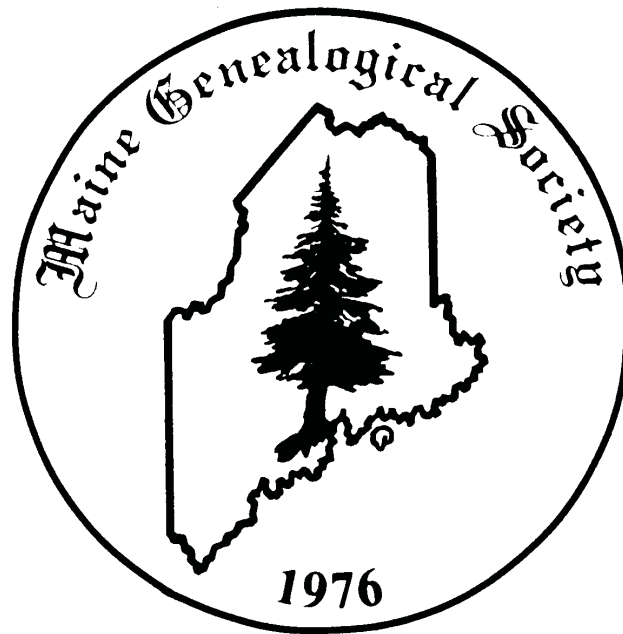


# The Maine Genealogist



May 2023  
Volume 45, Number 2

# The Maine Genealogical Society

P.O. Box 2602, Waterville ME 04903

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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.

# The Maine Genealogist

Journal of the Maine Genealogical Society

May 2023

Vol. 45, No. 2

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**New from The Maine Genealogical Society  
Announcing MGS Special Publication No. 94**

**THE BRAGDON GENEALOGY**

**DESCENDANTS OF ARTHUR BRAGDON  
OF YORK, MAINE,  
THROUGH SEVEN GENERATIONS**

*by Priscilla Eaton, FASG*

Arthur<sup>1</sup> Bragdon was one of the earliest settlers of York, Maine, and was the progenitor of the Bragdon family in America. He was born in England around 1597 and arrived in Maine before January 1636. When he settled at Bass Cove Creek, he established a family which continued to call York their home for over three hundred years. York historian George Ernst noted that, of all the early settlers, “the Bragdon family has the longest record of continuous settlement.”

From his three sons and sixteen grandchildren, Arthur Bragdon’s descendants spread first to the eastward into Cumberland and Hancock counties, and eventually throughout the whole state of Maine. In the nineteenth century, many Bragdons moved into the western states and one group even went south to South Carolina. While local historians and genealogists have attempted over the years to document the family, this is the first comprehensive genealogy, tracing male-line descendants through the seventh generation and female lines for one generation. It includes hundreds of family sketches with detailed biographical information, all meticulously documented.

In 2020, the Maine Genealogical Society published Priscilla Eaton’s *The Littlefield Genealogy: Descendants of Edmund Littlefield of Wells, Maine, Through Six Generations*. This exemplary work won the distinguished Donald Lines Jacobus award from the American Society of Genealogists. Priscilla Eaton has published over forty articles in *The Maine Genealogist*, *The New England Historical and Genealogical Register*, *The American Genealogist*, *The New Hampshire Genealogical Record*, and *The Genealogist*. Many of these are multi-part investigations of complicated Maine and New Hampshire families. In 2022, she was elected a Fellow of the American Society of Genealogists, a distinction that recognizes both the quality and quantity of her published genealogical scholarship.

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# IDENTIFYING THE PARENTAGE OF TWO EARLY BICKFORD SETTLERS IN THE DISTRICT OF MAINE

*By Glenn D. Nasman*

At the close of the French and Indian War, the British victory over French-held territories in Maine set the stage for a large migration of families into the District of Maine. Among those who played a major role in the settlement of these territories was Silvester Gardiner of Boston, a physician who purchased for development over seven thousand acres of land in what was then wilderness along the Kennebec River, land which would be set off in 1760 as the Plantation of Gardinerstown. A proprietor of the old Plymouth Patent, Gardiner was actively involved in efforts to settle the plantation between 1753 and the beginning of the American Revolution.

Gardiner selected the location of his plantation to be at the head of navigation of the Kennebec River. Each new family was offered eight acres of land for five shillings, with the only conditions being that each settler had to clear three acres of land and build a house at least 20 x 20 feet in area within two years and dwell there for a period of seven additional years. The settlers also had to work three days a year on improving roads within the plantation and the lot could not be sold to any other inhabitant until there were sixty families in the plantation. The area would eventually become the towns of Pittston on the east side of the Kennebec and Gardiner on the west side.<sup>1</sup>

Among those who purchased property in the plantation were two men with the surname of Bickford: Henry Bickford bought two eight-acre lots, Lot 14 on 22 December 1764 and Lot 15 on 18 September 1766.<sup>2</sup> Henry would eventually forfeit the two lots back to Silvester Gardiner for non-performance of the conditions because he had “gone off and left.”<sup>3</sup> A second man, Moses Bickford, also bought an eight-acre lot in Gardinerstown at about the same time as Henry, on 1 January 1765, based on the same terms, and located very close (Lot 17) to the lots purchased by Henry.<sup>4</sup> The purpose of this study is to determine if these two Bickford men were closely related.

According to Henry Sewell Webster’s *Land Titles in Old Pittston*,<sup>5</sup> a plan was laid out by John McKechnie dated 14 November 1763, the plan including some eight-acre lots and some ten-acre lots, not less than thirty-nine in number. A look at the names of the purchasers of these lots indicates that at least a third of the lots were purchased by Henry and Moses Bickford and their close relations, as shown on the table below:

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<sup>1</sup> The history of the development of Gardinerstown Plantation can be found in John Wesley Hanson, *History of Gardiner, Pittston, and West Gardiner* (Gardiner, 1852), 29–54.

<sup>2</sup> Lincoln Co., Maine, Deeds, 5:101 [Lot 15], 107 [Lot 14].

<sup>3</sup> Henry Sewell Webster, *Land Titles in Old Pittston* (Gardiner, 1912), 41.

<sup>4</sup> Lincoln Co. Deeds, 5:3.

<sup>5</sup> Webster, *Land Titles in Old Pittston* [note 3], 36–41.

Lot No.	Date Recorded	Purchaser	Remarks	Relationships
2	Not recorded	Daniel Tibbetts	Lot forfeited	Brother-in-law of Henry Bickford
6	Not recorded	Solomon Tibbetts	Lot reconveyed	Brother-in-law of Henry Bickford
7	18 Sept. 1766	Paul Kenney	Lot forfeited	Prob. related to the wife of Moses Bickford
8	18 Sept. 1766	Stephen Kenney	Lot forfeited	Prob. related to the wife of Moses Bickford
12	18 Sept. 1766	Ebenezer Tibbetts	Lot forfeited	Brother-in-law of Henry Bickford
13	18 Sept. 1766	Ebenezer Tibbetts	Lot forfeited	Brother-in-law of Henry Bickford
14	22 Dec. 1764	Henry Bickford	Lot forfeited	Henry Bickford m. Abigail Tibbetts
15	18 Sept. 1766	Henry Bickford	Lot forfeited	Henry Bickford m. Abigail Tibbetts
17	1 Jan. 1765	Moses Bickford	Lot reconveyed	Moses Bickford m. Susanna Kenney
32	Not recorded	Daniel Tibbetts	Lot forfeited	Brother-in-law of Henry Bickford
36	18 Sept. 1766	Solomon Tibbetts	Lot reconveyed	Brother-in-law of Henry Bickford
37	18 Sept. 1766	Paul Kenney	Lot forfeited	Prob. related to the wife of Moses Bickford
38	18 Sept. 1766	Stephen Kenney	Lot forfeited	Prob. related to the wife of Moses Bickford

Three of the neighbors who bought lots from Silvester Gardiner were Solomon Tibbetts (born circa 1723), Ebenezer Tibbetts (born circa 1727), and Daniel Tibbetts (b1733), all sons of Capt. Benjamin and Abigail (Whitehouse) Tibbetts of Rochester, New Hampshire, and Lebanon, Maine, and brothers of Abigail Tibbetts who was married to Henry Bickford.<sup>6</sup> Two other neighbors who bought lots from Silvester Gardiner were Paul and Stephen Kenney. Although their relationship to Susanna (Kenney) Bickford, wife of Moses Bickford, has not been confirmed, it is very likely they are related in some way. Two of the neighbors, Moses Bickford and Solomon Tibbetts, reconveyed their land back to Silvester Gardiner on 19 September 1766, while the others just abandoned their property. On 22 November 1773, Silvester Gardiner instructed his attorney, William Gardiner, to take possession of and seize the land mortgaged to him by Paul and Stephen Kenney, Daniel and Ebenezer Tibbetts,

<sup>6</sup> May (Tibbetts) Jarvis, "Henry Tibbetts of Dover, N.H., and Some of His Descendants," *The New England Historical and Genealogical Register* [NEHGR], 98(1944):224; the 1741 baptisms of Solomon, Ebenezer, Daniel, and Abigail, children of Benjamin and Abigail Tibbetts, were recorded in the "Rochester Church Book of Records" from 1737 to 1824 per Franklin McDuffee, *History of Rochester, New Hampshire, from 1722 to 1890* (Manchester, N.H., 1892), 588.

and Henry Bickford, because they had “gone off and left their respective places,” and William certified on 29 November 1773 that he had done as directed.<sup>7</sup>

#### HENRY BICKFORD OF DRESDEN

After Henry Bickford abandoned his land in Gardinerstown Plantation, he moved to Pownalborough (the part later set off as Dresden),<sup>8</sup> where in March 1767 the constable warned him out of town. His family then consisted of his wife Abigail, his mother Elizabeth, and his three children, Paul, Aaron, and “Alis” [Alice], all under age 12.<sup>9</sup> Based on this information, it is possible to determine who this Henry Bickford was, where he came from, and what became of him and his family. Henry’s name was included on a Pownalborough West Parish train band list dated 17 September 1777,<sup>10</sup> and he and Abigail lived in Pownalborough/Dresden for the rest of their lives.<sup>11</sup> They were buried in Pine Grove Cemetery in Dresden.<sup>12</sup> Son Paul was married in Pownalborough on 31 May 1781,<sup>13</sup> and the marriage intentions of son Aaron and daughter Alice were recorded in Dresden on 12 December 1794 and 15 October 1795, respectively.<sup>14</sup> The births of the children of son Paul (and his wife Elizabeth) and son Aaron (and his wife Catherine) were recorded in Dresden.<sup>15</sup>

There is little doubt that the Henry Bickford who married in Rochester, New Hampshire, on 9 January 1755, Abigail Tibbetts of Towow (now Lebanon, Maine),<sup>16</sup> is the same Henry Bickford who served in the French and Indian War from Rochester as one of Capt. John Huckins’s scouts for fourteen days starting 18 September 1745,<sup>17</sup> and who purchased land in Gardinerstown and later moved to Pownalborough. The purpose of this study is to investigate his parentage. A Bickford genealogy claims that he was the son of Henry and Elizabeth Tibbetts of Madbury, New Hampshire, but it provides no documentation or reasoning to justify that conclusion.<sup>18</sup>

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<sup>7</sup> Webster, *Land Titles in Old Pittston* [note 4], 40–41.

<sup>8</sup> Hanson, *History of Gardiner, Pittston, and West Gardiner* [note 1], 83.

<sup>9</sup> Marlene A. Groves, *Vital Records of Wiscasset, Maine* (Rockland, Maine, 2011), 16.

<sup>10</sup> “A list of Capt. Johnston Company Training Band & Alarm Lists, Pownalborough West Parish Sep<sup>r</sup> 17<sup>th</sup> 1777,” Mass. Archives Collection, 1603–1799, 293:174–75 [image, familysearch.org].

<sup>11</sup> Henry Bickford household, 1790 U.S. Census, Pownalborough, Lincoln Co., Maine, p. 255; 1800 and 1810 U.S. Censuses, Dresden, Lincoln Co., Maine, pp. 404, 179.

<sup>12</sup> Gravestone photos, findagrave.com #s 27364625 and 27364633.

<sup>13</sup> Groves, *Wiscasset VRs* [note 9], 60.

<sup>14</sup> Marlene A. Groves, *Vital Records of Dresden, Maine* (Rockland, Maine, 2012), 7.

<sup>15</sup> Groves, *Dresden VRs* [note 14], 14–15, 42, respectively; both families named a son Henry, while Paul also named a daughter Abigail.

<sup>16</sup> McDuffee, *History of Rochester, N.H.* [note 6], 595.

<sup>17</sup> Isaac W. Hammond, ed., *Rolls and Documents Relating to Soldiers in the Revolutionary War with an Appendix, Embracing Some French and Indian War Rolls*, vol. 3: War Rolls, vol. 16: N.H. State Papers Ser. (Manchester, N.H., 1887), 906–7.

<sup>18</sup> Catherine Bickford Fahnestock, *Three Hundred Fifty Years of Bickfords in New Hampshire* [1971], p. 260



## MOSES BICKFORD OF NORRIDGEWOCK

After purchasing his land in Gardinerstown Plantation, Moses Bickford is next found living on the Kennebec River about ten miles above Fort Western in Lincoln County on 15 July 1768, when he sold two tracts of land for £36-6-8 to Dennis Getchell, the first tract containing 100 acres and the second tract containing 150 acres of land.<sup>19</sup> He then settled on Great Lot 1 in Sebesticook (now Clinton) circa 1773.<sup>20</sup> By 1789 he was a taxpayer in Norridgewock,<sup>21</sup> and he was counted there in the 1790 census.<sup>22</sup> It is also possible to determine the background of Moses based on some of the information known about him and his family after he moved to Norridgewock. In 1798 Moses and his sons Henry and James owned land in Starks of 300, 150 and 158 acres, respectively.<sup>23</sup> Moses and his second wife were living in Starks in 1810 and 1820.<sup>24</sup> Moses married first at the Second Church of Berwick, Maine, on 13 April 1758, Susanna Kenney.<sup>25</sup> His grandson Moses Bickford, born 12 April 1796, eldest son Henry Bickford of Starks, named his eldest son James *Kinney* Bickford (born 27 June 1822), the middle name undoubtedly memorializing Moses's grandmother's maiden name, Susanna *Kenney*.

## FAMILY SUMMARIES

1 **HENRY<sup>3</sup> BICKFORD Sr.** was born in Dover, New Hampshire, 1 January 1702/3, son of John<sup>2</sup> (*Thomas*<sup>1</sup>) and Elizabeth (Tibbetts) Bickford.<sup>26</sup> He died probably before March 1767 when his wife ELIZABETH — was living in the household of their probable son Henry Jr. when the family was warned out of Pownalborough.<sup>27</sup> Henry and his wife, Elizabeth, were baptized at the First Church of Dover, New Hampshire,

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<sup>19</sup> Lincoln Co. Deeds, 6:115.

<sup>20</sup> Major General Carleton Edward Fisher, *History of Clinton, Maine* (Augusta, Maine, 1970), 38. Fisher cites a letter, written 31 January 1778 to the Kennebec Purchase in which Moses says he purchased the land and “lives on S<sup>d</sup> lot, above 4 years.”

<sup>21</sup> William Allen, *History of Norridgewock* (Norridgewock, 1849), 96.

<sup>22</sup> Moses Bickford household, *Heads of Families at the First Census of the United States Taken in the Year 1790: Maine* (Washington, D.C., 1908), 42 (col. b).

<sup>23</sup> “Direct tax list of 1798 for Massachusetts and Maine, 1798,” MS, R. Stanton Avery Special Collections, New England Historic Genealogical Society, Boston, Mass., 1:338 [image, american-ancestors.org].

<sup>24</sup> Moses Bickford household, 1810 and 1820 U.S. Censuses, Starks, Somerset Co., Maine, pp. 538, 227.

<sup>25</sup> Joseph Crook Anderson II, *Records of the First and Second Churches of Berwick, Maine* (Rockport, Maine, 1999), 249.

<sup>26</sup> *Collections of the Dover, N.H., Historical Society, Vol. 1* (Dover, 1894), 34; his parents m. 1 Dec. 1692 (*ibid.*, 129). John's identification as a son of Thomas<sup>1</sup> Bickford from Sybil Noyes, Charles Thornton Libby, and Walter Goodwin Davis, *Genealogical Dictionary of Maine and New Hampshire* (Portland, Maine, 1928–39), 91–92.

<sup>27</sup> See note 9.



on 4 April 1742.<sup>28</sup> Henry Sr. signed a petition dated 13 May 1743 for the creation of a parish by “sundry persons inhabitants of the westerly part of the town of Dover & the northerly part of Durham in said Province.” Madbury would later be incorporated as a parish from Dover and Durham on 31 May 1755, and as a town on 26 May 1768.<sup>29</sup>

Birth records for Henry and Elizabeth (Tibbetts) Bickford’s children have not been found, but there is good evidence that Henry and Moses were two of their sons:

- 1 It is known that Henry Jr.’s mother was named Elizabeth, as she was named in the writ when he and his family were warned out of Pownalborough in March 1767.<sup>30</sup>
- 2 It is probable that Henry Sr. would have had a son named Henry.
- 3 Henry Jr.’s wife Abigail was the daughter of Capt. Benjamin Tibbetts, who was the son of Henry Tibbetts, who was the brother of Elizabeth (Tibbetts) Bickford, the wife of Henry Bickford Sr.<sup>31</sup> This means that Henry Bickford Jr. and his wife Abigail were first cousins once removed. Both Henry Bickford and Henry Tibbetts were signers of the petition for a new parish in 1743 indicating that they were both residents in the community that would become Madbury.<sup>32</sup>
- 4 In addition to Henry, John and Elizabeth (Tibbetts) Bickford had three other sons born in Dover: Thomas (1694), John (1698), and Joseph (1705/6).<sup>33</sup> None of them had sons named Henry or Moses:

*Thomas Bickford*, b. 18 May 1694, d. after 26 Jan. and before 27 Feb. 1765, the dates his will was written and probated;<sup>34</sup> m. (1) Newington, N.H., 10 March 1717, Esther Adams;<sup>35</sup> m. (2) Joanna — who was his wife mentioned in his will. He lived in Madbury and signed the petition for a new parish in 1743. His sons named in his will were Thomas, Charles, John, Samuel and Joseph Bickford.

*John Bickford*, b. 10 March 1698, d. after 10 Oct. 1752 and before 29 Sept. 1762, the dates his will was written and probated;<sup>36</sup> m. (1) Elizabeth —;<sup>37</sup> m. (2) Judith Tibbetts,<sup>38</sup>

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<sup>28</sup> *Colls. Dover Hist. Soc.*[note 26], 148.

<sup>29</sup> D. Hamilton Hurd, *History of Rockingham and Strafford Counties, New Hampshire* (Philadelphia, 1882), 641.

<sup>30</sup> See note 9.

<sup>31</sup> Jarvis, “Henry Tibbetts of Dover, N.H.” [note 6], *NEHGR* 98(1944):62–64, 215, 224–25.

<sup>32</sup> Hurd, *History of Rockingham and Strafford Counties* [note 29], 641.

<sup>33</sup> *Colls. Dover Hist. Soc.*[note 26], 34.

<sup>34</sup> Otis G. Hammond, ed., *Probate Records of the Province of New Hampshire*, vol. 8: 1764–67, vol. 38: N.H. State Papers Ser. (n.p., 1940), 125–26.

<sup>35</sup> Henry W. Hardon, *Newington, New Hampshire Families in the Eighteenth Century* (Bowie, Md., 1924), 28.

<sup>36</sup> Otis G. Hammond, ed., *Probate Records of the Province of New Hampshire*, vol. 6: 1757–60, vol. 36: N.H. State Papers Ser. (n.p., 1938), 160–62.

<sup>37</sup> Elizabeth was named as John’s wife at her and their son John’s baptisms on 3 July 1720 (*Colls. Dover Hist. Soc.*[note 26], 134).

<sup>38</sup> *Gen. Dict. Maine & N.H.* [note 26], 91.

who was named in John's will as his wife. John was a resident of Dover, a weaver, when he wrote his will. He reportedly had 4 children,<sup>39</sup> but his will mentions 3 daughters and only one son, Jonathan.

*Joseph Bickford*, b. 8 March 1705/6, d. Dover, 11 Feb. 1776;<sup>40</sup> m. (1) before 6 Aug. 1738, Elizabeth —;<sup>41</sup> m. (2) before 29 May 1743, Deborah —.<sup>42</sup> In his will, dated 2 Aug. 1762 and probated 13 March 1776, Joseph Bickford of Dover, yeoman, named his wife Deborah, a daughter Sarah, and his two sons Joseph and Ephraim.<sup>43</sup>

Having eliminated his brothers from consideration, Henry Bickford Sr. remains the only viable candidate to be the father of Henry Bickford of Dresden and Moses Bickford of Norridgewock.

Probable children of Henry<sup>3</sup> and Elizabeth (—) Bickford; there were likely other children whose identities are not proven:<sup>44</sup>

- 2 i HENRY<sup>4</sup> BICKFORD Jr., b. ca. 1725; m. ABIGAIL TIBBETTS.
- 3 ii MOSES BICKFORD, b. ca. 1736; m. (1) SUSANNA KENNEY; m. (2) ZERUIAH (PROCTOR) PARKER.

2 **HENRY<sup>4</sup> BICKFORD Jr.** was born, probably in Dover, New Hampshire, circa 1725. He died 6 August 1816, aged 91 years, and is buried in Pine Grove Cemetery, Dresden, Maine.<sup>45</sup> He married in Rochester, New Hampshire, 9 January 1755, ABIGAIL TIBBETTS of Towow.<sup>46</sup> She was born circa 1740 and baptized in Rochester, 13 September 1741 (with her mother and three brothers), daughter of Capt. Benjamin and Abigail (—) Tibbetts of Rochester and Lebanon, Maine.<sup>47</sup> She died 19 May 1826, aged 86 years, and is buried with Henry in Pine Grove Cemetery, Dresden.<sup>48</sup>

As noted, Henry bought two lots of land in Gardinerstown Plantation in 1764 and 1766.<sup>49</sup> Henry was living in Pownalborough in 1790, and his household included himself, his wife Abigail, two other males aged 16 or over (likely sons Aaron and William), a male under age 16 (likely son Robert), and two other females (likely

<sup>39</sup> *Gen. Dict. Maine & N.H.* [note 26], 91.

<sup>40</sup> *Colls. Dover Hist. Soc.* [note 26], 189.

<sup>41</sup> On that date, Elizabeth, wife of Joseph Bickford, joined the First Church of Dover (*Colls. Dover Hist. Soc.* [note 26], 208).

<sup>42</sup> On that date, Deborah, wife of Joseph Bickford, joined the First Church of Dover (*Colls. Dover Hist. Soc.* [note 26], 209).

<sup>43</sup> Strafford Co., N.H., Probate Records, 1:126–28 [DGS # 7131946, images 326–27].

<sup>44</sup> Fahnstock, *350 Years of Bickfords* [note 18], 260, lists Henry Bickford of Dresden and Aaron Bickford of Falmouth as sons. *Bickford Newsletter* editor Mahlon Bickford claims that Moses of Norridgewock and Benjamin of Gouldsboro and West Pond Plantation were also sons.

<sup>45</sup> Gravestone photo, findagrave.com #27364625.

<sup>46</sup> McDuffee, *History of Rochester, N.H.* [note 6], 595.

<sup>47</sup> McDuffee, *History of Rochester, N.H.* [note 6], 588, citing “Rochester Church Book of Records”.

<sup>48</sup> Gravestone photo, findagrave.com #27364633.

<sup>49</sup> Lincoln Co., Maine, Deeds, 5:101, 107.

daughters Alice and Elizabeth). Two households away was his oldest son, Paul Bickford, who had married and begun his family nine years earlier.<sup>50</sup>

Children of Henry and Abigail (Tibbetts) Bickford, the 1st three named in his warning out dated 18 March 1767:

- i PAUL BICKFORD, b. 25 April 1757,<sup>51</sup> d. 2 Nov 1838 aged 81 years;<sup>52</sup> m. Pownalborough, 31 May 1781, ELIZABETH KENDALL,<sup>53</sup> b. 17 Aug. 1757 daughter of Uzziah and Elizabeth (Pierce) Kendall.<sup>54</sup> They had 8 children born 1782–96.<sup>55</sup>
- ii AARON BICKFORD, b. ca. 1763–64, d. 25 March 1848, aged 84 years, and bur. in Pine Grove Cemetery, Dresden;<sup>56</sup> m. Woolwich, 1 Jan. 1795, CATHERINE HOUDELETTE,<sup>57</sup> b. 10 June 1760, daughter of Charles Estienne and Susanne Margaret (McCrae) Houdelette,<sup>58</sup> d. 12 Oct. 1855, aged 95 years, and bur. in Pine Grove Cemetery.<sup>59</sup> Catherine, aged 89, was living in the household of her son Charles Bickford in Dresden in 1850.<sup>60</sup> They had 5 children born 1795–1804.<sup>61</sup>
- iii ALICE BICKFORD, b. bef. March 1767 when her father was warned out of Pownalborough; m. int. Dresden, 15 Oct. 1795, JAMES GRANT of Hunt's Meadow.<sup>62</sup>
- iv WILLIAM BICKFORD, b. Pownalborough say 1770; m. int. Pownalborough 20 June 1794 SALLY MCGOWN.<sup>63</sup> He living in Dresden in 1800 and 1810.<sup>64</sup> They had 9 children born 1794–1811.<sup>65</sup>
- v ROBERT BICKFORD, b. ca. 1775, d. 1 July 1856, aged 81 years, and bur. in Pine Grove Cemetery, Dresden;<sup>66</sup> m. (cert.) Dresden, 30 Dec. 1799, MARY MAYER,<sup>67</sup> b. 9 June 1777, daughter of George and Mary (Houdlette) Mayer,<sup>68</sup> d. 17 June 1857,

<sup>50</sup> Henry and Paul Bickford households, *Heads of Families, 1790: Maine* [note 22], 43 (col. c).

<sup>51</sup> Charles Edwin Allen, *History of Dresden, Maine* (Lewiston, Maine, 1931), 543, gives day and month of Paul's birth but incorrectly states he was b. in 1752. He was born ca. 1757 if his age at death of 81 is correct. In addition, Paul's parents did not marry until 1755 and he was under the age 12 in 1767 when the family was warned out of Pownalborough (see note 9).

<sup>52</sup> Allen, *History of Dresden* [note 51], 543.

<sup>53</sup> Groves, *Wiscasset VRs* [note 9], 60.

<sup>54</sup> Groves, *Wiscasset VRs* [note 9], 40; her parents m. 2 April 1748 (Walter A. Davis, *The Early Records of the Town of Lunenburg, Massachusetts* [Fitchburg, Mass., 1896], 233).

<sup>55</sup> Groves, *Dresden VRs* [note 14], 14–15, 128.

<sup>56</sup> Gravestone photo, findagrave.com #27364637.

<sup>57</sup> Marlene A. Groves, *Vital Records of Woolwich, Maine* (Waterville, Maine, 2015), 478.

<sup>58</sup> Edith Laura Houdlette, *Charles Estienne Houdelette, The Houdlette Family 1707–1909* (Boston, 1909), 5.

<sup>59</sup> Gravestone photo, findagrave.com #27364643.

<sup>60</sup> Charles Houdelette household, 1850 U.S. Census, Dresden, Lincoln Co., Maine, p. 248.

<sup>61</sup> Groves, *Dresden VRs* [note 14], 42, 146.

<sup>62</sup> Groves, *Dresden VRs* [note 14], 7–8.

<sup>63</sup> Groves, *Wiscasset VRs* [note 9], 92.

<sup>64</sup> William Bickford household, 1800 and 1810 U.S. Censuses, Dresden, Lincoln Co., Maine, pp. 403, 179.

<sup>65</sup> Groves, *Dresden VRs* [note 14], 42, 146.

<sup>66</sup> Nathan Hale Cemetery Collection [DGS #7586531, image 437].

<sup>67</sup> Groves, *Dresden VRs* [note 14], 12.

<sup>68</sup> Groves, *Dresden VRs* [note 14], 14; Allen, *History of Dresden* [note 51], 159.

aged 81 years, and bur. in Pine Grove Cemetery, Dresden.<sup>69</sup> He was described as a farmer, aged 75, living with his wife Mary, aged 70, in the household of Theodore White of Dresden in 1850.<sup>70</sup> They had 8 children born 1800–18.<sup>71</sup>

- vi ELIZABETH BICKFORD, b Pownalborough, 28 April 1782,<sup>72</sup> d. 22 Sept. 1856;<sup>73</sup> m. Dresden, 7 Aug. 1803, JOHN HATHORN Jr. as his 2nd wife,<sup>74</sup> b. Georgetown, 29 Sept. 1767, son of John and Tabitha (Gowing) Hathorne of Wilmington, Mass., and Georgetown, Maine,<sup>75</sup> d. Richmond, 31 Oct. 1848.<sup>76</sup> John had m. (1) Georgetown, 3 June 1790, Elizabeth Gray,<sup>77</sup> who d. 15 June 1802, aged 33 years.<sup>78</sup> John Hathorn moved to Richmond before 1830,<sup>79</sup> where he was a tavern keeper.<sup>80</sup> Elizabeth was living in Richmond in 1850, aged 68 years.<sup>81</sup> John Hathorn Jr. had 5 children with his 1st wife and as many as 8 children with his 2nd wife.<sup>82</sup>

3 **MOSES<sup>4</sup> BICKFORD** was born, probably in Dover, New Hampshire, circa 1736. He died in Starks, Maine, 20 October 1827, aged 91 years.<sup>83</sup> He married first, at the Second Church of Berwick, Maine, 13 April 1758, SUSANNA KENNEY.<sup>84</sup> She was undoubtedly the Susanna born in Dover, 22 May 1739, daughter of Samuel and Susanna (Tibbetts) Kenney/Canney of Dover and Lebanon, Maine,<sup>85</sup> and through

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<sup>69</sup> Groves, *Dresden VRs* [note 14], 143; Nathan Hale Cemetery Collection [DGS #7586531, image 437].

<sup>70</sup> Theodore White household, 1850 U.S. Census, Dresden, Lincoln Co., Maine, p. 257.

<sup>71</sup> Groves, *Dresden VRs* [note 14], 40, 143.

<sup>72</sup> Charles Nelson Sinnett, *The Hathorn Families of Maine and the West* (n.p., n.d.), 8 [image, familysearch.org].

<sup>73</sup> Sinnett, *Hathorn Families* [note 72], 8.

<sup>74</sup> “Records of the Dresden, ME., Congregationalist Church, 1801–1853”, NEHGR, 66[1912]: 108.

<sup>75</sup> Groves, *Woolwich VRs* [note 57], 28, 87. John, son of John and Tabitha Hathorn, was bp. 29 Nov. 1767 (“Records of the Rev. Josiah Winship, Woolwich Church,” DAR Miscellaneous Records, Maine Historical Society, Portland, 13[Part 2]:15).

<sup>76</sup> Sinnett, *Hathorn Families* [note 72], 8.

<sup>77</sup> Mary Pelham Hill, *Georgetown VR* [1941], 2:58.

<sup>78</sup> Mary Pelham Hill, *Georgetown VR* [1943], 3:30.

<sup>79</sup> John Hathorne household, 1830 U.S. Census, Richmond, Lincoln Co., Maine, p. 51.

<sup>80</sup> Sinnett, *Hathorn Families* [note 72], 8.

<sup>81</sup> Elizabeth Hathorn household, 1850 U.S. Census, Richmond, Lincoln Co., Maine, p. 271A.

<sup>82</sup> Groves, *Dresden VRs* [note 14], 21, 132. For a full treatment of John Hathorn Jr.’s family, see sketch by Janice D. Gower in Joseph Crook Anderson II, *Maine Families in 1790 Vol 8* (Rockport, Maine, 2003), 202–6.

<sup>83</sup> Death notice, [Hallowell] *American Advocate*, 3 Nov. 1827, p. 3.

<sup>84</sup> Anderson, *Records of the First and Second Churches of Berwick* [note 25], 249.

<sup>85</sup> *Colls. Dover Hist. Soc.* [note 26], 44; Jarvis, “Henry Tibbetts of Dover, N.H.” [note 6], NEHGR 98(1944):215. There are a multitude of undocumented online family trees that claim that Susanna, daughter of Samuel and Susanna (Tibbetts) Kenney, died in Dover in 1756, but there is no evidence for this assertion. Samuel Kenney/Canney was the first of that name in Lebanon, Maine, purchasing a home lot there 28 March 1738 (George Walter Chamberlain, *Lebanon, Maine, Genealogies, 1750–1892* [Portland, Maine, 1976], #302), and there is no other candidate who lived in the Lebanon-Berwick area who was of age to be Susanna’s father.

the Tibbetts line she was Moses's first cousin once removed. She appears to be one of the two females in Moses's household in 1790, but was deceased by 1801 when Moses remarried.

Moses married second widow ZERUIAH (PROCTOR) PARKER both of Starks, their marriage intentions recorded in Anson on 30 April 1801.<sup>86</sup> She was born in Westford, Massachusetts, 20 November 1739, daughter of Joseph and Agnes (Pierce) Proctor.<sup>87</sup> She had married first in Westford, 16 October 1759, Samuel Parker Jr.<sup>88</sup> After their marriage, Samuel and Zeruiah Parker moved to New Ipswich, New Hampshire, where their seven children were recorded, as follows:<sup>89</sup>

Agnes Parker, b. 4 Feb. 1761, d. 16 Sept. 1766

Samuel Parker, b. 27 Aug. 1762, d. 24 Aug. 1775

Sarah Parker, b. 21 Nov. 1764

Zeruiah Parker, b. 21 Jan. 1767

Anne Parker, b. 2 April 1769

Sampson Parker, b. 2 April 1771

Reuben Parker, b. 11 Dec. 1773, d. 7 Aug. 1775

The family appears to have moved to Norridgewock by 1785, as daughter Zeruiah married her first husband, Calvin Piper, there on 28 April 1785.<sup>90</sup> This was followed by the marriages in Norridgewock of daughter Anna to Moses Martin, 29 November 1787, and son Samson to Sally Parsons, (cert.) 13 November 1794.<sup>91</sup> Their father, Samuel Parker, appears to have died by 1790, as no person of that name is listed in the 1790 census in Norridgewock nor in the surrounding area. His death made his wife Zeruiah an eligible widow for Moses Bickford to marry. That this was in fact the case is strongly supported by (1) the rarity of the name Zeruiah, and (2) the marriage of the two stepsiblings—Moses's son James with Zeruiah Parker's daughter Zeruiah.

Moses Bickford bought an eight-acre lot in Gardinerstown on 1 January 1765, located close to the lots purchased near the same time by his brother Henry.<sup>92</sup> Moses did not stay in Gardinerstown very long, as he was a resident "of a place on Kennebeck River above Fort Western in the County of Lincoln" on 16 July 1768 when he

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<sup>86</sup> Moses "Bigford" and "Zuriah" Parker, Anson VRs, p. 26 [DGS #7592471, image 319].

<sup>87</sup> *Vital Records of Westford, Massachusetts, to the End of the Year 1849* (Salem, Mass., 1915), 90; her parents m. Chelmsford, Mass., (int.) 1 Dec. 1722 (*Vital Records of Chelmsford, Massachusetts, to the End of the Year 1849* [Salem, Mass., 1914], p. 299).

<sup>88</sup> *Westford VRs* [note 87], 222.

<sup>89</sup> Charles Henry Chandler, *History of New Ipswich, New Hampshire, 1735–1914* (Fitchburg, Mass., 1914), 547–48.

<sup>90</sup> Allen, *History of Norridgewock* [note 21], 153.

<sup>91</sup> Marlene A. Groves, *Vital Records of Norridgewock* (Rockland, Maine, 2008), 138–39.

<sup>92</sup> Lincoln Co. Deeds, 5:3.



sold two tracts of land on Kennebec River about ten miles above Fort Western.<sup>93</sup> He then settled on Great Lot 1 in Sebecicook (now Clinton) circa 1773.<sup>94</sup>

In 1790 Moses was living in Norridgewock, his household containing himself, a male under 16, and two females.<sup>95</sup> On 15 June 1820, Moses contracted with his grandson, Henry Bickford Jr. of Starks, that Henry “shall decently support and maintain the said Moses Bickford and his wife Zeruiah during their natural lives.”<sup>96</sup> On 9 April 1823, Moses executed a similar transaction with Benjamin Bickford 3rd of Starks, requiring Benjamin to “decently support and maintain said Moses Bickford and his wife Zerewiah [*sic*] during their natural lives.”<sup>97</sup>

Children of Moses and Susanna (Kenney) Bickford, possibly others:

- i HENRY BICKFORD, b. prob. Gardinerstown Pt., ca. 1765, d. Starks, 3 March 1842, aged 77 years, and bur. in a family cemetery on his farm in Starks;<sup>98</sup> m. Norridgewock, 18 April 1787, JANE WITHAM of Norridgewock,<sup>99</sup> b. ca. 1767, d. 17 March 1844, aged 77 years, and bur. beside Henry.<sup>100</sup> Henry was living in Sandy River (later Starks) in 1790 adjacent to his younger brother James Bickford,<sup>101</sup> and he was still living in Starks 1810–40.<sup>102</sup> They had 8 children, b. 1787–1800.<sup>103</sup>
- ii JAMES BICKFORD, b. 13 March 1769, d. 24 Nov. 1853 and bur. in West Eckford Cemetery, Eckford, Calhoun Co., Mich.;<sup>104</sup> m. (1) Norridgewock, 29 April 1790, his stepsister ZERUIAH (PARKER) PIPER as her 2nd husband,<sup>105</sup> b. New Ipswich, N.H., 21 Jan. 1767, daughter of Samuel Jr. and Zeruiah (Proctor) Parker,<sup>106</sup> d. Rochester, N.Y., 8 Feb 1815.<sup>107</sup> Zeruiah had m. (1) Norridgewock, 28 April 1785, Calvin Piper, both of Norridgewock.<sup>108</sup> James Bickford m. (2) SYBIL/SIBEL RALEIGH, the marriage occurring before 22 Aug. 1815 when she was listed as a charter member of the

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<sup>93</sup> Lincoln Co. deed, 6:115.

<sup>94</sup> See note 20.

<sup>95</sup> Moses Bickford household, *Heads of Families, 1790: Maine* [note 22], 42 (col. b). The second female could be an unidentified daughter of Moses or possibly a Parker daughter of Zeruiah.

<sup>96</sup> Somerset Co. Deeds, 12:312–13. Henry was a son of Henry and Jane (Witham) Bickford.

<sup>97</sup> Somerset Co. Deeds, 15:40.

<sup>98</sup> Gravestone photo, *Bickford Newsletter* 7[1995]:4:5.

<sup>99</sup> Groves, *Norridgewock VRs* [note 91], 137.

<sup>100</sup> Gravestone photo, *Bickford Newsletter*, 7[1995]:4:5.

<sup>101</sup> Henry Bickford household, *Heads of Families, 1790: Maine* [note 22], 44 (col. c).

<sup>102</sup> Henry Bickford household, 1810–40 USCs, Stark, Somerset Co., Maine, pp. 538, 227, 118, 290, respectively.

<sup>103</sup> Starks VRs 1:28 [DGS #7596893, image 91].

<sup>104</sup> Gravestone photo, findagrave #50944385, his stone giving his full dates of birth and death.

<sup>105</sup> “Marriages Solemnized by Oliver Wood, Esq., of Lincoln County,” *Collections and Proceedings of the Maine Historical Society*, 2nd Series, Vol. VI (Portland, 1895), 176; Groves, *Norridgewock VRs* [note 91], 138.

<sup>106</sup> Chandler, *History of New Ipswich, N.H.* [note 89], 547–48.

<sup>107</sup> Darius Bickford biographical sketch in *Portrait and Biographical Album of Calhoun County, Michigan* (Chicago, 1891), 747–48.

<sup>108</sup> Allen, *History of Norridgewock* [note 21], 153.

First Presbyterian Church of Rochester, N.Y.<sup>109</sup> She was b. in Mass., 2 Nov. 1786, d. 3 June 1855, and was bur. in West Eckford Cemetery, Eckford, Mich.<sup>110</sup> In 1790 the newly married James was enumerated in Sandy River (later Starks), living next door to his brother Henry.<sup>111</sup> James moved from Norridgewock to Norway, Maine, where he lived a few years, and then moved to Gates, N.Y., by oxcart in 1814.<sup>112</sup> He was a farmer in Gates in 1820 and 1830 and in Rochester in 1840.<sup>113</sup> In 1850 he headed a home in Mendon, N.Y., which included his 2nd wife, Sybil, and the family of his youngest son, James.<sup>114</sup> By mid-May 1853, they had all relocated to Eckford, Mich., where he died.<sup>115</sup> 10 children with his 1st wife, b. 1790–1809,<sup>116</sup> and 2 children with his 2nd wife, b. 1816–19.<sup>117</sup>

- iii (possibly) BENJAMIN BICKFORD 3rd, who was living in Starks on 9 April 1823, when he contracted with Moses Bickford to provide life support for Moses and his wife Zeruiah.<sup>118</sup> No further information found.
- iv (possibly) a daughter, who was living with Moses in 1790.

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<sup>109</sup> Her maiden name is found on the death record of her son James Parker Bickford, Calhoun Co., Mich., Deaths, 3:363 [DGS #7608498, image 194]; “Early Records from First Presbyterian Church, Rochester, N.Y.,” online at <http://mcnygenealogy.com/vr/first-pres.htm>.

<sup>110</sup> Gravestone photo, findagrave #50944469, the stone providing her full dates of birth and death; her birthplace of Mass. from James P. Bickford household, 1850 U.S. Census, Mendon, Monroe Co., N.Y., p. 251.

<sup>111</sup> Moses Bickford household, *Heads of Families, 1790: Maine* [note 22], 42 (col. b).

<sup>112</sup> Dr. Osgood N. Bradbury, ed. Rev. Don L. McAllister, *Norway in the Forties* (Norway, Maine, 1986), 295–96.

<sup>113</sup> James Bickford household, 1820 U.S. Census, Gates, Genesee Co., N.Y., p. 127; 1830 U.S. Census, Gates, Monroe Co., N.Y., p. 238; 1840 U.S. Census, Rochester Ward 4, Monroe Co., N.Y., p. 346.

<sup>114</sup> James P. Bickford household, 1850 U.S. Census, Mendon, Monroe Co., N.Y., p. 251.

<sup>115</sup> Henry B. Pierce, *History of Calhoun County, Michigan* (Philadelphia, 1877), 138.

<sup>116</sup> Bradbury, *Norway in 40's* [note 112], 296.

<sup>117</sup> “Early Records from First Presbyterian Church, Rochester, N.Y.” [see note 109].

<sup>118</sup> Somerset Co. Deeds, 15:40.



## A WINSLOW FAMILY CATASTROPHE LOST IN HISTORY

*By Lael Montgomery*

Historians have written at length about hostilities between the Maine colonists and American Indians during King George's War (1745–1749) and the French and Indian War (1755–1759).<sup>1</sup> They described the brutal murders in Newcastle of a Mrs. Gray and her six (or nine) children and on Louds Island of a Dr. Winslow.<sup>2</sup> There is also an account of reported attacks at and near Matinicus Island in 1758 that resulted in the kidnapping of a Nathaniel Winslow on May 20th, and the murder of his father, Elisha Winslow, on July 7th.<sup>3</sup>

Once I had assembled considerable genealogical data about my ancestor Dr. Nathaniel Winslow, his four adult children, and their progeny,<sup>4</sup> I realized the magnitude of the tragedy to the Winslow family of these events, and that my research findings could clarify the historical record.

My research shows:

- 1 The Newcastle massacre occurred at Dr. Nathaniel Winslow's garrisoned farm property on the Damariscotta River.
- 2 The Dr. Winslow taken and killed at Louds Island was not Dr. Kenelm Winslow, but rather his father, Dr. Nathaniel Winslow.
- 3 The victims at Newcastle and Matinicus—Dr. Winslow, Mrs. Gray, her 6–9 children, and Elisha and Nathaniel Winslow—were all members of the same immediate family.
- 4 The attacks at Newcastle and Matinicus likely occurred at around the same time.

Historians Johnston and Cushman both attribute the story of the Gray family massacre to the 1811 testimony of Major John Farley.<sup>5</sup> In his book on the early settlement of Sheepscot and Newcastle, Cushman wrote:

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<sup>1</sup> John Johnston, *A History of the Towns of Bristol and Bremen in the State of Maine, Including the Pemaquid Settlement* (Albany, N.Y., 1873), 294; David Quimby Cushman, *The History of Ancient Sheepscot and Newcastle* (Bath, Maine, 1882), 181; Michael Dekker, *French and Indian Wars in Maine* (Charleston, S.C., 2015), 15.

<sup>2</sup> Cushman, *Ancient Sheepscot and Newcastle* [note 1], 181.

<sup>3</sup> Emma Lewis Coleman, *New England Captives Carried to Canada Between 1667 and 1760 During the French and Indian Wars*, 2 vols. (Portland, Maine, 1925), 2:289. Coleman's source was a letter from Katherine Winslow, hand-carried to Boston and printed in *The Boston Weekly News*, 11 Sept. 1758; see also Mass. Archives Collection, 77:697 [DGS #7703422, image 738], 78:659 [DGS #7703423, image 1218].

<sup>4</sup> Lael Montgomery and Rhonda McClure, "A Search for Lydia (Winslow) Montgomery's Father Reveals A Lost Branch of Winslows in 18th Century Lincoln County, Maine." *The Mayflower Descendant* 70(2022):55–71, 147–58. Dr. Nathaniel Winslow and his five adult children—Nathaniel Jr., Kenelm, Elisha, Elizabeth (Winslow) Gray and Martha (Winslow) Ring—came from Scarborough, Maine, around 1730 to settle on the Damariscotta River frontier.

<sup>5</sup> John Farley testimony, in *Order of Both Branches of the Legislature of Massachusetts to Appoint Commissioners to Investigate the Causes of the Difficulties in the County of Lincoln; and the Report of the Commissioners Thereon* (Boston, 1811), 152 [online at <https://archives.lib.state.ma.us/handle/2452/819785>].

The Garrison in Major Farley's field was vacated at one time by the men who had gone across the river to do some work; and the women had also left it, to perform some labor in the field. Three boys were stationed as sentinels to give the alarm, in case of danger. The Indians stole upon them and killed Mrs. Gray and six, some say nine children. The youngest they took by the heels and dashed its brains out upon a stone. The alarm was given—the men returned—a fight ensued but several lives were lost on the side of the English. The Indians escaped unhurt. When the men returned, they found one child attempting to draw milk from its dead mother's breast. It was a harrowing spectacle. The stone bespattered with blood was seen for a long time afterwards. It was finally removed by Mr. Farley about the year 1800. It was ragged, and stood about three feet out of the ground. . . . Dr. Winslow, about this time, was taken by the Indians, carried to Loud's Island and brutally murdered.<sup>6</sup>

Some pages earlier, Cushman had written:

Major Moxy, an Indian chief, said he had killed nineteen white people and he wanted to live to kill the twentieth. And he showed Major John Farley the stone in his field where he had dashed out the brains of Mrs. Gray and her nine children.<sup>7</sup>

#### THE NEWCASTLE ATTACK: WHEN, WHERE, WHO?

Historical accounts fail to provide the date of the Gray family massacre or the death of Dr. Winslow, or to link the Gray and Winslow families. Johnston dated the attack on Mrs. Gray "around" 1747 or at "some subsequent incursion."<sup>8</sup> Cushman's more chronological narrative discussed the "garrison in Farley's field," one of the five garrisons in Newcastle, and grouped the murders at the garrison of Mrs. Gray and her children, and on Louds Island of Dr. Winslow, with other 1757 events.<sup>9</sup>

Cushman's time frame agrees with details known and inferred from Farley's testimony. Farley's account confirmed the identities of the victims and the self-confessed perpetrator, Major Moxy, as well as Farley's possession of the property at the time of his testimony. An approximate date of the massacre—before 1761—and its ownership at that time can be inferred from land records. "That about thirty five years since" [i.e., about 1776], Farley purchased the Winslow farm on the west side of the Damariscotta River from Richard Bowers.<sup>10</sup> Bowers had bought the property from Dr. Nathaniel Winslow's son Kenelm and Kenelm's wife, Abigail, in 1761.<sup>11</sup> The Winslow property on the west bank of the Damariscotta River was owned by Dr. Nathaniel Winslow since the 1730s,<sup>12</sup> and was eventually divided into three parts for his three sons, Nathaniel Jr., Kenelm, and Elisha.

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<sup>6</sup> Cushman, *Ancient Sheepscot and Newcastle* [note 1], 181.

<sup>7</sup> Cushman, *Ancient Sheepscot and Newcastle* [note 1], 138.

<sup>8</sup> Johnston, *Bristol and Bremen* [note 1], 294.

<sup>9</sup> Cushman, *Ancient Sheepscot and Newcastle* [note 1], 179–81.

<sup>10</sup> John Farley testimony [note 5], 152.

<sup>11</sup> Lincoln Co. Deeds, 5:141.

<sup>12</sup> In 1754 Dr. Nathaniel Winslow "of a place called Damariscotty in the County of York Physician" transferred to "my son Elisha Winslow of said Damariscotty Husbandman" the southerly third part of 100 acres on the west side of Damariscotty River which "I have possessed & enjoyed upwards

Cushman's 1757 dating of the Winslow garrison massacre also aligns with the 1758 Matinicus attacks when Dr. Nathaniel's grandson Nathaniel was abducted at sea on 20 May,<sup>13</sup> and Dr. Nathaniel's son Elisha Sr. (father of the Nathaniel abducted at sea) was killed on July 7.<sup>14</sup>

Dekker writes that 1757–1758 was an especially bloody period on the Maine mid-coast.<sup>15</sup> This time period makes even more sense in historical, cultural, and even personal contexts. The 1757 attacks in Newcastle by the Penobscot tribesman Major Moxy were preceded by two events in 1755: the offer of a bounty by the Massachusetts Bay Colony for the scalps of Penobscot tribe members and, likely related to the bounty, the tragic murder in Lincoln County of a well-known and beloved American Indian woman Margaret Moxa, her husband, and child by Newcastle settler and military man, Colonel James Cargill.<sup>16</sup> Whether Major Moxy and Margaret Moxa were close kin is not addressed by any of the historical accounts. It seems plausible.

Known personal relationships credibly linked to these events were between the owner of the fishing operation at Matinicus, William Vaughan and Dr. Nathaniel Winslow, and very likely Col. Cargill—all Anglos and all early settlers in the area.<sup>17</sup>

#### WHICH DR. WINSLOW WAS KILLED ON LOUDS ISLAND?

Even contemporary historians have concluded that the murdered Dr. Winslow was Dr. Kenelm Winslow.<sup>18</sup> Cushman mentions that a “Dr. Winslow” was living in Damariscotta as early as 1733 (without giving the doctor's first name), but seemingly contradicts himself by saying later that “the first physician in Newcastle we have any knowledge of, is Dr. Kenelm Winslow who practiced here in 1763.”<sup>19</sup> The early Dr. Winslow was not Dr. Kenelm. Rather, it was Kenelm's father, Dr. Nathaniel Winslow Sr. (1679–1758). In a case of debt dated in 1739, “Nathaniel Winslow of a Place called Damaris Cotty in no Town, but within our s<sup>d</sup> County, Physician” sued John Mayors of “Sheepscot or New Castle,” husbandman, for services rendered in 1731.<sup>20</sup>

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of twenty years last past” (York Co. Deeds, 32:6). Archeologist Tim Dinsmore, who excavated the Winslow Farm property believes the massacre took place on this site and that the victims were buried on the property where they remain. Personal correspondence.

<sup>13</sup> Mass. Archives Collection, 78:659 [DGS #7703423, image 1218].

<sup>14</sup> Mass. Archives Collection, 77:697 [DGS #7703422, image 738].

<sup>15</sup> Dekker, *French and Indian Wars* [note 1], 125.

<sup>16</sup> Cushman, *Ancient Sheepscot and Newcastle* [note 1], 141.

<sup>17</sup> Vaughan and Winslow were among the twenty-five signers of a 1743 petition to Gov. Shirley and the Mass. General Court asking for the incorporation of “Damariscotty” into a township (Maine Historical Society, *Documentary History of the State of Maine*, Series II, 24 vols. [Portland, 1869–1916], 11:292–93).

<sup>18</sup> Arlene Cole, “Newcastle History: Dr. Kenelm Winslow,” *The Lincoln County News*, Newcastle, Maine, 14 Feb. 2021.

<sup>19</sup> Cushman, *Ancient Sheepscot and Newcastle* [note 1], 114, 249.

<sup>20</sup> York Co. Court of Common Pleas, Nov. Term 1739, 12-46-5788-York, Box 81, #13 [DGS #5734877, images 160].

This proves that Dr. Nathaniel Winslow was practicing medicine in the area from the earliest days of settlement.

Additional facts support that the Louds Island victim was the senior Dr. Nathaniel. Dr. Nathaniel disappeared from deeds and other local records before the massacre. The last evidence that Dr. Nathaniel was alive was in late 1754 when “Nathaniel Winslow and others who called themselves Congregationalists” presented a remonstrance to the Presbytery against having a Presbyterian minister settled over them.<sup>21</sup> Dr. Kenelm Winslow, on the other hand, was alive in 1761 to sell the Winslow Farm (four years after the most likely date of the massacre),<sup>22</sup> and was still alive 8 March 1787 when, at 75 years of age, he was elected a Newcastle pound keeper (but was “not sworn”).<sup>23</sup> Kenelm was alive at least thirty years *after* the garrison massacre and the fall of Quebec in 1759, when the hostilities in Maine were essentially finished.<sup>24</sup>

#### ELIZABETH WINSLOW GRAY, ELISHA AND NATHANIEL WINSLOW

“Mrs. Gray” was almost certainly Elizabeth (Winslow) Gray, born in Freetown, Massachusetts, 16 February 1704/5, daughter of Dr. Nathaniel and Elizabeth (Holbrook) Winslow.<sup>25</sup> She was the wife of John Gray,<sup>26</sup> an early settler of Wiscasset<sup>27</sup> and signer, with his father-in-law and brothers-in-law, of the 1743 and 1752 petitions to the Massachusetts Governor and General Court.<sup>28</sup> Dr. Nathaniel’s daughter and her children would very likely have taken refuge in her father’s garrisoned home during times of attack. No direct evidence was found about the whereabouts of her husband, John Gray, or any other children during or after the massacre. Cushman’s account of

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<sup>21</sup> Cushman, *Ancient Sheepscot and Newcastle* [note 1], 253.

<sup>22</sup> Lincoln Co. Deeds, 5:141.

<sup>23</sup> Newcastle Town Records, 1754–1807, p. 184, 8 March 1787 [DGS #7595763, image 288]. The indication that he was “not sworn” might be a clue to his date of death. Kenelm was bp. at the First Congregational Church of Middleboro, Mass., 27 April 1712 (images at Congregational Library & Archives, [www.congregationallibrary.org](http://www.congregationallibrary.org)).

<sup>24</sup> Dekker, *French and Indian Wars* [note 1], 131. Kenelm Winslow did not appear in the 1790 Census, implying that he died sometime between 1787 and 1790.

<sup>25</sup> Helen Gurney Thomas, *Vital Records of Freetown, Massachusetts, 1686 Through 1890* (Bowie, Md., 1988), n.p., but the records are alphabetically listed by surname; Nathaniel Winslow of Freetown, Mass., and Elisabeth Holbrook were married in Scituate, Mass., 9 July 1701 (*Vital Records of Scituate, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850*, 2 vols. [Boston, 1909], 2:331). See also David Parsons Holton and Frances K. Forward Holton, *Winslow Memorial: Family Records of Winslows and Their Descendants in America with the English Ancestry as Far as Known*, 2 vols. (New York, 1877–88), 1:88. The account of Nathaniel’s family in *Winslow Memorial* is incomplete and omits several of his children, including Kenelm.

<sup>26</sup> Everett S. Stackpole, *Old Kittery and Her Families*, (Lewiston, Maine, 1903), 476.

<sup>27</sup> Fannie S. Chase, *Wiscasset in Pownalborough: A History of the Shire Town and the Salient Historical Features of the Territory Between the Sheepscot and Kennebec Rivers* (1941), 548.

<sup>28</sup> *Doc. Hist. State of Maine* [note 17], Series II, 11:292–93 [1743 petition]; Mass. Archives Collection, 116:263–74 [DGS #7705903, images 1222–32] [1752 petition].

the massacre claims that one child survived, “attempting to draw milk from its dead mother’s breast,” but the identity of this child is uncertain.<sup>29</sup>

The murders of Dr. Nathaniel Winslow, his son Elisha, his daughter Elizabeth Gray and her children, and the abduction of Elisha’s son Nathaniel—all possibly within a single year’s time frame—was a family tragedy lost to history but pieced back together almost three hundred years later.

*Lael Montgomery (laelmontgomery@aol.com) became obsessed with family history research when she discovered her paternal Montgomery-Winslow roots in East Boothbay, Maine. She is Co-Administrator of the ftDNA “Montgomery of Scotland Founder Project for Haplogroup J-Z35794.”*

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<sup>29</sup> Cushman, *Ancient Sheepscot and Newcastle* [note 1], 181. Gray family genealogists propose that the child may have been John Sheldon Gray, b. “Sheepscott,” in Feb. 1742, orphaned and adopted by relatives; m. Marblehead, Mass., 11 Aug. 1769, Elizabeth Roundy; and later lived in Clinton, Maine (*Vital Records of Marblehead, Massachusetts, to the End of the Year 1849*, 2 vols. (Salem, Mass., 1903–4), 2:83 [marriage]; Carleton Edward Fisher, *Vital Records of Clinton, Maine, to the Year 1892* (Winthrop, Maine, 1967), 61 [his birth in Sheepscot and those of his children in Clinton]; Stephen Lee Robbins, “Gray Family of Somerset and Washington Counties, Maine: Descendants of Captain John Gray (b 1742, Sheepscot, Me, d, Harmony, Me.); A Preliminary Study; Vol 1,” MS (Maine State Library, Augusta); personal correspondence with Stephen Robbins, 18 June 2019. The problem with this proposed identification is that John Sheldon Gray, if b. in 1742, would not have been a suckling baby at the time of the massacre 15 or 16 years later.

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## UNIVERSALLY DETESTED

*Contributed by Thomas W. Frank*

The following petition, dated Columbia, New Hampshire, 22 February 1823, was addressed to “His Excellency the Governor and the Hon. Council of the State of New Hampshire,” and reads:

Your Memorialists, Inhabitants of Columbia in the County of Coos, That having understood that Sam<sup>l</sup> G. Bishop of said Columbia had presented a petition, praying that he might be appointed a Justice of the Peace for s<sup>d</sup> County Beg leave to remonstrate against his appointment to said Office, for the following reasons, Viz

There are now three Justices of the peace in said Town and but about fifty voters.

We consider said Bishop as totally unqualified for said Office if any more were needed, as he is universally detested by every man of sense and honesty who is fully acquainted with him.

The petition was signed by thirty-six inhabitants of Columbia.

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<sup>1</sup> New Hampshire Department of State, New Hampshire, Government Petitions, 1700–1826, Box 48 (February 1, 1823–March 24, 1823), Concord, N.H. [New Hampshire, U.S., Government Petitions, 1700–1826, database and image, ancestry.com].



WHICH THOMAS PERKINS OF ARUNDEL,  
SR., JR., 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, CAPT., ENSIGN, OR ESQ.?

By Priscilla Eaton, FASG

(concluded from p. 38)

10 **Captain GEORGE<sup>5</sup> PERKINS** (*Thomas<sup>4-1</sup>*) was born in Arundel circa 1747 and died in Kennebunk, 13 December 1813, aged 66 years, of consumption.<sup>638</sup> He married say 1770, and before 10 September 1775 when George Jr. and wife Mary renewed the covenant at the Arundel church,<sup>639</sup> MARY LORD. She was born [calc.] January 1751, daughter of Benjamin Meeds and Mary (March) Lord.<sup>640</sup> She died in Kennebunk, 13 May 1814, aged 63 years and 4 months, of paralysis.<sup>641</sup>

Bradbury notes that George moved to Wells (Kennebunk) and had a large family of children.<sup>642</sup> George was enumerated in Arundel in 1790, his household apparently including three sons [Daniel, Benjamin, and George] and three daughters [Betty, Jenny, and Mary].<sup>643</sup> Remich reports that George came to Kennebunk about 1785 [but probably later], his chief motive being to purchase ship timber and lumber for parties on the Arundel side of the Kennebunk River. George was a trader and occupied the Larrabee store on the mill-yard heater. He also built two vessels on the Creek on Mousam River, one under the command of his son-in-law, Benjamin Stone. After the loss of this uninsured vessel, George was forced to sell his house and stock of goods. He then relinquished trading for “the more congenial employment of farming.” Remich also notes that George married Mary Lord who survived him, and names his children as “Ezra, George, and Clement and several daughters.”<sup>644</sup>

Children of George<sup>5</sup> and Mary (Lord) Perkins, the children apparently not baptized as infants:<sup>645</sup>

- i MOLLY<sup>6</sup> PERKINS, b. say 1772, bp. Arundel, 3 Sept. 1782, probably d. before 1786 when another daughter named Mary was likely born.

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<sup>638</sup> Joseph P. Thompson, copier, “Records of the First Parish Church of Kennebunk, Including Records of Baptisms, Marriages, and Deaths, 1750–1890,” MS (ca. 1900, Coll. 3197, Maine Historical Society, Portland), p. 97; Shelley, *Wells VRs* [note 50], 182.

<sup>639</sup> “Church of Christ in Arundel” [note 33], NEHGR 107(1953):273. He was probably called George Jr. to distinguish him from the George Perkins, b. ca. 1744, who married Mary Smith. George was the eldest George Perkins in Kennebunk, but he was called George Jr. when he lived in Arundel.

<sup>640</sup> Daniel Remich, *History of Kennebunk from Its Earliest Settlement to 1890* (n.p., 1911), 525.

<sup>641</sup> Thompson, “First Parish of Kennebunk” [note 638], 97; Shelley, *Wells VRs* [note 50], 182.

<sup>642</sup> Bradbury, *Hist. of Kennebunk Port* [note 1], 260, 270.

<sup>643</sup> *Heads of Families 1790: Maine* [note 2], 55, col. b.

<sup>644</sup> Remich, *History of Kennebunk* [note 640], 132, 528–29.

<sup>645</sup> “Church of Christ in Arundel” [note 33], NEHGR 107(1953):201, 272. Betty, Daniel, and Jenny were all baptized on the same day.

- ii BETTY PERKINS, b. say 1774, bp. Arundel, 6 July 1783; m. (1) Arundel, 16 Aug. 1792, BENJAMIN STONE,<sup>646</sup> b. 26 Feb. 1766, son of Dixey and Elizabeth (Fairfield) Stone, lost at sea in 1796 aged 29.<sup>647</sup> Betty m. (2) (int.) Wells, 24 Aug. 1799, JOHN STROTHERS of Arundel,<sup>648</sup> b. [calc.] Feb. 1777, d. Wells, 30 Sept. 1814, aged 37y 7m.<sup>649</sup> Remich reports that after Benjamin Stone sailed one of his father-in-law's vessels from the Kennebunk River, he "was never heard from with certainty."<sup>650</sup>
- iii DANIEL PERKINS, b. say 1776, bp. Arundel, 6 July 1783. There is a place for him in George's household in 1790, but he was not named by Remich nor in the quitclaim deed cited below. His brother George named a son Daniel.
- iv JANE/JENNY PERKINS, b. say 1778, bp. Arundel, 6 July 1783. She was probably the "Genney" Perkins who m. (int.) Wells, 8 Sept. 1798, WILLIAM HOOPER of Wells.<sup>651</sup> She was also possibly the "Jane Hooper" who m. Kennebunk, 17 Feb. 1805, SIMON ROSS<sup>652</sup> but, if so, she was deceased by April 1812 when Ross married her sister, Mary, below. Remich reports that "Mary," the daughter of Captain George Perkins Sr., married one Hooper, a cabinetmaker, who lived there [Arundel] for several years and then left town.<sup>653</sup> Remich was apparently unfamiliar with the family, as he was also unable to provide Hooper's first name. On 23 Oct. 1823, Jane's daughters Hester and Hannah Hooper, single women, along with Simon Ross and his wife Polly, quitclaimed to George Perkins of Kennebunk, yeoman, their rights to the land of George Perkins, late of Wells, yeoman, excepting any share which Clement Perkins, late of Kennebunk, is entitled to in said estate.<sup>654</sup>
- v BENJAMIN PERKINS, b. say 1780, bp. Arundel, 17 Aug. 1783. There is a place for him in George's household in 1790, but he was not named by Remich nor included in the quitclaim deed cited above. His brother Ezra named a son Benjamin.
- vi MARY/POLLY PERKINS, b. ca. 1785, d. Kennebunk, 13 May 1854, aged 68y;<sup>655</sup> m. Kennebunk, 19 April 1812, SIMON ROSS,<sup>656</sup> b. ca. 1782 (and possibly the widower of Mary's sister Jane), d. Kennebunk, 8 Sept. 1870, aged 88y.<sup>657</sup> There is no baptismal record for Mary, but the above-cited deed called her an heir of George Perkins. In 1850 Simon Ross, 67, a tailor, and wife Mary, 65, were living in Kennebunk, with Susan M. Ross, 27, and William A. Ross, 24.<sup>658</sup>
- vii son PERKINS, b. [calc.] June 1787. An unnamed son of Capt. George Perkins d. at sea of yellow fever, 5 Dec. 1805, aged 18y 6m.<sup>659</sup>

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<sup>646</sup> Kennebunkport VRs, 1678–1822, p. 570 [DGS #7595726, image 350].

<sup>647</sup> Walter Goodwin Davis, *The Ancestry of Sarah Stone, Wife of James Patten of Arundel (Kennebunkport) Maine* (Portland, Maine, 1930), 232.

<sup>648</sup> Shelley, *Wells VRs* [note 50], 121.

<sup>649</sup> Shelley, *Wells VRs* [note 50], 182.

<sup>650</sup> Remich, *History of Kennebunk* [note 640], 528–29.

<sup>651</sup> Shelley, *Wells VRs* [note 50], 120.

<sup>652</sup> Thompson, "First Parish of Kennebunk" [note 638], 69.

<sup>653</sup> Remich, *History of Kennebunk* [note 640], 135.

<sup>654</sup> York Co. Deeds, 114:71.

<sup>655</sup> Gravestone photo, Hope Cemetery, Kennebunk, findagrave.com #121185775.

<sup>656</sup> Thompson, "First Parish of Kennebunk" [note 638], 76.

<sup>657</sup> Gravestone photo, Hope Cemetery, Kennebunk, findagrave.com #121185962.

<sup>658</sup> Simon Ross household, 1850 U.S. Census, Kennebunk, York Co., Maine, p. 93.

<sup>659</sup> Thompson, "First Parish of Kennebunk" [note 638], 91; Shelley, *Wells VRs* [note 50], 178.



viii GEORGE PERKINS, b. [calc.] Jan. 1789, bp. Arundel, 12 Jan. 1791, d. Kennebunk, 2 June 1882, age 93y 4m, in the home of his son Daniel;<sup>660</sup> m. Kennebunk, 27 Feb. 1827, Mrs. NANCY (MORRISON) JEFFERDS,<sup>661</sup> b. Wells, 1790, bp. Wells, 6 Aug. 1794, daughter of Josiah and Esther (Littlefield) Morrison,<sup>662</sup> d. Kennebunk, 1868.<sup>663</sup> Nancy Morrison had m. (1) (int.) Kennebunk, 26 Aug. 1820, George Jefferds,<sup>664</sup> b. Wells, 5 Jan. 1789, son of William and Olive (Gillpatrick) Jefferds,<sup>665</sup> d. Kennebunk, 5 July 1823, age 34y.<sup>666</sup> Remich reports that George and his brother Ezra divided the real estate held by their father, which was situated on both sides of the Alfred Road. The 24 Jan. 1849 will of Susan Morrison of Kennebunk, singlewoman, names her sister, Nancy Perkins, wife of George Perkins of Kennebunk.<sup>667</sup> In 1850 George, 55, a farmer, and wife Nancy, 58, were farming in Kennebunk, their household including: George, 21, Daniel, 17, and Martha A., 15.<sup>668</sup>

Children of George and Nancy (Morrison) (Jefferds) Perkins, included:

- 1 *George Perkins*, b. ca. 1828. In 1860 George F., 32, a mariner and apparently unmarried, was living in Kennebunk with his parents.<sup>669</sup>
- 2 *Daniel Perkins*, b. Kennebunk, 21 Feb. 1832, d. Kennebunk, 19 March 1917, aged 84y 2m 21d;<sup>670</sup> m. Kennebunk, 6 Feb. 1859, Sarah E. Peabody of Kennebunkport,<sup>671</sup> b. Boston, Mass., [calc.] 15 Oct. 1835, daughter of John and Sarah E. (Hill) Peabody, d. Dayton, 15 June 1922, aged 86y 8m 0d.<sup>672</sup>
- 3 *Martha A. Perkins*, b. [calc.] 26 Jan. 1835, d. Limington, 17 Sept. 1906, age 71y 7m 21d;<sup>673</sup> m. (1) Biddeford, 17 June 1854, Blanchard M. Lombard of Biddeford,<sup>674</sup> m. (2) Gorham, 21 April 1871, John Devine of Gorham,<sup>675</sup> m. (3) Buxton, 6 Feb. 1886, Nathaniel M. Came of Buxton;<sup>676</sup> m. (4) Limington, 25 Nov. 1892, Jeremiah Davis.<sup>677</sup>

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<sup>660</sup> Remich, *History of Kennebunk* [note 640], 529.

<sup>661</sup> Thompson, "First Parish of Kennebunk" [note 638], 87.

<sup>662</sup> "Wells First Church Records" [note 444], NEHGR 76(1922):253. Nancy was baptized with siblings Dependence, Eunice, and Esther. Josiah Morrison m. Wells, 15 July 1779, Esther Littlefield (Shelley, *Wells VRs* [note 50], 82).

<sup>663</sup> Gravestone photo, Hope Cemetery, Kennebunk, findagrave #61709688, her stone giving her dates as 1790–1868.

<sup>664</sup> Kennebunk VRs, 1729–1892, p. 1 [DGS #7595725, image 339].

<sup>665</sup> Shelley, *Wells VRs* [note 50], 148; Edward E. Bourne, *The History of Wells and Kennebunk* (Portland, 1875), 761.

<sup>666</sup> Gravestone photo, Unitarian Churchyard, Kennebunk, findagrave.com #57335252.

<sup>667</sup> York Co. Probate Records, 63:55.

<sup>668</sup> Geo. Perkins household, 1850 U.S. Census, Kennebunk, York Co., Maine, p. 98.

<sup>669</sup> George Perkins household, 1860 U.S. Census, Kennebunk, York Co., Maine, p. 1049.

<sup>670</sup> Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921, familysearch.org [DGS #5011852, image 3836].

<sup>671</sup> Kennebunk VRs, 1729–1892, p. 62 [DGS #7595725, image 391].

<sup>672</sup> Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921, familysearch.org [DGS #5011852, image 4340].

<sup>673</sup> Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921, familysearch.org [DGS #4544438, image 4040].

<sup>674</sup> Biddeford Marriages, 1855–92, p. 2 [DGS #7595319, image 9].

<sup>675</sup> Gorham VRs 1837–79, p. 285 [DGS #7595555, image 405].

<sup>676</sup> Buxton Marriages, 3:267 [DGS #7592510, image 578].

<sup>677</sup> Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921, familysearch.org [DGS #4544438, image 556]. The marriage record stated it was her third marriage, although it was actually her fourth marriage.

- ix EZRA PERKINS, b. [calc.] Nov. 1792, d. Kennebunk, 23 Jan. 1874, aged 81y 2m;<sup>678</sup> m. (int.) Wells, 11 Nov. 1815, SARAH BURNHAM,<sup>679</sup> b. ca. 1792, d. Kennebunk, 20 Jan. 1852, aged 59y.<sup>680</sup> Ezra was a selectman in Kennebunk for many years.

Children of Ezra and Sarah (Burnham) Perkins included:<sup>681</sup>

- 1 *Mary Jane Perkins*, b. ca. 1817, d. Boston, Mass., 17 Jan 1838, aged 21y;<sup>682</sup> m. Kennebunk, 26 Nov. 1836, Henry Cabot of Boston.<sup>683</sup>
  - 2 *Benjamin Perkins*, b. [calc.] 2 Nov. 1818, d. Kennebunk, 27 Sept. 1903, aged 84y 10m 25d;<sup>684</sup> m. (int.) Kennebunk, 11 May 1850, Eliza B. Gage of Lancaster, N.H.<sup>685</sup>
  - 3 *Eliza Perkins*, b. [calc.] Dec. 1820, d. Kennebunk, 25 June 1887, aged 66y 6m.<sup>686</sup>
- x Capt. CLEMENT PERKINS, b. ca. 1793. He became a mariner, and was murdered by pirates in the Bay of Campeachy [Campeche, southern Gulf of Mexico], 1 March 1823, at age 30. The entry of his death notes that his arms and one of his legs were cut off and then burned with oiled oakum.<sup>687</sup> Remich provides a horrific account, “among the saddest of the narratives of robbery and murder by these bloodthirsty wretches,” of the seizure of Capt. Clement Perkins from the brig *Bellisarius*.<sup>688</sup>

11 **GEORGE<sup>5</sup> PERKINS** (*Samuel<sup>4</sup>, Thomas<sup>3-1</sup>*) was born circa 1744 and died in Biddeford, 12 December 1831, aged 87 years.<sup>689</sup> He married first in Biddeford, 28 May 1767, MARY SMITH, both of Biddeford.<sup>690</sup> George married second in Arundel, 13 June 1801, SARAH (HOBBS) LITTLEFIELD.<sup>691</sup> Sarah Hobbs was baptized in Wells, 28 December 1766, the daughter of Joseph and Martha (Beedle) Hobbs.<sup>692</sup> She was the widow of Moses Littlefield, whom she had married in Wells, 4 November 1788,<sup>693</sup> and with whom she had no known children. Moses was born in Arundel, say 1764, son of Elijah and Mary (Stevens) Littlefield.<sup>694</sup> He died before 16 September 1799 when the estate of Moses Littlefield 3rd, late of Arundel, mariner, was granted to his widow,

<sup>678</sup> Gravestone photo, Hope Cemetery, Kennebunk, findagrave.com #121185604.

<sup>679</sup> Shelley, *Wells VRs* [note 50], 189.

<sup>680</sup> Gravestone photo, Hope Cemetery, Kennebunk, findagrave.com #121185601.

<sup>681</sup> Remich, *History of Kennebunk* [note 640], 529.

<sup>682</sup> Death notice, *Boston Weekly Messenger*, 25 Jan. 1838, p. 4 [image, genealogybank.com].

<sup>683</sup> Kennebunk VRs, 1729–1892, p. 43 [DGS #7595725, image 157].

<sup>684</sup> Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921, familysearch.org [DGS #4703854, image 951].

<sup>685</sup> Kennebunk VRs, 1820–56, p. 213 [DGS #7595725, image 438].

<sup>686</sup> Kennebunk VRs, 1729–1892, p. 67 [DGS #7595725, image 304].

<sup>687</sup> Thompson, “First Parish of Kennebunk” [note 638], 102.

<sup>688</sup> Remich, *History of Kennebunk* [note 640], 388; [Portland] *Eastern Argus*, 15 April 1823, p. 2 [image, genealogybank.com].

<sup>689</sup> Beatty, *Biddeford VRs* [note 3], 223.

<sup>690</sup> Beatty, *Biddeford VRs* [note 3], 111.

<sup>691</sup> Kennebunkport VRs, 1678–1822, 1:564 [DGS #7595726, image 346]. The intentions were also recorded in Biddeford, 13 June 1801 (*ibid.*, 143).

<sup>692</sup> “Wells First Church Records” [note 444], NEHGR 75(1921):116; Joseph Hobbs m. York, 9 Oct. 1751, Martha Beedle (Bragdon and Frost, *York VRs* [note 3], 137).

<sup>693</sup> Shelley, *Wells VRs* [note 50], 86.

<sup>694</sup> Bradbury, *Hist. of Kennebunk Port* [note 1], 257–58.

Sarah Littlefield of Arundel, who gave bond of \$1000, with Joseph Hobbs Jr. and Stephen Larrabee serving as sureties.<sup>695</sup> This is consistent with Bradbury's entry in *History of Kennebunk Port*, which notes that George married first, Mary Smith, and second, widow Sarah Littlefield.<sup>696</sup>

On 12 June 1828, George Perkins of Biddeford, yeoman, for \$800 paid by Sylvanus Perkins of Biddeford, sold him his homestead farm with wife Sarah making her mark.<sup>697</sup> Sylvanus was born about June 1807,<sup>698</sup> when George would have been in his sixties and Sarah would have been forty. While the relationship between George and Sylvanus has not been determined with certainty, he was likely a late son of the couple. In 1810 and 1820, a male of Sylvanus's age was a member of George Perkins's household.<sup>699</sup> Sylvanus could also have been a grandson, but he is not listed as a son of either Timothy or Samuel, leaving only Noah among George's known sons as a possible father, of whom nothing further was discovered.

Children of George<sup>5</sup> and Mary (Smith) Perkins, b. Biddeford:<sup>700</sup>

- i TIMOTHY<sup>6</sup> PERKINS, bp. 24 July 1768; m. (int.) Arundel, 20 Sept. 1794, OLIVE TARBOX of Biddeford,<sup>701</sup> b. Biddeford, 27 May 1774, daughter of Daniel and Agnes (Hooper) Tarbox.<sup>702</sup> Timothy d. bef. 15 Dec. 1837 when Mrs. Olive Perkins m. (2) (int.) Biddeford, Benjamin Smith.<sup>703</sup> Olive was still living in 1860, aged 86, when she was living with her son Joseph Perkins in Brownfield.<sup>704</sup>

Children of Timothy and Olive (Tarbox) Perkins, b. Biddeford, included:<sup>705</sup>

- 1 *Sally Perkins*, b. 13 Nov. 1795; poss. the same who m. (int.) Biddeford, 29 Nov. 1817, Samuel Adams of Biddeford.<sup>706</sup>
- 2 *Olive Perkins*, b. 23 Sept. 1797; m. Arundel, 20 Nov. 1819, Thomas Emmons.<sup>707</sup>
- 3 *Joseph Perkins*, b. 30 March 1801, d. Brownfield, 19 Aug. 1900;<sup>708</sup> m. (int.) Biddeford, 14 Aug. 1824, Betsey Proctor of Biddeford.<sup>709</sup>

<sup>695</sup> York Co. Probate Records, 18:140.

<sup>696</sup> Bradbury, *Hist. of Kennebunk Port* [note 1], 270.

<sup>697</sup> York Co. Deeds, 288:426, the deed not recorded until 27 Oct. 1864.

<sup>698</sup> Sylvanus d. 21 Sept. 1854, aged 47y 3m (*York Co. Inscriptions* [note 39], 2:974).

<sup>699</sup> George Perkins household, 1810 and 1820 U.S. Censuses, Biddeford, York Co., Maine, pp. 906 [1810], 360 [1820].

<sup>700</sup> Beatty, *Biddeford VRs* [note 3], 94, 95, 95, 98, 99.

<sup>701</sup> Kennebunkport VRs, 1678–1822, p. 578 [DGS #7595726, image 352].

<sup>702</sup> Beatty, *Biddeford VRs* [note 3], 109, 212. Daniel Tarbox m. Biddeford, 30 Sept. 1762, Agnes Hooper.

<sup>703</sup> Beatty, *Biddeford VRs* [note 3], 327.

<sup>704</sup> Joseph Perkins household, 1860 U.S. Census, Brownfield, Oxford Co., Maine, p. 327.

<sup>705</sup> Beatty, *Biddeford VRs* [note 3], 212.

<sup>706</sup> Beatty, *Biddeford VRs* [note 3], 282. One George Thatcher Adams, the son of Samuel and Sally Adams, who d. 23 Nov. 1835, age 13y 3m, is buried in the Village Cemetery in Kennebunkport (*York Co. Inscriptions* [note 39], 2:980).

<sup>707</sup> Kennebunkport VRs, 1678–1822, p. 524 [DGS #7595726, image 325].

<sup>708</sup> Maine Births and Christenings, 1739–1900 [familysearch.org]; the record names his father as Timothy Perkins. The actual record is catalogued, but not visible on familysearch.org.

<sup>709</sup> Beatty, *Biddeford VRs* [note 3], 294.

- 4 *George Perkins*, b. 13 Sept. 1806, d. Denmark, 27 June 1884, aged 89y 9m 14d;<sup>710</sup> m. Biddeford, 14 Oct. 1827, Christiana Shepherd of Biddeford,<sup>711</sup> b. [calc.] 10 May 1811, d. Denmark, 17 July 1877, aged 66y 2m 7d.<sup>712</sup>
- 5 *Harriet Perkins*, b. 11 May 1808, d. Brownfield, 3 May 1836; m. (int.) Biddeford, 27 July 1827, Joseph Goldthwaite,<sup>713</sup> b. Biddeford, 11 March 1803, son of Joseph and Jane (Miller) Goldthwaite,<sup>714</sup> d. Brownfield, 26 Aug. 1888.<sup>715</sup>
- ii NOAH PERKINS, bp. 19 Feb. 1769. No further record discovered.
- iii MARY/MOLLY/POLLY PERKINS, bp. 24 March 1770 with no first name noted on the record, still living in 1850 at age 80y when she was part of her son Abram's household;<sup>716</sup> m. Arundel, 8 Aug. 1793, ABRAHAM DAVIS of Biddeford,<sup>717</sup> bp. Biddeford, 12 May 1765, son of Josiah and Susanna (Webber) Davis,<sup>718</sup> d. Biddeford, 14 Nov. 1839, aged 74y.<sup>719</sup> The births of nine children, b. 1794–1812, are recorded in Biddeford, including eldest son *George*, b. 26 Feb. 1794.<sup>720</sup>
- iv SAMUEL PERKINS, b. say 1770, bp. 6 Dec. 1773; probably the same who m. int. Biddeford, 25 Dec. 1790, ABIGAIL GOLDTHWAITE,<sup>721</sup> daughter of Joseph and Abigail (Dyer) Goldthwaite.<sup>722</sup> The births of two children are recorded in Biddeford.<sup>723</sup>
- v SARAH PERKINS, bp. 16 July 1775, d. Kennebunkport, 10 March 1854, age 79y;<sup>724</sup> m. Arundel, 11 Feb. 1796, Capt. WILLIAM HALL,<sup>725</sup> b. ca. 1772, d. Kennebunkport, 29 Nov. 1819, aged 47y.<sup>726</sup> William and Sarah are buried in the School Street Cemetery with their son *George*.

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<sup>710</sup> Gravestone photo, Mount Pleasant Cemetery, Denmark, findagrave.com #131662891.

<sup>711</sup> Beatty, *Biddeford VRs* [note 3], 303. On 17 Aug. 1829 George Perkins of Biddeford gave notice that his wife Christiana had left his bed and board and refused to perform the marriage covenant ([Saco] *Maine Palladium*, 26 Aug. 1829, p. 3 [image, genealogybank.com]). Christiana responded on 9 Sept. 1829: "When George would whip me night and day / (if it want for that I shouldn't) / I took my bed and went away / And pray who's there that wouldn't/ ([Saco] *Maine Palladium*, 9 Sept. 1829, p. 4 [image, genealogybank.com]).

<sup>712</sup> Gravestone photo, Mount Pleasant Cemetery, Denmark, findagrave.com #131343912.

<sup>713</sup> Beatty, *Biddeford VRs* [note 3], 300.

<sup>714</sup> Joseph Goldthwaite m. (int.) Biddeford, 24 Aug. 1793, Jane Miller (Beatty, *Biddeford VRs* [note 3], 129).

<sup>715</sup> Charlotte Goldthwaite, *Goldthwaite Genealogy* (Hartford, Conn., 1899), 267.

<sup>716</sup> Abram Davis household, 1850 U.S. Census, Biddeford, York Co., Maine, p. 13.

<sup>717</sup> Kennebunkport VRs, 1678–1822, p. 57 [DGS #7595726, image 350]. She is specifically called "Molly" in both the intentions and marriage records, but called Polly in the Biddeford family record.

<sup>718</sup> Beatty, *Biddeford VRs* [note 3], 22 & 82; Josiah Davis m. (int.) Biddeford, [no date] 1748, Susanna Webber of Wells.

<sup>719</sup> Beatty, *Biddeford VRs* [note 3], 275.

<sup>720</sup> Beatty, *Biddeford VRs* [note 3], 213.

<sup>721</sup> Beatty, *Biddeford VRs* [note 3], 126.

<sup>722</sup> *Goldthwaite Genealogy* [note 715], 128–30; Joseph Goldthwaite m. Biddeford, 17 Dec. 1762, Abigail Dyer (Beatty, *Biddeford VRs* [note 3], 109).

<sup>723</sup> Beatty, *Biddeford VRs* [note 3], 185.

<sup>724</sup> Gravestone photo, School Street Cemetery, Kennebunkport, findagrave.com #57734288.

<sup>725</sup> "Church of Christ in Arundel" [note 33], NEHGR 107(1953):188.

<sup>726</sup> Gravestone photo, School Street Cemetery, Kennebunkport, findagrave.com #57734353.



Probable child of George<sup>5</sup> and his 2nd wife, Sarah (Hobbs) (Littlefield) Perkins:

vi SYLVANUS PERKINS, b. ca. June 1807, d. 21 Sept. 1854, aged 47y 3m;<sup>727</sup> of Biddeford when he m. (int.) Kennebunkport, 22 Nov. 1828, ALMIRA/ELMIRA GOODWIN of Kennebunkport,<sup>728</sup> b. [calc.] 12 Aug. 1806, daughter of George and Mary (Burnham) Goodwin, d. Kennebunkport, 21 Feb. 1894, aged 87y 6m 9d.<sup>729</sup> In 1850 Sylvanus Perkins, a farmer, 43, and Elmira, 44, were living in Biddeford with Mary, 18, Elmira, 12, Sarah B., 10, Charles H., 8, and Lucinda, 5.<sup>730</sup> Notably, Sylvanus named a son *George* and a daughter *Sarah*.

Children of Sylvanus and Almira (Goodwin) Perkins, b. Biddeford:<sup>731</sup>

- 1 *Sarah Belinda Perkins*, b. 1 April 1830, d. 18 May 1833, aged 3y.<sup>732</sup>
- 2 *Mary Jane Perkins*, b. 1 April 1832, d. 20 June 1896, aged 64y;<sup>733</sup> m. Biddeford, 22 Feb. 1853, Francis G. Benson.<sup>734</sup>
- 3 *George Oren Perkins*, b. 24 April 1834, d. 21 April 1848, aged 14y.<sup>735</sup>
- 4 *Simon G. Perkins*, b. 28 June 1836, d. 28 Dec. 1837 aged 1½y.<sup>736</sup>
- 5 *Almira/Elmira Perkins*, b. 23 Sept. 1838, d. Biddeford, 31 Oct. 1857, aged 19y 1m.<sup>737</sup>
- 6 *Sarah Belinda Perkins*, b. 18 March 1841, d. 8 Nov. 1913;<sup>738</sup> m. Biddeford, 10 Jan. 1864, Israel Crediford of Kennebunkport.<sup>739</sup>
- 7 *Charles Henry Perkins*, b. 14 June 1843, d. “in the service of his country at Judiciary Square Hospital, Washington, D.C.,” 15 Aug. 1864, aged 21y 2m.<sup>740</sup>
- 8 *Lucinda Perkins*, b. ca. 1845, d. Kennebunkport, 21 Feb. 1865, aged 19y.<sup>741</sup>

12 **THOMAS<sup>5</sup> PERKINS** (*Samuel<sup>4</sup>, Thomas<sup>3-1</sup>*) was born in Arundel in 1752, and died in 1819.<sup>742</sup> He married in Arundel, 21 January 1779, DEBORAH LASSELL.<sup>743</sup> She was born in 1752, daughter of Jeremiah and Ruth (Lovett) Lassell,<sup>744</sup> and died in Kennebunk in 1845.<sup>745</sup>

<sup>727</sup> Gravestone, Perkins Cemetery, Kennebunkport, *York Co. Inscriptions* [note 39], 2:974.

<sup>728</sup> Kennebunkport Marriages, 1817–1870, p. 19 [DGS # 7595726, image 467].

<sup>729</sup> Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921, familysearch.org [DGS #4703853, image 4010].

<sup>730</sup> Sylvanus Perkins household, 1850 U.S. Census, Biddeford, York Co., Maine, p. 12.

<sup>731</sup> Births in Beatty, *Biddeford VRs* [note 3], 259, 384.

<sup>732</sup> Gravestone, Perkins Cemetery, Kennebunkport, *York Co. Inscriptions* [note 39], 2:974.

<sup>733</sup> Gravestone photo, Woodlawn Cemetery, Biddeford, findagrave.com #34322174.

<sup>734</sup> Marriage notice, [Saco] *Maine Democrat*, 15 March 1853, p. 3 [image, genealogybank.com].

<sup>735</sup> Gravestone, Perkins Cemetery, Kennebunkport, *York Co. Inscriptions* [note 39], 2:974.

<sup>736</sup> Gravestone, Perkins Cemetery, Kennebunkport, *York Co. Inscriptions* [note 39], 2:974.

<sup>737</sup> Biddeford Deaths, 1855–92, p. 46 [DGS #7595319, image 309].

<sup>738</sup> Her death date given in *The Boston Directory . . . 1914* (Boston, 1914), p. 511.

<sup>739</sup> Biddeford Marriages, 1855–92, p. 64 [DGS #7595319, image 41].

<sup>740</sup> Gravestone, Perkins Cemetery, Kennebunkport, *York Co. Inscriptions* [note 39], 2:974.

<sup>741</sup> Kennebunkport VRs, 2:31 [DGS #7595726, image 400].

<sup>742</sup> Gravestone photo, Hope Cemetery, Kennebunk, findagrave.com #121154317.

<sup>743</sup> “Church of Christ in Arundel” [note 33], NEHGR 108(1954):121.

<sup>744</sup> Bradbury, *Hist. of Kennebunk Port* [note 1], 256.

<sup>745</sup> Gravestone photo, Hope Cemetery, Kennebunk, findagrave.com #201995533.

Children of Thomas<sup>5</sup> and Deborah (Lassell) Perkins, b. Arundel:

- i THOMAS<sup>6</sup> PERKINS, b. ca. 1780, bp. Arundel, 3 June 1788 with his brother John,<sup>746</sup> d. Kennebunkport, 23 June 1853, aged 73y;<sup>747</sup> as Thomas Perkins 6th, he m. (int.) Kennebunkport, 7 Jan. 1815, ALICE LOWE of Lyman,<sup>748</sup> b. Lyman, 1793, daughter of Nathaniel and Abigail (Hanscom) (Gould) Lowe,<sup>749</sup> d. in 1826.<sup>750</sup> In 1850 Thomas Perkins, 70, a farmer, was living in Kennebunkport, his household including John L., 34, Sally, 25, and Lydia M. Hanscomb, 50.<sup>751</sup> He was residing next door to his nephew, Albert Perkins. His will of 26 Aug. 1851 names his son John L. [executor], daughter Olive Hill, and daughter Sally Dennett, with nephew and next-door-neighbor Albert Perkins as a witness.<sup>752</sup>
  - Children Thomas and Alice (Lowe) Perkins included:
    - 1 *John L. Perkins*, b. [calc.] 14 Feb. 1816, d. Kennebunkport, 28 Nov. 1899, aged 83y 9m 14d;<sup>753</sup> m. Kennebunkport, 22 Jan. 1851, Dorothy Meserve.<sup>754</sup>
    - 2 *Olive Perkins*, b. [calc.] Nov. 1817, d. 9 Aug. 1853, aged 35y 9m;<sup>755</sup> m. Kennebunkport, 27 Jan. 1845, Nathaniel Hill of Lyman.<sup>756</sup>
    - 3 *Mary Perkins*, b. ca. 1820, d. 13 March 1832, aged 12y.<sup>757</sup>
    - 4 *Sally Perkins*, b. 4 Jan. 1825, d. 9 Sept. 1863;<sup>758</sup> m. (int.) Kennebunkport, 1 June 1851, Simon L. Dennett of Lyman.<sup>759</sup>
- ii JOHN PERKINS, b. 1782 per his cemetery inscription,<sup>760</sup> bp. Arundel, 3 June 1788, with his brother Thomas,<sup>761</sup> d. Kennebunk, shortly bef. 5 Feb. 1828, aged 46;<sup>762</sup> m. Kennebunk, 23 July 1807, HANNAH TITCOMB,<sup>763</sup> b. Kennebunk, 19 Feb. 1788, daughter

<sup>746</sup> “Church of Christ in Arundel” [note 33], NEHGR 107(1953):271.

<sup>747</sup> Death notice, [Saco] *Maine Democrat*, 28 June 1853, p. 2 [image, genealogybank.com]; Perkins family monument photo, Hope Cemetery, Kennebunkport, findagrave.com #121154335, which gives his years of birth and death.

<sup>748</sup> Kennebunkport VRs, 1678–1822, p. 545 [DGS #7595726, image 336].

<sup>749</sup> Frederick R. Boyle, *Early Families of Lyman, Maine* (Portsmouth, N.H., 2017), 240, citing a Low family typescript at the New England Historic Genealogical Society library, Boston, Mass.

<sup>750</sup> Perkins family monument photo, Hope Cemetery, Kennebunkport, findagrave.com #121154321, which gives her years of birth and death.

<sup>751</sup> Thomas Perkins household, 1850 U.S. Census, Kennebunkport, York Co., Maine, p. 270.

<sup>752</sup> York Co. Probate Records, 70:169.

<sup>753</sup> Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921, familysearch.org [DGS #4703854, image 414].

<sup>754</sup> Kennebunkport VRs, Marriages & Intentions, 1817–70, p. 38 [DGS #7595726, image 534].

<sup>755</sup> Gravestone photo, Goodwin Mills Village Cemetery, Lyman, findagrave.com #116876472.

<sup>756</sup> Kennebunkport VRs, Marriages & Intentions, 1817–70, p. 29 [DGS #7595726, image 529].

<sup>757</sup> Death notice, [Portland] *Weekly Eastern Argus*, 13 March 1832, p. 3 [image, genealogybank.com], called the daughter of Thomas Perkins Jr. of Kennebunkport.

<sup>758</sup> Gravestone photo, Greenwood Cemetery, Biddeford, findagrave.com #173426571, which gives her full dates of birth and death.

<sup>759</sup> Kennebunkport VRs, Marriages & Intentions, 1817–70, p. 80 [DGS #7595726, image 498].

<sup>760</sup> Hope Cemetery, Kennebunk, *York Co. Inscriptions* [note 39], 2:875.

<sup>761</sup> “Church of Christ in Arundel” [note 33], NEHGR 107(1953):271.

<sup>762</sup> Death notice, [Portland] *Weekly Eastern Argus*, 5 Feb. 1828, p. 3 [image, genealogybank.com].

<sup>763</sup> Thompson, “First Parish of Kennebunk” [note 638], 72. The groom is called John Perkins 4th.

of Benjamin and Mary (Burnham) Titcomb,<sup>764</sup> d. Kennebunkport, 24 Feb. 1867, aged 79y.<sup>765</sup> On 24 Dec. 1824, Thomas Perkins Jr. and John Perkins Jr., both of Kennebunkport, gentlemen, together purchased a lot of land and buildings in Kennebunkport.<sup>766</sup> On 4 Nov. 1828, John's brother-in-law Benjamin Titcomb was granted administration of John's estate.<sup>767</sup> Benjamin Titcomb charged the estate \$1 for his day spent dividing the personal estate with Thomas Perkins Jr. The inventory included a 50-acre lot adjoining the lot where "Thomas Perkins Jr. now lives." Widow Hannah was awarded her thirds and named guardian of sons Albert and William. In 1850 Hannah Perkins, 62, was living in Kennebunkport in the home of her son Albert, 34, a farmer, his wife Lucy, 26, and granddaughter Hannah H., 1, and next door to her brother-in-law, Thomas Perkins.<sup>768</sup>

Children John and Hannah (Titcomb) Perkins included:

- 1 *Albert Perkins*, b. [calc.] June 1816, d. Kennebunk, 11 Sept. 1893, aged 77y 3m;<sup>769</sup> m. (int.) Kennebunkport, 16 Nov. 1845, Lucy Y. Hill of Lyman.<sup>770</sup>
- 2 *William Perkins*, b. ca.1822, d. 4 March 1873, aged 51y;<sup>771</sup> m. Saco, 26 Jan. 1855, Rebecca A. Foss, both of Saco.<sup>772</sup> On 2 June 1865, William Perkins of Saco, trader, sold to [his brother] Albert Perkins of Kennebunkport, farmer, "all the real estate now held by my mother, Hannah Perkins, or of which I might come into possession at her decease, said property being one half of her third of the homestead farm on which she the said Hannah and the said Albert Perkins now live." The deed was signed by William and his wife Rebecca A. Perkins.<sup>773</sup>

13 **JOHN<sup>5</sup> PERKINS** (*Samuel<sup>4</sup>, Thomas<sup>3-1</sup>*) was born in Arundel say 1757, if he was aged 21 at time of his first marriage. He married first in Arundel, 15 October 1778, MOLLY LASSELL,<sup>774</sup> daughter of Matthew and Hannah (Burbank) Lassell.<sup>775</sup> He married second in Arundel, 5 April 1787, MARY/POLLY HUFF,<sup>776</sup> daughter of Charles and Priscilla (Burbank) Huff.<sup>777</sup>

Only one John Perkins was enumerated in Arundel in 1790, in a household that included one boy [son John] and two females [wife Mary and daughter Polly].<sup>778</sup> John

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<sup>764</sup> Shelley, *Wells VRs* [note 50], 100, 147; Benjamin Titcomb of Wells m. (int.) Wells, 22 Jan. 1780, Mary Burnham of Arundel.

<sup>765</sup> Death record, [Portland] *Christian Mirror*, 12 March 1867, p. 3 [image, genealogybank.com]; Hope Cemetery, Kennebunk, *York Co. Inscriptions* [note 39], 2:875. The inscription includes her maiden name of Titcomb.

<sup>766</sup> York Co. Deeds, 116:249.

<sup>767</sup> York Co. Probate, #14900, [DGS #7315190, images 85–92].

<sup>768</sup> Albert Perkins household, 1850 U.S. Census, Kennebunkport, York Co., Maine, p. 270.

<sup>769</sup> Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921, familysearch.org [DGS #4703853, image 3920].

<sup>770</sup> Kennebunkport VRs, Marriages & Intentions, 1817–70, p. 65 [DGS #7595726, image 490].

<sup>771</sup> Gravestone photo, Laurel Hill Cemetery, Saco, findagrave.com #131413801.

<sup>772</sup> Saco Marriages, 1851–67, p. 29 [DGS #7596918, image 374].

<sup>773</sup> York Co. Deeds, 293:195.

<sup>774</sup> "Church of Christ in Arundel" [note 33], NEHGR 108(1954):121.

<sup>775</sup> Bradbury, *Hist. of Kennebunk Port* [note 1], 256.

<sup>776</sup> "Church of Christ in Arundel" [note 33], NEHGR 108(1954):123.

<sup>777</sup> Bradbury, *Hist. of Kennebunk Port* [note 1], 252.

<sup>778</sup> *Heads of Families 1790: Maine* [note 2], 55, column b.



Perkins and wife Mary renewed the covenant at the Arundel church on 11 November 1798,<sup>779</sup> and then baptized six children, on two different days, in the year that followed. On 26 August 1799, John Perkins of Arundel, mariner, was granted administration of the estate of his father, Samuel Perkins of Arundel, cordwainer.<sup>780</sup> On 14 March 1808, John Perkins of Arundel, yeoman, sold Benjamin Stone of Arundel, yeoman, twenty-eight acres in Arundel, with wife Mary relinquishing her right of dower.<sup>781</sup> Mary was likely the Mary Perkins, aged 45 or over, heading her household in Arundel in 1820 between Luther Perkins and Charles Perkins and near Daniel Huff.<sup>782</sup>

It is noteworthy that four of John and Mary (Huff) Perkins's children married Huff spouses: Mary Perkins married Daniel Huff Jr. in 1811, Luther Perkins married Keziah Huff in 1814, Isabella Perkins married Benjamin Huff in 1812, and Priscilla Perkins married Thatcher Huff in 1829 and Noah Huff in 1856. None of these Huff spouses have been positively connected to parents. Mary (Huff) Perkins had brothers named Josiah, Daniel, and Charles, as well as several first cousins who lived in Arundel.<sup>783</sup> Her brother Daniel married Keziah Seavey in 1773,<sup>784</sup> and it is tempting to presume that Daniel Huff Jr. and Keziah Huff were their children, but that is as yet unproven.

Children of John<sup>5</sup> and Mary (Huff) Perkins, all bp. Arundel:<sup>785</sup>

- i JOHN<sup>6</sup> PERKINS, b. 1787–90, bp. 17 Feb. 1799. He was born before 1790 as he was presumably the boy in his father's 1790 household. He was baptized along with three siblings, including Charles Huff, Luther, and Mary, all called the children of John and Mary Perkins.
- ii MARY/POLLY PERKINS, b. say 1790, bp. 17 Feb. 1799; probably the same who m. Arundel, 16 April 1811, DANIEL HUFF Jr.<sup>786</sup>
- iii CHARLES HUFF PERKINS, b. ca. 1792, bp. 17 Feb. 1799, and likely named for his maternal grandfather, d. Biddeford, 5 Dec. 1877, aged 85y;<sup>787</sup> m. Arundel, 26 Aug. 1815, SUSAN RHODES,<sup>788</sup> b. ca. 1797, d. Biddeford, 17 Nov. 1886, age 89y.<sup>789</sup> In 1850 Charles, 58, and wife Susan, 51, were farming in Biddeford, their household including Thomas, 31, Charles, 14, and Benjamin, 9.<sup>790</sup>

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<sup>779</sup> "Church of Christ in Arundel" [note 33], NEHGR 107(1953):275.

<sup>780</sup> York Co. Probate Records, 18:132.

<sup>781</sup> York Co. Deeds, 78:204.

<sup>782</sup> Mary Perkins household, 1820 U.S. Census, Arundel, York Co., Maine, p. 336.

<sup>783</sup> Bradbury, *Hist. of Kennebunk Port* [note 1], 252.

<sup>784</sup> Daniel Huff m. Arundel, 27 Dec. 1773, Keziah Seavey per "Church of Christ in Arundel" [note 33], NEHGR 108(1954):120.

<sup>785</sup> "Church of Christ in Arundel" [note 33], NEHGR 108(1954):56.

<sup>786</sup> "Church of Christ in Arundel" [note 33], NEHGR 107(1953):192.

<sup>787</sup> Biddeford Deaths, 1855–92, p. 102 [DGS #7595319, image 339].

<sup>788</sup> Kennebunkport VRs, 1678–1822, p. 545 [DGS #7595726, image 336].

<sup>789</sup> Biddeford Deaths, 1855–92, p. 136 [DGS #7595319, image 358].

<sup>790</sup> Charles Perkins household, 1850 U.S. Census, Biddeford, York Co., Maine, p. 11.

- iv LUTHER PERKINS, b. [calc.] Feb. 1794, bp. 17 Feb. 1799, d. Kennebunkport, 13 Aug. 1863, aged 69y 6m;<sup>791</sup> m. Arundel, 29 Dec. 1814, KEZIAH HUFF,<sup>792</sup> b. ca. 1792, d. Kennebunkport, 28 July 1885, aged 93y.<sup>793</sup> Their son Daniel H. Perkins perished at age 22 on the *Isidore* in 1842.<sup>794</sup> In 1850 Luther, 56, and Keziah, 56, were farming in Kennebunkport, their household including Sophia, 27, Oliver, 20, Olive, 17, Edwin, 15, Elizabeth, 11, and Mary, 23.<sup>795</sup>
- v THADDEUS PERKINS, listed after Luther, and before Isabella, so b. say 1794 or 1795, bp. 19 Nov. 1799. No further record was discovered.
- vi ISABELLA PERKINS, b. ca. 1796, bp. 19 Nov. 1799, d. Hollis, 25 May 1832, aged 36y;<sup>796</sup> m. Arundel, 7 March 1812, BENJAMIN HUFF,<sup>797</sup> b. ca. 1790.<sup>798</sup> Benjamin m. (2) Hollis, 27 Feb. 1833, Lydia Smith; m. (3) Hollis, 22 April 1840, Catherine Smith.<sup>799</sup> He was likely the Benjamin Huff Jr., who in 1807 was serving as a cook on the brig *Bellona*, described as having been born in Arundel, age 17y, and 5' 5½" in height.<sup>800</sup> In 1850 Benjamin, 60, and 3rd wife, Catherine, 59, were farming in Hollis, the household also including Isabella's son George Huff, 20.<sup>801</sup>
- vii PRISCILLA PERKINS, b. [calc.] Jan. 1800, bp. Arundel, 2 Sept. 1801,<sup>802</sup> d. 6 Nov. 1886, aged 86y 10m;<sup>803</sup> m. (1) Kennebunkport, 31 Dec. 1829, THATCHER HUFF,<sup>804</sup> b. ca. 1800, d. 1849, aged 48y.<sup>805</sup> Priscilla Huff m. (2) Kennebunkport, 22 Oct. 1856, NOAH HUFF, b. ca. 1782, d. 24 Jan. 1866, aged 84y.<sup>806</sup> Noah "Hoof" had m. (1) (int.) Biddeford, 5 July 1804, Elizabeth Baley, both of Arundel.<sup>807</sup> Priscilla and both husbands are buried together in Greenwood Cemetery in Biddeford.

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<sup>791</sup> Gravestone photo, Merrill Cemetery, Kennebunkport, findagrave.com #54002959.

<sup>792</sup> "Church of Christ in Arundel" [note 33], NEHGR 108(1954):192.

<sup>793</sup> Gravestone Photo, Merrill Cemetery, Kennebunkport, findagrave.com #54003030.

<sup>794</sup> Gravestone photo, Merrill Cemetery, Kennebunkport, findagrave.com #54067544.

<sup>795</sup> Luther Perkins household, 1850 U.S. Census, Kennebunkport, York Co., Maine, p. 128.

<sup>796</sup> Smith Plot, Hollis, Nathan Hale Cemetery Collection, 1780–1980, [DGS #7586409, image 1510].

<sup>797</sup> "Church of Christ in Arundel" [note 33], NEHGR 108(1954):192.

<sup>798</sup> A findagrave.com entry for Benjamin includes what appears to be information from a Bible record, stating that Isabella was b. Kennebunkport, 9 May 1796, and that Benjamin was b. there 27 May 1791 and d. 9 June 1866 (findagrave.com #167371339). The entry also lists their 8 children, b. 1812 to 1832, with precise birth dates. This information, although unverified, does appear to agree with known information about this family.

<sup>799</sup> Maine Marriages, 1771–1907 [images, familysearch.org].

<sup>800</sup> The crew of the *Bellona* was listed in pursuance of "an Act supplementary to the Act concerning Consuls, and Vice Consuls, and for the further protection of American seamen," in "Salem and Beverly, Massachusetts, U.S., Crew Lists and Shipping Articles, 1797–1934," image, ancestry.com.

<sup>801</sup> Benj. Huff household, 1850 U.S. Census, Hollis, York Co., Maine, p. 100.

<sup>802</sup> "Church of Christ in Arundel" [note 33], NEHGR 108(1954):57.

<sup>803</sup> Greenwood Cemetery, Biddeford, Nathan Hale Cemetery Collection, 1780–1980 [DGS #7586599, image 1372].

<sup>804</sup> Kennebunkport VRs, Marriages & Intentions, 1817–70, p. 15 [DGS #7595726, image 522].

<sup>805</sup> Greenwood Cemetery, Biddeford, Nathan Hale Cemetery Collection, 1780–1980 [DGS #7586599, image 1373].

<sup>806</sup> Greenwood Cemetery, Biddeford, Nathan Hale Cemetery Collection, 1780–1980 [DGS #7586599, image 1370].

<sup>807</sup> Beatty, *Biddeford VRs* [note 3], 162.

14 **JOSEPH<sup>5</sup> PERKINS** (*Samuel<sup>4</sup>, Thomas<sup>3-1</sup>*) was born in Arundel say 1762 if he was aged 21 at time of his marriage. He died before 28 August 1800 when administration of his estate was granted to [his brother] John Perkins of Arundel, yeoman.<sup>808</sup> married Arundel, 5 October 1783, **RUTH WAKEFIELD**.<sup>809</sup> She was born say 1763, if aged 20 at time of her marriage, daughter of Samuel and Ruth (Burbank) Wakefield of Arundel.<sup>810</sup> She was still living in 1800, aged 26–44, when she headed her household in Arundel, as cited below.

Ruth, wife of Joseph Perkins, renewed the covenant at the Arundel church, 18 June 1786,<sup>811</sup> and the children were baptized later “on her Account.” In 1800 Ruth Perkins headed a household which supposedly included five boys all under ten [but probably Joseph, Samuel, Daniel, George, and Oliver], two girls under ten [Ruth and Phebe], a girl 10–15 [Sally], and a woman 26–44 [Ruth].<sup>812</sup> On 24 August 1802, their uncle, John Perkins of Arundel, mariner, was named guardian of Joseph and Sally Perkins, minor children over age 14, as well as Samuel, Daniel, Ruth, Phebe, George, and Oliver, minor children under age 14.<sup>813</sup>

Children of Joseph<sup>5</sup> and Ruth (Wakefield) Perkins, b. Arundel:<sup>814</sup>

- i **JOSEPH<sup>6</sup> PERKINS**, b. say 1784, and before 1788, as he was over age 14 in 1802. Joseph was called “Jr.” when he m. Arundel, 24 Dec. 1816, **MEHITABLE PATTEN**,<sup>815</sup> b. Arundel, 29 Nov. 1789, daughter of Robert and Susanna (Goodwin) Patten, d. Kennebunkport, 27 Aug. 1830, aged 41y.<sup>816</sup> Joseph was also called “Jr.” when he was granted administration of his brother Samuel’s estate in 1819, as cited below. He may have been the Joseph Perkins who was master of the schooner *Osprey* of Kennebunk, which sailed from Ocracoke, N.C., for Boston on 5 Dec. 1839, and had not been heard from since [5 March 1840].<sup>817</sup> The *Portland Weekly Advertiser* noted that on 18 Feb. 1842 Octavia, only daughter of the late Capt. Joseph Perkins of Kennebunkport, m. Seth Gordon of Biddeford.<sup>818</sup> Joseph could not be identified in the 1850 census.

<sup>808</sup> York Co. Probate Records, 18:313.

<sup>809</sup> “Church of Christ in Arundel” [note 33], NEHGR 108(1954):122.

<sup>810</sup> Homer Wakefield, *The Wakefield Memorial* (Bloomington, Ill., 1897), 123–24.

<sup>811</sup> “Church of Christ in Arundel” [note 33], NEHGR 107(1953):274.

<sup>812</sup> Ruth Perkins household, 1800 U.S. Census, Arundel, York Co., Maine, p. 684.

<sup>813</sup> York Co. Probate, #14964 [DGS #2294162, images 1003, 1007].

<sup>814</sup> There are baptismal records for Samuel, Daniel, Phebe, George, and Oliver (“Church of Christ in Arundel” [note 33], NEHGR 107[1953]:272, 272; 108[1954]:54, 54, 55).

<sup>815</sup> Kennebunkport VRs, 1678–1822, p. 542 [DGS #7595726, image 335]. He would rightfully have been called Joseph Jr. at the time of his marriage to distinguish him from the Joseph Perkins b. ca. 1763, son of Thomas and Susannah (Hovey) Perkins, and the Joseph Perkins b. ca. 1790, son of Ephraim and Huldah (Dorman) Perkins.

<sup>816</sup> Walter Goodwin Davis, *The Ancestry of James Patten, 1747?–1817, of Arundel (Kennebunkport), Maine* (Portland, Maine, 1941), 6–7; death notice, [Portland] *Christian Mirror*, 16 Sept. 1830, p. 3 [image, genealogybank.com].

<sup>817</sup> [Portland] *Christian Mirror*, 5 March 1840, p. 3 [image, genealogybank.com].

<sup>818</sup> Marriage notice, *Portland Weekly Advertiser*, 22 Feb. 1842, p. 3 [image, genealogybank.com].

- ii SALLY PERKINS, b. say 1786, and before 1788, as she was over age 14 in 1802; m. (1) Arundel, 10 March 1808, BENJAMIN ESTES of Sanford,<sup>819</sup> probably the son of Benjamin and Sarah (Littlefield) Estes of Sanford.<sup>820</sup> Mrs. Sally Estes m. (2) (int.) Arundel, 5 Oct. 1816, NATHANIEL DAY of Wells.<sup>821</sup>
- iii SAMUEL PERKINS, b. say 1788, bp. Arundel, 4 Sept. 1793. Samuel, a mariner, d. bef. 6 Sept. 1819 when [his brother] Joseph Perkins Jr. was granted administration of his estate, which included fishing gear and one-seventh share of a dwelling house and one-seventh share of 47 acres near the Kennebunk River.<sup>822</sup>
- iv DANIEL PERKINS, b. say 1790, bp. Arundel, 17 April 1793, still living 24 Aug. 1802 when John Perkins was named his guardian.
- v RUTH PERKINS, b. say 1792, still living 24 Aug. 1802 when John Perkins was named her guardian.
- vi PHEBE PERKINS, b. ca. 1794, bp. Arundel, 29 July 1796, d. Kennebunkport, 17 March 1841, aged 47y;<sup>823</sup> m. Arundel, 1 Aug. 1818, OLIVER DAVIS,<sup>824</sup> b. 9 Nov. 1788, d. Kennebunkport, 25 Oct. 1883.<sup>825</sup> Oliver m. (2) Kennebunkport, 12 Dec. 1843, Ann P. Piper,<sup>826</sup> and m. (3) Kennebunkport, 29 March 1857, Elizabeth Hutchins.<sup>827</sup>
- vii Capt. GEORGE PERKINS, bp. Arundel, 11 Jan. 1796, d. “suddenly” in Kennebunkport, 4 May 1837, aged 40y;<sup>828</sup> m. Kennebunkport, 19 Sept. 1823, SARAH LEWIS,<sup>829</sup> b. ca. 1800, daughter of Samuel and Hannah (Hill) Lewis, d. Kennebunkport, 16 Oct. 1855, aged 55y.<sup>830</sup> Mrs. Sarah L. Perkins m. (2) (int.) Kennebunkport, 1 Feb. 1840, Benjamin S. Mason.<sup>831</sup> Buried next to George is Sarah Maria, daughter of George and Sarah, who d. 28 July 1830, aged 11m.<sup>832</sup> Widow Sarah was appointed to administer the will of George Perkins of Kennebunkport, mariner, 7 Aug. 1837, with George Lord and Ivory Lord providing sureties. The 20 Nov. 1833 will of George Perkins of Kennebunkport, master mariner, names only his wife Sarah to whom he left all his real and personal estate.<sup>833</sup>

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<sup>819</sup> Kennebunkport VRs, 1678–1822, p. 544 [DGS #7595726, image 341].

<sup>820</sup> Charles Estes, *Estes Genealogies* (Salem, Mass., 1894), 99–100.

<sup>821</sup> Kennebunkport VRs, 1678–1822, p. 537 [DGS #7595726, image 331].

<sup>822</sup> York Co. Probate Records, #14965 [DGS #2294162, images 1014–16].

<sup>823</sup> Gravestone photo, Village Cemetery, Kennebunkport, findagrave.com #76698193.

<sup>824</sup> Kennebunkport VRs, 1678–1822, p. 524 [DGS #7595726, image 325].

<sup>825</sup> Gravestone photo, Village Cemetery, Kennebunkport, findagrave.com #76696391.

<sup>826</sup> Kennebunkport Marriages, 1817–70, p. 28 [DGS #7595726, image 529].

<sup>827</sup> Kennebunkport Marriages, 1817–70, p. 51 [DGS #7595726, image 540].

<sup>828</sup> Gravestone photo, Village Cemetery, Kennebunkport, findagrave.com #80136676; death notice, *Portland Weekly Advertiser*, 9 May 1837, p. 3 [image, genealogybank.com], which describes him as an “enterprising and intelligent ship-master.”

<sup>829</sup> Kennebunkport VRs, 1678–1822, p. 516 [DGS #7595726, image 321].

<sup>830</sup> Gravestone photo, Village Cemetery, Kennebunkport, findagrave.com #79678518. Her inscription reads: “Sarah L., dau of Samuel and Hannah Lewis, widow of Capt. George Perkins, and late wife of Benjamin F. Mason.” Samuel Lewis m. Hannah Hill per Bradbury, *Hist. of Kennebunk Port* [note 1], 257.

<sup>831</sup> Kennebunkport VRs, Marriages & Intentions, 1817–70, p. 48 [DGS #7595726, image 482].

<sup>832</sup> Gravestone photo, Village Cemetery, Kennebunkport, findagrave.com #80136943.

<sup>833</sup> York County Probate Records, #14871 [DGS #2293774, images 1203–6].

viii OLIVER PERKINS, bp. Arundel, 15 Sept. 1798, d. Kennebunk, 22 July 1856, aged 57y;<sup>834</sup> m. (1) (int.) Wells, 27 Nov. 1819, SUSAN E. TREADWELL,<sup>835</sup> b. ca. 1797, daughter of Samuel Treadwell,<sup>836</sup> d. Kennebunk, 26 Aug. 1826, aged 29y.<sup>837</sup> Oliver m. (2) Kennebunk, 24 Sept. 1827, SARAH LITTLEFIELD,<sup>838</sup> b. [calc.] March 1788, daughter of Jacob and Abigail (Smith) Littlefield,<sup>839</sup> d. Kennebunk, 10 Feb. 1865, aged 77y 11m.<sup>840</sup> Oliver was a mariner by profession and a private in the Kennebunk Artillery Company. While in the act of loading one of the field pieces at the funeral service of Maj. William Frost, 28 Dec. 1821, Oliver was sadly maimed by the premature explosion of a cartridge, losing both arms and one of his eyes.<sup>841</sup> A *resolve for the relief of Oliver Perkins* passed in the Maine State Legislature 18 Jan. 1822.<sup>842</sup> Following the accident, Oliver was awarded a pension of \$96 year. Oliver eventually recovered his health and opened a tavern in the home he and wife Sarah had inherited from her father, Jacob Littlefield. The tavern was situated on a busy road, a direct route to the county court house in Alfred. Samuel Perkins of New York, Oliver Perkins of West Kennebunk, and Mrs. Marshall Lowell [née Celestine M. Perkins] were his children.<sup>843</sup> Oliver Perkins, 57 [*sic*], farmer, and Sarah, 63, were living in Kennebunk in 1850.<sup>844</sup> Oliver Perkins (1799–1856) and his wife Sarah L. Perkins (1788–1865) are buried next to her parents, Jacob and Abigail Littlefield, in the Pine Grove Cemetery in West Kennebunk.<sup>845</sup>

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<sup>834</sup> Kennebunk VRs, 1729–1892, p. 261 [DGS #7595725, image 463].

<sup>835</sup> Shelley, *Wells VRs* [note 50], 194.

<sup>836</sup> [Kennebunk] *Weekly Visiter*, 25 Dec. 1819, p. 3 [image, genealogybank.com].

<sup>837</sup> [Portland] *Gazette*, 5 Sept. 1826, p. 2 [image, genealogybank.com].

<sup>838</sup> Kennebunk VRs, 1729–1892, p. 57 [DGS #7595725, image 367].

<sup>839</sup> Jacob Littlefield m. Kennebunk, 25 Dec. 1783, Abigail Smith (Thompson, “First Parish of Kennebunk” [note 638], 45).

<sup>840</sup> Death notice, [Biddeford] *Union and Journal*, 24 Feb. 1865, p. 4 [image, genealogybank.com].

<sup>841</sup> [Portland] *Weekly Eastern Argus*, 22 Jan. 1822, p. 2 [image, genealogybank.com].

<sup>842</sup> [Portland] *Weekly Eastern Argus*, 22 Jan. 1822, p. 3 [image, genealogybank.com].

<sup>843</sup> Remich, *History of Kennebunk* [note 640], 530.

<sup>844</sup> Oliver Perkins household, 1850 U.S. Census, Kennebunk, York Co., Maine, p. 99.

<sup>845</sup> Pine Grove Cemetery, West Kennebunk, *York Co. Inscriptions* [note 39], 1:784.



# WHO WAS SARAH SMITH, MOTHER OF ZEPHANIAH HICKS OF MAINE?

*By Edward G. Hubbard*

In a February 2020 article, I explored the roots of Zephaniah Hicks, an early settler of New Sandwich (now Wayne), Maine.<sup>1</sup> The scope of the effort was limited to his paternal ancestry, because the facts regarding his mother, Sarah Smith, were minimal and the challenge of exploring any Smith family was deemed formidable. The present article takes up the challenge of delving into her origins.

Sarah Smith was of Rochester, Massachusetts, when she married Thomas Hicks of nearby Sandwich on 8 December 1762.<sup>2</sup> Although their marriage was recorded in both towns, it probably took place in Rochester as it was the bride's hometown, where the officiant, Timothy Ruggles, was pastor of the first church.<sup>3</sup> Assuming that Sarah was about twenty years of age when she married, she was probably born about 1742. No record of Sarah's birth has been found in Rochester or elsewhere.<sup>4</sup> Smith families seem to have first arrived in Rochester as late as the 1730s, when the following three marriages were recorded in that town:<sup>5</sup>

1 Joseph Smith and Elizabeth Davis m. 15 Dec. 1737

2 Samuel ["Sam<sup>l</sup>"] Smith and Dorcas Horskins m. 5 Sept. 1738

3 Elkanah Smith and Sarah Benson m. 31 Aug. 1740

The dates of their marriages suggest that any one of these couples could have been Sarah's parents. The first couple, however, can be ruled out. The marriage record notes not only that Joseph was the son of Eliashib and Dinah Smith of Dartmouth, Massachusetts, but also that the marriage took place in Dartmouth.<sup>6</sup> Furthermore, the couple subsequently resided in Dartmouth, where the births of their children—none named Sarah—were recorded.<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Edward G. Hubbard, "A Quest for Roots: Zephaniah Hicks of New Sandwich (Wayne) and Leeds, Maine," *The Maine Genealogist* 42(2020):22–33.

<sup>2</sup> Caroline Lewis Kardell and Russell A. Lovell, Jr., *Vital Records of Sandwich, Massachusetts, to 1885*, 3 vols. (Boston, 1996), 1:530, and *Vital Records of Rochester, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850*, 2 vols. (Boston, 1914), 2:280. His surname is "Hix" in both records, but the latter of the two notes that it is "Hicks" in church records.

<sup>3</sup> Ruggles named officiant on the Sandwich record. He was ordained as the Rochester church's 2nd minister, 22 Nov. 1710 (*Mattapoissett and Old Rochester, Massachusetts* [New York, 1907], 73–74).

<sup>4</sup> A Sarah Smith, daughter of Eleazer and Meribah, was b. Dartmouth, 27 April 1741, but she married William Willcocks/Wilcox in that town, 2 Jan. 1762 (*Vital Records of Dartmouth, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850*, 3 vols. [Boston, 1929–30], 1:252 [birth] and 2:463 [marriage]).

<sup>5</sup> *Rochester VRs* [note 2], 2:279–80. Other Smiths appeared there later. The first was John Smith, who m. (int.) Rochester, 3 Aug. 1745, Thankful Clark and had had ten children born in Rochester from 1746 to 1771 (*ibid.*, 2:279 [marriages] and 1:271–72 [births]).

<sup>6</sup> It was also recorded in Dartmouth (*Dartmouth VRs* [note 4], 2:460). That record describes Elisabeth as "of Rochester," which no doubt is why the marriage was recorded in that town.

<sup>7</sup> *Dartmouth VRs* [note 4], 1:245–53.

In their 15 August 1738 marriage intentions, the names of the second couple were given as “Wm” Smith (not Samuel) and “Darcas Hoskins” (not Dorcas Horskins), and they were described as both being residents of Rochester.<sup>8</sup> No earlier records of the husband have been found to determine if he was named William or Samuel.<sup>9</sup> The most that can be said is that he was probably a newcomer to Rochester, whereas she may have been a native.<sup>10</sup> No subsequent records of either of them, or of any children they may have had, have been found in Rochester or elsewhere. Their marriage may have been short-lived or they may have moved away. In any case, there is no evidence to support any relationship with Sarah.

The third couple remain viable candidates in the quest for Sarah Smith’s parents. The possibility that Sarah was their daughter, probably born about a year or two after they married (and named after her mother), is the most likely scenario. This conclusion inspired efforts to search for further information about this couple. The light shed on Elkanah and his family by vital and other records is best summarized as shown below.

#### SMITH FAMILY SUMMARY

**ELKANAH SMITH** was born in Sandwich, Massachusetts, 7 March 1685/6, the first of nine children of Benjamin and Elizabeth (—) Smith.<sup>11</sup> He died probably in Rochester, at an unknown date, sometime after serving as a grand juror in the general sessions of the Plymouth County court that began on 3 March 1746/7.<sup>12</sup>

He married first in Plympton, 18 February 1708, ELIZABETH CURTICE,<sup>13</sup> probably Elizabeth born in Plymouth, Massachusetts, 15 June 1681, daughter of Francis Curtice.<sup>14</sup> He married second in Sandwich, 27 November 1718, MARY CHARD, of Sandwich,<sup>15</sup> possibly Mary born in Weymouth, Massachusetts, 28 November 1698, daughter of Samuel and Mary (—) Chard.<sup>16</sup> She may have been living as late as 30 October 1737, when their three children (who were by then teenagers) were baptized in Sandwich.<sup>17</sup> Elkanah was still of Sandwich when, on 10 August 1738, he bought

<sup>8</sup> *Rochester VRs* [note 2], 2:280.

<sup>9</sup> William Smith, son of Judah, was born in Dartmouth, “10<sup>th</sup>, 8 mo. [Oct.] 1705” (or 1704), but he died there “16<sup>th</sup>, 8 mo. 1719, in 16<sup>th</sup> y.” (*Dartmouth VRs* [note 4], 1:253 [birth] and 3:68 [death]).

<sup>10</sup> Some Hoskins individuals (although not Dorcas) appear in earlier Rochester vital records.

<sup>11</sup> *Sandwich VRs* [note 2], 1:38.

<sup>12</sup> Plymouth Co. General Sessions of the Peace, 9:233 [DGS #7902905, image 371]. No other person named Elkanah Smith has been found in Plymouth Co. at that time. Serving along with him was a Nathaniel Smith (relationship, if any, unknown), probably the Nathaniel Smith, “late of Boston,” who m. Rochester, 19 April 1750, Elizabeth Davis (*Rochester VRs* [note 2], 2:280).

<sup>13</sup> *Vital Records of Plympton, Massachusetts to the Year 1850* (Boston, Mass., 1923), 394. Their names in this record are “Elknah Smith” and “Elesabath Curtic.”

<sup>14</sup> Lee D. van Antwerp, comp., *Vital Records of Plymouth, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850*, ed. Ruth Wilder Sherman (Camden, Maine, 1993), 671.

<sup>15</sup> *Sandwich VRs* [note 2], 1:109.

<sup>16</sup> *Vital Records of Weymouth, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850*, 2 vols. (Boston, 1910), 1:71.

<sup>17</sup> *Sandwich VRs* [note 2], 2:1385. Both parents were named in the record. The reason why the baptisms were delayed so long is unknown.



100 acres of land (including a homestead) in Rochester from Timothy Ruggles,<sup>18</sup> and probably moved to Rochester not long thereafter. He sold the homestead on 26 April 1743 and acknowledged the deed on 19 May 1746.<sup>19</sup> Elkanah married third in Rochester, 31 August 1740, SARAH BENSON.<sup>20</sup> Her parentage is explored below.

Child of Elkanah and his 1st wife, Elizabeth (Curtis) Smith, b. Sandwich:

- i ELIZABETH SMITH, b. 15 Oct. 1708;<sup>21</sup> m. Sandwich, 7 April 1732, ZEBULON BARLOW,<sup>22</sup> son of Nathan and Mary (—) Barlow, who was living in Sandwich in Nov. 1756.<sup>23</sup>

They had four children recorded in Sandwich: 1. *Huldah Barlow*, b. 3 April 1730 [sic]. 2. *Hannah Barlow*, b. 3 Aug. 1733. 3. *Mary Barlow*, b. 24 March 1735/6. 4. *Peter Barlow*, b. 25 July 1738.<sup>24</sup>

Children of Elkanah and his 2nd wife, Mary (Chard) Smith, b. Sandwich:<sup>25</sup>

- ii LYDIA SMITH, b. 22 Feb. 1718/9; m. Rochester, 1 July 1742, JONATHAN FULLER of Stow, Mass.<sup>26</sup> They lived in Acton, Mass., in the 1740s and thereafter in Stow.

Seven children, the first four were born in Acton and the other three born in Stow:<sup>27</sup> 1. *Elisha Fuller*, b. 15 Feb. 1744/5. 2. *Joseph Fuller*, twin, b. 19 Feb. 1746/7. 3. *Mary Fuller*, twin, b. 19 Feb. 1746/7. 4. *Amasa Fuller*, b. 27 March 1749. 5. *Jonathan Fuller*, b. 2 July 1751. 6. *Hannah Fuller*, b. 12 June 1754. *Bennett Fuller*, b. 2 April 1757.

- iii ELISHA SMITH, b. 1 Feb. 1721, bp. 30 Oct. 1737.<sup>28</sup> No further record.
- iv HANNAH SMITH, b. 23 May 1723, bp. 30 Oct. 1737 baptism.<sup>29</sup> No further record.

Proposed child of Elkanah and his 3rd wife, Sarah (Benson) Smith:

- v (poss.) SARAH SMITH, b. presumably Rochester, say 1742; m. Rochester, 8 Dec. 1762, THOMAS HICKS,<sup>30</sup> b. Sandwich, say 1740, son of Thomas and Abigail (Handy) (Fish) Hicks.<sup>31</sup>

<sup>18</sup> Plymouth Co. Deeds, 33:34.

<sup>19</sup> Plymouth Co. Deeds, 38:71.

<sup>20</sup> *Rochester VRs* [note 2], 2:279.

<sup>21</sup> *Sandwich VRs* [note 2], 1:52.

<sup>22</sup> *Sandwich VRs* [note 2], 1:137.

<sup>23</sup> “George Barlow, the Marshal of Sandwich, Massachusetts, and His Descendants for Three Generations,” *The New England Historical and Genealogical Register* [NEHGR] 172(2018):76, 79.

<sup>24</sup> *Sandwich VRs* [note 2], 1:51.

<sup>25</sup> *Sandwich VRs* [note 2], 1:52.

<sup>26</sup> *Rochester VRs* [note 2], 2:280.

<sup>27</sup> *Vital Records of Acton, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850* (Boston, Mass., 1923), 48; *Vital Records of Stow, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850* (Boston, Mass., 1911), 35; Bennett’s birth from Stow VRs, 2:28 [DGS #7011038, image 45], not included in the published version.

<sup>28</sup> *Sandwich VRs* [note 2], 2:1385.

<sup>29</sup> *Sandwich VRs* [note 2], 2:1385.

<sup>30</sup> See note 2 and discussion, above, as to place.

<sup>31</sup> Hubbard, “A Quest for Roots: Zephaniah Hicks” [note 1], pp. 22–33.

## WHO WAS SARAH BENSON?

In contrast to the Smiths, members of the Benson family were far from newcomers to Rochester in the 1730s and 1740s. According to a 1988 study, John Benson arrived there from Hull, Massachusetts, about 1680 with his six sons and a daughter.<sup>32</sup> The study provides brief accounts about those children including their marriages and, in some cases, their dates of death, but goes no further. A later genealogy covers the same individuals, albeit in much more detail, as well as the following generations.<sup>33</sup> This source and the vital records of Rochester and adjacent towns were reviewed to determine whether Sarah might have been a daughter or descendant of any of the said John Benson's six sons.

The third and fourth sons, Isaac (born circa 1669) and Jacob (born circa 1671), were quickly ruled out because they moved to Rhode Island in the 1720s.<sup>34</sup> The fifth and sixth sons, Benjamin (born circa 1675) and William (born circa 1680), were also ruled out, albeit for different reasons. Benjamin lived in Plympton for some years and, like his two older brothers, may then have moved away, while William died in Rochester in 1710, leaving a son as his only child.<sup>35</sup>

The first son, John (circa 1665–circa 1725), seemed to be an attractive prospect, as he and his wife, Elizabeth (Briggs), had seven sons and four daughters who were born in Rochester from 1688 to 1706.<sup>36</sup> The author of the Benson genealogy suggested that the second daughter, Sarah (born 15 July 1690), “may have been” the Sarah who married Elkanah Smith, but that is unlikely.<sup>37</sup>

Could the Sarah sought in this quest instead have been a granddaughter of John through one of his sons? Chronology pointed to the first five, who were born from 1693 to 1698, as candidates, but they were ruled out, for various reasons. Two died

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<sup>32</sup> Ethel Farrington Smith, “Seventeenth Century Hull, Massachusetts, and Her Families,” NEHGR 142(1988):270.

<sup>33</sup> Richard H. Benson, *The Benson Family of Colonial Massachusetts* (Boston, Mass., 2003). The present author has verified that this work is soundly based on vital, probate, and other primary records.

<sup>34</sup> Benson, *Benson Family* [note 33], 46–49 (Isaac) and 52–53 (Jacob).

<sup>35</sup> Benson, *Benson Family* [note 33], 56–57 (Benjamin) and 58 (William).

<sup>36</sup> *Rochester VRs* [note 2], 1:34.

<sup>37</sup> Benson, *Benson Family* [note 33], 37. The suggestion may have been due to this Sarah having been the only woman of that name he found in the Benson family of Rochester. As he noted, she bore a daughter, Anne Benson, out of wedlock. The wording of Anne's birth record (*Rochester VRs* [note 2], 1:33) proves that it was a delayed record, entered only after she m. (int.) 12 Jan. 1755, Edward Dexter (*ibid.*, 2:34). The entry describes her as Anne Benson, *wife of* Edward Dexter and daughter of Sarah [Benson]. As Anne Dexter, she is similarly described in her 3 May 1758 death record (*ibid.*, 2:373). Referring to her as daughter of Sarah could mean that the latter had been a widow, but no record of a Benson man's marriage to a Sarah has been found. It instead implies that this Sarah never married and so was not the Sarah Benson who married Elkanah Smith in 1740, long before Anne's 1755 marriage.

in youth or earlier, while another may have moved to Rhode Island.<sup>38</sup> The other two married and had children, but neither had a daughter named Sarah.<sup>39</sup>

Only the second son, Joseph (circa 1667–1737), and his family remain for consideration. A resident of Rochester for all of his adult life, he stands out from his siblings for two reasons. First, at some point he and his son Joseph Jr. became Quakers. They were added to the town's list of Quakers 11 August 1733 and appeared on it again on 9 July 1734 and 5 July 1735.<sup>40</sup> Second, he married three times and had children by all three wives. The birth of an unnamed (and short-lived) son from his first marriage was recorded in Rochester as were the births of five children from his second marriage.<sup>41</sup>

No children from his third marriage appear in the town's birth records, but three were identified by the present author through review of the eight Benson marriages that were recorded in Rochester from 1733 through 1741 and consideration of onomastics.<sup>42</sup> (Those three were also identified as Joseph's children in the Benson genealogy.<sup>43</sup>) This review left one individual, Sarah, unplaced in any Benson family, until the dates of certain records were considered.

As noted, Sarah Benson married Elkanah Smith on 31 August 1740. What is striking is that Deborah Benson (now identified as a daughter of Joseph) published intentions of marriage with Daniel Higbe *on the very same day*. Deborah's marriage did not actually take place, as her intended, Daniel Higbe, instead married Hannah Dexter in Rochester on 18 October 1741.<sup>44</sup> Although Deborah's record is only a marriage intention, the fact that its date is the same as that of Sarah's marriage cannot be ignored and suggests a close link between Deborah and Sarah. Were they, in fact, sisters? In any case, finding that Sarah cannot be placed in any other Benson family of

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<sup>38</sup> Benjamin, b. 1697, d. 1710; Bennitt, b. 1698, prob. d. in infancy; John, b. 1696 but not found in the area thereafter, may have been the John Benson later found in Newport, R.I. (Benson, *Benson Family* [note 33], 37).

<sup>39</sup> Ebenezer, b. 1693; m. 1718 and lived in Middleborough where his eight children were born; Joseph, b. 1697 (as twin of Benjamin); m. ca. 1721 and had seven children (Benson, *Benson Family* [note 33], 11–81 [Ebenezer and family] and 82–88 [Joseph and family]).

<sup>40</sup> Rochester VRs, 2:59 [DGS #7009291, image 237].

<sup>41</sup> *Rochester VRs* [note 2], 1:34, documenting the unnamed son, Charity, "Pursilla" [Priscilla], Prudence, Aquila, and Joseph.

<sup>42</sup> *Rochester VRs* [note 2], 2:34–36. These involved eight individuals, three of whom were previously identified Bensons. Onomastics linked another three, Aquila (m. 1735), Lydia (m. 1737), and Deborah (m. int. 1740), to Joseph. (Aquila bore the name of his late half-brother; Lydia; that of Joseph's 3rd wife; Deborah, that of his 2nd wife.) A seventh, Mary (m. 1740), was Aquila's widow.

<sup>43</sup> Joseph's daughters Deborah Benson, seamstress, and Lydia (Benson) Nye (wife of Samuel Nye of Rochester) sold their interests in Joseph's land in two separate deeds on 19 Feb. 1738/9 (Plymouth Co. Deeds, 43:52).

<sup>44</sup> *Rochester VRs* [note 2], 2:176. When Daniel Higbe and Hannah Dexter published their intentions on 27 Sept. 1741, Deborah Benson forbade the marriage the next day, but on 15 Oct. she relented (Rochester VRs, 2:59 [DGS #7009291, image 225]) Deborah was still single when she acknowledged a 1738 deed on 15 Sept. 1747 (Plymouth Co. Deeds, 43:52), but is not found thereafter.

the time and place in itself indicates that she likely was a daughter of Joseph, into whose family, moreover, she would neatly fit.<sup>45</sup>

Some might argue that Elkanah Smith was unlikely to have married a woman who was thirty-four years younger than him, as this Sarah Benson would have been. On the other hand, it would not have been that unusual for a man to marry a much younger woman for his third wife. Joseph Benson's third wife, Lydia, was fifteen years his junior, and the Benson genealogy provides an example of a couple who were thirty-five years apart in age.<sup>46</sup>

It is therefore reasonable to conclude that Sarah was a likely daughter of Joseph Benson.

### BENSON FAMILY SUMMARY

**JOSEPH BENSON** was born in Hull, Massachusetts, circa 1667, the second son of John and Elizabeth (—) Benson.<sup>47</sup> He died in Rochester, 9 July 1737.<sup>48</sup>

He married first in Sandwich, 20 August 1696, CHARITY CLAP,<sup>49</sup> probably the Charity born in Barnstable, Massachusetts, in March 1677, daughter of Increase and Elizabeth (Bursley) (Goodspeed) Clap.<sup>50</sup> She died 8 February 1697/8,<sup>51</sup> only days after giving birth to a son. Joseph married second in Rochester, 17 [“month worn”] 1699, DEBORAH SMITH.<sup>52</sup> She was born circa 1682,<sup>53</sup> and died 22 January 1710/11 in her 28th year.<sup>54</sup> Joseph married third circa 1712, LYDIA (JENNE) ALLEN.<sup>55</sup> She

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<sup>45</sup> Benson, *Benson Family* [note 33], did not identify a Sarah as a daughter of Joseph, but there are two likely reasons for that. First, he had identified the Sarah Benson who was b. 1690 as “possibly” the wife of Elkanah (see above). Second, having done so, he had no reason to suspect the existence of a younger Sarah, and so would not have sought any evidence for her, whereas he located 1738 deeds that confirmed Lydia and Deborah as Joseph's daughters.

<sup>46</sup> Benson, *Benson Family* [note 33], 93–94. Elizabeth Benson, b. 4 July 1749, is believed to have m. Middleborough, Mass., 10 March 1772 the widower Ebenezer Norcutt, who was b. in Marshfield, 11 June 1714. They had a son (Ebenezer) who was b. in Middleborough, 18 Nov. 1773.

<sup>47</sup> Benson, *Benson Family* [note 33]; Smith, “Seventeenth Century Hull,” NEHGR 142(1988): 270. Smith identified Elizabeth as a Marsh as did Grace Hildy Croft, *The Benson Family: Descendants of Isaac Benson and Mary Bumpas*, 2nd ed. (Provo, Utah, 1973), 17 [image, familysearch.org], whereas Benson deems that unlikely. Resolution of this is beyond the scope of the present study.

<sup>48</sup> *Rochester VRs* [note 2], 2:348.

<sup>49</sup> *Sandwich VRs* [note 2], 1:40. They were described as “both of Rochester.” Their marriage was also recorded in Rochester as having taken place in 1696 (*Rochester VRs* [note 2], 2:35.)

<sup>50</sup> Barnstable VRs, 1:104 [DGS #107944524, image 17]. Benson, *Benson Family* [note 33], 39, concurs.

<sup>51</sup> *Rochester VRs* [note 2], 2:348.

<sup>52</sup> *Rochester VRs* [note 2], 2:35.

<sup>53</sup> *Benson Family* [note 33], 39, and many online trees claim she was the Deborah b. Taunton, Mass., 7 March 1676, daughter of John and Jael (Parker) Smith. No proof is given and since Joseph's wife Deborah's death record suggests a later birth date, more research is needed.

<sup>54</sup> *Rochester VRs* [note 2], 2:348.

<sup>55</sup> In his 1 March 1720 will, John Jenne named Lydia Benson as one of his three daughters, and John Allen as her son (Bristol Co., Mass., Probate Records, 5:415 [DGS #7703531, image 215]).

was born in Dartmouth, 6 March 1682, daughter of John Jenne.<sup>56</sup> She was still living in January 1742/3,<sup>57</sup> but is not seen again after that time. By her first marriage, she had a son, John Allen, who accompanied her to Rochester, lived next door, and who later purchased Joseph's land in Plymouth from his heirs.<sup>58</sup> Lydia may have been a Quaker, as she was presented in December 1731 for "the span of one month last past absented herself from the public worship of God unnecessarily in evil example of all others and contrary to the Laws."<sup>59</sup> As noted, Joseph had become a Quaker by 1733.

Child of Joseph and his 1st wife, Elizabeth (Curtis) Smith, b. Rochester:

- i son BENSON, b. "about" 5 Feb. 1697/8 and d. the same day.<sup>60</sup>

Children of Joseph and his 2nd wife, Deborah (Smith) Benson, b. Rochester:<sup>61</sup>

- ii CHARITY BENSON, b. 3 May 1701 and likely named after Joseph's first wife. No further record.
- iii PRISCILLA/"PURSILLA" BENSON, b. 8 Dec. 1702. She m. JONAH AUSTIN.  
Only child: *Deborah Austin*, b. Dighton, Mass., 26 Nov. 1730;<sup>62</sup> m. (int.) Dighton, 24 Jan. 1746/7, Elijah Jones.<sup>63</sup>
- iv PRUDENCE BENSON, b. 13 Nov. 1704. No further record.
- v AQUILA BENSON, b. ca. 1707, d. 8 Jan. 1710/11, in his 3rd year.<sup>64</sup>
- vi JOSEPH BENSON, b. say 1710, d. Rochester, 14 Sept. 1735;<sup>65</sup> m. at the Dartmouth Monthly Meeting, 19 9m [Nov.] 1733, EXPERIENCE BARLOW,<sup>66</sup> daughter of

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<sup>56</sup> *Dartmouth VRs* [note 4], 1:139. The mother is not named in her birth record nor in those of her siblings. Benson, *Benson Family* [note 33], 39, and others, name her as Margaret Hicks, but the latter m. Plymouth, 7 Jan. 1685, Abraham Jackson (*Plymouth VRs* [note 14], 85).

<sup>57</sup> As administratrix of Joseph's estate, she was then involved in a court case regarding one of his deeds (Plymouth Co. Court of Common Pleas, 8:324–25 [DGS #8292803, image 743]).

<sup>58</sup> Lydia sold two lots of land in Rochester to him after Joseph died (Plymouth Co. Deeds, 35:145, dated 9 Sept. 1740). John then purchased the shares of Joseph's daughters Lydia (Benson) Nye and Deborah Benson, and grandchildren Aquila Benson, Priscilla Benson, and Deborah (Austin) Jones (Plymouth Co. Deeds, 43:52 [2 deeds], 231, 44: 70, 44:205).

<sup>59</sup> Plymouth Co. Court of General Sessions, 1731, 9:35 [DGS #7902905, image 280].

<sup>60</sup> *Rochester VRs* [note 2], 1:34 (birth) and 2:348 (death). Both records describe him only as 1st born s[on] [of] Joseph.

<sup>61</sup> *Rochester VRs* [note 2], 1:34.

<sup>62</sup> Benson, *Benson Family* [note 33], 43; "First Book Births, Marriages and Deaths 1714–1788, Town of Dighton, Massachusetts," MS (New England Historic Genealogical Society), p. 78 [DGS #107944579, image 79].

<sup>63</sup> Dighton VRs [note 62], p. 116 [DGS #107944579, image 117]. On 19 May 1756, they sold her portion of her grandfather Joseph Benson's estate, which was hers as "the only child of her mother whose name was Priscilla Benson one of the Daughters of s<sup>d</sup> Joseph Benson" (Plymouth Co. Deeds, 44:70).

<sup>64</sup> *Rochester VRs* [note 2], 2:348. Benson, *Benson Family* [note 33], 43, gives his date of birth as 13 Nov. 1704 (which would make him a twin of Prudence), but his age at death contradicts this.

<sup>65</sup> *Rochester VRs* [note 2], 2:348 ("Joseph Jr.").

<sup>66</sup> Thomas D. Hamm, ed., *The Minutes of the Dartmouth, Massachusetts, Monthly Meeting of Friends 1699–1785* (n.p., 2022), 343.



Shubal Barlow.<sup>67</sup> Experience m. (2) Rochester, 2 Nov. 1737, Benjamin Wing, son of John and Experience (—) Wing.<sup>68</sup>

Only child: *Priscilla Benson*, b. 1 Oct. 1735.<sup>69</sup> On 10 May 1756, Priscilla Benson of Rochester, spinstress, sold her portion of her grandfather Joseph Benson's estate, "which appertains to me by virtue of heirship as I am the only child of his eldest son whose name was Joseph who died before his father."<sup>70</sup>

Children of Joseph and his 3rd wife, Lydia (Jenne) (Allen) Benson:<sup>71</sup>

vii AQUILA BENSON, b. say 1713, d. Rochester before 21 Dec. 1737, when his widow was appointed administratrix of his estate;<sup>72</sup> m. Rochester, 22 Jan. 1735, MARY CLAPP,<sup>73</sup> b. Rochester, 23 March 1715/6, daughter of John and Dorcas (Earle) Clapp, d. Rochester, 30 June 1792.<sup>74</sup> As a widow, Mary m. (2) Rochester, 17 April 1740, John Briggs.<sup>75</sup>

Only child: *Aquila Benson*, b. 10 Dec. 1736 and bp. 1 April 1739.<sup>76</sup> On 22 Dec. 1757, having reached age 21, Aquila Benson of Rochester, labourer, sold his portion of his grandfather Joseph Benson's estate "which appertains to me by heirship as I am the only child of his son Aquila who died before his father."<sup>77</sup>

viii LYDIA BENSON, b. say 1715, d. Hardwick, Mass., 30 June 1756;<sup>78</sup> m. Rochester, 23 June 1737, SAMUEL NYE.<sup>79</sup> They sold her interest in her father's estate on 19 Feb. 1738.<sup>80</sup> Samuel m. (2) New Braintree, Mass., 16 Sept. 1756, Mehitable Cannon.<sup>81</sup>

Children, first 5 b. Rochester, others b. Hardwick:<sup>82</sup> 1. *Susannah Nye*, b. 10 March 1738[9]. 2. *Ann Nye*, b. 10 April 1741. 3. *Ebenezer Nye*, b. 21 March 1742/3. 4. *Lydia Nye*, b. 28 Jan. 1744/5. 5. *Deborah Nye*, b. 1 June 1747. 6. *Jabez Nye*, b. 13 June 1749. 7. *Ichabod Nye*, b. 28 March 1753. 8. *Joseph Nye*, b. 28 March 1755.

ix DEBORAH BENSON, b. say 1717 and possibly named after her father's 2nd wife. She was still living as a seamstress and apparently single, 15 Sept. 1747, when she acknow-

<sup>67</sup> On their marriage intentions dated 17 7m [Sept.] 1733, Joseph was called "son of Joseph Benson of Rochester" and Experience was called "daughter of Shubal Barlow of Rochester" (Hamm, *Dartmouth Monthly Meeting Minutes* [note 66], 341).

<sup>68</sup> *Rochester VRs* [note 2], 2:34.

<sup>69</sup> *Rochester VRs* [note 2], 1:34.

<sup>70</sup> Plymouth Co. Deeds, 43:231.

<sup>71</sup> See note 42.

<sup>72</sup> Plymouth Co. Probate Records, #1866 [DGS #5171069, image 551].

<sup>73</sup> *Rochester VRs* [note 2], 2:34.

<sup>74</sup> Benson, *Benson Family* [note 33], 106.

<sup>75</sup> *Rochester VRs* [note 2], 2:35.

<sup>76</sup> *Rochester VRs* [note 2], 1:33.

<sup>77</sup> Plymouth Co. Deeds, 44:205.

<sup>78</sup> Thomas W. Baldwin, comp., *Vital Records of Hardwick, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850* (Boston, 1917), 312.

<sup>79</sup> *Rochester VRs* [note 2], 2:34.

<sup>80</sup> Benson, *Benson Family* [note 33], 44; Plymouth Co. Deeds, 43:52.

<sup>81</sup> *Hardwick VRs* [note 78], 217. The marriage was recorded in Hardwick but noted as taking place in New Braintree.

<sup>82</sup> *Rochester VRs* [note 2], 1:223–26 (Susannah, Ann, Ebenezer, Lydia, Deborah); *Hardwick VRs* [note 78], 79–80 (Joseph, Jabus [*sic*], Ichabod).

ledged the deed of 19 Feb. 1738 whereby she sold her interest in her father's estate.<sup>83</sup> She published marriage intentions in Rochester, 31 Aug. 1740, with Daniel Higbe,<sup>84</sup> but the marriage never took place.<sup>85</sup>

x (poss.) SARAH BENSON, b. say 1720;<sup>86</sup> m. Rochester, 21 Aug. 1740, ELKANAH SMITH.<sup>87</sup>

### SOME FURTHER CONSIDERATIONS

Although not proven, Sarah Smith is proposed as the daughter of Elkanah and Sarah (Benson) Smith. In turn, Sarah Benson is proposed as the daughter of Joseph and Lydia (Jenne) (Allen) Benson of Rochester.<sup>88</sup> Identifying them as such has interesting implications in regard to the early life of Zephaniah Hicks of Maine, who was the subject of the present author's 2020 study.<sup>89</sup> According to the above family summaries, Zephaniah's closest living maternal relatives in his early years would have been first and second cousins who were much older than he was, and, furthermore, some of them lived far away, so that he was unlikely to have had close relationships with them. This contrasts with his having closer paternal relatives, with whom, as demonstrated in the previous study, he seems to have had ongoing relationships which probably factored into his move from Sandwich to New Sandwich (Wayne) in Maine, whenever it occurred.<sup>90</sup>

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<sup>83</sup> Benson, *Benson Family* [note 33], 44; Plymouth Co. Deeds, 43:52.

<sup>84</sup> *Rochester VRs* [note 2], 2:36.

<sup>85</sup> See discussion above.

<sup>86</sup> Based on her most probable age at marriage and that, as a posited daughter of Joseph, she would have been the youngest.

<sup>87</sup> *Rochester VRs* [note 2], 2:35.

<sup>88</sup> The present author (a descendant of Zephaniah) has DNA matches that are consistent with this reconstruction. They are with Benson descendants, and can only be explained if the author also descends from the Benson family as postulated here. This does not prove the case, but it is consistent with this study's conclusions as to the identities of Sarah Smith and Sarah Benson.

<sup>89</sup> Hubbard, "A Quest for Roots: Zephaniah Hicks" [note 1], *The Maine Genealogist* 42(2020): 22–33.

<sup>90</sup> The author thanks Priscilla Eaton for her suggestion that, instead of merely following his aunt and her family to Maine at a later date, Zephaniah may have been adopted (or at least raised) by her, and therefore would have accompanied her and her family when they migrated to New Sandwich.

LINCOLN COUNTY, MAINE, WILL ABSTRACTS  
1800–1830

(continued from p. 48)

**227. JAMES RICHARDS of Camden [LCP 22:326]**

Being weak in body

To 5 of my sons, to wit, James Richards Jr., John Richards, Jacob Richards, Abraham Richards, and Robert Richards, all my freehold estate to be equally divided betw them.

I order that the said James, John, Jacob, Abraham, and Robert pay to my other sons and daus, namely Moses Richards, Bridgett wife of Samuel Richards, Mary wife of Philip Crooker, and the heirs of Elizabeth late the wife of James Thorndike (she being now deceased), \$200 to be equally divided.

Appt my eldest son James Richards Jr. exec.

Dated: 14 Sept. 1821

Signed with his signature (“James Richards”)

Witnesses: Jacob Patch, Nicholas Cooper, W<sup>m</sup> Parkman

In probate: 21 Jan. 1822 and continued to 31 May 1822

**228. DAVID FALES of Thomaston, Esquire [LCP 22:328]**

[No statement of health]

To my beloved wife Zibiah Fales, one third of all my RE (excepting my right in the North Parish Meeting House in Thomaston) during her natural life. Also, pew No. 24 in said meeting house during her natural life. Also, one third of my PE forever.

To my sons Leonard Fales and William Fales, the pew No. 26 in said meeting house to be held in equal shares.

To each of my sons Willard Fales, David S. Fales, Oliver Fales, and Asa Fales, and also to each of my daus Melinda Tilson and Elisabeth Dean, \$1.

To my sons Elisha Fales and George Fales, pew No. 23 in said meeting house to be held in equal shares.

To my son Atwood Fales, pew No. 31 in the gallery of said meeting house.

To my granddaughter Nancy Fales, who is the child of my dau Elisabeth, \$5.

To each and every child of my deceased dau Peronella Conant, 20¢.

I will all the residue of my estate, together with the reversion of the estate bequeathed to my wife, as follows. To each of my 4 daus, Hannah Fales, Cynthia Fales, Julia Fales, and Merriam Fales, and to each of my three [sons] Eusebius Fales, George Fales, and Atwood Fales, one ninth part, and to my dau Susannah Fales two ninth parts of all the remainder of my RE and PE.

Appt my wife Zibiah Fales and my son Eusebius Fales joint execs.

Dated: Thomaston, 11 Jan 1822

Signed with his signature (“David Fales”)

Witnesses: David Fales Jr., Barnabas Webb, Joseph Sprague

In probate: 31 May 1822

**229. ROBERT REED of Woolwich, Gentleman [LCP 22:330]**

Laboring under some bodily infirmity

To my beloved wife Catharine, that part of the house we now occupy, with all the wild land I own up river and in whatever town it may fall to be at her disposal forever. Also, all my PE within doors in the house with all the stock which I shall have at my decease. Also, the fish privilege to her own disposal and use forever.

To my son Ulriah, all my farming utensils and tools together with \$1.

Half the RE I have at home, I will to be equally divided between my other children after the decease of my wife should she survive me.

Appt Lemuel Trott Jr. of Woolwich exec

Dated: 23 Oct 1817

Signed with his signature (“Robert Reed”)

Witnesses: Converse Lilly, Lydia Reed, Margaret Reed, Mary Reed

In probate: 8 May 1822

### **230. THOMAS DAGGETT of Union, yeoman [LCP 22:331]**

[No statement of health]

To my 3 daus Hannah, Rinshy, and Sally, one good cow each.

To my dau Hannah, a comfortable room in my dwelling house and a privilege in the kitchen and a small bedroom if she may need it as long as she remains single. And if by reason of sickness or otherwise she shall be unable to maintain herself during her celibacy, that she be comfortably maintained out of my estate, she doing what she can reasonably to aid in her own support. If she shall marry, she shall be as well fitted out as my other daus were, but if she remains single at my decease and at the decease of my wife, I give her all my household furniture instead of fitting her out.

To my wife Rebecca and to my son Henry, all my neat cattle and sheep to be equally divided.

To my wife Rebecca, my horse if any such there be at my decease.

To my son Edmund, all my RE and all the residue of my PE, reserving to my wife the use and benefit of all my RE during her lifetime.

I hereby authorise the Judge of Probate to constitute a discreet person to be my exec. [On 30 May 1822, the court appointed Edmund Daggett exec.]

Dated: Union, 20 Dec. 1821

In probate: 30 May 1822

### **231. JONATHAN GROVER of Bowdoin [LCP 22:402]**

Being weak in body

To my beloved wife Hannah Grover, all my household furniture.

To my eldest son Joseph Grover, \$1 together with what I have already given him.

To my 2 sons Benjamin Grover and Bowdoin Grover, all the land that I own on the west side of the town road leading through my farm that I now live on by them paying to my wife \$25 each for the support of the children.

To my daus Hannah Grover, Happy Grover, Eleanor Grover, Irena Grover, and Mary Jane Grover, one cow each to be paid when they arrive at 21y of age or at their marriage.

To my wife, all my land and buildings on the east side of the town road leading through my farm where I now live, together with a piece of land in Bowdoin which I bought of Mr. Merryman, it being part of Merryman’s farm, and also one quarter part of a sawmill and the privilege belonging to it in Bowdoin, which I own in company with Thomas Minor and others during her natural life.

To my 2 youngest sons Jonathan Grover and Minard Grover, all my RE on the east side of the town road running through my farm after the decease of my wife, if they the said Minard and Jonathan continue to carry on the farm and help bring up the children.

To my wife Hannah Grover, all the residue of my PE.

Appt my wife Hannah Grover exec.

Dated: 18 June 1822

Signed with his mark (“+”)

Witnesses: Moses Dennett, Joseph Fost, B. Foster, Andrew Grover

In probate: 26 Aug. 1822

### **232. JAMES WILLIAMS of Woolwich [LCP 22:406]**

Being weak in body

To my beloved wife Betsey Williams, the use and income of all my RE and PE so long as she shall remain my widow and take care of and support all of my children which may live until my oldest son George shall be 21y of age. And in case she shall not remain my widow and in case my son George shall live to 21y, it is my will that Betsey my wife shall have the use of one third of all my estate.

I also give to my eldest son George Williams all my RE in the town of Woolwich and a piece of salt marsh being all that I own in the town of Wiscasset when he is 21y of age.

My son George to be holden to pay to each of the other children \$100 each to be paid to them when they shall become 21y of age, that is to say to Margaret Williams \$100, to Eliza Jane Williams \$100, to James Williams \$100, to John Merril Williams \$100, and to Lemuel Williams \$100, and in case that either of my children should die short of being 21y of age, such share shall accrue equally to the rest of my children.

All my property not otherwise disposed of is left to the disposal of my wife for the use of the family as she shall think proper.

Appt my brother John Williams sole exec.

Dated: 15 June 1822

Signed with his signature (“James Williams”)

Witnesses: Jesse Briggs, John M. Bayley, Margaret Williams

In probate: 7 Sept. 1822

### **233. JAMES ALEXANDER of Bowdoin, yeoman [LCP 23:9]**

Being weak in body

Being exercised with pain and weak in body

To my dau Martha Maxwell, \$1.

To my eldest son James Alexander Jr., \$1.

To my son John Alexander, \$1.

To my dau Mary Small, \$1.

To my dau Almira Chase, \$1.

To my dau Charity Alexander, \$1.

To my son Mustard Alexander, one half of the farm that I now live on with one half of the buildings, providing he shall live on said farm and improve the same with my wife, not to come in possession of the same until my wife’s decease or remarriage.

To my dau Julian Alexander, \$1.

To my beloved wife Miriam Alexander, all the stock on my farm and all the household stuff.

Appt my wife Miriam Alexander sole exec.

Dated: 6 Dec. 1819

Signed with his signature (“James Alexander”)

Witnesses: Uriel Huntington, John Bibber, John Hall

In probate: 28 Aug. 1820



**234. JOSEPH TARR of Newcastle, yeoman [LCP 23:25]**

[No statement of health]

To Joseph Tarr of Whitefield, yeoman, all my lands and RE wherever situated. Also, all my stock of cattle and all my sheep, swine, horses, and all other creatures I shall die possessed of. Also, one half of all my household furniture, except what I shall hereinafter give to Hannah Hurley, wife of Robert Hurley. Also, all the money I may have on hand when I die and all that I shall have due to me from Royal Copeland of Newcastle, yeoman, and any other person whomsoever. He the said Joseph Tarr shall make secure to Joseph Tarr Copeland, son of the said Royal Copeland, the payment of \$250 when Joseph T. Copeland shall arrive to age 21y. And upon condition also that Joseph Tarr shall procure and set up handsome gravestones at the grave of my late wife Alice Tarr and of her late father, James Cooper, and his said Cooper's late wife, Hannah; and also to my grave after burial.

To Royal Copeland, one half of all my household furniture, except what I shall give to Hannah Hurley as hereinafter to be mentioned. Also, if there should be more money on hand and debts due to me than to the amount of \$250 given to Joseph T. Copeland, in that case I give to Royal Copeland the one half of the surplus.

To Hannah Hurley, one bedstead, one bed & bedding therefor, being the same bed that was given to my late wife by her mother.

If my brother Abraham Tarr of Whitefield should outlive me, in that case I give him all my wearing apparel. But if the said Abraham should die before me, then I give my apparel to the said Joseph Tarr of Whitefield and Royal Copeland in equal halves.

All of the residue of my estate I give to Joseph Tarr of Whitefield and Royal Copeland in equal halves.

Appt the said Joseph Tarr sole exec.

Dated: 4 Sept. 1818

Signed with his signature ("Joseph Tarr")

Witnesses: Lydia R. Smith, Lucy Smith, Manasah Smith

**Codicil**

I do hereby revoke the within legacy to the said Abraham Tarr, my brother, of all my wearing apparel, and I do hereby give all my wearing apparel to Joseph Tarr and Royal Copeland.

Codicil dated: 3 July 1820

Codicil signed with his signature ("Joseph Tarr")

Codicil witness: John Stuart

In probate: 9 Sept. 1820

**235. ALEXANDER THOMPSON of Topsham [LCP 23:28]**

Being weak in body

To my beloved wife Lydia Thompson, all my RE and one half of my PE as long as she remains my widow.

To my dau Jane Walker, wife of Nathaniel Walker, \$5.

To my dau Eunice Thompson, \$5.

To my dau Lydia Pierce, \$5.

To my dau Hannah Thompson, \$5.

To my son John Thompson, one third of all my RE.

To my son Benjamin Thompson, one third of all my RE.

To my dau Mary Thompson, \$5.

To my son Wilds Thomas Thompson, one third of all my RE.

To my son Dixy Wilds Thompson, \$300 to be paid to him by my sons John, Benjamin and Wilds when he reaches age 21.

To my son Francis Alexander Thomposon, \$300 to be paid to him by my sons John, Benjamin, and Wilds when he reaches age 21.

Appt my wife Lydia Thompson and my son John Thompson execs.

Dated: 4 May 1818

Signed with his signature ("Alex<sup>r</sup> Thompson")

Witnesses: Samuel Wilson, James Wilson 2<sup>d</sup>, Abel Merrill

In probate: 11 March 1820

### **236. ELIZABETH McFARLAND of Boothbay, widow [LCP 23:79]**

[No statement of health]

To my beloved sister Mary Tubbs, if she shall continue to live after me, the use of a chamber in the house in which I now live, being the same chamber which Mary now occupies, to continue to belong to the said Mary Tubbs during her natural life.

To my eldest son Andrew McFarland, the whole use and improvement of all my part of the dwelling house which I now live in, except the chamber bequeathed to my sister Tubbs. I further give him one-sixteenth part of the schooner *America* whereof Jeremiah Holton is at present master, with one-sixteenth part of all tackle and apparel thereunto belonging.

To my son Ephraim McFarland, all my demand against him on account of the sale of the schooner *Betsey*, which he sold in Boston, and all other debts, dues and property of mine in his hands, except a note of hand given me for cash dated April 20th 1796 for £30 lawful money, which is hereafter bequeathed to my son John Murray.

To my son John Murray McFarland, all my demand against him on account of the store sold Edmund Wilson Esq. Also, a note of hand against him dated July 24th 1816 given for \$100. Also, a note of hand against Edmund Wilson Esq. given for \$60. Also, a note in his hands against Henry Kenney given for \$40. Also, a note of hand against my son Ephraim McFarland dated April 20 1796 given for £30 lawful money. I also give him, after the decease of my son Andrew, all my right which I have in the house in which I now live with the whole of my household furniture. Also, one-sixteenth part of the schooner *America* whereof John Holton is at present master with one-sixteenth of all the tackle and apparel thereunto belonging.

To my dau Sally McCobb, \$5

To the children of my dau Mary Reed deceased, viz Sarah Gilbert, Rosanna Auld, Hannah Durant, William, Nancy, John, and Ephraim, 50¢ each.

To the children of my dau Elizabeth McCobb deceased, viz Mary Bragg, Susan Jones, Margaret Clark, Rachael, George, and Andrew, 50¢ each.

To the children of my dau Rosanna Reed deceased, viz Paul Maxwell, Charles, Mariah, Rufus King, and Elizabeth Ann, 50¢ each.

To the children of my dau Susanna Reed deceased, viz George and Susan, 50¢ each.

To my son John M. McFarland, the residue of my RE and PE.

Appt my son John M. McFarland and my friend Joseph McCobb, both of Boothbay, execs.

Dated: 17 May 1819

Signed with her mark ("X")

Witnesses: Joseph McCobb, Jacob Auld, Paul McCobb

In probate: 3 Jan. 1821

### **237. WILLIAM SPEAR of Thomaston, mariner [LCP 23:94]**

Being weak in body

To my beloved wife Mary Spear, three quarters of all my RE and PE for her use as long as she remains my widow.

To my son John Spear, \$2.  
 To my son William Spear, \$2.  
 To my son Mark Spear, \$2.  
 To my dau Mary Fobs,<sup>2</sup> \$2.  
 To my dau Hannah Ingraham, \$2.  
 To my dau Harriot Spear, \$2.  
 To my youngest dau Nancy Spear, \$50.  
 To my youngest son Archibald Spear, the remaining quarter of my RE and PE to be paid to him when he becomes of age.  
 To my son Mark Spear, in addition to what I have above given to him, I give him one acre of land where he has got a cellar dug.  
 Appt my brother John Spear exec.  
 Dated 24 March 1820  
 Signed with his signature (“W<sup>m</sup> Spear”)  
 Witnesses: Joseph Ingraham, William Perry, John Lovejoy  
 In probate: 15 Jan. 1821

### **238. JOSHUA DILLINGHAM of Camden, Esquire [LCP 23:97]**

Being sick and weak in body  
 To my beloved wife Marcy, the use and enjoyment of all my PE and estate during her life.  
 To my two sons Nathaniel Dillingham and Joshua Dillingham, my wearing apparel.  
 To my son Joshua, all my farming tools.  
 To my sons Nathaniel and Joshua and my dau Rachel Mirick, wife of Joseph Mirick, all that may remain of my other PE from the decease of my wife, except my wife’s wearing apparel, necklaces and rings, which I leave to her disposal.  
 To my wife, the use of my whole RE in Camden (except the parts of the house and outbuildings and barns hereafter given to my son Joshua) and the privilege of cutting firewood.  
 To my son Joshua, the use of the westerly front room and adjoining bedroom, the easterly front chambe and adjoining bedchamber, and the easterly half of the garret of my dwelling house, with an equal right of the kitchen, porch, cellar, milkcellar, woodhouse, and all the outbuildings and dooryard belonging to the house (excepting therefrom the chaise house), and further the whole of the westerly barn and equal privilege in the barnyard and shed.  
 It is my will that my wife and son Joshua shall equally during her life keep the house and outbuildings and fences round the same in good order and repair.  
 From the decease of my wife, I give my son Joshuathat part of my easterly lot of landwhich is now owned and occupied by me, the other part being now owned by my son Joshua.  
 From the decease of my wife, I give to my son Nathaniel all those parts of the middle lot of land now owned and occupied by me, the other parts now owned by Nathaniel.  
 From the decease of my wife, I give to my dau Rachel all that part of the westerly lot of land now owned and occupied by me, the other part now owned by my dau Rachel and Joseph Mirick.  
 From the decease of my wife, to my sons Nathaniel and Joshua and my dau Rachel, as tenants in common, the lot of land in Camden called the table land and a lot of land in Lincolnville containing about 50 acres.  
 Appt my wife Marcy Dillingham and my son Nathaniel Dillingham execs.

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<sup>2</sup> The Thomaston vital records show the marriage on 6 April 1818 of Miss Mary Spear with Mr. Oliver *Fales*, both of Thomaston (Marlene A. Groves, *Vital Records of Thomaston, Maine* [Rockport, Mained, 2003] 322).

Dated 8 April 1820

Signed with his signature ("John Dillingham")

Witnesses: Jonah Wheeler, Benjamin P. Dillingham, Horatio Dillingham

In probate: 15 Jan. 1821

**239. BETHIAH PAINE of Thomaston, widow [LCP 23:101]**

Being in declining health

To my son Samuel Paine, \$1.

To my son John Paine, \$1.

To my son Orris Paine, \$1.

To my son Snow Paine, \$1.

To the 2 children of my son Nathaniel Paine deceased, \$1 each.

To my dau Hannah Paine, three-fourths part, and to my dau Jane Paine, the remaining one-fourth part of all my RE and PE.

Feeling as I do an equal affection for all my children, the reasons which influence me to make the distributon of my estate as above are (my sons being in the possession of health and sound faculties) the peculiar advantages which males possess over females in the means of providing for support. And in respect to the inequality of my bequest to my daus, I have been governed alone by the consideration that my dau Jane is already in possession of a considerable property.

Appt my daus Hannah and Jane sole execs.

Dated: 30 Oct. 1812

Signed with her signature ("Bethiah Paine")

Witnesses: Adam Levenseller, John B. Rider

In probate: 11 May 1820

**240. HATEVIL LIBBY of Warren, gentleman [LCP 23:106]**

Feeling the infirmities of age and decays of nature

As to my worldly substance, I have already disposed of the principal part by deeds and donations to my children. I have done as much for them as my circumstances in life would admit and have endeavored to do the same with justice and impartiality, without preferring one to another as they all equally share my paternal affection. I fervently pray that the blessing of heaven may attend them both in this life and that which is to come. I shall mention all their names in conformity to common custom in making wills and as a token of my dying remembrance and kind affection to them.

To my beloved wife Jane, the use of all my PE not otherwise disposed of by this will during her natural life.

To each of my sons Eliakim Libby, John Libby, Nathan Libby, Hatevil Libby, David Libby, Isaac Libby and to my dau Mary Payson, \$1.

To my dau the widow Elizabeth Kirkpatrick, a cow.

To my dau Jenny Libby, after the decease of her mother, the residue of all my PE.

Appt my dau Jenny Libby sole exec.

Dated: 20 Aug. 1817

Signed with his signature ("Hatevil Libby")

Witnesses: Reuben Hall, Jane Parsons, Thurston Whiting

In probate: 16 Jan. 1821

*(to be continued)*

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Journal of the Maine Genealogical Society

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