Augusta VRs* [note 1], 2:346.

⁴ Raymond Births & Deaths 1747–1892, p. 29 [DGS # 7596437, image 50]; Robert L. Taylor, *Early Families of Raymond, Maine* (Bowie, Md., 1998), 27–28. Louisa’s death record gives her age as 80y 11m 26d on 15 Oct. 1903, calculating to a birth date of 19 Oct. 1822 (Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921 [DGS #4703972, image 562]).

one of two girls aged 5–9 in the household of Elijah Cook in Raymond.⁵ In 1840 Louisa, aged about seventeen, was likely the girl 15–19 in the same household.⁶

Louisa B. Cook of Casco and James Sturgis of Windham declared their intention to marry on 17 August 1847.⁷ Casco and Windham are both situated on the eastern shore of Sebago Lake, and are north and south, respectively, of modern Raymond. In 1850 James and Louisa Sturgis, aged 26 and 25, respectively, lived in Windham with one-year-old Mary.⁸ In 1860 James and Louisa Sturgis, both aged 35, lived in Windham with 11-year-old Mary.⁹ In 1870 James and Louisa Sturgis, both aged 44, lived in Windham with 21-year-old Mary.¹⁰

Louisa's daughter, Mary Sturgis, married George Hanson, likely about 1876 based on their having a three-year-old on the 1880 census of Windham.¹¹ Louisa's husband, James Sturgis, died in 1879.¹² In 1880, 55-year-old Louisa Sturgis, widow, was living alone in Windham.¹³ In 1900, 76-year-old Louisa Sturgis lived in Windham with her daughter, Mary, son-in-law George Hanson, and three grandchildren.¹⁴

Louisa C. Sturgis died in Windham on 25 October 1903.¹⁵ In addition to noting her husband as James Sturgis, Louisa's death record reported that she was born in Casco, the daughter of Elijah Cook and Mary Chick. The discrepancy in birth locations is easily resolved, as a portion of Raymond was set off as Casco in 1841.¹⁶

Evidence of Louisa's birth in Raymond/Casco to Elijah and Mary Cook, her marriage to James Sturgis, and her life in Windham with James and daughter, Mary, clearly distinguishes her from Lovicia Cook who married Hiram Kincaid in Augusta and lived in Mount Vernon, Wayne, and Livermore. The answer to Lovicia Cook's parentage therefore must be sought elsewhere.

LOVICIA (COOK) KINCAID IN KENNEBEC COUNTY AND LIVERMORE

Details in Lovicia's marriage, death, and census records narrow the area of interest and timeframe in which we might find her parents. On 5 October 1845, "Lovisa" Cook and Hiram Kincaid were "both of Augusta" when their marriage intentions were posted by the Town Clerk at the Augusta Methodist Church.¹⁷ Thir-

⁵ Elijah Cook household, 1830 U.S. Census, Raymond, Cumberland Co., Maine, p. 266.

⁶ Elijah Cook household, 1840 U.S. Census, Raymond, Cumberland Co., Maine, p. 301.

⁷ Windham Intentions of Marriages, Vol. A2, 1837–1884, n.p. [DGS #7596953, image 47].

⁸ James Sturgis household, 1850 U.S. Census, Windham, Cumberland Co., Maine, p. 16b.

⁹ James Sturgis household, 1860 U.S. Census, Windham, Cumberland Co., Maine, p. 155.

¹⁰ James Sturgis household, 1870 U.S. Census, Windham, Cumberland Co., Maine, p. 537a.

¹¹ George Hanson household, 1880 U.S. Census, Windham, Cumberland Co., Maine, p. 576D.

¹² Gravestone photo, Smith Cemetery, Windham, findagrave.com, #95940002.

¹³ Louisa Sturgis household, 1880 U.S. Census, Windham, Cumberland Co., Maine, p. 569A.

¹⁴ George Hanson household, 1900 U.S. Census, Windham, Cumberland Co., Maine, p. 9B.

¹⁵ Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921 [DGS #4703972, image 562].

¹⁶ Stanley Bearce Attwood, *The Length and Breadth of Maine* (Orono, Maine, 1977), 122, 226.

¹⁷ Augusta VRs, 2:7 [DGS #7592464, image 335].

teen days later, on 18 October 1845, James L. Varney, Justice of the Peace, performed their marriage ceremony in Augusta.¹⁸

In 1850 Hiram, a millman, aged 25, and “Louisa” Kincaid, aged 24, lived in Mount Vernon with Charles F. Kincaid, aged 2.¹⁹ Mount Vernon is about sixteen miles northwest of Augusta. Her birthplace was given as Maine, and her age of 24 suggests that she was born about 1825 or 1826.

In 1860 Hiram Kincade, aged 35, millman, and “Lovica”, aged 35, lived in Wayne with seven children and an elderly couple.²⁰ The children were Charles, 11; Ann Maria, 10; Sophia, 8; Hiram F., 7; Greenwood L., 5; Sarah L., 3; and Albert, 3 months. The elderly couple, Guy and Sarah Kincade, were Hiram’s parents.²¹ Wayne is about fifteen miles west-northwest of Augusta and about twelve miles south of Mount Vernon. This census reported that “Lovica” was born in Maine, and her age of 35 suggests that she was born about 1824 or 1825.

In 1870 Hiram and “Lovisa” Kincaid, both aged 45, lived in Livermore with six children: Franklin, 17 [listed as Hiram F. in 1860]; Greenwood, 13; Sarah, 12; Eugene, 9 [listed as Albert in 1860]; Edwin, 7; and Eva, 2.²² Livermore is about eight miles west-northwest of Wayne, twelve miles southwest of Mount Vernon, and twenty-three miles northwest of Augusta. This census reported that “Lovisa” was born in Maine, and her age of 45 suggests that she was born about 1824 or 1825.

Lovicia died on 20 July 1877, aged 52 or 53.²³ Her gravestone in Richardson Cemetery, Livermore Falls, reads LOVICIA KINCADE, though the dates are no longer legible.²⁴ Despite the minor inconsistencies in her age and in the spelling of her name, the evidence suggests that Lovicia was born between 1824 and 1826 and that she lived her adult life within a twenty-five mile area that included Augusta, Mount Vernon, Wayne, and Livermore. The question remained, who were her parents?

CLUES TO FINDING LOVICIA’S PARENTS

When direct evidence is lacking, records pertaining to family members often provide valuable clues. In this instance, Lovicia’s son Hiram’s death record names his mother as “Louisa B. Cook” born in Hartland, Maine.²⁵ Lovicia’s daughter Eva’s death record gives her mother as “Lorvia” Cook, born in Starks, Maine.²⁶ Hartland and Starks expand the area of interest northward from Augusta and Mount Vernon

¹⁸ Augusta VRs, 2:222 [DGS #7592464, image 443].

¹⁹ Hiram Kincaid household, 1850 [note 2].

²⁰ Hiram Kincade household, 1860 [note 2].

²¹ The birth of Hiram Kincade, b. 11 March 1824, son of Guy and Sarah (Creasey) Kincade, is recorded in Hallowell (Hall, *Hallowell VRs* [note 3], 1:168).

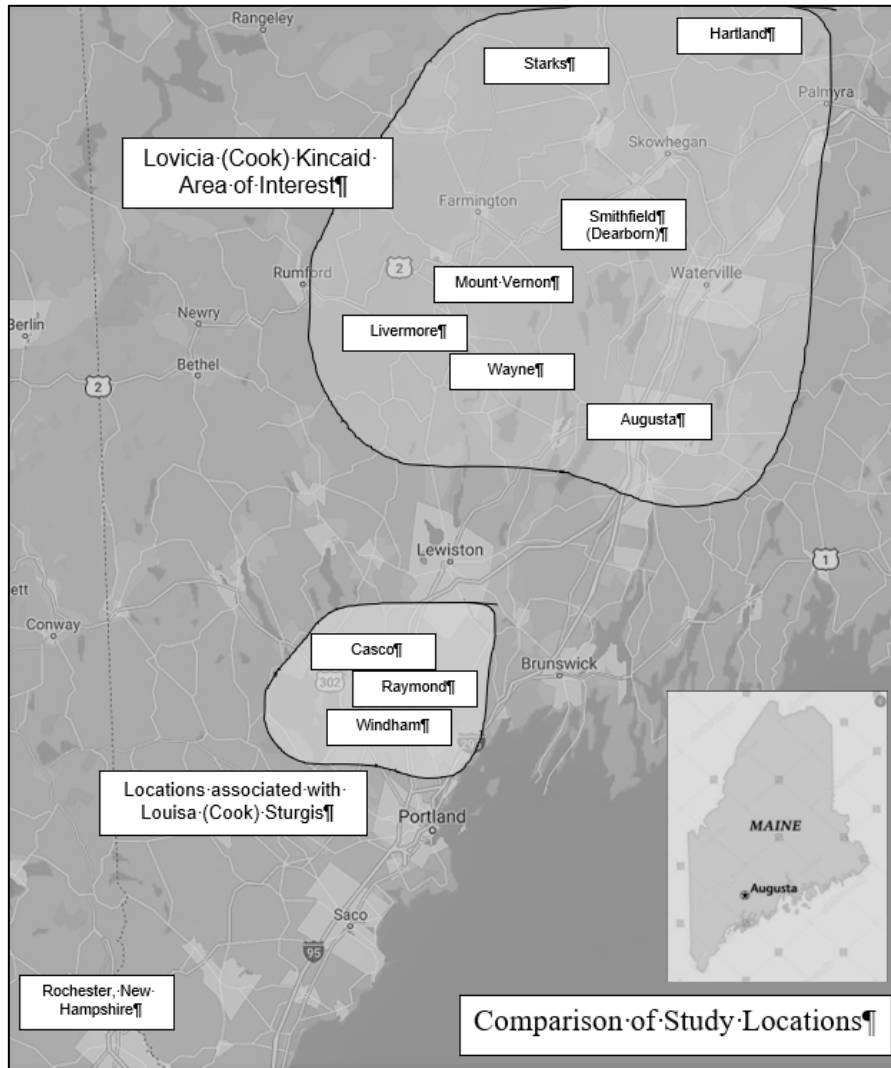
²² Hiram Kincaid household, 1870 [note 2].

²³ Hall, *Hallowell VRs* [note 3], 5:246 (age 52); Conant, *Augusta VRs* [note 1], 2:346 (age 53).

²⁴ Gravestone photo, findagrave.com, #111745486, and personal observation of gravestone.

²⁵ Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921 [DGS #5011623, image 534].

²⁶ Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921 [DGS #4543964, image 2123].



Comparison of study locations: Rochester, N.H., marriage of Valentine and Huldah (Bickford) Cook; Louisa (Cook) Sturgis in Raymond and Windham, Maine; and Lovicia (Cook) Kincaid in south-central Maine.

into what is today Somerset County. While it will be shown that Lovicia had a connection to both of those towns, she was not born in either.

Names can provide clues as children were frequently named for family members. As noted, Lovicia and Hiram's children were named Charles, Ann Maria, Sophia, Hiram F., Greenwood L., Sarah L., Albert, Edwin, and Eva. Ann Maria may have been named after Hiram's sister Mary Ann,²⁷ and Sarah was likely named for Hiram's mother. Combining some of the other children's given names—Charles, Sophia, Albert, Edwin, and Eva—with the surname Cook to possibly point to Lovicia's parents or siblings did not produce any obvious leads.

A search for Greenwood L. Cook, however, yielded some intriguing results. The gravestone of one Greenwood L. Cook in Evergreen Cemetery, Milo, Maine, gives his birth date of 26 February 1832 and death date of 3 July 1914.²⁸ In 1850 Greenwood L. Cook, "farmer," was living in Belgrade, aged 16, in the household of George Smith, probably working there as a farm hand.²⁹ By 1870 he was in Augusta, aged 36, a laborer, living with a wife and two small children.³⁰ That same year, Thomas J. Cook was also enumerated in Augusta as a laborer, aged 38, with a wife and three young children.³¹ Four years later, on 22 September 1874, Greenwood L. Cook and Thomas J. Cook, both of Augusta, together purchased by mortgage twenty-five acres of land in Augusta from Gilbert Baker of Augusta.³² As co-mortgagees (and thus co-debtors), it is likely that Greenwood and Thomas were closely related, and they were near enough in age to be brothers. Thomas died in Willimantic, Maine, on 14 March 1919. His death record names his parents as Valentine Cook and Hulda Bickford.³³ Greenwood L. Cook also lived in Willimantic for a time, and on the 1900 census he gave his parents' birthplaces as New Hampshire.³⁴

THE VALENTINE COOK FAMILY

Thomas's parents, Valentine Cook and Huldah Bickford, were married in Rochester, New Hampshire, on 25 December 1817.³⁵ In 1820 and 1830, Valentine Cook was living in Dearborn, Maine.³⁶ Dearborn was incorporated in 1812, but the town

²⁷ Mary Ann Kincaid was b. 25 Jan. 1826 (Hall, *Hallowell VRs* [note 3], 1:168).

²⁸ Gravestone photo, findagrave.com #45419095. Curiously, no death record has been located in the Maine Vital Records series. Such a record, if found, would likely name his parents.

²⁹ George Smith household, 1850 U.S. Census, Belgrade, Kennebec Co., Maine, p. 153.

³⁰ Greenwood L. Cook household, 1870 U.S. Census, Augusta, Kennebec Co., Maine, p. 85.

³¹ Thomas J. Cook household, 1870 U.S. Census, Augusta, Kennebec Co., Maine, p. 69.

³² Kennebec Co. Deeds, 299:290, 300:101 (the mortgage established by two separate deeds).

³³ Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921 [DGS #5011580, image 2198].

³⁴ William J. Cook household, 1900 U.S. Census, Willimantic, Piscataquis Co., Maine, E.D. 137, p. 3.

³⁵ Franklin McDuffee, *History of the Town of Rochester, New Hampshire* (Manchester, N.H., 1892), 620.

³⁶ Valentine Cook household, 1820 and 1830 U.S. Censuses, Dearborn, Kennebec Co., Maine, pp. 408 (1820), 364 (1830).

no longer exists—a portion was taken by Waterville in 1822, a portion annexed to Belgrade in 1834, a portion taken by Smithfield in 1840, and another section taken by Waterville in 1843.³⁷ Notably, Dearborn and its associated communities are within the area of interest for Lovicia (see map), and the timeframe is consistent for parents who would have a child between 1824 and 1826.

A search of town records uncovered a family record in Smithfield for Valentine Cook.³⁸ It lists seven children, one of whom was “Lovica”:

Births and Deaths of Valentine Cook’s children

John b[orn] 23^d March 1820
 Oliver Patterson born 9th August 1818
 Hannah Skates born 15th Feby 1822
 Lovica Heminway born 29th Jany 1824
 William Jefferson Varney b[orn] 20th Ap^l 1826
~~Elenora~~ Alexander born July 16, 1830
 Elenora born [*blank*] 1828

The genders and ages of these children are consistent with Valentine Cook’s household members in the 1820 and 1830 Dearborn censuses.³⁹ In 1820 Valentine was aged 16–25. Other household members included two boys under 10 (Oliver and John), a boy aged 10–16 (unknown), a woman aged 16–26 (probably Valentine’s wife Huldah), and a woman older than 45 (unknown). In 1830 Valentine Cook was aged 30–39 and his household included a woman also aged 30–39 (Huldah), two boys under 5 (William and Alexander), two girls under 5 (possibly Lovicia and Elenora), a boy 5–9 (John), a girl 5–9 (Hannah), and a boy 10–14 (Oliver).

The family record does not include Greenwood or Thomas Cook, undoubtedly because the record was made before their births. Another record made in 1840 for Peter Libby Esq. of Dearborn ties Thomas once again to Valentine’s family:

Thomas Cook ab[ou]t eight years old
 Lenora Cook born Jany 4, 1828
 The above named Thomas Cook [and] Lenora Cook . . . was living and having their homes at Petter Libbys in Feb 29, 1840. W^m H. Ellis, Town Clerk of Smithfield.⁴⁰

Lenora Cook, aged 20, and Thomas Cook, aged 17, were still in the Peter Libby household in 1850.⁴¹ Lenora was Valentine’s daughter Elenora, a match with her birth in 1828 corroborated in both records. Thomas, as noted, was also a child of Valentine and Huldah (Bickford) Cook, as confirmed by his death record.

³⁷ Attwood, *Length and Breadth of Maine* [note 16], 135.

³⁸ Marlene A. Groves, *Vital Records of Smithfield, Maine* (Rockland, Maine, 2009), 34.

³⁹ See note 36.

⁴⁰ Groves, *Smithfield VRs* [note 38], 126.

⁴¹ Peter Libby household, 1850 U.S. Census, Smithfield, Somerset Co., Maine, p. 79. Thomas’s exact age is inconsistent across the records (see further discussion at note 82), but it is assumed for the purposes of this article that he was b. ca. 1832.

Other family members were living in other households in 1840 and later. Louisa Cook [Lovicia] was “living with Seth Gage Feb 29, 1840.” The record gives her birth date as 29 January 1824, exactly matching that in Valentine’s family record.⁴² William Jefferson Cook, with a birth date of 21 April 1826, one day off from the date in Valentine’s record, “was living with William Varney in Feb 28, 1840.”⁴³ In 1850 Greenwood L. Cook, age 16, was living in the George Smith family in Belgrade.⁴⁴

For reasons soon to become evident, it appears that these younger children had been “placed out” to work and board in nearby households. The 1840 Dearborn census did not include Valentine Cook or his wife, Huldah Cook, nor are they found in the surrounding communities. So what happened to them after 1830?

A story published in the Belfast *Republican Journal*, on 21 December 1837, answers what happened to Valentine and describes the gruesome details of his death:

Mr. Valentine Cook of Dearborn, was choked to death in Sidney, on the 18th ult. [*i.e.*, *previous month, November*], while eating his supper. A post mortem examination was made [and] resulted in the discovery of a large piece of beef steak—three inches long, one and a half wide, half of an inch thick,—in the throat, in such a situation as to form a complete valve over the passage to the lungs and stomach.⁴⁵

A case argued before the Maine Supreme Judicial Court in May 1842 reveals the family’s precarious financial condition. It concerned the responsibility of individual towns to support indigent persons who were legal residents of that town:

Valentine Cook and family, including Eleazer Bickford, lived and had their home on that part of Dearborn, which was incorporated into the town of Smithfield by the act of 29th February, 1840, for more than five years prior to the fall or winter of 1832, and then moved into that part of the town of Dearborn which was annexed to the town of Belgrade by the act of the 22d of March, 1839, and remained there until May, 1837, supporting themselves. They then received some supplies from the town of Dearborn, for which the town retained out of his *surplus revenue* the same amount the next April. Valentine Cook died in Nov. 1837, leaving his family still living on that part since annexed to Belgrade. At the time of the annexation, they were supported by the contractor for the support of the poor for the town of Dearborn, he and they residing upon the territory annexed to Belgrade.⁴⁶

⁴² Groves, *Smithfield VRs* [note 38], 126

⁴³ Groves, *Smithfield VRs* [note 38], 131

⁴⁴ George Smith household, 1850 U.S. Census, Belgrade, Kennebec Co., Maine, p. 153.

⁴⁵ *Republican Journal*, Belfast, Maine, 21 Dec. 1837, p. 1, col. 1.

⁴⁶ “*Inhabitants of Belgrade v. Inhabitants of Dearborn*, 21 Me. 334 (1842), May 1842, Maine Supreme Judicial Court,” Caselaw Access Project, Harvard Law School, <https://cite.case.law/me/21/334/>. A paragraph about Eleazer Bickford appears in the same document: “Eleazer Bickford, a minor, had a legal settlement derived from his parents in that part of Dearborn now Smithfield, but had removed from the town of Dearborn, a number of years prior to the incorporation of Smithfield, but had gained no settlement elsewhere. The parties made a statement of the amount expended by the plaintiffs for the support of each of the paupers.” Eleazer was likely closely related to Valentine’s wife, Huldah Bickford, and he may be the unidentified male on the 1820 census of Dearborn for Valentine’s household. No further information on Eleazer is found.

A query of the FamilySearch website for “Valentine Cook” in Maine produced a death record for Hannah Greenleaf, who died in New Sharon, Maine, on 15 June 1896, aged 74 years, 4 months.⁴⁷ The record names her parents as Valentine Cook and Huldah Bickford. Hannah Cook was married in Starks on 14 March 1849 to Horatio N[elson] Greenleaf, both said to be residents of Starks.⁴⁸ Hannah was Lovicia’s sister, Hannah Skates Cook, born in 1822.

A year after she was married, Hannah (Cook) Greenleaf was living in Starks with her new husband as members of the household of one John Witham:⁴⁹

John Witham	73	Farmer	\$800	b. Maine
Huldah Witham	54			b. N.H.
Nelsen Greenlief	36	Farmer		b. Maine
Hannah Greenlief	29			b. Maine
Abigail Cook	15			b. Maine
W ^m S. Greenlief	1			b. Maine

Though relationships were not noted in 1850, it is evident that Huldah Witham was Hannah’s mother and that Abigail Cook was probably Hannah’s younger sister. Huldah, aged 54, would have been born about 1796, consistent with the 1820 and 1830 census categories for the woman associated with Valentine Cook in Dearborn, and consistent with the 1817 New Hampshire marriage record for Valentine Cook and Huldah Bickford.

The implication is that after Valentine’s death, several of his younger children (Lovicia, William Jefferson, Elenora, and Thomas) had been placed out to other families. In her widowhood, Huldah probably moved to the Starks area where her daughter Hannah married Horatio N. Greenleaf and where Huldah married John Witham.⁵⁰ In addition to Starks, several of her children also lived in Hartland. This, therefore, may be the connections to Starks and Hartland that were noted as Lovicia’s birthplace on her daughter Eva’s and son Hiram’s death records.

It is curious that while the name Greenwood L. Cook led to the documentation of Lovicia’s parents, his parentage has not been absolutely proven. Even so, his close association with Thomas J. Cook and the use of the name *Greenwood* by Lovicia for her own a son makes it highly probable that Greenwood was their brother.

In conclusion, the evidence presented here shows that Valentine and Huldah (Bickford) Cook were the parents of Lovicia Heminway Cook, who was born in Dearborn/Smithfield on 29 January 1824 and who married Hiram Kincaid in Augusta in 1845.

⁴⁷ Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921 [DGS #4544464, image 2023].

⁴⁸ Starks VRs 1840–1887, p. 15 [DGS #7596893, image 13].

⁴⁹ John Witham household, 1850 U.S. Census, Starks, Somerset County, Maine, p. 100b.

⁵⁰ While a marriage record has not been located, the marriage apparently occurred after 1840. That year, John Witham, aged 60–69, was enumerated in Starks with a probable 1st wife also aged 60–69 (John Witham household, 1840 U.S. Census, Starks, Somerset Co., Maine, p. 285). Huldah would have been in her mid-40s at the time.

GENEALOGICAL SUMMARY

VALENTINE COOK was born probably in the period 1794–97,⁵¹ his parentage unknown. He died in Sidney, Maine, on 18 November 1837, by choking on a piece of meat. He married in Rochester, New Hampshire, 25 December 1817, **HULDAH BICKFORD**, both of Rochester. Huldah was born in New Hampshire, circa 1796, her parentage unknown. She was probably closely related, however, to Eleazer Bickford who lived for a time with Valentine’s family in Dearborn. Huldah married second, probably in the period 1840–50, John Witham. He was born about 1777, and was living with Huldah in Starks in 1860, aged 83. By 1820 Valentine and Huldah had moved to Dearborn, later incorporated as Smithfield. They were still in Dearborn in 1830. The family was poor and supported for a time by the town of Dearborn. By a resolve of the Maine Legislature passed 31 January 1823, Valentine received a pension of \$3 per month “in consequence of a wound received while on military duty,” the pension continuing until his death.⁵² After Valentine’s death, several of the children were placed in other households. Huldah was living with her second husband in Starks, Maine, in 1860, aged 64 years, they described as paupers.⁵³ No record of their deaths is found.

Children of Valentine and Huldah (Bickford) Cook: The dates of birth are taken from Valentine’s family record, although vital, cemetery, and census records often suggest alternate dates:

- i **OLIVER PATTERSON COOK**, b. N.H., 9 Aug. 1818, d. Bath, Maine, 18 Sept. 1854, aged 33y;⁵⁴ m. Sidney, Maine, 3 March 1844, **HARRIET N. SMITH**,⁵⁵ b. ca. 1823. In 1850 Oliver P. Cook, aged 29, b. N.H., was described as a millman, living with Harriet, aged 27, apparently childless.⁵⁶
- ii **JOHN M. COOK**, b. 23 March 1820, d. Belgrade, 7 May 1908, aged 89y 1m 14d, and bur. in Fuller’s Corner Cemetery, Hartland;⁵⁷ m. **MERIBAH BICKFORD**,⁵⁸ b. 1820, d. 1881.⁵⁹ John, a farmer, and Meribah lived in Hartland.⁶⁰ At least 5 children.

⁵¹ He was aged 16–25 in 1820 [see note 36], calculating to a birth between 1794–1804. If at least 20 at his marriage in 1797, then he was born no later than 1797.

⁵² Warrant in Favor of a Pension, Maine Executive Council Records, files 10-4 (1824), 12-68 (1825), 15-45 (1826), 19-14 (1827), 21-55 (1828), 26-44 (1829), 32-3 (1830), 37-28 (1831), 40-37 (1832), 45-3 (1833), 48-30 (1834), 52-45 (1835), 59-9 (1836), 63-27 (1837), Maine State Archives, Augusta. The pension was renewed every year.

⁵³ Somon [*sic*] Tupper household, 1860 U.S. Census, Starks, Somerset Co., Maine, p. 163.

⁵⁴ Bath VRs 1821–1891, p. 65 [DGS #7592491, image 766].

⁵⁵ Sidney VRs, p. 138 [DGS #7834700, image 135].

⁵⁶ Oliver P. Cook household, 1850 U.S. Census, Bath, Lincoln Co., Maine, p. 135.

⁵⁷ Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921 [DGS #5011580, image 1610]; gravestone photo, findagrave #133636204, the stone giving his dates as 1819–1908.

⁵⁸ While a marriage record is not found, Meribah’s full name is given on the 1920 death record of their son Clarence Cook (Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921 [DGS #5011580, image 2240]).

⁵⁹ Gravestone photo, Fuller’s Corner Cemetery, Hartland, findagrave #133636205.

⁶⁰ J. M. Cook household, 1860 U.S. Census, Hartland, Somerset Co., Maine, p. 805; John M. Cook household, 1870 U.S. Census, Hartland, Somerset Co., Maine, p. 202; John M. Cook household, 1880 U.S. Census, Hartland, Somerset Co., Maine, p. 368A.

- iii HANNAH SKATES COOK, b. 15 Feb. 1822, d. New Sharon, Maine, 15 June 1896, aged 74y 4m, and bur. in Weeks Mills Cemetery, New Sharon;⁶¹ m. Starks, 14 March 1849, HORATIO NELSON GREENLEAF both of Starks,⁶² b. Starks, [calc.] 12 Aug. 1820, son of Ebenezer and Mary (Chapman) Greenleaf, d. New Sharon, 14 Jan. 1896, aged 75y 5m 2d.⁶³ Horatio N. Greenleaf and Hannah lived in Starks, Augusta, and finally New Sharon where he was a farmer.⁶⁴ At least 7 children.
- iv LOVICIA HEMINWAY COOK, b. 29 Jan. 1824, d. Augusta, 20 July 1877;⁶⁵ m. Augusta, 18 Oct. 1845, HIRAM KINCAID,⁶⁶ b. Hallowell, 11 March 1824, son of Guy and Sarah (Creasey) Kincaid,⁶⁷ d. 30 June 1874 and bur. in Richardson Cemetery, Livermore Falls.⁶⁸ Hiram Kincaid was a millman living in Mount Vernon in 1850 and in Wayne in 1860, and described as “works in a sawmill” in 1870 in Livermore.⁶⁹ 10 children.
- v WILLIAM JEFFERSON VARNEY COOK, b. 20 April 1826, d. after 1870 when he was living in Hartland;⁷⁰ m. (1) (int.) Smithfield, 12 April 1846, JANE ASH LITTLEFIELD,⁷¹ b. Smithfield, 28 Feb. 1822, daughter of Jonathan and Dorothy (Farnham) Littlefield,⁷² d. 3 Sept. 1850, aged 27y, and bur. in Old Whitehouse Cemetery, Smithfield;⁷³ m. (2) (int.) Smithfield, 2 May 1851, MARTHA HIGGINS,⁷⁴ b. Smithfield, 12 Jan. 1827, daughter of Elkanah Jr. and Betsey (Whitehouse) Higgins,⁷⁵ d. after 1870 when she was living with her husband in Hartland. William and his 1st wife, Jane, were living in Readfield, Maine, in 1850, Jane’s sister “Eller,” aged 23, living with them.⁷⁶ In 1860 William was a “farm laborer” living in Waterville with Martha and 3 daughters.⁷⁷ The family had moved to Hartland by 1870 but were no longer there in 1880. 3 daughters.

⁶¹ Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921 [DGS #4544464, image 2023]; gravestone photo, findagrave #39186587.

⁶² Starks VRs 1840–1887, p. 15 [DGS #7596893, image 13].

⁶³ Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921 [DGS #4544464, image 2024].

⁶⁴ John Witham household, 1850 U.S. Census, Starks, Somerset County, Maine, p. 100b; Horatio N. Greenleaf household, 1860 U.S. Census, Augusta, Kennebec Co., Maine, p. 235; Horatio Greenleaf household, 1870 U.S. Census, New Sharon, Franklin Co., Maine, p. 146; Horatio N. Greenleaf household, 1880 U.S. Census, New Sharon, Franklin Co., Maine, p. 518A.

⁶⁵ Conant, *Augusta VRs* [note 1], 2:346.

⁶⁶ Conant, *Augusta VRs* [note 1], 1:263.

⁶⁷ Hall, *Hallowell VRs* [note 3], 1:168.

⁶⁸ Photo of very worn gravestone, findagrave #111745420.

⁶⁹ Hiram Kincaid household, 1850 U.S. Census, Mount Vernon, Kennebec Co., Maine, p. 382; Hiram Kincaid household, 1860 U.S. Census, Wayne, Kennebec Co., Maine, p. 1072; Hiram Kincaid household, 1870 U.S. Census, Livermore, Androscoggin Co., Maine, p. 351B.

⁷⁰ W^m J. Cook household, 1870 U.S. Census, Hartland, Somerset Co., Maine, p. 203.

⁷¹ Groves, *Smithfield VRs* [note 38], 189.

⁷² Groves, *Smithfield VRs* [note 38], 36; her parents m. Belgrade, 24 March 1816 (Belgrade VRs, 1812–57, n.p. [DGS #7592484, image 125]).

⁷³ Gravestone photo, findagrave #94346879.

⁷⁴ Groves, *Smithfield VRs* [note 38], 204.

⁷⁵ Groves, *Smithfield VRs* [note 38], 37; her mother’s name from the death record of Martha’s brother Martin V. B. Higgins (Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921 [DGS # 5011613, image 2572]).

⁷⁶ Wm. J. Cook household, 1850 U.S. Census, Readfield, Kennebec Co., Maine, p. 413.

⁷⁷ William J. Cook household, 1860 U.S. Census, Waterville, Kennebec Co., Maine, p. 761.

- vi ELENORA COOK, b. 4 June 1828, d. Athens, Maine, 22 Nov. 1915, aged 93y [*sic*] 4m 26d;⁷⁸ m. (int.) Smithfield, 13 Sept. 1852, GEORGE W. HORN,⁷⁹ b. Aug. 1822,⁸⁰ d. aft. 1910, when he and “Lenora” were living in Bingham,⁸¹ and bef. Nov. 1915 when Elenora was called a widow on her death record. In the 1900 census, “Ellen” was called the mother of 6 children, 5 still living. George Horn was a farmer.
- vii ALEXANDER COOK, b. 16 July 1830. No further information found.
- viii THOMAS J. COOK, b. Belgrade, say 1832,⁸² d. Willimantic, Maine, 14 March 1919, aged 89y 11m 10d;⁸³ m. (1) Augusta, 28 April 1855, ABIGAIL KING,⁸⁴ b. ca. 1836, d. 6 May 1883, aged 47y, and bur. in Riverside Cemetery, Willimantic;⁸⁵ m. (2) ca. 1884, EMMA LOW,⁸⁶ b. ca. 1860, daughter of Sylvanus and Thais Alvan (Perham) Low,⁸⁷ living in Willimantic in 1920.⁸⁸ Thomas, described as a laborer or farmer, lived in Augusta through 1870,⁸⁹ but moved to Howard, Piscataquis Co., Maine, by 1880,⁹⁰ and later lived in Willimantic. 3 children with 1st wife, 2 children with 2nd wife.

⁷⁸ Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921 [DGS #5011615, image 3214], the record erroneously naming her father as “John” Cook. Elenora’s age varies widely in the records created for her. In the 1900 census, she gave her birth date as June 1829, only a year off from the date recorded in Smithfield (George W. Horn household, 1900 U.S. Census, Madison, Somerset Co., Maine, E.D. 157, p. 27).

⁷⁹ Groves, *Smithfield VRs* [note 38], 209.

⁸⁰ George W. Horn household, 1900 U.S. Census, Madison, Somerset Co., Maine, p. 27.

⁸¹ Geo. W. Horn household, 1910 U.S. Census, Bingham, Somerset Co., Maine, p. 7B.

⁸² Thomas’s age is inconsistent in the records. According to his death record, he was aged 89y 11m 10d when he died on 14 March 1919 (see note 83). This calculates to a birth date of 4 Feb. 1829, conflicting with the Smithfield record of Valentine’s family (made at the earliest in 1830) in which Thomas does not appear and also conflicting with the Smithfield record for Peter Libby’s family in which Thomas was 8y old in 1840. Census records give Thomas’s age as 17 in 1850, 26 in 1860, 38 in 1870, 47 in 1880, and 66 in 1900, this latter census also saying he was b. in April 1834 (Peter Libby household, 1850 U.S. Census, Smithfield, Somerset Co., Maine, p. 79; Thomas J. Cook household, 1860 U.S. Census, Waterville, Kennebec Co., Maine, p. 766; 1870 U.S. Census, Augusta, Kennebec Co., Maine, p. 69; 1880 U.S. Census, Howard, Piscataquis Co., Maine, p. 69; 1900 U.S. Census, Willimantic, Piscataquis Co., Maine, p. 1A). It seems clear that Thomas was not born in 1829, but a precise date cannot be gleaned from these records. For the purposes of this article, it is assumed he was b. about 1832.

⁸³ Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921 [DGS #5011580, image 2198].

⁸⁴ Conant, *Augusta VRs* [note 1], 1:263.

⁸⁵ Gravestone photo, findagrave #44214309.

⁸⁶ The marriage record not found, but her maiden name is given in the marriage record of Thomas and Emma’s son Sylvanus Low Cook (Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921 [DGS #5011580, image 1701]; Thomas and Emma stated they had been married 16y in 1900 (Thomas Cook household, 1900 U.S. Census, Willimantic, Piscataquis Co., Maine, E.D. 137, p. 1).

⁸⁷ Sylvanus Lowe household, 1870 U.S. Census, Sebec, Piscataquis Co., Maine, p. 190; her mother’s maiden name from the death record of her sister Lizzie M. (Low) Bennett (Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921 [DGS #5011561, image 1511]).

⁸⁸ Sylvanus L. Cook household, 1920 U.S. Census, Willimantic, Piscataquis Co., Maine, E.D. 137, p. 3B.

⁸⁹ Thomas J. Cook household, 1870 U.S. Census, Augusta, Kennebec Co., Maine, p. 69.

⁹⁰ Thomas J. Cook household, 1880 U.S. Census, Howard, Piscataquis Co., Maine, p. 148.

- ix (prob.) GREENWOOD L. COOK, b. Belgrade, 26 Feb. 1832, according to his gravestone, or in Feb. 1833, according to the 1900 census,⁹¹ d. 3 July 1914, and bur. in Evergreen Cemetery, Milo, Maine;⁹² m. Augusta, 17 June 1867, FLORIDA D. PHILLIPS of Farmington,⁹³ b. ca. 1842, daughter of Allen and Elizabeth M. (Bump) Phillips,⁹⁴ d. 28 July 1875, aged 32y 8m.⁹⁵ Greenwood and Florida lived in Augusta through at least the mid-1870s, where their three sons were likely born. By 1880, “G. L. Cook,” a widower aged 46, had moved with his sons to Howard in Piscataquis Co., where he was a farmer.⁹⁶ His brother, Thomas J. Cook, was also living in Howard that year. Also following in the path of Thomas, Greenwood moved to Willimantic where, in 1900, he was living in the family of his son, William J. Cook.⁹⁷ In 1910 Greenwood, aged 78, was living with his son Allen P. Cook in Lake View Plantation.⁹⁸ It appears that he never remarried. 3 sons and 1 daughter.
- x ABIGAIL ANN COOK, b. about 1835, living in 1870, aged 33;⁹⁹ m. (int.) Augusta, 4 June 1852, ANDREW H. PIKE,¹⁰⁰ b. Eastport, Maine, ca. 1825, son of James and Jane H. (Harrington) Pike,¹⁰¹ d. Augusta, 24 Oct. 1896, aged 75y [*sic*].¹⁰² Andrew Pike lived in Augusta, where he was described as a “baggage master” in 1860 and 1870,¹⁰³ and as a flagman for the Maine Central Railroad on his death record.

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⁹¹ Gravestone [note 92]; Greenwood L. Cook household, 1900 U.S. Census, Willimantic, Piscataquis Co., Maine, p. 3. Like his brother Thomas, Greenwood’s age is not consistent across the records. It appears he was younger than Thomas, so a birthdate in about 1833 seems most feasible.

⁹² Gravestone photo, findagrave.com #45419095.

⁹³ Conant, *Augusta VRs* [note 1], 1:263.

⁹⁴ Florida D. Phillips, aged 8, in Allen Phillips household, 1850 U.S. Census, Farmington, Franklin Co., Maine, p. 188; her parents m. Farmington, 22 Feb. 1842 (Nancy J. Porter, comp., *Town of Farmington: Early Vital Records* [Wilton, Maine, 1994], 97).

⁹⁵ Conant, *Augusta VRs* [note 1], 2:209.

⁹⁶ G. L. Cook household, 1870 U.S. Census, Howard, Piscataquis Co., Maine, p. 147.

⁹⁷ William J. Cook household, 1900 U.S. Census, Willimantic, Piscataquis Co., Maine, E.D. 137, p. 3.

⁹⁸ Allen P. Cook household, 1910 U.S. Census, Lake View Plantation, Piscataquis Co., Maine, E.D. 206, p. 28A.

⁹⁹ Andrew H. Pike household, 1870 U.S. Census, Augusta, Kennebec Co., Maine, p. 69.

¹⁰⁰ Conant, *Augusta VRs* [note 1], 1:262.

¹⁰¹ Conant, *Augusta VRs* [note 1], 1:262. The marriage record gives her parents as Frederick [*sic*] and Huldah and his parents as James and Jane H. His mother’s name from the 1897 death record of his brother, Henry A. Pike (Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921 [DGS #4703856, image 1442]).

¹⁰² Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921 [DGS #4703856, image 1413].

¹⁰³ Andrew H. Pike household, 1860 and 1870 U.S. Censuses, Augusta, Kennebec Co., Maine, pp. 236 (1860), 69 (1870).

WHO WAS THOMAS HUBBARD OF KITTERY?

Insights from a Lawsuit

By Edward G. Hubbard

In the course of my research into my Hubbard ancestors, I came across a Thomas Hubbard who lived in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, and then in neighboring Kittery, Maine, in the mid-1800s. I had opted not to pursue him because his New Hampshire provenance suggested he might be from a Hubbard family unrelated to mine. Furthermore, he was largely outside the scope of my efforts, which were focused on individuals who had lived in the mid to later 1700s and early 1800s.

While working on other research, however, my interest in Thomas was piqued when I noticed that the 1850 census gave his birthplace as Maine.¹ Might he somehow have been connected to my clan? It was time to investigate him after all.

Thomas was “of Portsmouth” on 10 September 1849, when he published marriage intentions in Kittery with “Miss” Izette E. Locke of Kittery.² When they married three weeks later on 1 October, her name was recorded as “Mrs. Esetter E. Lock.”³ Izette, as her name appears in most records, was then a widow. As Izette Lewis, she had married first in Kittery, 16 September 1832, Jonathan H. Lock(e).⁴ A Locke genealogy gives his date of death as 11 January or 16 February 1847. It also states that she was born on 23 June 1811, but does not name her parents.⁵

In the 1850 census for Kittery, Thomas, a laborer, aged 28, and Izette, aged 38, had a six-month-old son, George.⁶ The household also included 45-year-old Charles Lewis, perhaps a brother of Izette.⁷ All had been born in Maine.

From 18 to 20 May 1852, Thomas was suffering from “catarrh” and was a patient at the U.S. Navy Yard in Portsmouth, but was soon discharged and returned to duty.⁸ The record gives his age as 28 and his birthplace as Maine.

¹ Thomas Hubbard household, 1850 U.S. Census, Kittery, York Co., Maine, p. 260A.

² Joseph Crook Anderson II and Lois Ware Thurston, eds., *Vital Records of Kittery, Maine, to the Year 1892* (Camden, Maine, 1991), 389.

³ Anderson & Thurston, *Kittery VRs* [note 1], 319

⁴ Anderson & Thurston, *Kittery VRs* [note 1], 289. Both were “of Kittery,” per their 11 Aug. 1832 intentions (*ibid.*, 373).

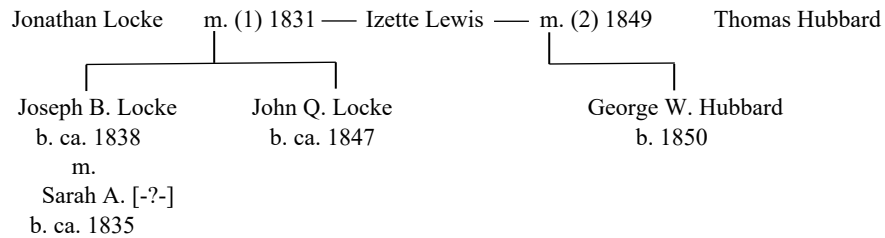
⁵ Arthur H. Locke, *A History and Genealogy of Captain John Locke [1627–1686] of Portsmouth and Rye, N.H., and His Descendants; Also of Nathaniel Locke of Portsmouth* (Concord, N.H., 1916), 138. Jonathan Hobbs Locke, b. Rye, N.H., 17 Nov. 1802, was a son of Richard and Hannah (Hobbs) Locke and was a farmer in Rye and Greenland (*ibid.*).

⁶ Thomas Hubbard household, 1850 U.S. Census [note 1]. The census sheet was dated 23 Aug.

⁷ After his death, on 23 Jan. 1863, Izette M. Hubbard, “married woman,” sold Charles’s homestead in Kittery (York Co. Deeds, 279:420).

⁸ U.S., Registers of Patients at Naval Hospitals, 1812–1934, database, ancestry.com (citing vol. 220, 1844–1861). Catarrh is an inflammation of the mucous membrane, resulting in excessive discharge or buildup of mucus in the nose or throat.

In 1860 Thomas was still in Kittery, a laborer, aged 44 [*sic*], with Izette, aged 47. They were living with their son, George W. Hubbard, 10, and Izette's sons Joseph Locke, 22, and John Q. Locke, 13, and Joseph's wife, Sarah A. Locke, 25.⁹ The relationships are depicted here:



Subsequent records involving Thomas Hubbard are military in nature. He enlisted in the Union Navy at Portsmouth, New Hampshire, on 27 May 1861 for a one-year term as a landsman for general service.¹⁰ He was then described as a 45- (or 42) year-old resident of Portsmouth, born in “Sandford” [Sanford], Maine.¹¹ His service seems to have ended on 31 August 1861, when he was discharged from a hospital in New York City, where he had been admitted on 12 August and treated for pneumonia.¹²

On 7 April 1863, Thomas again enlisted in the Union Navy at Portsmouth, this time as a seaman, for a one-year term. His birthplace was again given as “Sandford,” but his age as only 39.¹³ Despite this enlistment, he registered for the draft at Kittery on 1 July 1863, when he was described as a farmer, aged 40.¹⁴ Finally, aged 44, Thomas enlisted as private in Company A, Maine 32nd Infantry, on 3 March 1864.¹⁵ The record indicates that he was wounded and did not survive the war, even though it also states that he was mustered out on 6 September 1864. Another record gives that date as his discharge date, but also reports that he died of wounds on 30

⁹ Thomas Hubbard household, 1860 U.S. Census, Kittery, York Co., Maine, p. 854. Thomas and Izette's son, George W. Hubbard, was erroneously called George W. “Locke” on this census return. Thomas's age may have been overstated in order to bring it closer to that of his wife, who according to the 1850 census was as much as 10 years older than he was. The three Lockes are found in Locke, *Locke Genealogy* [note 5], 138.

¹⁰ Landsman was the lowest rank in the U.S. Navy, given to new recruits with little or no experience at sea. They were used for menial, unskilled work aboard ship.

¹¹ U.S., Naval Enlistment Rendezvous, 1855–1891, database, ancestry.com. He was 5' 5" tall, with blue eyes and dark hair. Two abbreviated versions of the record in U.S. Civil War Soldier Records and Profiles, 1861–1865, database, ancestry.com, give his age as 45 in one case and 42 in the other.

¹² U.S., Naval Hospital Tickets and Case Papers, 1825–1889, database, ancestry.com.

¹³ U.S., Naval Enlistment Rendezvous [note 11]. He was 5' 4¾" tall, with blue eyes and brown hair. An abbreviated version is in U.S. Civil War Soldier Records and Profiles [note 11].

¹⁴ U.S., Civil War Draft Registration Records, 1863–1865, database, ancestry.com.

¹⁵ U.S. Civil War Soldier Records and Profiles, 1861–1865, database, ancestry.com.

July 1864 and was buried in Orchard Grove Cemetery.¹⁶ Izette subsequently applied for a widow's pension based on Thomas's army service,¹⁷ but she died 13 August 1867, probably in Portsmouth.¹⁸

The discrepancies as to Thomas's age in the various records place his birth in either 1822–1824 or 1816–1820. Two of the records claim that he was born in Sanford, yet no record of his birth is found there, nor was any Hubbard listed as a head of household in that town in 1820.¹⁹

CLUES FROM A LAWSUIT

The quest for Thomas Hubbard's parentage seemed to have reached a dead end, until a probate record opened a new avenue of research. On 7 May 1867, Enoch Lewis of Eliot, as guardian of George W. Hubbard, minor and child of Thomas Hubbard, late of Kittery, deceased, was authorized to sell all of George's interest as heir-at-law of Thomas "in and to the Shackley Farm situated in Shapleigh . . . now occupied by Elisha Goodwin and others."²⁰

A search of deeds then revealed, first, that Enoch Lewis sold George's interest in the farm on 21 May 1867,²¹ and second, that two other individuals sold their interests in that farm at about the same time. One was Thomas's widow, Izetta, and the other was "Sarah A Hudson formerly Sarah A. Lock of Portsmouth."²²

Sarah's deed referred to a lawsuit initiated "in the name of Thomas Hubbard & als." Testimony in that case would subsequently shed a great deal of light on Thomas and his birth family.²³

Events leading up to the case were as follows:

¹⁶ Maine, Veterans Cemetery Records, 1676–1918, familysearch.org [DGS #5246540, image 2978]. The location of Orchard Grove Cemetery is not given on the record, but it was likely Orchard Grove Cemetery in Kittery. The record says that Thomas d. in "Burnside," Maine, but there is no such place. On 30 July 1864, the day Thomas died, the 32nd Maine Infantry Regiment was engaged in the Battle of the Crater (a.k.a. Burnside's Mine) at Petersburg, Va. On that day the Union forces exploded a mine in Maj. Gen. Ambrose E. Burnside's sector, blowing a gap in the Confederate defenses. For more on this battle, see Richard Slotkin, *No Quarter: The Battle of the Crater, 1864* (New York, 2009).

¹⁷ Case Files of Approved Pension Applications of Widows and Other Dependents of Civil War Veterans, ca. 1861–ca. 1910 [image, fold3.com].

¹⁸ Locke, *Locke Genealogy* [note 5], 138. She was of Rockingham Co., N.H., when she applied for the pension and of Portsmouth when she executed a deed on 24 May 1867 (York Co. Deeds, 303:425).

¹⁹ The John Hubbard who was living in neighboring Alfred was a renowned Baptist minister whose family is well known (John Hubbard household, 1820 U.S. Census, Alfred, York Co., Maine, p. 558).

²⁰ York Co. Probate Records, 105:564.

²¹ York Co. Deeds, 305:157, Enoch Lewis, guardian, to Ephraim C. Spinney.

²² York Co. Deeds, 303:425 (Izetta Hubbard, 27 May 1867) and 302:412 (Sarah A Hudson, 26 March 1867), both selling their interest to Ephraim C. Spinney.

²³ York Co. Supreme Judicial Court, May 1866, #408, Maine State Archives.

- 1 In an 1820 will, two young members of the Shackley family, both named Moses, each inherited a one-half interest in the farm.²⁴
- 2 In 1840, one of those heirs (without, it appears, considering the interest of the other) sold the farm to another family.²⁵
- 3 In 1861, that family sold the farm to James M. Burbank.²⁶

In May 1866, Enoch Lewis, as guardian of Thomas's son, George W. Hubbard of Portsmouth, and Sarah Ann Hudson of Portsmouth filed suit against James Burbank. They charged that he had "unjustly and without Judgment disceased [*sic*] the said Plffs [plaintiffs] within twenty years now last past" of "an undivided half of a mesuage situate in said Shapleigh," i.e., the Shackley farm.²⁷ Testimony given in the case revealed how the plaintiffs came to have an interest in the farm, and shed light on Thomas's origins.²⁸

- 1 The plaintiffs were heirs of the Moses Shackley, whose interest in the Shackley farm was, as noted above, overlooked when his cousin sold the farm in 1840.
- 2 Moses Shackley was born in Shapleigh in 1815 or 1816, but then lived in Portsmouth, N.H., until he went to sea in 1836.
- 3 He was last seen in New Orleans in 1841 and died, unmarried, soon afterwards.
- 4 Moses had "one own sister" (name not given) who married William Murdock and "had one child, a girl."
- 5 He also had a half-brother, Thomas Hubbard, who was the younger of the two.
- 6 Moses's mother, Nancy, had first married a Shackley and then a Hubbard. She had lived for a time in Shapleigh, but then in Portsmouth, where she had died in the almshouse about 1856.
- 7 Nancy's three surviving children—Moses, the daughter whose name was not given, and Thomas—also lived in Portsmouth in the 1830s.
- 8 Nancy had a granddaughter, Sarah A Murdock, who was doubtless the child of her daughter and William Murdock.

²⁴ York Co. Probate Records, 28:413–14, bequest by Moses Shackley of Shapleigh, Maine, of the farm to his nephews, both also named Moses Shackley, will dated 4 March 1820.

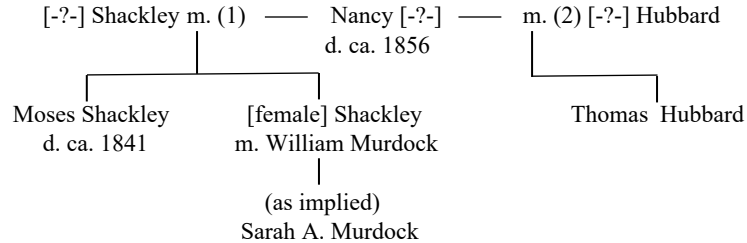
²⁵ York Co. Deeds, 169:21, Moses Shackley of Danvers, Mass., to Moses Goodwin of Shapleigh, Maine, 7 April 1840.

²⁶ York Co. Deeds, 277:101, Moses H. Goodwin to James M. Burbank of Saco, 12 Dec. 1861.

²⁷ York County Supreme Judicial Court, May 1866, #408. The statement that Burbank had deprived the plaintiffs of their interest in the farm was inaccurate, for he had acquired the property in 1861. The problem had arisen well over 20 years earlier, with the 1840 sale of the farm.

²⁸ Facts listed below are from the court file.

The following diagram illustrates how the individuals named in the testimony were related and also includes the dates mentioned therein:



Examination of other sources provided further information about this family:

- 1 The matriarch was Nancy Hamilton, who married in Berwick, 2 December 1803, Thomas Shackley of Sanford.²⁹ She was probably born about 1785.³⁰ In 1850 she was a pauper and “insane,” living in the Portsmouth almshouse.³¹
- 2 Thomas Shackley was living in 1820,³² but died before 7 October 1822.³³
- 3 He was survived by three children: Oliver, Moses, and Nancy Jane.³⁴
- 4 Oliver (at age 22) enlisted in the U.S. Army for a five-year term on 28 July 1826 and died in New Orleans on 17 November 1826.³⁵
- 5 Moses and Nancy Jane were under 14 years of age on 8 May 1827, but upwards of 14 in January 1833.³⁶
- 6 Nancy Jane Shackley married, 27 September 1835, William W. Murdock, both of Portsmouth, New Hampshire.³⁷ She probably died not long thereafter, as she is not found in subsequent records.³⁸

²⁹ John Eldridge Frost and Joseph C. Anderson II, *Vital Records of Berwick, South Berwick, and North Berwick, Maine* (Camden, Maine, 1993), 146; Frederick R. Boyle, *Early Families of Shapleigh and Acton, Maine* (Portsmouth, N.H., 2002), 597.

³⁰ Thomas Shackley household, 1810 and 1820 U.S. Censuses, Sanford, York Co., Maine, p. 1007 (1810) (female aged 16–25), p. 545 (1820) (female aged 26–44).

³¹ City Alms House Farm, 1850 U.S. Census, Portsmouth, Rockingham Co., N.H., p. 105B. She was listed as “Nancy T. Hubbard.” Her recorded age of 54 was understated by more than a decade.

³² Thomas Shackley household, 1820 U.S. Census, Sanford, York Co., Maine, p. 545.

³³ On that date, John Morrison of Sanford was chosen as guardian by Rosamond and Lavinia Morrison (daughters of Ebenezer Morrison), for whom Thomas had been appointed guardian on 1 Jan. 1814 (York Co. Probate Records, #13590 [DGS #7315176, images 666, 668]).

³⁴ Boyle, *Early Families of Shapleigh & Acton* [note 27], 597.

³⁵ U.S. Army, Register of Enlistments, 1798–1914, database, ancestry.com.

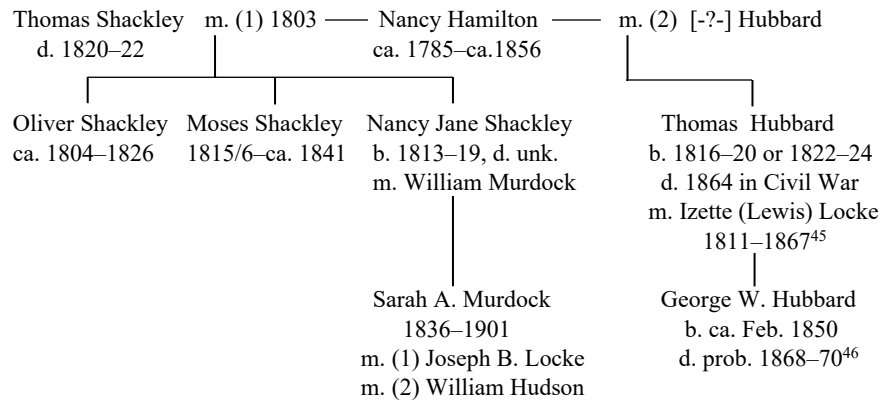
³⁶ Ichabod Butler was appointed their guardian in 1827 and they selected Whiting Stevens as their guardian in 1833 (York Co. Probate Records, #16926 [DGS #7315210, images 1554, 1573]).

³⁷ New Hampshire Marriages, 1637–1947, familysearch.org [DGS #4243163, image 3136].

³⁸ William, aged 49, was living in the Portsmouth almshouse in 1850 (City Alms House Farm, 1850 U.S. Census, Portsmouth, Rockingham Co. N.H., p. 105A).

- 7 William and Nancy Jane Murdock were undoubtedly the parents of Sarah A. Murdock, who was born in Portsmouth, 13 June 1836,³⁹ and married in Kittery, 13 February 1859, Joseph Berry Locke,⁴⁰ the son of Jonathan Hobbs and Izetta (Lewis) Locke.⁴¹ As noted, they were living in the household of Thomas Hubbard in 1860.
- 8 As Sarah A. Locke of Portsmouth, she subsequently married in Portsmouth, 7 June 1863, William Hudson of Brooklyn, New York.⁴² She was the Sarah A. Hudson who was a plaintiff in the 1866 Shackley farm lawsuit.
- 9 Sarah's first husband, Joseph Berry Locke, served many years in the U.S. Navy. Supposing him dead, she believed she was a widow when she remarried. When Joseph unexpectedly reappeared, her second marriage was void. She reunited with Locke,⁴³ and died as his wife in Portsmouth on 20 March 1901.⁴⁴

These facts provide a more detailed understanding of the Shackley and Hubbard interrelationships, as summarized here:



³⁹ Locke, *Locke Genealogy* [note 5], 138.

⁴⁰ Anderson & Thurston, *Kittery VRs* [note 1], 355.

⁴¹ Locke, *Locke Genealogy* [note 5], 138.

⁴² New Hampshire Marriages, 1637-1947, familysearch.org [DGS #4243153, image 2838].

⁴³ Locke, *Locke Genealogy* [note 5], 138.

⁴⁴ Mrs. Sarah T Locke, Harmony Grove Cemetery, Portsmouth, Rockingham Co., N.H., findagrave #112143337. The site quotes her brief death notice, which mentions her surviving husband. She had had four children, none of whom survived (Joseph B. Locke household, 1900 U.S. Census, Portsmouth, Rockingham Co., N.H., E.D. 211, p. 10B.)

⁴⁵ Locke, *Locke Genealogy* [note 5], 138.

⁴⁶ He was living on April 1868, when his guardian was acting on his behalf (York Co Probate #9855 [DGS #7315378, image 1150], but has not been found in the 1870 census or in any later records.

WHO WAS THOMAS HUBBARD'S FATHER?

While this analysis outlines Thomas's maternal family, it does not answer the question of who was Thomas's father. It turns out the answer is straightforward. In Shapleigh on 19 February 1824, "Mrs. Nancy Shackley of Sanford," widow of Thomas Shackley, married Jonathan Hubbard of Shapleigh as his second wife.⁴⁷ Jonathan was baptized in Berwick on 27 June 1762, son of Philip and Hannah (Plummer) Hubbard,⁴⁸ and he died 8 September 1845, aged 83.⁴⁹ Jonathan had married first, in Berwick on 7 March 1791, Frances Parsons,⁵⁰ who died 7 October 1820, aged 52, and is buried beside him.⁵¹

Nancy's marriage to Jonathan Hubbard apparently did not last long. In 1830 Jonathan, aged 60–69, was living alone in the section of Shapleigh that was set off in early 1830 as Acton.⁵² In 1840 he was enumerated as a 78-year-old Revolutionary War pensioner in the household of his son-in-law, John Lord.⁵³ Meanwhile, in 1830 Nancy was using her first married surname and was living in Sanford as Nancy "Shackley," aged 40–49. That year her household included a male aged 10–15 (son Moses Shackley), a female 10–15 (daughter Nancy Jane), and a male aged 5–9 (son Thomas Hubbard).⁵⁴ Nevertheless, in 1830 Jonathan Hubbard of Acton, yeoman, and Nancy Hubbard, "wife of the said Jonathan in her right," sold her share of land in Berwick formerly owned by her father, Solomon Hamilton.⁵⁵ While Jonathan and Nancy were apparently living separately, she was still married to him and she therefore could not by law sell the property without Jonathan's participation.

Although Thomas Hubbard's age in various records is wildly inconsistent, with some records implying he was born as early as 1816–20, his age of 5–9 in his mother's 1830 household makes it likely he was born within the year following his parents' marriage in February 1824. The fact that he consistently gave his birthplace as Sanford, as opposed to Shapleigh where his father lived, probably attests to the fact that his parents separated near the time of his birth, and that Nancy returned to Sanford where Thomas spent his childhood. By the mid-1830s, Nancy had moved to Portsmouth, taking her three children with her.

⁴⁷ Shapleigh VRs, 4:21 [DGS #7596915, image 634]. Their marriage intentions were entered Shapleigh, 22 Oct. 1823 (ibid., 3:410 [DGS #7596915, image 634]); Boyle, *Early Families of Shapleigh & Acton* [note 27], 597.

⁴⁸ Joseph Crook Anderson II, *Records of the First and Second Churches of Berwick, Maine* (Rockport, Maine, 1999), 95; Boyle, *Early Families of Shapleigh & Acton* [note 27], 325.

⁴⁹ Gravestone photo, Maple Grove Cemetery, Acton, Maine, findagrave #119940655.

⁵⁰ Anderson, *First and Second Churches of Berwick* [note 50], 149.

⁵¹ Gravestone photo, Maple Grove Cemetery, Acton, Maine, findagrave #119940394.

⁵² Jonathan Hubbard household, 1830 U.S. Census, Acton, York Co., Maine, p. 60.

⁵³ John Lord household, 1840 U.S. Census, Acton, York Co., Maine, p. 294.

⁵⁴ Nancy Shackley household, 1830 U.S. Census, Sanford, York Co., Maine, p. 341.

⁵⁵ York Co. Deeds, 137:116. The deed is dated only "1830," but it was acknowledged by Jonathan and Nancy on 13 Aug. of that year.

GENEALOGICAL SUMMARY

NANCY HAMILTON was born say 1785 (if age 18 at her first marriage), probably in Berwick, Maine, daughter of Solomon Hamilton.⁵⁶ She died at the almshouse at Portsmouth, New Hampshire, about 1856. She married first, in Berwick, 2 December 1803, **THOMAS SHACKLEY** of Sanford.⁵⁷ Thomas was born probably in Berwick about 1775, son of Thomas and Bridget (Nason) Shackley, and died after the 1820 census of Sanford and before October 1822.⁵⁸

Nancy married second, in Shapleigh, 19 February 1824, **JONATHAN HUBBARD** as his second wife.⁵⁹ Jonathan was baptized in Berwick, 27 June 1763, son of Philip and Hannah (Plummer) Hubbard.⁶⁰ He died 8 September 1845, aged 83.⁶¹ Jonathan had married first, in Berwick on 7 March 1791, Frances Parsons,⁶² who died 7 October 1820, aged 52.⁶³

Nancy and her first husband, Thomas Shackley, lived in Sanford where Thomas was a “trader” and where their three children were born.⁶⁴ Nancy Shackley of Sanford, widow, purchased a piece of land in Sanford with a dwelling house and a barn on 26 November 1822 from Joseph Morrison.⁶⁵

Nancy’s second marriage to Jonathan Hubbard apparently was short lived. By 1830, Jonathan was living alone in Shapleigh and Nancy, using the name Nancy “Shackley,” aged 40–49, was living in Sanford with her three children: Moses and Nancy Jane Shackley, both aged 10–15, and Thomas Hubbard, aged 5–9. (Nancy’s son Oliver Shackley had died in 1826). Within the next few years, Nancy and the three children moved to Portsmouth, New Hampshire. In 1850 she was impoverished and living in the almshouse,⁶⁶ where she died.

Children of Thomas and Nancy (Hamilton) Shackley:

- i **OLIVER SHACKLEY**, b. ca. 1804, d. New Orleans, 17 Nov. 1826.⁶⁷
- ii **MOSES SHACKLEY**, b. Shapleigh, in 1815 or 1816. As noted in the Shapley farm lawsuit, he was living in Portsmouth, N.H., when he went to sea in 1836. He was in New Orleans in 1841, and died soon afterwards, unmarried.

⁵⁶ York Co. Deeds, 137:116, in which Solomon Hamilton is identified as her father.

⁵⁷ Frost and Anderson, *Berwick VRs* [note 29], 146.

⁵⁸ Boyle, *Early Families of Shapleigh & Acton* [note 27], 597.

⁵⁹ Shapleigh VRs, 4:21 [DGS #7596915, image 634]. Their marriage intentions were entered Shapleigh, 22 Oct. 1823 (ibid., 3:410 [DGS #7596915, image 634]); Boyle, *Early Families of Shapleigh & Acton* [note 27], 597.

⁶⁰ Boyle, *Early Families of Shapleigh & Acton* [note 27], 325.

⁶¹ Gravestone photo, Maple Grove Cemetery, Acton, Maine, findagrave #119940655.

⁶² Anderson, *First and Second Churches of Berwick* [note 50], 149.

⁶³ Gravestone photo, Maple Grove Cemetery, Acton, Maine, findagrave #119940394.

⁶⁴ Boyle, *Early Families of Shapleigh & Acton* [note 27], 597.

⁶⁵ York Co. Deeds, 122:248.

⁶⁶ City Alms House Farm, 1850 U.S. Census, Portsmouth, Rockingham Co. N.H., p. 105B, listed as “Nancy T. Hubbard.”

⁶⁷ U.S. Army, Register of Enlistments, 1798–1914, database, ancestry.com.

- iii NANCY JANE SHACKLEY, b. in the period 1813–19,⁶⁸ d. prob. in Portsmouth, N.H., before 1842⁶⁹ (and possibly by 1840 when no woman of her age was counted in her husband's household⁷⁰); m. 27 Sept. 1835, WILLIAM WATSON MURDOCK, both of Portsmouth, N.H.,⁷¹ b. Cambridge, Mass., 21 Dec. 1800, son of Jacob Watson and Frances Webb (Goodwin) Murdock,⁷² d. Portsmouth, N.H., 7 Aug. 1882, aged 81y 7m 16d.⁷³ William apparently never remarried after Nancy Jane's death. In 1850 he was residing in the Portsmouth Alms House.⁷⁴ In 1870 he was living with his daughter and son-in-law, Sarah A. and Joseph B. Locke, in Portsmouth.⁷⁵

Child of William W. and Nancy Jane (Shackley) Murdock:

- 1 Sarah Ann Murdock, b. Portsmouth, N.H., 13 June 1836,⁷⁶ d. Portsmouth, 20 March 1901;⁷⁷ m. Kittery, Maine, 13 Feb. 1859, Joseph Berry Locke,⁷⁸ b. Rye, N.H., 13 Nov. 1837, son of Jonathan Hobbs and Izetta (Lewis) Locke;⁷⁹ d. Portsmouth, 28 Sept. 1904.⁸⁰ Joseph was away at sea for many years, and Sarah Ann, thinking him dead, m. (2) Portsmouth, 7 June 1863, William Hudson of Brooklyn, N.Y.⁸¹ She was still "Sarah A. Hudson formerly Sarah A. Lock" in 1867,⁸² but her 1st husband eventually returned from sea and the marriage to Hudson was annulled. In 1870 Joseph B. and Sarah A. Locke were living in Portsmouth with her father.⁸³ No known children

Child of Jonathan and Nancy (Hamilton) (Shackley) Hubbard:

- iv THOMAS HUBBARD, b. Sanford, ca. 1824, d. in action, 30 July 1864, probably while engaged in the "Battle of the Crater" outside of Petersburg, Va.;⁸⁴ m. Kittery, Maine, 1 Oct. 1849, IZETTE (LEWIS) LOCKE,⁸⁵ b. 23 June 1811, d. 13 Aug.

⁶⁸ Based on her guardianship records [see note 36].

⁶⁹ Her name was on a 4 March 1842 list of letters uncollected at the Portsmouth post office (*Portsmouth Journal of Literature and Politics*, 5 March 1842, p. 3)

⁷⁰ W^m W. Murdock household, 1840 U.S. Census, Portsmouth, Rockingham Co., N.H., p. 144.

⁷¹ New Hampshire Marriages, 1637–1947, familysearch.org [DGS #4243163, image 3136].

⁷² Thomas W. Baldwin, comp., *Vital Records of Cambridge, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850*, 2 vols. (Boston, 1914–15), 1:508 (birth), 2:281 (parents' marriage on 16 Dec. 1798). William's death record incorrectly names his parents as John G. and Mary Murdock.

⁷³ All information on his birth, death, and parents from his death record (New Hampshire Death Records, 1654–1947, familysearch.org [DGS #4243765, image 136]).

⁷⁴ City Alms House Farm, 1850 U.S. Census, Portsmouth, Rockingham Co., N.H., p. 105A.

⁷⁵ Joseph B. Locke household, 1870 U.S. Census, Portsmouth, Rockingham Co., N.H., p. 395.

⁷⁶ Locke, *Locke Genealogy* [note 5], 138.

⁷⁷ Mrs. Sarah T Locke, Harmony Grove Cemetery, Portsmouth, Rockingham Co., N.H., find-a-grave #112143337. The site quotes her brief death notice, which mentions her surviving husband. She had had four children, none of whom survived (Joseph B. Locke household, 1900 U.S. Census, Portsmouth, Rockingham Co., N.H., E.D. 211, p. 10B.)

⁷⁸ Anderson & Thurston, *Kittery VRs* [note 1], 355.

⁷⁹ Locke, *Locke Genealogy* [note 5], 138.

⁸⁰ Locke, *Locke Genealogy* [note 5], 138.

⁸¹ New Hampshire Marriages, 1637–1947, familysearch.org [DGS #4243153, image 2838].

⁸² York Co. Deeds, 302:412, Sarah A Hudson, 26 March 1867.

⁸³ Joseph B. Locke household, 1870 U.S. Census, Portsmouth, Rockingham Co., N.H., p. 395.

⁸⁴ See note 16 for information on his death and the Battle of the Crater.

⁸⁵ Anderson & Thurston, *Kittery VRs* [note 2], 389.

1867.⁸⁶ Izette had m. (1) Kittery, 16 Sept. 1832, Jonathan H. Locke,⁸⁷ who d. in early 1847 and with whom Izette had 2 sons and a daughter.⁸⁸ Described as a laborer, Thomas Hubbard, with Izette, their 6-month old son George W., and Charles Lewis, aged 45, were living in Kittery in 1850.⁸⁹ They were still in Kittery 10 years later, with the household then including Thomas, 44, Izette, 47, their son George W., 10, as well as Izette's two sons from her 1st marriage, Joseph and John Q. Locke, aged 22 and 13, and Joseph's newly-wed wife, Sarah, 25.⁹⁰

Child of Thomas and Izette (Lewis) (Locke) Hubbard:

1 *George W. Hubbard*, b. about Feb. 1850,⁹¹ living in April 1868, when Enoch Lewis was acting as his guardian.⁹² In 1866 Enoch Lewis on George's behalf and Sarah A. Hudson, daughter of George's half-sister, Nancy Jane (Shackley) Murdock, were engaged in the lawsuit regarding the Shackley farm. No further record found.

Edward G. Hubbard (eghubbard@att.net) spent more than forty years in the financial industry. He now pursues his lifelong interest in genealogy, and has contributed articles to *The York County Genealogical Society Journal* and *The Maine Genealogist*.

⁸⁶ Locke, *Locke Genealogy* [note 5], 138.

⁸⁷ Anderson & Thurston, *Kittery VRs* [note 2], 289.

⁸⁸ Locke, *Locke Genealogy* [note 5], 138.

⁸⁹ Thomas Hubbard household, 1850 U.S. Census, Kittery, York Co., Maine, p. 260.

⁹⁰ Thomas Hubbard household, 1860 U.S. Census, Kittery, York Co., Maine, p. 854.

⁹¹ George was 6m old on 23 Aug. 1850 (Thomas Hubbard household, 1850 U.S. Census, Kittery, York Co., Maine, p. 260).

⁹² York Co. Probate #9855 [DGS #7315378, image 1150].

THE RESEARCH TAKES A DETOUR

The Amaziah Noble Family of Kennebunk, Maine

By Joseph C. Anderson II, FASG, and Priscilla Eaton

Genealogical research can be a tricky business. Just when we think we have an airtight case, we find something that doesn't quite fit the mold or that contradicts other records we have gathered. Such was the case with Amaziah Noble of Kennebunk. The research was moving along smoothly and the findings were clicking together into a coherent picture of his life and family. Then we found something that shattered that beautiful picture into a million pieces.

AMAZIAH NOBLE OF KENNEBUNK

Even though Amaziah was not a leading citizen of Kennebunk and not prominent in town affairs, the research on him was straightforward and progressed easily. According to a genealogy of the Noble family published by Frank Albert Davis in 1940, and supported by other records, Amaziah was born in Kennebunk about 1795, a son of Stephen and Lucy (Littlefield) Noble.¹ His marriage to the widow Keziah (Emery) Briggs on 28 November 1824 took place in the Kennebunk First Parish Church.² Keziah, baptized in the same church on 16 November 1800, was the daughter of Job and Keziah (Webber) Emery and the widow of Henry Briggs, whom she had married in 1820.³ No Briggs children are recorded in either the Kennebunk church or vital records, and no death record could be found for Henry Briggs.

Amaziah was not a head of household on any Maine census. While most records place him in Kennebunk, he lived for some time in what is today Somerset County. He was a resident of Mercer in 1835, when he acquired Kennebunk land from his

¹ Frank Albert Davis, "Christopher Noble of Portsmouth, New Hampshire, and Some of His Descendants," *The New England Historical and Genealogical Register* [NEHGR] 94[1940]:357–58, 95[1941]:374–77; his parents m Portsmouth, N.H., 20 Jun 1739 as documented in "A Record of Births, Marriages and Deaths in Portsmouth, N.H., From 1706 to 1742" NEHGR 23[1872]:380. While there is no birth or baptism for Amaziah, Stephen's was the only Noble family living, in Kennebunk in the first half of the 19th century. Additionally, on 25 Jan. 1835, Amaziah Noble was described as "of Mercer in the county of Kennebec, formerly of Kennebunk" when Thomas Noble quitclaimed to him "all the land I purchased of my father Stephen Noble" in exchange for a mortgage (York Co. Deeds, 150:239). Amaziah's birth likely occurred between the births of his brothers, Joseph, b. ca. 1792–93, and Clement, b. ca. 1797, based on their ages at death.

² Joseph P. Thompson, copier, "Records of the First Parish Church of Kennebunk, including records of baptisms, marriages and deaths, 1750–1890" (ca. 1900), MS, Coll. 3197, Maine Historical Society, Portland, p. 86, marriage of Amaziah Noble and Mrs. Keziah Briggs.

³ Kennebunk 1st Parish Records [note 2], p. 65; her parents m. (int.) Wells, 9 Sept. 1780 (Hope Moody Shelley, *Vital Records of Wells, Maine, 1619–1950* [Rockport, Maine, 2005], 100). Keziah Emery m. (1) (int.) Kennebunk, 23 Sept. 1820, Henry Briggs (Kennebunk VRs, 1820–1856, p. 1 [DGS #7595725, image 339]).

brother Thomas by mortgage.⁴ But he evidently was back in Kennebunk soon afterwards. After eleven years of an apparently childless marriage, three children were born between 1835 and 1839: Lydia A. Noble, born 1 January 1835; Samuel H. Noble, born 16 June 1837; and William H. H. Noble, born 14 April 1839. On each of the three birth records, the parents are listed as Amaziah and Keziah Noble.⁵

The only record found for Amaziah after 1839 is his death record in 1863, which reports that he died in Kennebunk “suddenly riding his sleigh” on 27 March of that year. The record names his father as Stephen, but does not indicate his age.⁶ While Amaziah’s absence from census records before 1850 is not unusual—he and Keziah could have been members of someone else’s family in those years and therefore not listed as a head of household—it was curious that no trace of him, Keziah, and the three children could be located in either 1850 or 1860.

At this point the Kennebunk town records were exhausted, and no further details could be found on the family. Frank Albert Davis, in his 1940 genealogy, also gave no additional information, with one exception. Davis did not comprehend the significance of it, but that exception turned out to be monumental in importance. In listing the three children born to Amaziah and Keziah, Davis noted that Samuel H. Noble, the middle child, was known by the name of “Buckskin Sam.”⁷

BUCKSKIN SAM

A simple internet search revealed an autobiography published in 1900 with the title: *Life and Adventures of Buckskin Sam (Samuel H. Noble)*, “written by himself.”⁸ The book is a rollicking account of Samuel’s travels to all corners of the world, including South America, Europe, Africa, the Middle East, and India. He related he was dubbed “Buckskin Sam” by Indians living along the Rio Negro in Argentina who had captured him at age twelve and admired his buckskin suit.⁹

In the Preface, Sam writes: “The pages of this book may read like a romance, but believe me, every word is true.” For our purposes, however, the importance of the book lies in the first two chapters. In those pages, our conclusions drawn from the Kennebunk research were effectively demolished.

In Chapter 1, “From Boyhood to Manhood,” Sam writes:

I was born in the town of Kennebunk in the state of Maine on the 16th of June, 1838. At the time my father was the landlord of the village hotel. In 1841 my father died, leaving my mother with three children, an older sister, a younger brother and

⁴ York Co. Deeds, 150:239 [note 1].

⁵ Kennebunk Births, pp. 17, 18, 19 [DGS #7595725, images 26–28].

⁶ Kennebunk Deaths, p. 39 [DGS #7595725, image 276].

⁷ Davis, “Christopher Noble of Portsmouth,” *NEHGR* 95(1941):375. Davis gave no explanation for the sobriquet.

⁸ Samuel H. Noble, *Life and Adventures of Buckskin Sam (Samuel H. Noble)* (Rumford Falls, Maine, 1900).

⁹ Noble, *Buckskin Sam* [note 8], 45.



BUCKSKIN SAM.

myself. After my father's death my mother disposed of the property and then moved to her father's in the town of New Sharon, Maine, where my younger brother was adopted by his grand-mother. My sister stopped at home.

After my father's death I lived with my mother until 1844, when I was six years of age. I was then bound out to a man by the name of Nathaniel True of Fayette, Maine, where I lived for three years. At the age of nine I left Fayette and lived with my uncle in Readfield, Maine. Two years later, in 1849, I again lived with my mother in the town of Somerville, Maine, which is eighteen miles east of Augusta.¹⁰

The next chapter, "My First Voyage," opens as follows:

In February, 1849, I left home to seek my fortune. . . I wound my way along by the road that led to the village or a seaport town called Thomaston, Maine, about 25 miles from home. . . . When I arrived in town I went down to the wharves where the shipping was and saw a schooner that was named the name of my mother, the *Elizabeth*, of Thomaston, Maine. . . . I made a bargain with the captain and signed articles for the amount of twelve dollars per month and shipped as chief cook and bottle washer,

After I shipped I wanted to write home and let my parents know my whereabouts and my good success in getting employment so soon.¹¹

While there is no doubt that Buckskin Sam is the same Samuel H. Noble whose birth on 16 June 1837 is recorded in Kennebunk, even though he gives the date as 16 June 1838, other statements in his account could not be reconciled.

- 1 Sam says his father died in 1841. If true, who then was the Amaziah, son of Stephen Noble, who according to the Kennebunk records died on his sleigh in 1863? No other Amaziah or Stephen Nobles are found in the Kennebunk records, or elsewhere in York County.
- 2 Sam adds that following Amaziah's death, his mother moved in with her parents in New Sharon, Maine, a town located a hundred miles to the north of Kennebunk in what is today Franklin County. But Keziah's parents, Job and Keziah Emery, were both deceased by 1841, as were Amaziah's parents. And neither set of parents was ever known to have resided in New Sharon.
- 3 Sam was attracted to a schooner in Thomaston because it "was named the name of my mother, the *Elizabeth*." Was Keziah also known as Elizabeth? That seemed unlikely.
- 4 Sam writes that after he shipped out of Thomaston, he wanted to let his parents know his whereabouts. He had reported his father died in 1841, so does his use of the plural word "parents" indicate his mother had remarried?

Despite all of the discrepancies, Buckskin Sam's story is full of research clues from which we hoped the truth could be extracted. It was back to the drawing board for us.

¹⁰ *Buckskin Sam* [note 8], 17.

¹¹ *Buckskin Sam* [note 8], 20.

UNRAVELING THE TRUTH

We soon discovered that Amaziah Noble did not die in 1863 as the Kennebunk vital records claim. A probate case was opened for his estate in April 1840 when his brother Clement Noble requested to be made administrator. The document states “Amaziah Noble late of Kennebunk died on the [blank] day of March 1840.”¹²

Another document in the probate file revealed that Amaziah’s widow was a woman named Hannah Elizabeth Noble:

Hannah E. Noble widow of Amariah Noble deceased declines taking Administration on the estate of said Amariah Noble.

Kennebunk April 6 1840

[signed] Hannah Elizabeth Noble¹³

Amaziah and Keziah’s last child was born in April 1839. A year later, Amaziah’s widow was Hannah Elizabeth. Had he married in the interim? And was Hannah Elizabeth the same Elizabeth who Buckskin Sam named as his mother?

A search beyond York County uncovered a most surprising record. On 1 February 1834 in the town of Mercer, Amaziah Noble published his intentions to marry Elizabeth Norcross, both “of Mercer.”¹⁴ As noted, Amaziah was a resident of Mercer when he purchased land in Kennebunk from his brother Thomas in 1835. Had Keziah died, and was Elizabeth the mother of the three children born in Kennebunk, despite the vital records naming Keziah as their mother?

If Elizabeth Norcross was indeed the children’s mother, Buckskin Sam’s account suggests she might be found in the town of New Sharon where he said her parents lived. The records of that town were checked and a birth record was found for Hannah Elizabeth Norcross on 2 September 1811, daughter of Samuel and Abigail (Tibbetts) Norcross.¹⁵ Sam reported that his younger brother, William, born in 1839, was adopted by his grandmother. In fact, in 1850 the Samuel Norcross household in New Sharon included these people:¹⁶

Samuel Norcross, 68, brickmaker

Abigail Norcross, 62

William H. Norcross, 10

Ten years later, William H. Norcross, aged 19, a laborer, was still living with Samuel and Abigail Norcross.¹⁷ While it now seemed assured that they were his grandparents, two death records added final confirmation. On 23 October 1908, “William

¹² Amaziah Noble probate, York Co. Probate Records, #14121 [DGS #7315162, image 693].

¹³ Amaziah Noble probate [note 12], [image 699].

¹⁴ Mercer VRs, p. 88 [DGS #7595750, image 54].

¹⁵ New Sharon VRs, births, p. 12 [DGS #7595767, image 76]; her parents m. (int) Hallowell, 30 March 1805 (*Mabel Goodwin Hall, Vital Records of Hallowell, Maine, to the Year 1892*, 6 vols. [n.p., 1924–29], 4:96).

¹⁶ Samuel Norcross household, 1850 U.S. Census, New Sharon, Franklin Co., Maine, p. 107.

¹⁷ Samuel Norcross household, 1860 U.S. Census, New Sharon, Franklin Co., Maine, p. 718.

H. H. Noble (alias Norcross)" died at the Worcester, Massachusetts, insane asylum. The record names his parents as Amaziah Noble and Elizabeth Norcross.¹⁸ And on 8 September 1908, Samuel H. Noble ("Buckskin Sam") died in Mechanic Falls, Maine. His death record gives his parents as [blank] Noble and [blank] Norcross.¹⁹

Buckskin Sam said that his mother had moved to Somerville, Maine, by 1849. While the town of Somerville was not incorporated until 1858, the area was called Patricktown Plantation prior to incorporation. Enumerated in Patricktown in 1850 was the following household:²⁰

Elijah Tobey, 59, farmer, b. Maine
Hannah, 39
Shelden, 15
Lydia Noble, 15
Charles Leroy, 2

Lydia Noble was the same age as Lydia Noble, the older sister of Samuel and William, born in Kennebunk. And Hannah, aged 39, apparently Elijah Tobey's wife, was the same age as Hannah Elizabeth Norcross, born in New Sharon in 1811. And they were living in the same location where Sam reported his mother resided. Surely this was Sam's mother and his sister Lydia.

Ten years later, in 1860, the family was still living in Somerville, Hannah then called Hannah E. Tobey, age 48, although Lydia was absent. Another child, Elias had been born about 1852.²¹ Elijah and Hannah Elizabeth Tobey continued to live in Somerville until their deaths, his in 1881 and hers in 1891, and they are both buried in the West Washington Cemetery in Washington, Maine.²²

CONCLUSIONS

The findings indicate that Buckskin Sam's account of his family was true in nearly all respects, the only discrepancies being the dates of his birth and his father's death, both off by a year. Amaziah Noble's first wife, Keziah, must have died sometime before 1834. That year he married Hannah Elizabeth Norcross and they were the parents of the three children born in Kennebunk soon thereafter. After living for some time with her parents in New Sharon, Hannah Elizabeth married Elijah Tobey, with whom she had two more children and lived out her life in Somerville.

Looking back, the initial research uncovered two red flags—the complete lack of census records for Amaziah (especially the lack of an 1850 census entry consid-

¹⁸ Massachusetts Vital Records, 1841–1910 [index and images at americanancestors.org], 1908/79:36.

¹⁹ Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921 [DGS #5011846, image 2418].

²⁰ Elijah Tobey household, 1850 U.S. Census, Patricktown Plantation, Lincoln Co., Maine, p. 295.

²¹ Elijah Tobey household, 1860 U.S. Census, Somerville, Lincoln Co., Maine, p. 733.

²² Maine Old Cemetery Association, Cemetery Inscription Project, Series 1 (at Maine State Library, Augusta, 1982), Knox Co., p. 266.

ering there were three small children in the family) and Keziah's eleven years of childless marriage followed supposedly by three children born two years apart. These two considerations together suggest this was not a viable family structure and that something was wrong. The problems stemmed from the several pieces of significant misinformation in the Kennebunk records: (1) the naming of Keziah as the mother of the three children, and (2) the false 1863 death date for Amaziah. Normally town records are considered a primary source, so what happened in this case?

The bulk of the extant early vital records for Kennebunk are arranged in three groupings: one grouping of birth records, one of marriages, and one of deaths. The records in each of these groupings have been written onto preprinted sheets and the entries are arranged chronologically, starting with the earliest records in the eighteenth century and going all the way down to 1892. It is apparent that the entries in these forms are not the original records, but rather copies made sometime in the late-nineteenth century.

The original birth records would have been entered as family groups, which was commonplace in most Maine town records. Whoever copied the records onto the preprinted sheets deconstructed all of the family groups and arranged the births from all families together in one list by date. While the three Noble children were likely recorded together originally in a separate family group, in the copied records they are each found on separate pages and mixed in with children from other families born the same year. This shuffling of the records caused valuable genealogical information to be lost and errors to be made. It is not known how Keziah could have been named as the mother of the three children, but the error undoubtedly occurred in the copying process. The 27 March 1863 death record for Amaziah is another error. His probate file indicates he died in March 1840, so maybe 27 March 1840 is the correct date. In any event, there was no known Amaziah Noble living in Maine in 1863.

GENEALOGICAL SUMMARY²³

AMAZIAH NOBLE was born in Kennebunk, Maine, about 1795, son of Stephen and Lucy (Littlefield) Noble. He died, probably in Kennebunk, in March 1840, possibly as a result of a sleighing accident. He married first in Kennebunk, 28 November 1824, **KEZIAH (EMERY) BRIGGS**. She was baptized in Kennebunk, 16 November 1800, daughter of Job and Keziah (Webber) Emery and widow of Henry Briggs. Keziah's date of death is unknown, but it certainly occurred by 1834. Amaziah and Keziah apparently had no children.

Amaziah married second **HANNAH ELIZABETH NORCROSS**, their marriage intentions recorded in Mercer, 1 February 1834. She was born in New Sharon, Maine, 2 September 1811, daughter of Samuel and Abigail (Tibbetts) Norcross. She died 3 April 1891, probably in Somerville, Maine, aged 80 years, and is buried with her second husband in the West Washington Cemetery in Washington, Maine.

²³ In the interest of space, facts cited earlier in this article are not repeated in this section.

According to his son's autobiography, Amaziah operated the village hotel in Kennebunk. At his death his property was valued at \$661.49. The inventory listed two acres of land with the dwelling house and an old barn, about sixty-five acres of woodland and mowing land in Kennebunk, and an additional small parcel in Kennebunk. He also owned farm livestock, farming equipment, household items, firewood, and one old sleigh, possibly the same that he was riding on when he died.²⁴

Hannah Elizabeth married second, say 1847, ELIJAH TOBEY as his second wife. Elijah was born in Whitefield, Maine, 4 September 1791, son of William and Mary (Sylvester) Tobey.²⁵ He died 26 August 1881, aged 90, and is buried in the West Washington Cemetery. He married first Hannah Parslee of Whitefield, Maine, with whom he had eight children.

Children of Amaziah and his 2nd wife, Hannah Elizabeth (Norcross) Noble, b. Kennebunk:

- i LYDIA A. NOBLE, b. 1 Jan. 1835. She was residing with her mother and stepfather, Elijah Tobey, in Patricktown Plantation in 1850, aged 15. She was apparently deceased by 1908 when she was not listed as an heir of her brother Samuel. No further information.
- ii SAMUEL H. NOBLE ("Buckskin Sam"), b. 16 June 1837, d. Mechanic Falls, Maine, 8 Sept. 1908, aged 71y 2m 23d. His death record calls him a widower, but no wife has been positively identified and none is mentioned in his book, *Life and Adventures of Buckskin Sam*.²⁶ In his will dated 6 March 1908, Samuel H. Noble of Mechanic Falls left \$1 to his brother, William H. Norcross, and left his house to Laura E. Young "which stands on land belonging to her."²⁷ A document in the probate file names two heirs: his brother, William H. Norcross of Mass., and his half-brother, Elias B. Tobie of Winthrop.²⁸
- iii WILLIAM HENRY HARRISON NOBLE (alias NORCROSS), b. 14 April 1839, d. at the Worcester, Mass., insane asylum, 23 Oct. 1908, aged 68 years, a resident of Pepperell, Mass.; m. Boston, Mass., 20 March 1866, JULIA ANNA GROH,²⁹ b. Beverly, Mass., 28 July 1850, daughter of Matthew and Maria Frances (Allen) Groh,³⁰ d. Boston, Mass., 28 July 1935, aged 85.³¹ William, who went by the surname *Norcross*, was a machinist. His marriage to Julia Anna apparently did not last long, as she was

²⁴ Inventory, Amaziah Noble probate [note 12], [image 708].

²⁵ Rufus Babcock Tobey, *Tobey (Tobie, Toby) Genealogy: Thomas, of Sandwich, and James, of Kittery, and Their Descendants* (Boston, 1905), 103, 149.

²⁶ One Samuel H. Noble m. Winthrop, 1 Feb. 1870, Emilie Beale (Winthrop Marriages, pp. 148–49 [DGS #7596986, image 687]). If the groom was "Buckskin Sam," the marriage didn't last, as Mrs. Emily B. Noble m. (2) Winthrop, 1 Jan. 1890, Thomas L. Wing (Winthrop VRs, 1861–91, p. 68 [DGS #7596986, image 892]).

²⁷ Androscoggin Co. Probate Records, #6186 [DGS #7147627, images 458–59].

²⁸ Androscoggin Co. Probate Records, #6186 [DGS #7147627, image 454].

²⁹ Mass. VRs, 1841–1910 [note 18], 191:45. The marriage record gives William's birthplace as Kennebunk and his mother as "Elizabeth," but does not name his father.

³⁰ Mass. VRs, 1841–1910 [note 18], 42:135; her parents m. Portland, Maine, 29 Feb. 1848 (Portland Marriages, 4:115 [DGS #7595805, image 214]).

³¹ Obituary, *The Boston Herald*, Tues., 30 July 1935, p. 13 [image, genealogybank.com].

living with her mother in 1880 and he was living as a “roomer” in Boston in 1900, describing himself as a widower.³²

Children:

- 1 *Anna Frances Norcross*, b. Boston, Mass., 22 July 1868;³³ m. Boston, 19 Sept. 1888, Clarence E. Clisbee.³⁴
- 2 *Lizzie Norcross*, b. Chelsea, Mass., 31 Aug. 1873.³⁵ In 1900 her mother stated she had 2 children, both still living. In 1910 her mother stated she had 2 children, but only 1 still living.³⁶

Children of Elijah and Hannah Elizabeth (Norcross) (Noble) Tobey, b. Somerville:³⁷

- iv CHARLES SAMUEL TOBEY, b. 22 March 1848. He is likely the Charles S. Tobey who was living in Augusta in 1900, aged 52, unmarried, a farmer, his birth date given as March 1848.³⁸ Unlike his brother Elias, Charles was not named as an heir of his stepbrother Samuel H. Noble in 1908.
- v ELIAS BAXTER TOBEY, b. 24 March 1852, d. 17 March 1926 and bur. in Lakeview Cemetery, Winthrop;³⁹ m. Somerville, 4 July 1876, ANNIE B. FISH,⁴⁰ b. 7 July 1857, daughter of Leonard and Sheba (Trask) Fish of Somerville, d. 3 Oct. 1850 and bur. with Elias in Lakeview Cemetery.⁴¹ Elias and Annie had 4 children b. 1877–89 and lived in Winthrop.⁴²

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³² Julia A. Norcross, aged 29, daughter, in Marie F. Norwood household, 1880 U.S. Census, East Boston, Suffolk Co., Mass., E.D. 591, p. 333D; William H. Norcross, boarder in Ada H. Simmons household, 1900 U.S. Census, Boston Ward 18, Suffolk Co., Mass., E.D. 1424, sheet 11B.

³³ Mass. VRs, 1841–1910 [note 18], 207:104.

³⁴ Mass. VRs, 1841–1910 [note 18], 390:177.

³⁵ Mass. VRs, 1841–1910 [note 18], 252:223.

³⁶ In both years, J. Anna Norcross, Lizzie’s mother, was living in the Clarence Clisbee household (1900 U.S. Census, Revere, Suffolk Co., Mass., E.D. 1574, sheet 9B; 1910 U.S. Census, Revere, Suffolk Co., Mass., E.D. 1681, sheet 5A).

³⁷ The children’s births are recorded in Somerville VRs, p. 180 [DGS #7596891, image 62].

³⁸ Charles S. Tobey household, 1900 U.S. Census, Augusta, Kennebec Co., Maine, E.D. 106, p. 12.

³⁹ Gravestone photo, findagrave #82895082.

⁴⁰ Somerville VRs, p. 275 [DGS #7596891, image 214].

⁴¹ Her dates of birth and death on her gravestone (photo, findagrave #82895122); daughter Anna, aged 3, in Leonard Fish household, 1860 U.S. Census, Somerville, Lincoln Co., Maine, p. 733; her parents m. (int.) Washington, 29 Dec. 1846 (Marlene A. Groves, *Vital Record of Washington, Maine* [Rockport, Maine, [2005], 54).

⁴² Tobey, *Tobey Genealogy* [note 25], 210; Elias B. Tobey household, 1900 U.S. Census, Winthrop, Kennebec Co., Maine, E.D. 138, sheet 19A.

IDENTIFYING THE FAMILY OF JAMES DAVIS OF IPSWICH, MASSACHUSETTS, AND DAVISTOWN, MAINE

By Glenn D. Nasman

Rev. Paul Coffin, the minister of the Congregational Church in Buxton for almost fifty-five years, from 1763 until his retirement in 1817, took mission tours of several months' duration from 1795 to 1800 to the backwoods areas of Maine, where he preached, baptized, and observed the spiritual conditions of the residents. He kept journals of his tours in which he included descriptions of some of the people he met. During the summer of 1796, he passed through Davistown (now Montville and the northern part of Liberty) where he met James Davis, describing him as follows:

Mr. James Davis, an old man originally from Ipswich and the Father of the town, is a lay-teacher here, of the congregational order and of some learning. He is for peace and order, and seems to keep them both. This is a rarity. He received me with affection and esteem, and attended my lectures in town.¹

James Davis was from a prominent family in Ipswich, where his father, also named James Davis, was a spiritual leader and elder in the Linebrook Parish Church.² His wife, Mary Choate, was from another prominent Ipswich family.³ Even so, there are no birth records of his children in the published vital records of the town of Ipswich, although the baptisms of two of his oldest children are recorded there, and the baptism of another son is recorded in Rowley, Massachusetts.⁴ It is not clear when James left Ipswich, but by 1780 he was in the area of Maine that would soon become Davistown Plantation (so named because the interrelated Davis families there were so numerous).⁵ The name would be retained for over twenty-five years until it was incorporated as Montville in 1807.⁶ In addition to the sparse records of the family in the Ipswich records, the 1896 genealogy of his wife's family does not list the

¹ *Memoir and Journals of Rev. Paul Coffin, D.D., Collections of the Maine Historical Society, Vol. IV* (Portland, 1856), 239–405, at 323.

² Elder James Davis, who m. Abigail Metcalfe, was one of the founders of the Linebrook Parish Meeting House in Ipswich, and he gave the land on which the first meeting house was erected in 1743 (Matthew Adams Stickney, *The Fowler Family: A Genealogical Memoir of the Descendants of Philip and Mary Fowler, of Ipswich, Mass.* [Salem, Mass., 1883], 104).

³ E. O. Jameson, *The Choates in America, 1643–1896* (Boston, 1896).

⁴ *Vital Records of Ipswich, Massachusetts, to the End of the Year 1849*, 3 vols. (Salem, Mass., 1910–19), 1:110 (Elizabeth), 1:111 (James); *Vital Records of Rowley, Massachusetts, to the End of the Year 1849*, 2 vols. (Salem, Mass., 1928–31), 1:59 (Isaac).

⁵ George Jones Varney, *A Gazetteer of the State of Maine* (Boston, 1886), 373. “James Davis of an infant place near Sheepscoot Great Pond in the County of Lincoln,” yeoman, sold a parcel of land lying near Sheepscoot Great Pond containing 200 acres on 17 Dec. 1782 (Lincoln Co. Deeds, 18:127). James Davis of a place named Great Pond, yeoman, sold a 100-acre tract of land he owned on the Sheepscoot River in New Castle on 9 Nov. 1782 (Lincoln Co. Deeds, 18:154).

⁶ Stanley Bearce Attwood, *The Length and Breadth of Maine* (Orono, Maine, 1977), 199.

children of James and Mary (Choate) Davis.⁷ If it were not for Rev. Paul Coffin's few words about James Davis in his journal for 1796 and for a 1906 *Lewiston Journal* article about the Montville centennial mentioning James Davis and three of his sons (Cyrus, Joshua and William),⁸ it is unlikely that many facts on this family could be assembled.

Once it was confirmed that James Davis, previously of Ipswich, and some of his sons were living in Davistown in the early 1780s, the census records for that locality were checked for the years 1790 and 1800, and all heads of households with the surname Davis were investigated (see tables below). One of the most helpful items of information for some of the towns in the 1800 census of Maine is the "From Whence Came" column, in which former residences for the head of household were recorded. This shows that James Davis and his children had lived in Edgecomb prior to moving to Davistown. That is where his daughter Elizabeth and her husband Noah Colby had settled and raised their family.⁹

1790 U.S. Census, Great Pond Plantation, Lincoln County ¹⁰				
Name	Males 16 & above	Males under 16	Females	Relationship to James Davis
Davis, James	3	0	2	Self
Davis, Charles	1	2	2	Prob. son of neighbor William Davis
Davis, Joshua	1	2	2	Son
Davis, William	2	1	2	Distantly related neighbor

1800 U.S. Census, Davis Town, Hancock County ¹¹											
Name	Males					Females					From Whence Came
	0 to 9	10 to 15	16 to 25	26 to 44	45+	0 to 9	10 to 15	16 to 25	26 to 44	45+	
Davis, James	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	Edgecomb, Maine
Davis, Charles	4	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	Edgecomb, Maine
Davis, Joshua	3	3	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	Edgecomb, Maine
Davis, William Jr.	2	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	Edgecomb, Maine
Davis, William	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	Amesbury, Mass.
Davis, Levi	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	Amesbury, Mass.

⁷ Jameson, *Choates in America* [note 3], 49.

⁸ "Montville Is Celebrating Its Centennial Today," *Lewiston Journal*, 22 Aug. 1906, p. 11.

⁹ Noah ("Noar") Colby and his father, Ruggles ("Rogles") Colby, signed the original petition to the General Court of Mass. dated 26 Jan. 1774, asking that Freetown be incorporated into a town by the name of Edgecomb (Marlene A. Groves, *Vital Records of Edgecomb, Maine* [Water-ville, Maine, 2016], 8). On 28 April 1769, James Davis of Newcastle, a town adjacent to Edgecomb, sold 90 acres in Freetown (now Edgecomb) (Lincoln Co. Deeds, 6:258).

¹⁰ *Heads of Families of the First Census of the United States Taken in the Year 1790: Maine* (Washington, D.C., 1908), 38, col. b.

¹¹ 1800 U.S. Census, Davis Town, Hancock Co., Maine, pp. 161, 163.

Research on William Davis, originally from Amesbury, Massachusetts, showed that he was not a close relative of James Davis. He was born in Amesbury about 1730 to Joseph and Sarah (Colby) Davis.¹² While investigating the children of James Davis, however, it was discovered that the families of James Davis and William Davis would later become closely connected as Joshua Davis, a son of James Davis, married in 1785 Rhoda Davis, a daughter of William Davis.¹³ William Davis Sr. had four known children, all of whom moved their families to Ohio before 1820: the families of his sons Charles and Levi Davis and the families of his two daughters, the Joshua and Rhoda (Davis) Davis family and the Samuel and Tabitha (Davis) Henery family, moved to Windsor, Morgan County, Ohio, bringing their aged father, William, with them.¹⁴ Also, among the families that relocated to Windsor, Ohio, was that of William Davis, another son of James Davis (known as “William Davis the 2nd” in the early-nineteenth-century Montville town records).¹⁵ The three Davis families resulted in numerous Davis households in that community as well. Of the Davis households in the 1820 census for Windsor, Ohio, headed by males over age 45, there were 38 children.¹⁶

William Davis [2nd], son of James Davis, 9 children, Elder of the Windsor Baptist Church

Joshua Davis, son of James Davis, 10 children, older brother of Elder William Davis

Levi Davis, son of William Davis Sr., 19 children, brother-in-law of Elder William and Joshua Davis¹⁷

One of the difficulties in placing James Davis’s grandchildren in their correct families is that, except for the children of son William, none of the births of the grandchildren are mentioned in the Montville town records, and even the list of births for William’s children is incomplete. The Montville records only include the

¹² David W. Hoyt, *The Old Families of Salisbury and Amesbury, Massachusetts*, 3 vols. (Providence, R.I., 1897–1916), 2:714–15.

¹³ Groves, *Edgecomb VRs* [note 9], 51.

¹⁴ The Charles Davis family arrived in 1812 (*History of Noble County, Ohio* [Chicago, 1887], 317), the Samuel and Tabitha (Davis) Henery family arrived in 1814 (according to a memorial stone in Brick Church Cemetery, Stockport, Ohio, findagrave #9340722), while the Joshua and Rhoda (Davis) Davis family arrived about 1816. The Levi Davis family arrived in Morgan Co. before the 1820 census.

¹⁵ For example, see Montville VRs, 1802–1929 [DGS #7595753, images 13–14] and Lincoln Co., Deeds, 47:53, where “William Davis the second of a settlement called Davistown in the County of Lincoln” sold a 35-acre parcel of land on 31 Oct. 1799.

¹⁶ The 1820 U.S. Census for Windsor, Morgan Co., Ohio (p. 74), includes the households of William, Joshua, and Levi Davis plus the households of James Davis and William Davis Jr., both sons of Joshua Davis. The number of their children is from Charles Robertson, *History of Morgan County, Ohio* (Chicago, 1886), 398.

¹⁷ A deed dated 5 June 1798 states that William Davis Sr. of Davistown gave “for divers good causes & valuable considerations me hereunto moving” to his son Levi Davis of Davistown all his land where he lived, all his buildings, all his cattle and livestock except for one cow, and all his farming utensils (Lincoln Co. Deeds, 53:197).

first eight children of Elder William Davis, but the *History of Morgan County, Ohio* lists three additional children.¹⁸ In addition, the *History of Morgan County, Ohio* lists the names of eleven children of William's older brother, Joshua Davis, including that of Elias who stayed in Maine.¹⁹ Another factor that increased the difficulty of placing his grandchildren in their correct families was that James's sons tended to give their sons the same names.

Cyrus Davis, another son of James, apparently had a large family, but only two of the children have been identified.²⁰ Married in 1779, the birth records of his children are not found in the Montville records. It is known that he had a son named Elias, born about 1785, since Elias Davis of Montville deposed on 27 August 1838 that he was Cyrus's son.²¹ Cyrus's Revolutionary War pension file indicates that he had lived in Rockingham, Vermont, after he left Ipswich.²² The records of the First Church of Rockingham include a baptism for Clarissa Davis, daughter of Cyrus and Bridget Davis, on 11 January 1793.²³ Cyrus was living in Rockingham in 1790, with a family consisting of Cyrus, two males under 16, and three females.²⁴ The structure of the family over the next three decades is seen here:²⁵

Cyrus Davis Family Census Statistics											
Year	Males					Females					Location
	0 to 9	10 to 15	16 to 25	26 to 44	45 +	0 to 9	10 to 15	16 to 25	26 to 44	45 +	
1800	0	1	1	0	1	3	2	0	1	0	Springfield, Vt.
1810	0	0	1	0	1	1	2	4	0	2	Montville, Maine
1820	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	Montville, Maine

Based on son Elias's birth date circa 1785,²⁶ he was likely the male aged 10–15 in 1800 and he is probably the male 16–25 in 1810. Elias was head of his own household in 1820. Likewise, Clarissa was likely one of the females in 1800 and 1810. Though Cyrus's 1810 household included extra older females, it appears he had a family that consisted of at least two sons and five daughters.

¹⁸ Robertson, *History of Morgan County* [note 16], 398.

¹⁹ Robertson, *History of Morgan County* [note 16], 398.

²⁰ Censuses show that Cyrus had 9 persons in his household in 1800, 11 in his household in 1810, and 3 in his household in 1820 (Cyrus Davis household, 1800 U.S. Census, Springfield, Windsor Co., Vt., p. 335; "Sirus" Davis household, 1810 U.S. Census, Montville, Lincoln Co., Maine, p. 303; Cyrus Davis household, 1820 U.S. Census, Montville, Lincoln Co., Maine, p. 295).

²¹ Revolutionary War Pension Application #W22917 [fold3.com].

²² Revolutionary War Pension Application #W22917 [fold3.com].

²³ Thomas Bellows Peck, *Records of the First Church of Rockingham, Vermont: From Its Organization, October 27, 1773, to September 25, 1839* (Boston, 1902), 37.

²⁴ *Heads of Families of the First Census of the United States Taken in the Year 1790: Vermont* (Washington, D.C., 1907), 53, col. c.

²⁵ Cyrus Davis households, 1800–1820 U.S. Censuses [note 20].

²⁶ Elias was aged 65 in Elias Davis household, 1850 U.S. Census, Montville, Lincoln Co., Maine, p. 257b.

FAMILY SUMMARY OF JAMES DAVIS

JAMES DAVIS was baptized in Ipswich, Massachusetts, 11 November 1716, son of Elder James and his first wife, Abigail (Metcalf) Davis.²⁷ He died, probably in Davistown, Maine, after 1800. He married first in Ipswich, 25 January 1738, MARY CHOATE.²⁸ She was baptized in Ipswich, 3 September 1721, daughter of Samuel and Mary (Brown) Choate.²⁹ She died before 22 February 1762, when her share of her father's personal estate was distributed to the legal representatives of Mary Davis, deceased.³⁰ James married second in Rowley, Massachusetts, 23 March 1762, HANNAH CREASEY.³¹ Hannah was born in Rowley, 17 February 1727/8, daughter of Abel and Hannah (Lowell) Creasey.³² She died, probably in Davistown, after 1790.³³

James's son Cyrus said in his Revolutionary War pension application that he was born in Windham, Connecticut, in 1751.³⁴ It is therefore likely the family lived in Windham for a time, although no births of James's children are recorded there.³⁵ There are no records of birth or baptism for James's children in Massachusetts after 1741, and it is possible he left Ipswich soon after that time. If so, he was back in Massachusetts by 1762 when he married his second wife, Hannah.

James moved to Maine by 1769, first settling in Newcastle where he described himself as a yeoman,³⁶ and later in Davistown, where he was among the first settlers. In 1796 he was one of the two authors of the "Davistown Resolves," a document that called for a unified and militant backcountry in defiance of Major General Henry Knox and his claim to the Waldo Patent.³⁷

²⁷ Jameson, *Choates in America* [note 3], 49; *Ipswich VRs* [note 4], 1:111 (baptism); his parents m. (int.) Ipswich, Mass., 5 Jan. 1705/6 (*ibid.* 2:125). *Choates in America* states that James was born in Beverly, Mass., 9 Jan. 1716, but his birth is not recorded in that town nor in Ipswich. This date, however, is problematic. If he was born on 9 Jan. 1715/6, then he was born only seven months after the 9 June 1715 birth of his older sister Lydia; and if he was born on 9 Jan. 1716/7, he was born after his baptism. The likelihood is that his date of birth was much closer to his baptismal date of 11 Nov. 1716.

²⁸ *Ipswich VRs* [note 4], 2:125.

²⁹ *Ipswich VRs* [note 4], 1:89; her parents m. (int.) Ipswich, 31 March 1716 (*ibid.*, 2:99). Jameson, *Choates in America* [note 3], 49, claims that James married the Widow Martha Smith on 25 March 1732 as his 1st wife, but she was actually the 3rd wife of James's father, Elder James Davis.

³⁰ Essex Co., Mass., Probate #5377 [DGS #5566854, image 118]. Her share of her father's real estate was distributed to Mary's legal representatives on 18 March 1762 [image 128].

³¹ *Rowley VRs* [note 4], 2:280; *Ipswich VRs* [note 4], 2:116, 125.

³² *Rowley VRs* [note 4], 1:53; her parents m. (int.) Rowley, 22 April 1727 (*ibid.*, 2:275).

³³ There were 2 females in the James Davis household in 1790, one of whom may have been his wife, but there is no further record of her.

³⁴ See note 63.

³⁵ The Barbour Collection of Connecticut vital records is online at www.ancestry.com/search/collections/1034/.

³⁶ Lincoln Co. Deeds, 6:258.

³⁷ <https://www.davistownmuseum.org/publications/volume2.html#resolves>.

Children of James and his 1st wife Mary (Choate) Davis:

- i JAMES DAVIS, bp. Ipswich, Mass., 30 Dec. 1739.³⁸ No further record found.
- ii ELIZABETH DAVIS, bp. Ipswich, 19 Oct. 1741,³⁹ her date of death not found, but she was living 2 April 1783 (see below); m. Ipswich, 14 Aug. 1764, NOAH COLBY of Sheepscot,⁴⁰ b. poss. in Amesbury or Newbury, Mass., about 1739, son of Ruggles and Abigail (Davis) Colby,⁴¹ his date of death not found. Noah served at Boothbay as a private in Capt. Israel Davis's company, Col. Joseph Fry's regiment from 7 March to 31 May 1776 and from 1 June to 5 Dec. 1776 in defense of the seacoast.⁴² On 30 April 1767, "Noah Colbey of Freetown, laborer," bought 50 acres of land on the Sheepscot River; on 27 July 1769 "Noah Colbey" of Freetown, yeoman, sold land in New Castle that adjoined land owned by his father-in-law, James Davis; and on 2 April 1783, Noah Colby of Edgecomb sold 100 acres more or less located on the Sheepscot River on Jeremysquam Island in Edgecomb where his home was located, with his wife, Elizabeth Colby, relinquishing her right of dower.⁴³

Children of Noah and Elizabeth (Davis) Colby:⁴⁴

- 1 Ruth Colby, b. say 1766; m. Edgecomb, 30 Aug. 1786, Thodey/Thodea Young.⁴⁵
- 2 James Colby, no further information.⁴⁶
- 3 William Colby, said to have m. Annie — abt. 1791,⁴⁷ but this is not confirmed. William was prob. the guardian of his sister Betsey's children, appointed in 1819 (see below).

³⁸ Ipswich VRs [note 4], 1:111.

³⁹ Ipswich VRs [note 4], 1:110.

⁴⁰ Ipswich VRs [note 4], 2:125.

⁴¹ Frederick Lewis Weis, *The Colby Family in Early America* (Concord, Mass., 1970), 60. His parents were married in Newbury, Mass., 15 March 1732/3 (*Vital Records of Newbury, Massachusetts, to the End of the Year 1849*, 2 vols. [Salem, Mass., 1911], 2:116). Noah's older brother Edmund was b. Amesbury, 25 Jan. 1733/4 and bp. there 10 July 1737, while older sister Mary was bp. there, 26 June 1736 (Weis, *Colby Family*, 59, 60).

⁴² *Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolutionary War*, 17 vols. (Boston, 1896–1908), 3:749.

⁴³ Lincoln Co. Deeds, 5:179, 7:38, 16:128.

⁴⁴ Weis, *Colby Family* [note 41], 60, states Noah had 9 children but does not give their names or dates of birth. The names of Noah's children are found on the unsourced Colby Family website at <http://freepages.rootsweb.com/~colby/genealogy/colbyfam/b312.html>.

⁴⁵ Groves, *Edgecomb VRs* [note 9], 51. Intentions were filed in Edgecomb 6 July 1786 (*ibid.*, 24). One Ruth Colby m. (int.) Edgecomb, 24 Jan. 1784, Anthony Coombs (*ibid.*, 24), but if she was Noah's daughter, they did not marry as her last name was Colby when she m. Thodea Young.

⁴⁶ One James Colby m. Pownalborough, 5 Dec. 1787, Maria/Mary Wood of Boothbay (Marlene A. Groves, *Vital Records of Wiscasset, Maine* [Rockland, Maine, 2011], 66; marriage intentions dated 27 Oct. 1787 per Groves, *Edgecomb VRs* [note 9], 25). Many claim this man was a son of Noah and Elizabeth (Davis) Colby, but that is unproven. In 1832 James Colby stated he was aged 69, suggesting a birth date in 1763 (Revolutionary War Pension Application, #S30496). This date is corroborated by the 1840 pensioner's list stating his age was 76y. Reported ages were often imprecise, but if he was a son of James and Elizabeth, he would have been the eldest child. See Glenn D. Nasman, "Origins of the Colby Family of Litchfield, Maine," *The Maine Genealogist* 31 (2009):175–76.

⁴⁷ Colby Family website [note 44].

- 4 *Betsey Colby*, m. Edgecomb, 28 April 1793, Ebenezer Colby.⁴⁸ On 3 July 1819, William Colby of Edgecomb, yeoman and mariner, was made guardian of the children of Ebenezer Colby, late of Edgecomb, yeoman. The children were Edward, Eliza, and Abiah Colby, all under the age of 14, and James, Henry, and Patty Colby, minors above the age of 14.⁴⁹
- 4 *Mary/Polly Colby*, b. ca. 1773, d. Woolwich, 23 May 1841, aged 68,⁵⁰ or in May 1842;⁵¹ she was of Pownalborough when she m. (int.) Woolwich, 26 Nov. 1791, Edward Farnham of Woolwich,⁵² b. Woolwich, 29 March 1766, son of David and Martha (Card) Farnham,⁵³ d. Woolwich 28 Oct. 1849.⁵⁴
- 6 *Abigail Colby*, m. (cert.) Pownalborough, 1 May 1800, Jacob Rundlett.⁵⁵ He is prob. the Jacob Rundlet who drowned “on his passage to Barbadoes” ca. Aug. 1803.⁵⁶
- 7 *Samuel Colby*, m. (int.) Pownalborough, 18 Oct. 1801, Nancy Fish.⁵⁷ Samuel was living in Edgecomb in 1820 with a large family of children.⁵⁸
- 8 *John Colby*, said to be the John “Colbey” who m. Bowdoinham, 3 Nov. 1805, Mary Dunham, both of Bowdoinham,⁵⁹ although this identification has not been confirmed. John Colby d. Bowdoinham, 23 Oct. 1807.⁶⁰
- 9 *Hannah Colby*, m. Boston, Mass., 23 Oct. 1804, Daniel Edmonds.⁶¹ A Daniel Edmonds family was living on Jeremysquam Island in 1810.⁶²
- iii CYRUS DAVIS, b. Windham, Conn., Aug. 1751,⁶³ d. Montville, 18 Feb. 1837;⁶⁴ m. Ipswich, Mass., 1 June 1779 BRIDGET BURCH,⁶⁵ b. about 1761,⁶⁶ d. 17 Dec. 1847.⁶⁷ Cyrus served as a corporal for 4m in Capt. William Wade’s company, from

⁴⁸ Groves, *Edgecomb VRs* [note 9], 45.

⁴⁹ Lincoln Co. Probate Records, 21:464, 587, 589.

⁵⁰ Gravestone photo, Grover Cemetery, Woolwich, findagrave #13963366.

⁵¹ Marlene A. Groves, *Vital Records of Woolwich, Maine* (Waterville, Maine, 2015), 137, which states, “Mrs Mary Farnham wife of Mr. Edward Farnham departed this life in Woolwich May 1842.”

⁵² Groves, *Woolwich VRs* [note 51], 70; Groves, *Wiscasset VRs* [note 46], 88.

⁵³ Groves, *Woolwich VRs* [note 51], 82.

⁵⁴ Gravestone photo, Grover Cemetery, Woolwich, findagrave #13963358.

⁵⁵ Groves, *Wiscasset VRs* [note 46], 98.

⁵⁶ *Jenk’s Portland Gazette*, 29 Aug. 1803, p. 3.

⁵⁷ Groves, *Wiscasset VRs* [note 46], 101.

⁵⁸ Sam Colby household, 1820 U.S. Census, Edgecomb, Lincoln Co., Maine, p. 62.

⁵⁹ Colby Family website [note 44]; Marlene A. Groves, *Vital Records of Bowdoinham, Maine* (Waterville, Maine, 2019), 125.

⁶⁰ Groves, *Bowdoinham VRs* [note 59], 8.

⁶¹ *Boston Marriages, 1752–1809*, Boston Record Commissioners’ Report, 30 (Boston, 1902): 188; they m (int.) Edgecomb, 26 Nov 1803 (Groves, *Edgecomb VRs* [note 9], 32).

⁶² Daniel Edmonds household, 1810 U.S. Census, Jeremysquam Island, Lincoln Co., Maine, p. 249.

⁶³ Revolutionary War Pension Application #W22917 [fold3.com] gives his place and year of birth. It also states that he was aged 81 and living in Montville with wife, Bridget, in 1832.

⁶⁴ Revolutionary War Pension Application #W22917 [fold3.com].

⁶⁵ *Ipswich VRs* [note 4], 2:125.

⁶⁶ Revolutionary War Pension File #W22917 gives her age as 82y in 1843.

⁶⁷ “Ledgers of Payments, 1818–1872, to U.S. Pensioners, Under Acts of 1818 through 1858,” from records of the office of the Third Auditor of the Treasury, Vol. P, p. 8 [DGS #7196958, image 14].

1 Nov. 1775 to March 1776, at Aspinwall's Point in Brookline, Mass., and as a sergeant from 15 Aug. to 30 Nov. 1777 in Capt. Robert Dodge's company, Col. Johnson's regiment, and fought against Burgoyne's army at the Battle of Bemis Heights.⁶⁸ He was a resident of Ipswich when he served in the Revolution and after the war relocated to Vermont,⁶⁹ where he lived until he moved to Davistown in 1805 to join his father and brothers.⁷⁰ He was appointed first postmaster of Davistown in 1806, a position he held through 1827,⁷¹ and he was elected selectman in Montville in 1808, 1809, 1810 and 1811.⁷² He had a large family,⁷³ but the names of only two children have been confirmed. Cyrus was living in Rockingham, Vt., in 1790, in Springfield, Vt., in 1800, and in Montville in 1810 and in 1820.⁷⁴

Children of Cyrus and Bridget (Burch) Davis, likely others:

- 1 *Elias Davis*, b. prob. Rockingham, Vt., ca. 1785,⁷⁵ d. 30 April 1852, aged 66y, and bur. in Mount Repose Cemetery, Montville;⁷⁶ m. Montville, 2 April 1808, Rhoda Bagley,⁷⁷ b. N.H., ca. 1786,⁷⁸ d. Montville, 9 Dec. 1870, aged 83y.⁷⁹
- 2 *Clarissa Davis*, bp. Rockingham, Vt., 11 Jan 1793,⁸⁰ d. 26 Nov. 1873, aged 85y 6m 20d, and bur. in Smithton Cemetery, Freedom;⁸¹ m. Montville, 24 March 1811, Capt. John Twitchell,⁸² b. ca. 1782, and d. 28 Sept. 1844, aged 62y.⁸³

⁶⁸ Revolutionary War Pension Application #W22917 [fold3.com].

⁶⁹ Thomas Peck, *Vital Records of Rockingham, Vermont; from the Beginning of the Records to January 1, 1845*, (Boston, 1908), pp. 9-10 confirms that Cyrus was living in Rockingham by 1787.

⁷⁰ A deposition in Cyrus's pension file dated 1832 states he had lived in Montville for the last 27 years. Lincoln Co. Deeds, 65:175, confirms that Cyrus Davis of Davistown purchased 100 acres of land in Davistown on 31 May 1805.

⁷¹ *Lewiston Journal*, 22 Aug. 1906 [note 8], p. 11.; www.doubledaypostalhistory.com/postmaster/Maine/Lincoln.pdf.

⁷² Montville VRs, 1802–1929 [DGS #7595753, images 53, 66, 75, 85].

⁷³ In 1807, a census was taken in Montville that indicated that Cyrus Davis had 5 school-age children in his household (Montville VRs, 1802–1929 [DGS #7595753, image 47]). His household in Springfield, Vt. in 1800 included 7 children (see note 20).

⁷⁴ See notes 20 and 24.

⁷⁵ Elias was aged 65 according to the 1850 U.S. Census, Montville, Waldo Co., Maine, p. 257b. His birthplace is shown as N.H., but there is no record that his family ever lived in that state.

⁷⁶ Gravestone photo, findagrave #60763321.

⁷⁷ Montville VRs, 1802–1929 [DGS #7595753, image 32].

⁷⁸ Elias Davis household, 1850 U.S. Census, Montville, Waldo Co., Maine, p. 257b.

⁷⁹ Gravestone photo, Mount Repose Cemetery, Montville, findagrave #60763354.

⁸⁰ Peck, *Records of the First Church of Rockingham* [note 23], 37.

⁸¹ Maine Old Cemetery Associations [MOCA], "Cemetery Inscription Project," 4 series, type-script (Maine State Library, Augusta), Series 1, Waldo Co., p. 270. Although buried in Freedom with extended family, she appears to have lived her entire adult life in Montville. Clarissa's age at death calculates to a birth date of 6 April 1788. Census records, however, indicate she was born closer to the date of baptism in 1793. She was aged 52 in 1850, 69 in 1860, and 80 in 1870 (Cyrus R. Twitchell household, 1850 U.S. Census, Montville, Waldo Co., Maine, p. 258; C. P. Twitchell household, 1860 U.S. Census, Montville, Waldo Co., Maine, p. 30; George H. Knight household, 1870 U.S. Census, Montville, Waldo Co., Maine, p. 232).

⁸² Montville VRs, 1802–1929 [DGS #7595753, image 125].

⁸³ Gravestone, bur. in Smithton Cemetery, Freedom [note 81].

iv JOSHUA DAVIS, b. say 1756⁸⁴ and bp. Rowley, Mass., 3 July 1763,⁸⁵ d. Ohio in 1821;⁸⁶ m. (1) an unknown 1st wife who was the mother of Joshua's first 4 children; m. (2) Edgcomb, 1 Nov. 1785, RHODA DAVIS,⁸⁷ bp. Boothbay, 24 July 1768, daughter of William and Rhoda (Goodwin) (Benefield) Davis.⁸⁸ Joshua moved to Davistown from Edgcomb in 1781, a year after his father had moved to Davistown.⁸⁹ Joshua was a corporal in Capt. James Wallace's company Lt. Col. Comings's regiment raised at South Montville, and served at Belfast during the War of 1812 from 3 to 20 Sept. 1814.⁹⁰ Joshua was living in Great Pond Plantation in 1790, in Davistown in 1800, and in Windsor, Ohio, in 1820.⁹¹ He had at least 13 children.⁹²

Children of Joshua Davis and his unknown first wife:

- 1 *Charles Davis*, came with his parents to Davistown in 1781.⁹³
- 2 *Levi Davis*, came with his parents to Davistown in 1781, d. young.⁹⁴
- 3 *Elias Davis*, b. Davistown, Dec. 1781, the 1st child born in the plantation,⁹⁵ d. aft. 1870;⁹⁶ m. (1) a 1st wife who was the mother of his first 2 children;⁹⁷ m.

⁸⁴ With his first 3 children born by 1781, his 1st marriage probably occurred by about 1777.

⁸⁵ *Rowley VRs* [note 4], 1:59.

⁸⁶ Robertson, *History of Morgan County* [note 16], 392. Upon his widow's relinquishment, William Davis was made administrator of the estate "of his brother Joshua Davis late of Windsor" on 31 Oct. 1821 (Morgan Co., Common Pleas Minute Book, A:106 [DGS #7758758, image 62]).

⁸⁷ Groves, *Edgcomb VRs* [note 9], 51.

⁸⁸ "Rev. John Murray's Book of Records, Baptisms and Marriages, Boothbay and Surrounding Towns," typescript, 1947, Maine State Library; her parents m. Amesbury, Mass., 18 Dec. 1764 (*Vital Records of Amesbury Massachusetts, to the End of the Year 1849* [Topsfield, 1913], 285).

⁸⁹ *Lewiston Journal*, 22 Aug. 1906 [note 8], p. 11. "Joshua Davis of an adjacent place above Sheepscot Great Pond" sold land on the Sheepscot River in Great Pond on 29 Jan. 1784. The registration of the deed was witnessed by James Davis (probably his father) and Isaac Davis (probably his brother) in Pownalborough on 9 June 1784 (Lincoln Co. Deeds, 17:22).

⁹⁰ *Records of the Massachusetts Volunteer Militia . . . During the War of 1812-14* (Boston, Mass., 1913), 181.

⁹¹ Joshua Davis household, 1790 U.S. Census, Great Pond Plantation, Lincoln Co., Maine, p. 343; 1800 U.S. Census, Davistown, Lincoln Co., Maine, p. 360; 1820 U.S. Census, Windsor, Morgan Co., Ohio, p. 74.

⁹² 9 sons are named by Robertson (*History of Morgan County* [note 16], 398), the 8 who moved to Ohio in one sentence and Elias who stayed in Maine two sentences earlier. He also named two daughters. Two additional sons are mentioned in the *Lewiston Journal* article [note 8] who either died young or remained in Maine. All his children who moved to Ohio lived and died in Morgan County.

⁹³ *Lewiston Journal*, 22 Aug. 1906 [note 8], p. 11. He is not to be confused with Charles Davis 3rd, b. 1779, d. 1863; m. Sarah Kinney, b. 1779, d. 1858, and who had 3 children born in Davistown/Montville. That Charles Davis was the son of Charles and Elizabeth (Fowler) Davis of Ipswich, Topsfield, Davistown, and Montville and the grandson of Capt. Israel Davis. He and his father did not move to Davistown until about 1805 (Stickney, *The Fowler Family* [note 2], 128).

⁹⁴ *Lewiston Journal*, 22 Aug. 1906 [note 8], p. 11, which says that Joshua moved to the Davistown area with his wife and two sons, Charles and Levi. If Levi existed, he d. young as Joshua and 2nd wife Rhoda had a son Levi b. about 1805 who moved with the family to Morgan Co., Ohio.

⁹⁵ *Lewiston Journal*, 22 Aug. 1906 [note 8], p. 11.

⁹⁶ Elias Davis household, 1870 U.S. Census, Montville, Waldo Co., Maine, p. 223A.

⁹⁷ Elias had 2 children born in Montville before he m. Dorothy Hoyt: Helen, b. 7 Feb. 1808 and Mehitable, b. 18 Dec. 1808 (Montville VRs, 1802-1929," [DGS #7595753, image 107].

(2) (int.) Orono, 26 Nov. 1812, Dorothy/Dolly Hoyt both of Olamon,⁹⁸ b. ca. 1798, d. after 1880.⁹⁹ Elias did not move to Ohio with the rest of his family, but remained in Montville where he was a farmer.¹⁰⁰

- 4 *James Davis*, b. Davistown, say 1783,¹⁰¹ d. after 1820 when he was living in Windsor, Ohio.¹⁰² James Davis and Rhoda Bagley published marriage intentions in Montville, 28 Nov 1804,¹⁰³ but it is unknown if they married. If not, she may be the Rhoda Bagley who m. his cousin Elias Davis in 1808 (see above). James had a wife and 2 children under 10 in his household in 1820.¹⁰⁴

Children of Joshua and Rhoda (Davis) Davis, all b.in Davistown/Montville:

- 5 *William Davis*, b. ca. 1788, d. 1 Aug 1855, aged 67y, and bur. in Brick Church Cemetery, Stockport, Morgan Co., Ohio;¹⁰⁵ m. (1) Hannah Appleton,¹⁰⁶ b. 27 June 1791, d. 27 Jan. 1849, and bur. with William in Brick Church Cemetery;¹⁰⁷ m. (2) Morgan Co., Ohio, 22 May 1849, Delilah Berkley,¹⁰⁸ widow of Reuben Berkley of Windsor, Ohio.¹⁰⁹
- 6 *Abigail Davis*, b. say 1793, d. Morgan Co., Ohio;¹¹⁰ prob. the Abigail Davis who m. Old Town, 11 March 1813, John Perry/Peary.¹¹¹ They were both of Olamon, the same place where her brother Elias was living when he married in 1812. By 1817 John “Peary” was living adjacent to William Davis 2d, Levi Davis, Prince Godfrey, Samuel Henery, and Elder William Davis, all related families that had come from Maine to settle in Morgan Co.¹¹² In 1860 “John B. Peary,” aged 73, was living in the same house in Windsor, Ohio, as Abi-

⁹⁸ *Bangor Historical Magazine* 3(1888):177. Olamon is a village in Greenbush.

⁹⁹ Dorothy was aged 82y in Howard Douglas household, 1880 U.S. Census, Montville, Waldo Co., Maine, p. 378C.

¹⁰⁰ Elias Davis household, 1830–1870 U.S. Censuses, Montville, Waldo Co., Maine, pp. 460. 364, 273b, 30, 223A, respectively.

¹⁰¹ The *Lewiston Journal* [note 8] article names Joshua’s son Elias as the 1st child born in Davistown and his son William as the 2nd child born there, but it is likely James was born between them since there is a gap of six and a half years and James is placed between them in Robertson’s list of Joshua’s children (Robertson, *History of Morgan County* [note 16], 398).

¹⁰² James Davis household, 1820 U.S. Census, Windsor, Morgan Co., Ohio, p. 74.

¹⁰³ Montville, “Town and Vital Records, 1802-1929,” [DGS #7595753, image 22].

¹⁰⁴ James Davis household, 1820 U.S. Census, Windsor, Morgan Co., Ohio, p. 74.

¹⁰⁵ Gravestone photo, findagrave #9340484.

¹⁰⁶ She is named as mother on the marriage record of son William Davis who m. Sarah Jane Crawford in Nebraska in 1873 (“Nebraska Marriages, 1855–1995,” database, familysearch.org).

¹⁰⁷ Gravestone photo, findagrave #9340486.

¹⁰⁸ Morgan Co. Marriage Records, B:371 [DGS #4017216, image 550].

¹⁰⁹ Reuben Berkley d. 9 Jan. 1842 (gravestone photo, Brick Church Cemetery, Stockport, Ohio, findagrave #9340425) and his wife Delilah was granted administration of his estate 12 Aug. 1842 (Morgan Co., Ohio, Administrators Bonds, Vol. A, 1821–67, p. 104 [DGS #5871645, image 70]). The William Davis household, 1850 U.S. Census, Windsor, Morgan Co., Ohio, p. 187b, was headed by William Davis, aged 65y, with a wife Delilah Davis, aged 47y, and a stepson Joseph Berkley, aged 20y.

¹¹⁰ Robertson, *History of Morgan County* [note 16], 398, states all the children of Joshua Davis who removed to Ohio died in Morgan Co. The year of her death has not been found.

¹¹¹ Ruth Gray, *Vital Records of Old Town, Maine, Prior to 1892* (Camden, Maine, 1996), 4.

¹¹² Robertson, *History of Morgan County* [note 16], 392.

gail's brother Israel Davis.¹¹³ John was b. ca. 1787 and d. before 17 June 1869, when his estate was probated.¹¹⁴ In 1850 he had an apparent wife named Eliza and in 1860 an apparent wife named Martha.¹¹⁵

- 7 *Israel Davis*, b. 16 April 1797,¹¹⁶ d. Morgan Co., Ohio, 7 Oct. 1872 in his 76th year;¹¹⁷ m. Windsor, Morgan Co., Ohio., 4 July 1822, Abigail (Beldon) Godfrey,¹¹⁸ b. Great Pond Plantation, 27 May 1786,¹¹⁹ daughter of Stephen and Abigail (Godfrey) Belden,¹²⁰ and the widow of Prince Godfrey,¹²¹ d. Windsor, Morgan Co., Ohio, 23 Jan 1879, aged 93y 8m 20d.¹²²
- 8 *Cyrus Davis*, b say 1799, d. Morgan Co., Ohio, after 1850 when he was living in Windsor, aged 50, with his wife Sarah, aged 60, and no children;¹²³ m. Morgan Co., Ohio, 9 May 1839, Sally Rivers.¹²⁴
- 9 *Joshua Davis*, b. say 1801,¹²⁵ d. Morgan Co., Ohio, bef. 13 Dec. 1875 when his estate was in probate;¹²⁶ m. (1) Morgan Co., 10 May 1821, Achsa/Axey Hersey,¹²⁷ b. ca. 1800,¹²⁸ d. 31 May 1860.¹²⁹ Joshua m. (2) Morgan Co., 15 July 1860, Jane (Clark) Calendine, widow of Francis Calendine.¹³⁰ She was living in Windsor, Ohio in 1880.¹³¹

¹¹³ John B. Peary household, 1860 U.S. Census, Windsor, Morgan Co., Ohio, p. 268.

¹¹⁴ Morgan Co. Administrators Bonds, 1863–1869, n.p. [DGS #5871644, image 206].

¹¹⁵ John Peary household, 1850 U.S. Census, Windsor, Morgan Co., Ohio, p. 185b; John B. Peary household, 1860 U.S. Census, Windsor, Morgan Co., Ohio, p. 268.

¹¹⁶ Israel Davis family Bible, copy in possession of the author.

¹¹⁷ Gravestone photo, Brick Church Cemetery, Stockport, Ohio, findagrave #9340472.

¹¹⁸ Morgan Co. Marriages, A:36 [DGS #4017216, image 78]. They were married by his uncle William Davis, J.P.

¹¹⁹ Israel Davis family Bible [note 116].

¹²⁰ Obituary notice, *The McConnelville Herald*, 7 Feb. 1879; Allen Goodwin, *A History of the Early Settlement of Palermo Maine* (Belfast, Maine, 1896), 11. Abigail's father, Stephen Belden, was living in Great Pond Plantation in 1790 (*Heads of Families, 1790: Maine* [note 10], 38, col. b), where he was the first settler about 1778 (Goodwin, op. cit.), although his gravestone indicates he settled there in 1769 (gravestone photo, Dennis Hill Cemetery, Palermo, findagrave #119634700).

¹²¹ Robertson, *History of Morgan County* [note 16], p. 394; Abigail Godfrey, widow, was made administratrix of Prince Godfrey's estate 31 Oct. 1821 (Morgan Co., Common Pleas Minute Book, A:106 [DGS #7758758, image 62]). Prince Godfrey and Abigail Davis m. (int.) Harlem [China], Maine, 10 April 1809 (Harlem VRs, 1796–1822 [DGS #7595330, image 144]).

¹²² Obituary notice [note 120].

¹²³ Cyrus Davis household, 1850 U.S. Census, Windsor, Morgan Co., Ohio, p. 187.

¹²⁴ Morgan Co. Marriage Records, A:418 [DGS #4017216, image 288].

¹²⁵ Aged 49 in Joshua Davis household, 1850 U.S. Census, Windsor, Morgan Co., Ohio, p. 187b).

¹²⁶ Morgan Co. Administrators Bonds, 1870–1882, n.p. [DGS #5871644, image 727].

¹²⁷ Morgan Co. Marriages, A:22 [DGS #4017216, image 71]. They were married by his uncle William Davis, J.P.

¹²⁸ Aged 50 in Joshua Davis household, 1850 U.S. Census, Windsor, Morgan Co., Ohio, p. 187.

¹²⁹ The death date claimed in findagrave #9340468, although no photo of her stone is included with the entry. She certainly died prior to 15 July 1860 when her husband remarried.

¹³⁰ Morgan Co. Marriages, C:308 [DGS #4017216, image 996]. Jane m. (1) Francis Calendine, their marriage license dated Morgan Co., 20 May 1847 (Morgan Co., Marriage License Index, 1840–1848, n.p. [DGS #4017249, image 219]).

¹³¹ Jane Davis household, 1880 U.S. Census, Windsor, Morgan Co., Ohio, p. 192c.

- 10 *Isaac Davis*, b ca. 1802,¹³² living in Olive, Noble Co., Ohio, in 1860, carpenter, and d. before 1870 when his wife was a widow;¹³³ m. Morgan Co., Ohio, 16 June 1826, Louisa Hutchins,¹³⁴ b. ca. 1804, d. 20 Aug. 1875, aged 71, and bur. in Linn Grove Cemetery, Prole, Warren Co., Iowa.¹³⁵
- 11 *Levi Davis*, b. ca. 1805,¹³⁶ d. after 1880 census and before 18 Oct. 1881 when his will was in probate;¹³⁷ m. Washington Co. Ohio, 3 Aug 1826 Rhoda Ann Chiddester of Roxbury, Ohio,¹³⁸ b. Pa. ca. 1805,¹³⁹ d. after 1880.¹⁴⁰
- 12 *Rhoda Davis*, b. abt. 1809, d. Morgan Co., Ohio, 20 June 1858 in her 50th year,¹⁴¹ m. Morgan Co., 4 Jan. 1827, Bartlett Hutchins,¹⁴² b. Maine, ca. 1802, d. aft. 1880 when he was living in Windsor, Ohio, aged 78.¹⁴³ Bartlett m. (2) Morgan Co., 5 May 1864, Mary Aumiller,¹⁴⁴ and m. (3) Morgan Co., aft. 7 Aug. 1867, Mrs. Eliza Jane (Cassidy) Miller.¹⁴⁵
- 13 *Asa Davis*, b. 25 Feb 1813, d. 5 Oct 1885,¹⁴⁶ m. (1) m. Morgan Co., Ohio, 26 Sept. 1839 Elizabeth Waning.¹⁴⁷ Asa m. (2) Morgan Co., 1 July 1847, Sarah Gilbreath,¹⁴⁸ b. ca. 1824, d. after 1880.¹⁴⁹

Children of James and his 2nd wife, Hannah (Creasey) Davis:

- v ISAAC DAVIS, bp. Rowley, Mass., 21 April 1765.¹⁵⁰ He was probably the Isaac Davis who witnessed a deed for Joshua Davis at Pownalborough on 9 June 1784.¹⁵¹

¹³² Aged 48y in Isaac Davis household, 1850 U.S. Census, Olive, Morgan Co., Ohio, p. 276b; aged 58y in Isaac Davis household, 1860 U.S. Census, Olive, Noble Co., Ohio, p. 279.

¹³³ Isaac Davis household, 1860 U.S. Census, Olive, Noble Co., Ohio, p. 279; Louisa Davis household, 1870 U.S. Census, Waterford, Washington Co., Ohio, p. 473.

¹³⁴ Morgan Co. Marriages, A:101 [DGS #4017216, image 111]. They were married by his uncle William Davis, J.P.

¹³⁵ Gravestone photo, findagrave #82053980.

¹³⁶ He was aged 44 in 1850, 55 in 1860, 65 in 1870, and 75 in 1880 (Levi Davis household, 1850–80 U.S. Censuses, Windsor, Morgan Co., Ohio, pp. 177a, 254, 223A, 196C, respectively).

¹³⁷ Levi Davis household, 1880 U.S. Census [note 136]; Morgan Co., Ohio, Wills, 3:25–26 [DGS #5871608, images 380–81]. The will was dated 8 March 1879.

¹³⁸ Washington Co., Ohio, Marriages, 1:172 [DGS #4017369, image 96]. They were married by his uncle William Davis, J.P.

¹³⁹ She was aged 44 in 1850, 55 in 1860, 65 in 1870, and 75 in 1880 Levi Davis household, 1850–70 U.S. Censuses [note 136].

¹⁴⁰ 1880 census [note 136].

¹⁴¹ Gravestone photo, Brick Church Cemetery, Stockport, Ohio, findagrave #9340820.

¹⁴² Morgan Co., Ohio, Marriages, A:111 [DGS #4017216, image 116]. They were married by her uncle William Davis, J.P..

¹⁴³ Bartlett Hutchins household, 1880 U.S. Census, Windsor, Morgan Co., Ohio, p. 190d.

¹⁴⁴ Morgan Co., Ohio, Marriages, D:159 [DGS #4017215, image 199].

¹⁴⁵ Morgan Co., Ohio, Marriages, E:34 [DGS #4017215, image 400]. Eliza had m (1) 15 March 1838, John Miller (Morgan Co., Ohio, Marriages, A:371 [DGS #4017216, image 264]).

¹⁴⁶ Gravestone photo, Tabor Cemetery, Stockport, Ohio, findagrave #9422404.

¹⁴⁷ Morgan Co., Ohio, Marriages, A:432 [DGS #4017216, image 295].

¹⁴⁸ Morgan Co., Ohio, Marriages, B:277 [DGS #4017216, image 501].

¹⁴⁹ Aged 27 in Asa Davis household, 1880 U.S. Census, Wesley, Washington Co., Ohio, p. 463.

¹⁵⁰ *Rowley VRs* [note 4], 1:59.

¹⁵¹ Lincoln Co. Deeds, 17:22.

Some claim that he was the Isaac Davis living in the adjacent town of Balltown in 1800 and in Jefferson in 1810, 1820, 1830 and 1840.¹⁵²

- vi Elder WILLIAM DAVIS, b. 8 May 1768,¹⁵³ living in Ohio in 1850;¹⁵⁴ m. (1) Newcastle, 31 March 1792, NANCY BERRY,¹⁵⁵ b. ca. 1773, d. Davistown, 13 Jan. 1799, “in the 26th year of her age.”¹⁵⁶ William m. (2) Montville, 6 June 1799, NANCY CARGILL, b. 17 March 1782.¹⁵⁷ About 1817, the entire family, except for oldest son John, moved to Ohio.¹⁵⁸ On 4 April 1818, Elder William Davis was invited to take the pastoral care of Windsor First Baptist Church. He faithfully served the church as pastor for the next 12 years.¹⁵⁹ He was in Windsor in 1820 and 1830, and was the 83-year-old farmer residing in the household of his daughter and son-in-law, Hannah and Thomas McClure, in 1850.¹⁶⁰

Children of William and his 1st wife, Nancy (Berry), all b. Davistown:¹⁶¹

- 1 *John Davis*, b. 22 March 1793, d. Montville 7 June 1857, aged 64y 3m, and bur. in Mount Repose Cemetery, Montville;¹⁶² m. Eastport, 20 Sept. 1813, Sarah Quigley,¹⁶³ b. Eastport, [calc.] 8 May 1796, daughter of David Quigley, d. Salem, Mass. 14 June 1882, aged 86y 1m 6d.¹⁶⁴
- 2 *Joshua Davis*, b. 12 April 1795, living in 1860 in Rockland, Venango Co., Pa., aged 65;¹⁶⁵ m. Martha —, b. in Pa. ca. 1791,¹⁶⁶ d. 12 Dec 1850, aged 59.¹⁶⁷
- 3 *Hannah Davis*, b. 23 May 1797, d. Davistown, 26 Jan. 1799.¹⁶⁸

¹⁵² Isaac Davis household, 1800 U.S. Census, Balltown, Lincoln Co., Maine, p. 344, and 1810–1840 U.S. Censuses, Jefferson, Lincoln Co., Maine, pp. 71, 95, 393, respectively. He was aged 60–69 in 1830 and 70–79 in 1840, so close in age to the Isaac baptized in Rowley. Isaac Davis of Balltown/Jefferson had a wife, Elizabeth, and at least 9 children, b. 1791–1817 (“Early Vital Records of Jefferson, Maine,” *The New England Historical and Genealogical Register*, 73[1919]:97; Marlene A. Groves, *Vital Records of Jefferson, Maine* [Waterville, Maine, 2021], 64).

¹⁵³ William Davis family record, Montville VRs, 1802–1929 [DGS #7595753, image 14], called William Davis the 2nd.

¹⁵⁴ William was aged 83 in Thomas McClure household, 1850 U.S. Census, Waterford, Washington Co., Ohio, p. 439A.

¹⁵⁵ Marlene A. Groves, *Vital Records of Newcastle, Maine* (Waterville, Maine, 2015). 18; the marriage date is given as April 1790 in William Davis family record, Montville VRs, 1802–1929 [DGS #7595753, image 14], although this same record gives the 1st child’s birth in 1793.

¹⁵⁶ William Davis family record, Montville VRs, 1802–1929 [DGS #7595753, image 14].

¹⁵⁷ William Davis family record, Montville VRs, 1802–1929 [DGS #7595753, image 14].

¹⁵⁸ *Lewiston Journal*, 22 Aug. 1906 [note 8], p. 11. On 15 Sept. 1817, probably in anticipation of leaving Maine, William Davis sold 2 pieces of land in Montville (Lincoln Co. Deeds, 93:254).

¹⁵⁹ “The History of the Windsor Baptist Church,” *The McConnellsville Herald*, 18 July 1890.

¹⁶⁰ William Davis household, 1820 and 1830 U.S. Censuses, Windsor, Morgan Co., Ohio, p. 74, 153; Thomas McClure household, 1850 U.S. Census [note 154].

¹⁶¹ 8 children listed in William’s family record (Montville VRs, 1802–1929 [DGS #7595753, images 14–15]); Robertson, *History of Morgan County* [note 16], 398, adds Mary, William, and Sally.

¹⁶² MOCA, “Cemetery Inscription Project” [note 81], Series 2, Waldo Co., p. 163.

¹⁶³ War of 1812 Pension Application File, WO1544 [fold3.com].

¹⁶⁴ Massachusetts Vital Records, 1841–1910, 337:291 [image, americanancestors.org].

¹⁶⁵ Joshua Davis household, 1860 U.S. Census, Rockland, Venango Co., Pa., p. 87.

¹⁶⁶ Joshua Davis household, 1850 U.S. Census, Rockland, Venango Co., Pa., p. 71b.

¹⁶⁷ Gravestone photo, Bickle Cemetery, Rockland, Venango Co., Pa. findagrave #73309063.

¹⁶⁸ Montville VRs, 1802–1929 [DGS #7595753, image 14].

Children of William and his 2nd wife, Nancy (Cargill), #s 4–8 recorded Montville, last 3 poss. b. Ohio:¹⁶⁹

- 4 *Samuel Mooers Davis*, b. 16 Jan. 1800.¹⁷⁰ He is not included in the list of William Davis's children in the *History of Morgan County, Ohio*.¹⁷¹
- 5 *Nancy Davis*, b. 23 Dec. 1801, d. by 1829 when her husband remarried; m. Morgan Co., Ohio, 15 July 1820, Franklin Hersey,¹⁷² b. Brimfield, Mass., 23 Aug 1797, son of Martin and Mercy (Brown) Hersey.¹⁷³ Franklin m. (2) Windsor, Morgan Co., Ohio, 1 Jan. 1829, Mary J. Belding.¹⁷⁴ Franklin Hersey was living in Windsor, Ohio, in 1830.¹⁷⁵
- 6 *Peggy Cargill Davis*, b. 10 Jan. 1804. No further record found.
- 7 *Abigail Davis*, b. 12 March 1806, living in Perrysville, Ind., in 1870;¹⁷⁶ m. Morgan Co., Ohio, 1 Jan. 1824, Andrew Dennis,¹⁷⁷ b. N.J. or Va., ca. 1799–1801, living in Perrysville, Ind., in 1870.¹⁷⁸ He was described as a butcher in 1850, a river pilot in 1860, and a retired boatman in 1870.
- 8 *James Cyrus Davis*, b. 19 May 1808; m. Morgan Co., Ohio, 14 July 1831, Hannah H. Needer, both of Windsor, Ohio.¹⁷⁹
- 9 *Hannah Davis*, b. [calc.] April 1813, d. 1 Oct. 1892, aged 79y 6m, and bur. in Coal Creek Cemetery, Mahaska Co., Iowa;¹⁸⁰ m. McConnelsville, Ohio, 8 Nov. 1831, Thomas McClure,¹⁸¹ b. [calc.] 23 April 1805, d. 13 Dec 1879, aged 74y 7m 20d, and bur. with Hannah in Coal Creek Cemetery.¹⁸²
- 10 *Mary Davis*, no further record found.
- 11 *William Davis*, possibly the William Davis Jr., b. 1819, d. 1876, and bur. in Fairview Cemetery, Morgan Co., Ohio;¹⁸³ m. Morgan Co., Ohio, 19 Sept. 1841, Nancy Rollison,¹⁸⁴ b. 1823, d. 1901, and bur. in Fairview Cemetery.¹⁸⁵ Wil-

¹⁶⁹ Births of children 4–8 recorded Montville, "Town and Vital Records, 1802-1929," [DGS #7595753, image 14].

¹⁷⁰ He was apparently named after Samuel Mooers (1748–1854), a resident of Davistown and Montville who held various town offices in the first half of the 19th century.

¹⁷¹ Robertson, *History of Morgan County* [note 16], 398.

¹⁷² Morgan Co., Ohio, Marriages, A:12 [DGS #4017216, image 66], married by her uncle Elder William Davis.

¹⁷³ *Vital Records of Brimfield, Massachusetts to the End of the Year 1850* (Boston, 1931), 67; his parents m. 24 Sept. 1789 (*Vital Records of Leicester, Massachusetts, to the End of the Year 1849* [Worcester, Mass., 1903], 165).

¹⁷⁴ Morgan Co., Ohio, Marriages, A:143 [DGS #4017216, image 132], married by Elder William Davis.

¹⁷⁵ Franklin Hersey household, 1830 U.S. Census, Windsor, Morgan Co., Ohio, p. 70.

¹⁷⁶ Andrew Dennis household, 1870 U.S. Census, Perrysville, Vermillion Co., Ind., p. 115B.

¹⁷⁷ Morgan Co., Ohio, Marriages, A:54 [DGS #4017216, image 87].

¹⁷⁸ Andrew Dennis household, 1850–70 U.S. Censuses, Perrysville, Vermillion co., Ind., pp. 53A, p. 35, p. 115B, respectively.

¹⁷⁹ Morgan Co., Ohio, Marriages, A:190 [DGS #4017216, image 163].

¹⁸⁰ Gravestone photo, findagrave #32346346.

¹⁸¹ Morgan Co., Ohio, Marriages, A:195 [DGS #4017216, image 165].

¹⁸² Gravestone photo, findagrave #32346353.

¹⁸³ Gravestone photo, findagrave #9342986.

¹⁸⁴ Morgan Co., Ohio, Marriages, B:22 [DGS #4017216, image 373].

¹⁸⁵ Gravestone photo, findagrave #9342987.

liam Davis, aged 31, b. Ohio, farmer, and Nancy, aged 27, were living in Windsor, Ohio, in 1850 with 3 young children.¹⁸⁶

- 12 *Sarah/Sally Davis*, possibly the Sarah Davis, b. ca. 1824; m. Morgan Co., Ohio, 25 Sept. 1842, John Rollinson.¹⁸⁷ In 1850 John Rollinson, aged 29, b. Ohio, farmer, and Sarah, aged 26, b. Ohio, were living in Windsor, Ohio, with 3 young children.¹⁸⁸

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¹⁸⁶ William Davis household, 1850 U.S. Census, Windsor, Morgan Co., Ohio, p. 185b.

¹⁸⁷ Morgan Co., Ohio, Marriages, B:60 [DGS #4017216, image 393].

¹⁸⁸ James Rollinson household, 1850 U.S. Census, Windsor, Morgan Co., Ohio, p. 181b.

BOOK REVIEW

Genealogist's Handbook for New England Research, 6th Edition, edited by Rhonda R. McClure (Boston, Mass.: New England Historic Genealogical Society, 2021), soft cover, 7" x 10", xii + 454 pp., illustrated, index of subjects, \$38.95, member price \$35.06. Order from The Bookstore at NEHGS, 99–101 Newbury Street, Boston, MA 02116-3007 or from shop. AmericanAncestors.org.

The *Genealogist's Handbook for New England Research* has naturally undergone substantial revisions since its modest beginnings over forty years ago as a publication from the Essex Society of Genealogists. Its fifth edition, published in 2012, marked a new look and format with color-coded tags organized by a New England overview, an introductory essay on each state with a summary of the various types of vital, church, probate, land, court, and military records. A brief overview of state repositories were then followed with outline county maps. A table of towns within each state lists founding dates, parent and daughter towns, and codes for the accessibility of vital records, particularly if published. The new sixth edition, closely mirroring the fifth edition's pagination and coverage for each state, has corrected some factual errors, updated available contact information, and has added additional color-coded tags making for an easy navigation.

This work, like its predecessors, is a handy, well-organized, and succinct reference tool. It facilitates New England research but does not claim to be a how-to manual. A notable omission, once again, is the selective listing of genealogical journals that does not include *The Maine Genealogist* (vols. 16–38 available in digital form at the AmericanAncestors.org website) and two other regional journals that feature case studies, abstracts of previously unpublished records, and compiled genealogies. There is also little evidence in this edition of the vitality of the Maine Genealogical Society's continued publication of town records or the comprehensiveness of *Maine Families in 1790*. As with all handbooks that by their nature need continuous updating and revision, it is suggested that the next edition have fuller introductions that reflect the ongoing dynamism existing in state genealogical societies, their genealogical journals, as well as the expanded scope of the New England Historical Genealogical Society.

Reviewed by Michael F. Dwyer, FASG

THE MAINE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY (MGS): Founded in 1976, the Maine Genealogical Society is a nonprofit, charitable, and educational organization. Its purposes are to collect, exchange, preserve, and publish genealogical records, related documents, and information; and to promote and encourage interest and scholarship in genealogy and family history of the State of Maine.

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