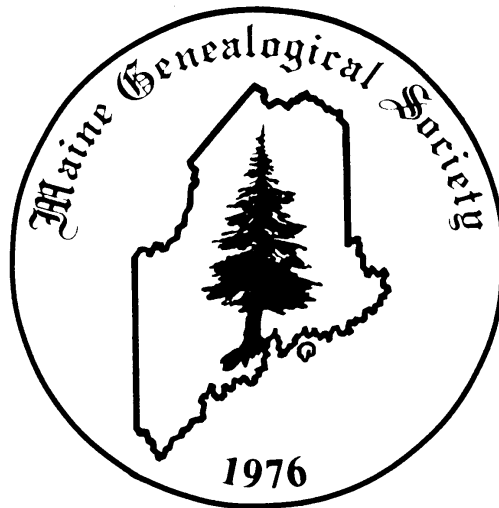


The Maine Genealogist



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EDITOR'S PAGE

It is a delight to encounter an article that clarifies a branch of our family tree with all of the evidence and documentation clearly laid out before us. Articles in journals typically summarize months or even years of an author's research. What they don't always do, however, is provide the backstory of how an author and editor collaborated to locate and piece together the more difficult threads of evidence.

The lead article, which investigates Maine sailors on whaleships in the nineteenth century, exemplifies this complexity. One of these sailors, Alanson M. Wardwell (1842–1899), was particularly difficult to research. He legally changed his name to James Wardwell in 1882, but he is found as James in many records before that time. This required searching for him under both names. The biggest challenge, however, was identifying his first wife. His second and third marriages were easily found, but there was no trace of his first wife in any place where he was known to have lived.

By his second wife, Mittie Whitman, whom he married in 1873, Alanson (or James) Wardwell had a daughter Elsie. In the 1900 census, Elsie was called "sister-in-law" in the Haverhill, Massachusetts, household of Charles S. Messer and his wife Hattie. Hattie was shown as being born in Maine in November 1870. If Elsie was the sister-in-law of Charles Messer, then she was presumably the sister of Hattie. Was Hattie then a daughter of Alanson/James Wardwell and his unidentified first wife? Researching Hattie was the obvious next step.

In 1890 Charles S. Messer married in Dover, New Hampshire, Harriet Record, aged 20, described on the marriage certificate as the daughter of Solomon Record. Solomon Record had married in 1854 Mahala Wardwell, the sister of Alanson/James Wardwell. This would mean that Hattie Record, wife of Charles Messer, was the first cousin of Elsie Wardwell, not her sister. If that was the case, why would Elsie be called sister-in-law on the census record? Something seemed amiss.

The breakthrough came in finding Hattie's obituary. The *Biddeford Daily Journal* in 1948 stated that Hattie was born in Winthrop, 23 November 1870, daughter of Solomon and Mahala (Thurston) Record. The name *Thurston* was incorrect (Mahala was a Wardwell), but suggested a possible link to that family. The 1892 Thurston genealogy has an entry for Octavia Fogg Thurston of Monmouth, Maine, who (the genealogy says) married James Wardwell of Winthrop in 1866 and died in 1871. The account adds that James and Octavia had two children: a daughter, who died young, and Harriet Winnifred Wardwell, born in 1870 and "adopted by her father's sister, Mrs. Record of Kennebunk, Me., and name changed to Record." Suddenly everything made sense. Hattie was indeed Elsie's "sister," though more accurately they were half sisters. A search of the Monmouth vital records uncovered the marriage intentions in 1866 of Alanson M. Wardwell and Miss Octavia F. Thurston.

The mystery of the first wife was solved. While the article in this issue includes only the one-liner that Alanson "married, first, 4 May 1866, Octavia Fogg Thurston of Monmouth," finding that information was a considerable research accomplishment. And sometimes a discovery of this magnitude cannot be summarized in a sentence.

—Joseph C. Anderson II, Editor

EARLY MANHOOD OF SOME MAINE SAILORS ABOARD A WHALESHIP

By Glenn D. Nasman

From 1820 until the beginning of the Civil War, many young men from all over the northeastern United States headed for New Bedford to sail on a whaleship. There was the opportunity to see the world, the thrill of adventure, and the possibility of a decent income if the ship was a “lucky” ship. Many young men from Maine farming communities responded to advertisements they saw in the newspapers by making their way to New Bedford and signing on for a three- to four-year cruise.¹ Because of their lack of experience, most of them signed on as a “greenhand,” which entitled them to about a one two-hundredth share of the profits for the cruise. Those with experience or special skills got larger shares.² A typical whaleship had a crew of about thirty men consisting of a captain, three mates, four boatsteerers, a cook, a steward, a cooper, a carpenter, a blacksmith, four seamen, and twelve greenhands. The greenhands who hired on to the *Addison*, a whaleship that sailed from New Bedford in 1856, received \$252.61 for their one two-hundredth share if they returned with the ship, minus the cost of any clothing or sundries they purchased on credit while they were on the three-and-a-half-year voyage.³

Sailing on a whaleship could be dangerous and there was no guarantee that a sailor would return from his voyage. Ships might be lost at sea, whale boats occasionally capsized or were smashed by whales, sicknesses and shipboard accidents could be fatal, ship officers were sometimes cruel, and indigenous peoples could be murderous. In addition, men who deserted their ships might never find their way home. If deserters survived, they often ended up in sailortowns with no companionship except what could be found in some tavern. In November 1857, after eleven months at sea, five sailors, including two from Calais, deserted the *Addison* in Hon-

¹ About twenty percent of the New Bedford whaling ships gave Fairhaven as their homeport. Fairhaven is the town located directly across the Acushnet River from New Bedford. A typical newspaper advertisement read as follows: “WANTED—Immediately, 100 young men, Americans, to go on whaling voyages in first class ships. Also Carpenters, Coopers and Blacksmiths, to whom extra pay will be given. All clothing and other necessary articles furnished on the credit of the voyage. N.B.—Voyages from eight months to three years” (*New York Tribune*, 1 July 1841, p. 3).

² The profit shares for the voyage of the *Sharon* amounted to Captain (1/16), 1st mate (1/28), 2nd mate (1/48), 3rd mate (1/60), boatsteerers (1/80 to 1/90), greenhands (1/175 to 1/210), carpenter (1/175), cooper (1/50), and cook (1/145) (Joan Druett, ed., *In the Wake of Madness: The Murderous Voyage of the Whaleship Sharon* [Chapel Hill, N.C., 2003], 231–32). The profit shares for the voyage of the *Florida* some 17 years later had increased for the officers, but not for the crew, to captain (1/12), 1st mate (1/22), 2nd mate (1/35), 3rd mate (1/50), boatsteerers (1/95), greenhands (1/200), carpenter and blacksmith (1/180), cooper (1/50), cook (1/140) and steward (1/135) (Harold Williams, *One Whaling Family* [Boston, Mass., 1964], 205–6).

³ Stanton Garner, ed., *The Captain’s Best Mate: The Journal of Mary Chipman Lawrence on the Whaler Addison, 1856–1860* (Hanover, N.H., 1966) 254–55.

olulu.⁴ No records have been found to indicate whether deserters Charles W. Brown and James McElwee ever made it back home to Calais.

For this study, I have selected three ships that sailed out of New Bedford with crew members from Maine.⁵ It is important to note that not all the names recorded on crew lists are true. Greenhands would falsify their names for any number of reasons. John T. Perkins, a resident of Norwich, Connecticut, and a student at Yale, decided to go to sea in hope of improving his eyesight. He wrote in his journal a description of all the crew members on the whaleship *Tiger* that sailed out of Stonington, Connecticut, on 4 November 1845.⁶ Among the crew with false names were “a young man shipped by the name of Henry Franklin [who] declares that he would not tell his real name,” Isaac Briggs who shipped as William Anderson, and Alfred Mason from Mansfield, Connecticut, who went “in disguise & under an assumed name he remained till his parents had done looking for him.”

1. The whaleship *Sharon* sailed out of Fairhaven, Massachusetts, on 25 May 1841, returning 10 February 1845.⁷ The young men from Maine on the voyage were:

- a. **Benjamin Clough** of Monmouth, 3rd mate, aged 22, returned with ship.
- b. Edward A. Andrews of Portland, greenhand, aged 23. No further record.

2. The whaleship *Addison* sailed out of New Bedford, on 25 November 1856, returning 14 June 1860.⁸ The young men from Maine on the voyage were:

- a. William F. Heughan of Calais, boatsteerer, aged 32, returned with ship.
- b. Francis Finley of Lewiston, greenhand, age unknown. No further record.⁹

⁴ Garner, *The Captain's Best Mate* [note 3], 54. The captain's wife, Mary Chapman Lawrence, in her record of her 1856–60 voyage on the *Addison*, wrote about crew desertion on 27 April 1857: “I was foolish enough to believe that everyone would stay by us, not one leave voluntarily” (ibid., 28).

⁵ In order to assess the impact on their lives from spending several years aboard a whaleship during their formative years, genealogical sketches have been developed for four of the young men from Maine whose names are in bold type.

⁶ Joan Druett, ed., *She Was A Sister Sailor: The Whaling Journals of Mary Brewster, 1845–1851* (Mystic, Conn., 1992), 8–9, citing John T. Perkins, *John T. Perkins' Journal at Sea, 1845* (Mystic, Conn., 1934).

⁷ Dates of the voyage of the *Sharon* are from Alexander Starbuck, *History of the American Whale Fishery* (Secaucus, N.J., 1989), 376–77; the names, hometowns, and ages of crew members are from Druett, *In the Wake of Madness* [note 2], 231–32. Only 4 of the original 29 crew members returned with the ship: 1st mate Thomas Harlock Smith, 2nd mate Nathan Skiff Smith, 3rd mate Benjamin Clough, and cooper Andrew White. None of the 14 greenhands, including Edward Andrews of Portland, returned with the ship.

⁸ Dates of the voyage of the *Addison* are from Starbuck, *American Whale Fishery* [note 7], 532–33; the names, hometowns, and ages of crew members are from Garner, *Captain's Best Mate* [note 3], 252–55.

⁹ Garner, *Captain's Best Mate* [note 3], 254–55, claims Francis Finley drowned 28 Dec. 1857, but that is incorrect. Only one sailor drowned on that date, a steward from the Azores named Antone Lewis, aged 18, who had never learned to swim. One of the whale boats was capsized by a whale and Antone went to a “watery grave” before he could be rescued (Garner, *Captain's Best Mate* [note 3], 62). Why Francis Finley did not return with the ship has not been found.

- c. Charles W. Brown of Calais, greenhand, aged 15, deserted in Honolulu, November 1857.¹⁰
- d. James McElwee of Calais, greenhand, age unknown, deserted in Honolulu, November 1857.

3. The whaleship *Florida* sailed out of New Bedford on 7 September 1858, returned 26 October 1861 when it anchored safely in San Francisco about six months after the start of the Civil War.¹¹ The young men from Maine on the voyage were:

- a. **Henry McFadden** of Wiscasset, greenhand, aged 18, probably returned with the ship.
- b. **Alanson M. Wardwell** of Greene, greenhand, aged 16, deserted.
- c. **James S. Wyman** of Flagstaff, greenhand, aged 21, probably returned with the ship.
- d. James D. F. Dennett of Hollis, steward, age unknown, deserted.

BENJAMIN CLOUGH, MONMOUTH

BENJAMIN CLOUGH was born in Monmouth, Maine, 17 March 1819, son of Asa and Mary French (Griffin) Clough.¹² His parents had married in Monmouth, 12 November 1816,¹³ and had ten children born between 1818 and 1840, nine of whom were male.¹⁴ Benjamin as the second son could not expect to receive enough land from his father to have a viable farm. The voyage of the *Sharon* was not Benjamin's first time on a whaleship. In September 1835, at the age of 16, he joined the crew of the *Jasper* sailing out of Fairhaven. Less than two months after that voyage ended on 24 June 1837, he was a member of the crew of the *Friendship* that sailed from Fairhaven on 12 August 1837 and returned on 22 January 1839. Benjamin then sailed on the *Rajah* out of New Bedford on 8 June 1839, this time as a boatsteerer. He deserted the *Rajah*, however, on 7 March 1840, after only nine months, because he

¹⁰ Charles W. Brown was likely the son of William D. and Eliza Brown of Calais. He was born in New Brunswick about 1841, but his family, which was originally from Nova Scotia, had settled in Calais by 1847 (William D. Brown household, 1850 U.S. Census, Calais, Washington Co., Maine, p. 132B). Charles W. Brown, aged 9, was a member of William's household.

¹¹ Dates of the voyage of the *Florida* are from Starbuck, *American Whale Fishery* [note 7], 562–63; the names, hometowns, and ages of the crew members are from Williams, *One Whaling Family* [note 2], 205–6.

¹² Harry H. Cochrane, *History of Monmouth and Wales* (East Winthrop, Maine, 1894), Genealogical Appendix, 39. Benjamin was described as a seaman, aged 30, in the Asa Clough household, 1850 U.S. Census, Monmouth, Kennebec Co., Maine, p. 67.

¹³ Monmouth VRs, 1781–1818, p. 281 (FamilySearch digital film (DGS) #8128462, image 141).

¹⁴ Cochrane, *History of Monmouth and Wales* [note 12], Genealogical Appendix, 39. Three of Benjamin's brothers would die on the same day in a "Catastrophe at Monmouth," when 3 sons of Capt. Asa Clough drowned when their boat was upset on Cocknawaugan Pond in Monmouth: Asa A. (aged 25); John E. (aged 19) and Elias P. (aged 17). Also killed were John E. Ranlett (aged 18) and Charles Clark (aged 21) (*Portland Daily Advertiser*, Friday, 11 July 1851, p. 2). George Mars-ton Clough, Asa's youngest son, eventually inherited his father's farm.

was tired of being starved due to inadequate rations. In order to get back to New Bedford, he had to sign on to the crew of the *General Pike* as an ordinary foremast hand. Being offered the position of third mate on the *Sharon* four days before she sailed was a stroke of good luck for Benjamin.¹⁵

Benjamin may have been fortunate in being offered the position of third mate of the *Sharon*, but he was not so fortunate in serving under the command of Capt. Howes Norris of Edgartown, Massachusetts. The captain turned out to be dangerously unbalanced and was one of the most ruthless captains ever to sail the high seas. Among his many atrocities on the voyage of the *Sharon* were the following acts recorded by Benjamin:¹⁶

The steward, George Babcock, aged 18, who was likely an escaped slave, became Capt. Norris's chosen target. For months, food was denied him and by the middle of June 1841, George "was reduced to almost a Skeleton. . . . From the first of July to the first of September [George was beaten] almost every day, using any weapon that came to hand."¹⁷ On 1 Sept. 1841, Capt. Norris beat him repeatedly until he died. Benjamin wrote that Babcock's "spirit had departed to the God who gave it, flogged and beat as long as a breath remained in his body by Captain Howes Norris of Martha's Vineyard. He was sewed up in a blanket with his bloody clothes on and at sunset hove overboard. So ends as cold-blooded a murder as was ever recorded, being about eight months taking his life."¹⁸

John Brown, a white sailor who had joined the crew at Rotuma, attempted to desert while the *Sharon* was cruising off Pleasant Island in the Pacific. Capt. Norris had Brown's hands and feet tied and he was placed in a canoe and set adrift never to be heard from again.¹⁹

On 5 November 1842, the *Sharon* came across a pod of whales, and while most of the crew, including all of the Americans except for the captain, were in whale boats, three natives of Oceania killed Capt. Norris and forced the remaining sailor on board, Manuel Des Reis from the Azores, to climb high up in the rigging. The attackers tried to sail the ship away, but there was only a light wind and Manuel cut the top sails away from the yards so that the whale boats were able to close in on the ship. The islanders had access to many weapons, so it was deemed foolhardy to try

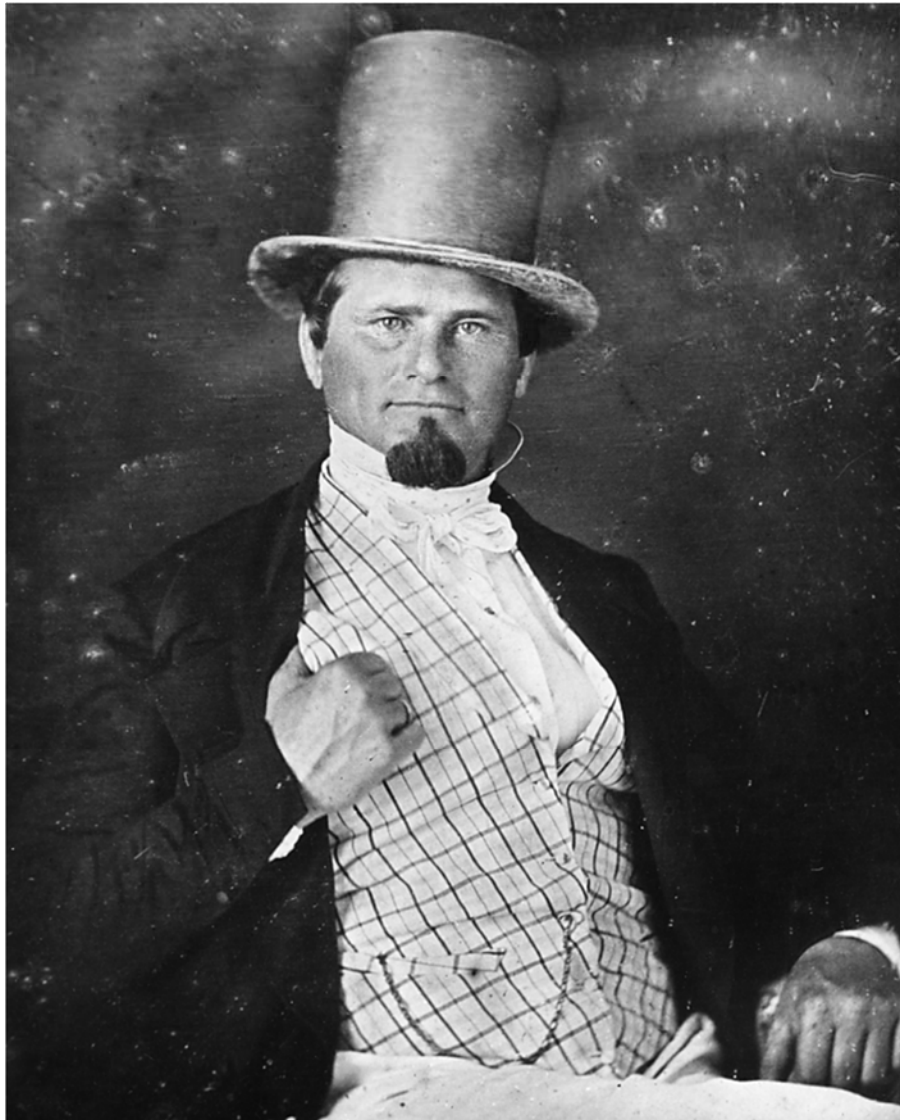
¹⁵ Benjamin's whaling background prior to the sailing of the *Sharon* is found in Druett, *In the Wake of Madness* [note 2], 43–45.

¹⁶ The true story of what really happened aboard the *Sharon* remained buried for over 150 years. The author of *In the Wake of Madness* [note 2], Joan Druett, is a distinguished author of books based on whaling journals. For this book, her three main resources were the journals of the 3rd mate, Benjamin Clough, and the ship's cooper, Andrew White, of Tiverton, R.I., plus a letter written by Benjamin to his father Asa.

¹⁷ The quotes are from a letter Benjamin Clough sent to his father Asa and from his journal (Druett, *In the Wake of Madness* [note 2], 113–14, 124).

¹⁸ Capt. Norris wrote in the ship's log: "George Babcock died very suddenly—he complained of having the cramp" (Druett, *In the Wake of Madness* [note 2], 125).

¹⁹ This incident was related by Benjamin Clough in a letter sent to his father, Asa (Druett, *In the Wake of Madness* [note 2], 118).



Benjamin Clough
(Photograph Courtesy of the New Bedford Whaling Museum)

to row up to the ship and try to board it. Benjamin volunteered to swim to the ship after dark, climb up the rudder, and crawl through one of the cabin windows in the stern. Once on board, he found two cutlasses and two muskets. One of the islanders came below deck and they fought desperately in the dark. Benjamin forced his thumb into an eye socket and tore out his attacker's eye. They continued to fight until the islander fainted from pain and loss of blood. Another islander appeared at the top of the stairs and Benjamin shot him dead. The man, however, dropped a sharp cutting spade down the stairway as he was shot and it fell on the thick part of Benjamin's arm, "above the elbow, cutting it to the bone." The third islander went into hiding and the crew climbed back on board. The man who had fainted was shot in the heart by the first mate and both dead mutineers were thrown overboard. The third islander who had hidden himself in a dim recess in the hold was found the next day and put in irons to face trial for mutiny when they reached land. The *Sharon* returned to New Bedford, two years and three months after the attempted mutiny, and Benjamin's heroics were written up in the New Bedford *Daily Mercury* under the headline:

MURDER OF CAPTAIN NORRIS,
Of the whaling ship *Sharon* of Fairhaven, and
recapture of the ship from mutineers, by Mr.
BENJAMIN CLOUGH, her 3rd officer.²⁰

The owners of the *Sharon*, Gibbs & Jenney, were so appreciative of what Benjamin Clough did to recapture the ship that they gave him command of the *Sharon* on its next voyage, passing over both the first and second mates.²¹ The insurance firms rewarded him with gifts of navigational instruments. Benjamin would become a successful whaling captain grossing over \$400,000 in his career on the following five voyages:²²

1. The whaleship *Sharon*, Fairhaven, Mass., from 21 May 1845 to 23 April 1848.
2. The whaleship *Frances Henrietta*, New Bedford, Mass., from 29 Aug. 1848 to 17 Jan. 1851.
3. The whaleship *Niagara*, Fairhaven, Mass., from 9 Oct. 1851 to 17 Feb. 1854.
4. The whaleship *General Scott*, Fairhaven, Mass., from 4 Sept. 1855 to 20 July 1858.
5. The whaleship '*Northern Light*', New Bedford, Mass., from 8 Dec. 1864 to 5 Aug. 1867.

Soon after returning from his third voyage, Benjamin married in Tisbury, Massachusetts, 27 March 1854, CHARLOTTE CHASE DOWNS.²³ Charlotte was born

²⁰ New Bedford *Daily Mercury*, 27 Feb. 1845, and reprinted in various other Mass. newspapers of the time. The entire story of the murder of Capt. Norris and the recapture of the ship by Benjamin Clough also can be found in Druett, *In the Wake of Madness* [note 2], 147–64.

²¹ Druett, *In the Wake of Madness* [note 2], 216.

²² Druett, *In the Wake of Madness* [note 2], 216–27, lists the names of the ships that Benjamin Clough captained. The dates of departure and return are found in Starbuck, *American Whale Fishery* [note 7], 424–25, 452–53, 482–83, 528–29, 598–99.

²³ Marriages Registered in Tisbury [DGS #4279742, image 709].

[calc.] 29 January 1833, daughter of Capt. Charles and wife Mary P. (Manter) Downs,²⁴ and died in Tisbury, 15 July 1909, aged 76 years 5 months 16 days.²⁵ Charlotte's father was a whaling captain who lived in Tisbury on Martha's Vineyard,²⁶ where Benjamin bought a house on Main Street overlooking the harbor.²⁷ After his fifth voyage, he retired permanently from whaling, becoming a county commissioner, a justice of the peace, and a member of the Massachusetts legislature.²⁸ He was enumerated in Tisbury in 1860, 1870, and 1880.²⁹ He died in Tisbury, 12 May 1889, aged 70 years 1 month 25 days.³⁰ It is clear that going to sea on a New Bedford whaleship had a significant impact on Benjamin's life, as it redirected him to find a successful career, a wife, and a new hometown.

Children of Benjamin and Charlotte (Downs) Clough:

- i BENJAMIN CLOUGH, b. Tisbury, Mass., 27 Feb. 1856,³¹ d. Oak Bluffs, Mass., 11 Sept. 1938, aged 82y 6m 15d;³² m. Tisbury, 20 Nov. 1883, OCTAVIA NORRIS CROCKER, daughter of Wendell and Sarah (Crocker) Crocker.³³
- ii CHARLES ASA CLOUGH, b. Tisbury, 24 June 1859,³⁴ d. Tisbury 16 June 1933, aged 73y 11m 22d;³⁵ m. Vineyard Haven, Mass., 15 Dec. 1887, JENNIE S. CROMWELL, daughter of Benjamin and Abbie B. (Luce) Cromwell.³⁶
- iii ANNOURRILLA MARSTON CLOUGH, b. Tisbury, 28 Aug. 1862,³⁷ d. Tisbury, 6 Sept. 1920, aged 58y 8m;³⁸ m. Vineyard Haven, 20 June 1889, HENRY RICHMOND FLANDERS, b. Chilmark, Mass., 14 Sept. 1859, son of Stephen and Isadora B. (Tilton) Flanders.³⁹

²⁴ Her parents, who are named on the marriage record [note 23] and on her death record [note 25], m. 1 Oct. 1826 (*Vital Records of Tisbury, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850* [Boston, 1910], 133).

²⁵ Massachusetts Death Record, Tisbury, MA, 1909, #229.

²⁶ Druett, *In the Wake of Madness* [note 2], 222.

²⁷ Druett, *In the Wake of Madness* [note 2], 224.

²⁸ Druett, *In the Wake of Madness* [note 2], 229.

²⁹ Benjamin Clough household, 1860–1880 U.S. Censuses, Tisbury, Dukes Co., Mass., p. 727, #312/328 (1860); p. 714, #132/147 (1870); E.D. 131, p. 778C, #345/387 (1880).

³⁰ Deaths Registered in Tisbury [DGS #4224890, image 223].

³¹ Births Registered in Tisbury [DGS #4275282, image 156].

³² Massachusetts, Town and Vital Records, 1620–1988, image, ancestry.com.

³³ Massachusetts, Town and Vital Records, 1620–1988, image, ancestry.com; her parents m. (int.) Wareham, Mass., 18 Nov. 1850 per *ibid.*

³⁴ Births Registered in Tisbury [DGS #4341207, image 430].

³⁵ Massachusetts, Town and Vital Records, 1620–1988, image, ancestry.com.

³⁶ Massachusetts, Town and Vital Records, 1620–1988, image, ancestry.com; her parents m. 13 July 1847 per *Tisbury VRs* [note 24], 126.

³⁷ Births Registered in Tisbury [DGS #7577072, image 96].

³⁸ Massachusetts, Town and Vital Records, 1620–1988, image, ancestry.com.

³⁹ Massachusetts, Town and Vital Records, 1620–1988, image, ancestry.com; his parents m. Chilmark, Mass., 17 Nov. 1858 per *ibid.*; his birth date from Massachusetts, Mason Membership Cards, 1733–1990, image, ancestry.com.

HENRY McFADDEN, WISCASSET

HENRY KING McFADDEN was born in Wiscasset, Maine, 12 August 1840,⁴⁰ son of John and Susan (Clifford) McFadden.⁴¹ Henry signed up for a three-year voyage on the *Florida* of New Bedford in September 1858.⁴² After he arrived in San Francisco on 26 October 1861 at the end of his voyage, he made his way to New York City where Henry K. McFadden, sailor, enlisted for three years in Company B of the New York 174th Volunteer Infantry Regiment as a private on 29 September 1862.⁴³ On 17 February 1864, he transferred to Company B of the New York 162nd Volunteer Infantry Regiment, where he served until his term of enlistment was finished. He mustered out on 12 October 1865 in Atlanta, Georgia.⁴⁴

After the war, Henry returned to Wiscasset. He married, first, in China, Maine, 12 April 1868, LUCY HASKELL PATTERSON of China.⁴⁵ She was born in Middleboro, Massachusetts, 13 April 1849, daughter of Daniel Webster and Cordelia C. (Braley) Patterson,⁴⁶ and died in Brunswick, Maine, 5 April 1939, where she is buried with her second husband in Greenlawn Cemetery.⁴⁷ After six years of marriage, Lucy filed for divorce from Henry in September 1874, alleging:

... that she was lawfully married to Henry K. McFadden at China ... and lived with him as his wife at said China and other places ... until the thirteenth day of April now last past and has had by him two children, viz: Jason O. McFadden and William J. McFadden; that she always behaved herself towards the said Henry as a chaste, faithful and affectionate wife; but that the said Henry K. regardless of his marriage vows and duty heretofore to wit on the fourth day of December A.D. 1872 committed the crime of adultery with one Anna Andrews at Woolwich in said State and with other lewd women at divers times and places whose names are unknown to your Libellant. Wherefore she prays that the bonds of matrimony between her and the said Henry K. McFadden may be dissolved; that the custody and education of the said Jason and William J. may be committed and entrusted to her, that the said Henry K. McFadden may be decreed to pay her suitable alimony for the support of herself and said children and fore her costs, and as in duty bound will ever pray.⁴⁸

⁴⁰ Gravestone photo, findagrave.com #54164175.

⁴¹ John McFadden household, 1850 U.S. Census, Wiscasset, Lincoln Co., Maine, p. 381A; John McFadden of Alna and Miss Susan Clifford of Edgecomb m (int.) Edgecomb, 15 July 1829 (Marlene A. Groves, *Vital Records of Edgecomb, Maine* [Waterville, Maine, 2016], 109; Marlene A. Groves, *Vital Records of Alna, Maine* [Rockland, Maine, 2012], 19).

⁴² Williams, *One Whaling Family* [note 2], 205–6.

⁴³ New York, Civil War Muster Roll Abstracts, 1861–1900, database, ancestry.com.

⁴⁴ U.S., Civil War Soldier Records and Profiles, 1861–1865, database, ancestry.com; 1890 Veterans Schedule, database, ancestry.com.

⁴⁵ Marlene A. Groves, *Vital Records of Wiscasset, Maine* (Rockland, Maine, 2011), 486.

⁴⁶ George L. Randall, *Braley Genealogy: The Descendants of Roger Braley, 1696–1913* (New Bedford, Mass., 1913), 59–60.

⁴⁷ Gravestone photo, findagrave.com #47824343.

⁴⁸ York Co., Maine, Supreme Judicial Court records, 1798–1929, 31:501 [DGS #4743565, images 505–6]].

The divorce was granted 16 October 1874.⁴⁹ Lucy apparently did not retain custody of both sons, as in 1880, Henry, a divorced laborer, was living with his son Jason in a household in Dresden headed by Henry's younger brother Elbridge McFadden. Their father, John McFadden, was also living in the household.⁵⁰ Lucy married second (as "Miss Lucy H. Patterson of No. Edgecomb") (int.) Wiscasset, 30 December 1874, Andrew Peterson.⁵¹

Henry married, second, in Pittston, Maine, 10 April 1886, EMILY DENNISTON (WALL) LAMSON of East Pittston,⁵² daughter of Luther and Belinda (Savage) Wall,⁵³ and widow of William H. Lamson.⁵⁴ Emily was born in Augusta, 14 April 1842, and died in Dresden, 28 May 1920, aged 78 years 2 months 14 days.⁵⁵

Henry and his second wife, Emily, were enumerated in Pittston in 1900, when he was described as a farmer, and in Dresden, Maine, in 1910, when he was a laborer doing "odd jobs."⁵⁶ He died in Dresden, 20 July 1917, aged 76 years 11 months 7 days, and is buried there in Maple Grove Cemetery.⁵⁷

Although Henry went whaling as a young man and fought in the Civil War in a regiment from another state, he eventually returned home to his family and lived in the vicinity of his birthplace for the rest of his life.

Children of Henry and Lucy (Patterson) McFadden:

- i JASON ORRIN McFADDEN, b. Dresden 17 Aug. 1871, d. Port Blakeley, Kitsap Co., Wash., 5 July 1911;⁵⁸ m. "at the Hotel Seattle Parlors," Seattle, Wash., 9 Nov. 1902, ADELAIDE ELIZABETH SEABORN,⁵⁹ b. Calif., 6 June 1881, daughter of John E. and Cathryn (Daley) Seaborn, d. Seattle, Wash., 12 March 1931.⁶⁰

⁴⁹ York Co., Maine, Supreme Judicial Court records, 1798–1929, 31:501 [note 48].

⁵⁰ Elbridge McFadden household, 1880 U.S. Census, Dresden, Lincoln Co., Maine, E.D. 123, p. 473A.

⁵¹ *Wiscasset VRs* [note 45], 399.

⁵² Henry Sewall Webster, *Vital Records of Pittston, Maine, to the Year 1892* (Gardiner, Maine, 1911), 224, 236, Marlene A. Groves, *Vital Records of Dresden, Maine* (Rockland, Maine, 2012), 345.

⁵³ Her parents' names were included in her death record (Maine, Death Records, 1761–1922, image, ancestry.com).

⁵⁴ William H. Lamson d. Pittston, 9 March 1883 (*Pittston VRs* [note 52], 339).

⁵⁵ Maine, Death records, 1761–1922, image, ancestry.com; gravestone photo, findagrave.com #82121105.

⁵⁶ Henry K. McFadden household, 1900 U.S. Census, Pittston, Kennebec Co., Maine, E.D. 126, p. 3B; King H. McFadden household, 1910 U.S. Census, Dresden, Lincoln Co., Maine, E.D. 161, p. 8B.

⁵⁷ Maine, Death records, 1761–1922, image, ancestry.com, which names his parents as John and Sarah A. (Clifford) McFadden; gravestone photo, findagrave.com #54164175.

⁵⁸ Gravestone photo, Port Blakeley Cemetery, findagrave.com #30418629.

⁵⁹ Washington, County Marriages, 1855–2008, image, familysearch.org.

⁶⁰ Adelaide Brebner death record, Washington, Select Death Certificates, 1907–1960, database, ancestry.com. She had m (2) Port Blakeley, Wash., 8 Feb. 1913, Robert Brebner (Washington, Marriage Records, 1854–2013, image, ancestry.com).

- ii WILLIAM J. McFADDEN, b. say 1873, living in Sept. 1874, when his parents divorced. No further record found.

ALANSON M. WARDWELL, GREENE

ALANSON M. (aka JAMES) WARDWELL was born in Albany, Maine, 27 March 1842, son of Isaac and Sarah (King) Wardwell.⁶¹ He signed up for a three-year voyage on the *Florida* of New Bedford in September 1858, but he deserted the ship at some point during the voyage.⁶² Capt. Williams wrote the following comment about deserters in the ship's log on 25 January 1859: "If a ship were bound for heaven and should stop at Hell for food and water some of the crew would run away."⁶³

Alanson was described as a "sailor" in his father's household in the 1860 U.S. census.⁶⁴ On 10 September 1861, Alanson, born in Albany, enlisted in Boston under the name of James Wardwell as a seaman in the U.S. Navy to sail on the *S.S. Cherokee*; he was discharged at the end of his fifteen-month term on 19 November 1862 in Philadelphia.⁶⁵ He next appears in Augusta on 29 July 1863 as James Wardwell, aged 21, seaman, born in Albany and a resident of Greene, where he enlisted in the U.S. Army as a substitute for a period of three years,⁶⁶ but he transferred back to the U.S. Navy in Boston on 9 April 1864.⁶⁷

Alanson married, first, 4 May 1866, OCTAVIA FOGG THURSTON of Monmouth, Maine.⁶⁸ She was born 13 July 1843, daughter of Rev. Ira Towle and Pamelia Fairbanks (Fogg) Thurston, and died, probably in Winthrop, Maine, 28 July 1871.⁶⁹ In 1870, "James" Wardwell, age 28, "works in carpet fac[tory]," and Octavia, age 28, were enumerated in Winthrop, with no other persons living in their house-

⁶¹ His birth date is found in his father's family record in Greene, Maine (VRs [DGS #7595552, image 389], but he gave Albany, Maine, as his birthplace when he married his 2nd wife [see note 72] and when he enlisted in the Navy and the Army during the Civil War [see notes 66 and 67].

⁶² The crew list of the *Florida* at start of voyage is found in Williams, *One Whaling Family* [note 2], 205–6, along with the fact that Alanson deserted the ship.

⁶³ Briton Cooper Busch, *Whaling Will Never Do for Me: The American Whaleman in the Nineteenth Century* (Lexington, Ky., 1994), 104, quoting the logbook of the *Florida* of Fairhaven.

⁶⁴ Isaac Wardwell household, 1860 U.S. Census, Greene, Androscoggin Co., Maine, p. 54.

⁶⁵ U.S. National Homes for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, 1866–1938, image, ancestry.com (Togus, Maine, p. 8294); United States, Naval Enlistment Rendezvous, 1855–1891, image, familysearch.org (Boston, Sept. 1861).

⁶⁶ U.S., Adjutant General Military Records, 1631–1976, image, ancestry.com (1863 Annual Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Maine, p. 42); Maine, Civil War Enlistment Papers, 1862–1865, image, familysearch.org. He is described as having hazel eyes, dark brown hair, dark complexion, and 5' 6½" tall.

⁶⁷ United States, Naval Enlistment Rendezvous, 1855–1891, image, familysearch.org.

⁶⁸ Brown Thurston, *Thurston Genealogies*, 2nd ed. (Portland, Maine, 1892), 271. Alanson M. Wardell [*sic*] and Miss Octavia F. Thurston "both of this town" m. (int.) Monmouth, 21 April 1866 (VRs [DGS #8128462, image 395]).

⁶⁹ Thurston, *Thurston Genealogies* [note 68], 271.

hold.⁷⁰ After Octavia's death, her infant daughter, Hattie, born in November 1870, was adopted by Alanson's sister Mahala and her husband, Solomon Record.⁷¹

Alanson married, second, as "A. M. Wardwell," in Lawrence, Massachusetts, on 24 September 1873, MITTIE ALMENA WHITMAN.⁷² She was born in New Albany, Annapolis County, Nova Scotia, 19 October 1856, daughter of Asaph and Jane (Payson) Whitman.⁷³ In 1880 "Monson" Wardwell, with his wife Mittie, and son Edmund, was living in Newburyport, Massachusetts, where he worked in a cotton mill as a loom fixer.⁷⁴ On 21 December 1881, Alanson, a resident of Lewiston, petitioned to have his name officially changed from Alanson M. Wardwell to James Wardwell, stating that he had been "familiarily known by the latter name for a long time." The request was granted by the probate court on the second Tuesday of January 1882.⁷⁵ In May 1889, he successfully sued for divorce from his second wife, Mittie, in York County, Maine, alleging abandonment:

James Wardwell of Kennebunk. . . was lawfully married to Mittie A. Wardwell now of Monmouth . . . [and] he has had by her two children now living viz: Isaac Edmund aged 14 years, Elsie L. aged 7. . . . The said Mittie A. . . . in September A.D. 1884 utterly deserted your libellant. . . . She has been guilty of cruel and abusive treatment in this that since the first of September A.D. 1884 she has refused continually to cohabit with him without any just cause whatever and during all said time has refused marital intercourse with your libellant and fails to take an interest in his comfort or do any other wifely act. . . . In the interest of peace and a pleasant home he deeded to her without any consideration his farm in said Monmouth, since which time she has refused him a home there.⁷⁶

James was a watchman in Kennebunk, Maine, when he married, third, in Lowell, Massachusetts, 25 July 1889, ANN L. ADAMS, daughter of John Fairfield and Phoebe Jane (Goodale) Adams.⁷⁷ She was born in 8 March 1855.⁷⁸ James Wardwell

⁷⁰ James Wardwell household, 1870 U.S. Census, Winthrop, Kennebec Co., Maine, p. 679.

⁷¹ Thurston, *Thurston Genealogies* [note 68], 271; Solomon W. Record and Mahala M. Wardwell m (cert.) Oxford, Maine, 16 Feb. 1854 (VRs [DGS #7595782, image 73]).

⁷² Massachusetts Marriages, 1841–1915 [DGS #4279596, image 885].

⁷³ Charles Henry Farnam, *History of the Descendants of John Whitman of Weymouth, Massachusetts* (New Haven, Conn., 1889), 670–71.

⁷⁴ "Monson" Wardwell household, 1880 U.S. Census, Newburyport, Essex Co., Mass., E.D. 227, p. 506A; Newburyport, Mass., City Directory, 1880, p. 122 (U.S. City Directories, 1822–1995, image, ancestry.com).

⁷⁵ Androscoggin Co. Probate Records, #8729 [DGS #7147570, image 565–68].

⁷⁶ York Co. Supreme Judicial Court, 1798–1929, 40:487 [DGS #4750823, images 505–6].

⁷⁷ Massachusetts Marriages, 1841–1915, image, familysearch.org, her father's name given as John D. [sic] Adams; her parents m. Limington, Maine, 30 July 1843 (Robert L. Taylor, *Early Families of Limington, Maine* [Bowie, Md., 1991], 129). In 1870, Anna Adams, age 15, resided in her mother's household in Auburn, Maine (Phebe Adams household, 1870 U.S. Census, Auburn Ward 2, Androscoggin Co., Maine, p. 30).

⁷⁸ Birth card, Annie L. Adams, recorded Auburn, Maine, no parents named (Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921, image familysearch.org). Her birth date given as March 1858 [sic] per Annie L. Wardwell household, 1900 U.S. Census, Lewiston, Androscoggin Co., Maine, E.D. 26, p. 3B. In that census, Annie's mother, Phebe J. Adams, and daughter Carrie E. Wardwell, were living with her.

was admitted to the U.S Soldiers Home at Togus on 20 July 1898 and he died there on 28 November 1899. Although his widow lived in Lewiston, his body was shipped and buried in Winthrop next to that of his daughter Louise E. Wardwell who died at age two.⁷⁹ His widow was living in Lewiston with their daughter and her mother in 1900, and with her married daughter in Hartford, Vermont, in 1920, and in Camden, Maine, in 1930. She was still living in Camden in 1936,⁸⁰ and probably died there in 1937.⁸¹ The whaling cruise does not appear to have had a significant impact on Alanson's life other than he enlisted in the Navy during the Civil War.

Children of Alanson M./James and his 1st wife, Octavia Fogg (Thurston) Wardwell:

- i LOUISE E. WARDWELL, b. [calc.] 9 April 1867, d. 11 April 1869, aged 2y 2d, and bur. in Maple Cemetery, Winthrop, as "only child of A. M. & O. F." Wardwell.⁸²
- ii HARRIET WINNIFRED/HATTIE WARDWELL aka RECORD, b. 29 Nov. 1870,⁸³ d. New London, Conn., 27 April 1948;⁸⁴ as Harriet W. Record, she m. Dover, N.H., 11 Dec. 1890, CHARLES S. MESSER.⁸⁵ Hattie's mother died when Hattie was 8m old, and she was adopted by her father's sister Mahala (Wardwell) Record, changing her surname to Record.⁸⁶ In 1900 Charles and Hattie Messer were living with their son Charles in Haverhill, Mass.⁸⁷ Residing with them was Elsie Wardwell, described as Charles's "Sister in Law," although she was more accurately Hattie's half sister.

Children of Alanson M./James and his 2nd wife, Mittie (Whitman) Wardwell:

- iii EDMUND ISAAC WARDWELL, b. 1 Sept. 1874,⁸⁸ a grocery clerk in Lowell, Mass., in 1900;⁸⁹ m. Lowell, 15 Nov. 1892, MARY ELIZABETH McMILLAN, b. Prince Edward Island, ca. 1874, daughter of Kenneth and Ellen (—) McMillan.⁹⁰
- iv ELSIE LOUISE WARDWELL, b. Auburn, Maine, Aug. 1881,⁹¹ d. 14 Nov. 1943 and bur. in Puritan Lawn Memorial Park, Malden, Mass.,⁹² m. Rhode Island, 24 Dec. 1902, WALTER HERBERT STULTZ.⁹³

⁷⁹ James Wardwell, cemetery card, Maple Cemetery, Winthrop (Faylene Hutton Cemetery Collection, image, familysearch.org); U.S. National Homes for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, 1866–1938, image, ancestry.com. He was described as a resident of Lewiston, aged 56y, with a height of 5'8" and a dark complexion, dark eyes, and gray hair.

⁸⁰ Annie L. Wardwell household, 1900 U.S. Census [note 78]; John T. Hughes household, 1920 U.S. Census, Hartford, Windsor Co., Vt., E.D. 141, p. 11B; John T. Hughes household, 1930 U.S. Census, Camden, Knox Co., Maine, E.D. 7-3, p. 13B; Camden City Directory, 1936, p. 197 (U.S. City Directories, 1822–1995, image, ancestry.com).

⁸¹ Gravestone photo, findagrave.com #174298297.

⁸² James Wardwell, cemetery card [note 79].

⁸³ Thurston, *Thurston Genealogies* [note 68], 271.

⁸⁴ *Biddeford [Maine] Daily Journal*, 28 April 1948, p. 2.

⁸⁵ New Hampshire Marriage Records, 1637–1947, image, familysearch.org.

⁸⁶ Thurston, *Thurston Genealogies* [note 68], 271.

⁸⁷ Charles S. Messer household, Haverhill Ward 5, Essex Co., Mass., E.D. 301, p. 9B.

⁸⁸ Farnam, *Whitman History* [note 73], 671.

⁸⁹ Annie Harriman household, 1900 U.S. Census, Lowell, Essex Co., Mass., E.D. 773, p. 5.

⁹⁰ All information from Massachusetts Marriages, 1841–1915 [DGS #4332365, image 232].

⁹¹ Her birth date given from 1900 U.S. Census, Charles S. Messer household, Haverhill Ward 5, Essex Co., Mass., E.D. 301, sheet 9B; birthplace from Walter Herbert Stutz naturalization papers (Rhode Island, State and Federal Naturalization Records, 1802–1945, image, ancestry.com).

Child of James and his 3rd wife, Annie L. (Adams) Wardwell:

- v CARRIE EVELYN MARGUERITE WARDWELL, b. Kennebunk, 21 Oct. 1890,⁹⁴
d. prob. Camden, 22 Feb. 1976;⁹⁵ m. Providence, R.I., 29 June 1908, JOHN T.
HUGHES, son of John and Julia (—) Hughes.⁹⁶

JAMES S. WYMAN, FLAGSTAFF

JAMES SULLIVAN WYMAN was likely born in Flagstaff Township, Maine, in December 1836,⁹⁷ probable son of Stephen B. and Mary (Norton) Wyman of Flagstaff.⁹⁸ He died in Aberdeen, Washington, 18 March 1906, aged 69 years.⁹⁹ He signed up for a three-year voyage on the *Florida* of New Bedford in September 1858. It is believed that he returned with the ship to San Francisco in October 1861 since the crew list does not indicate that he was discharged or that he deserted the ship.¹⁰⁰ Since James was in California as early as 1865, he may never have gone back east after the *Florida* landed in San Francisco. He married, first, in California about 1865 SARAH EMILY APPERSON.¹⁰¹ She was born about 1848, probably in Clay County, Illinois, daughter of Francis Asbury and Joanne (McCawley) Apperson.¹⁰² Her parents married in Clay County, 9 January 1845,¹⁰³ and moved to California before 1860.¹⁰⁴ James married, second, in Fresno County, California, 1 March

⁹² Gravestone photo, findagrave.com #126546055.

⁹³ Rhode Island, Marriage Index, 1851–1920, database, ancestry.com.

⁹⁴ Her place of birth from her daughter Helen Barbara Hughes's birth record (Vermont, Birth Records, 1909–2008, image, ancestry.com); her date of birth from U.S., Social Security Death Index, 1935–2014, database, ancestry.com, and from 1900 U.S. Census data (see note 78).

⁹⁵ Maine, Death Index, 1960–1997, database, ancestry.com; U.S., Social Security Death Index, 1935–2014, database, ancestry.com.

⁹⁶ Rhode Island Town Marriages Index, 1639–1916, database, familysearch.org.

⁹⁷ Month and year of birth per James S. Wyman household, 1900 U.S. Census, Aberdeen, Chehalis Co., Wash., E.D. 7, p. 8. The crew list of the *Florida* confirms he was aged 21 when he signed on and that he was from Flagstaff, Maine.

⁹⁸ It is probable that James was the son of Stephen Wyman who was enumerated in Flagstaff in 1837 in a household that included one child age 4y or older and 2 children under age 4 (1837 Census of Flagstaff, Somerset Co., Maine, <<http://sites.rootsweb.com/~meandrhs/census/maine/flagstaff/1837.html>>). Stephen B. Wyman of Dead River Settlement and Mary Norton of "Jerusalem in the Million Acres" m. (int.) Kingman, 24 Aug. 1829 (VRs [DGS #8202809, image 236]). Stephen Wyman d. 8 Aug. 1851, aged 43 (Flagstaff Cemetery Records, Somerset County, Maine, <www.access.genealogy.com/maine/flagstaff-cemetery-records-somerset-county-maine.htm>).

⁹⁹ J. S. Wyman probate, Chehalis Co., Wash., Superior Court, docket #753 [Washington, Wills and Probate Records, 1851–1970, images, ancestry.com].

¹⁰⁰ Williams, *One Whaling Family* [note 2], 205–6.

¹⁰¹ Their eldest son b. July 1866, no marriage record found.

¹⁰² Francis A. Apperson household, 1850 U.S. Census, Clay and Richard, Clay Co., Ill., p. 309.

¹⁰³ Illinois, Compiled Marriages, 1790–1860, database, ancestry.com.

¹⁰⁴ Francis A. Apperson household, 1850 U.S. Census [note 102]; F. A. "Epperson" household, 1860 U.S. Census, Bodega, Sonoma Co., Calif., p. 538.

1879, CORNELIA JANE (APPERSON) KNOWLES,¹⁰⁵ younger sister of his first wife,¹⁰⁶ and widow of Daniel Snow Knowles.¹⁰⁷ She was born in Clay County, Illinois, about 1857,¹⁰⁸ and died before 1900 when James was called a widower in the census.¹⁰⁹ James was a farmer in the territory west of the San Joaquin River in California in 1880 and a day laborer in Aberdeen, Washington, in 1900.¹¹⁰

In his will of 13 March 1906, J. S. Wyman of Aberdeen left to [his stepdaughter] Lillian Hunter, age 29 of Aberdeen, all his money, personal property, and real estate, subject to his other bequests. He left \$1.00 each to his minor children Blanche Wyman, age 13, of Walla Walla, Hugh Wyman, age 16, of Aberdeen, and Ralph W. Wyman, age 19, of Aberdeen. He appointed Vine Hunter, husband of Lillian, executor.¹¹¹

The whaling voyage had a major impact on his life. It appears that he never returned home (or if he did, it was not a lengthy stay), as all records of him for the rest of his life are from the West Coast, either California or Washington.

Children of James S. and his 1st wife, Sarah Emily (Apperson) Wyman:

- i FRANCIS MARION/FRANK WYMAN, b. Calif., July 1866,¹¹² d. Seattle, Wash., 27 Oct. 1955, aged 89;¹¹³ m. Aberdeen, Wash., 3 July 1892, HARRIET LEONA/HATTIE BORDEN.¹¹⁴
- ii SARAH EMILY/SADIE WYMAN, b. Calif., March 1868,¹¹⁵ d. Aberdeen, Wash., 6 March 1958;¹¹⁶ m. Grays Harbor, Wash, 29 Nov. 1888, SAMUEL HENRY SMITH, son of Samuel Henry and Elizabeth Jane (Page) Smith.¹¹⁷

Children of James S. and his 2nd wife, Cornelia Jane (Apperson) (Knowles) Wyman:

- iii MARTHA BELLE/MAY WYMAN, b. Fresno, Calif., July 1879,¹¹⁸ d. Aberdeen, Wash, 19 Aug. 1951, aged 72;¹¹⁹ m. Aberdeen, 26 July 1900, CHARLES ROY HUTTON, son of William and Sally (Myers) Hutton.¹²⁰

¹⁰⁵ California, County Birth, Marriage, and Death Records, 1849–1980, database, ancestry.com.

¹⁰⁶ Cornelia J. is listed in the 1860 U.S. Census, aged 3, nine years younger than her sister Sarah E., aged 12 (F. A. Epperson household, 1860 U.S. Census [note 104]).

¹⁰⁷ Cornelia J. Apperson m. Tulare, Calif., 26 Jan. 1873, Daniel S. Knowles (California, County Birth, Marriage, and Death Records, 1849–1980, database, ancestry.com).

¹⁰⁸ Year of birth and place of birth per 1860 U.S. Census [note 106].

¹⁰⁹ James S. Wyman household, 1900 U.S. Census, Aberdeen, Chehalis Co., Wash., E.D. 7, p. 8A.

¹¹⁰ J. S. Wyman household, 1880 U.S. Census, San Joaquin River, Merced Co., Calif., p. 387; James S. Wyman household, 1900 U.S. Census [note 109].

¹¹¹ J. S. Wyman probate [note 99].

¹¹² Francis Wyman household, 1900 U.S. Census, Aberdeen, Chehalis Co., Wash., E.D. 7, p. 8A.

¹¹³ Washington, Death Records, 1883–1960, database, ancestry.com.

¹¹⁴ Washington, Marriage Records, 1854–2013, image of marriage certificate, ancestry.com.

¹¹⁵ Samuel H. Smith household, 1900 U.S. Census, Aberdeen, Chehalis Co., Wash., E.D. 7, p. 8A.

¹¹⁶ Washington, Death Records, 1883–1960, database, ancestry.com.

¹¹⁷ Western States Marriage Index, 1809–2011, database, ancestry.com.

¹¹⁸ Month and year of birth per James S. Wyman household, 1900 U.S. Census [note 109]. Her place of birth per her marriage record [note 120].

¹¹⁹ Washington, Death Records, 1883–1960, database, ancestry.com.

¹²⁰ Washington, Marriage Records, 1854–2013, image, ancestry.com; his parents' name from his death record (Washington, Death Records, 1883–1960, database, ancestry.com).

- iv GEORGE ELMER WYMAN, b. Westport, Wash., 3 March 1884,¹²¹ d. Portland, Ore., 19 Feb. 1922;¹²² never married.¹²³
- v RALPH WALDO WYMAN, b. Aberdeen, Wash., 26 April 1887,¹²⁴ d. Jan. 1968;¹²⁵ m. Washington, D.C., 29 Nov. 1923, MINERVA CROW.¹²⁶
- vi HUGH ERNEST WYMAN, b. Aberdeen, Wash., 2 Dec. 1889;¹²⁷ d. Chico, Butte Co., Calif., 16 March 1972;¹²⁸ m. Aberdeen, 22 March 1913 ANNA RHEINHARDT, daughter of William and Lena (Hausler) Rheinhardt.¹²⁹
- vii BLANCHE NAOMI WYMAN, b. Wash., Nov. 1892,¹³⁰ d. Aberdeen, 14 April 1974;¹³¹ m. Aberdeen, 3 Nov. 1912, ROBERT ZINK, son of Nels and Julia (Lyman) Zink.¹³²

Children of Daniel and Cornelia Jane (Apperson) Knowles:

- a NETTIE L. KNOWLES, b. Calif., April 1874;¹³³ d. Aberdeen, Wash., 8 March 1903;¹³⁴ m. Montesano, Wash., 23 Dec. 1895, FRED CARLSON, son of Carl and Caroline (Johnson) Anderson.¹³⁵
- b LILLIAN/LILLY KNOWLES, b. Calif., April 1876,¹³⁶ d. Eatonville, Wash., 11 June 1926;¹³⁷ m. Aberdeen, Wash., 19 April 1903, VINE PRINCE HUNTER, son of Henry and Mary Jane (Prince) Hunter.¹³⁸

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¹²¹ U.S., World War I Draft Registration Cards, 1917–1918, image, ancestry.com.

¹²² Gravestone, no photo, findagrave.com #55985108.

¹²³ He was single in 1920 U.S. Census where he was a boarder in the Walter C. McMillan household, Elmer, Grays Harbor Co., Wash., E.D. 94, p. 5B.

¹²⁴ U.S., Social Security Death Index, 1935–2014, database, ancestry.com; WWI Draft Registration Card, 1917–1918, image, ancestry.com. Note: his WWII Draft Registration Card, 1942, image, ancestry.com gives an incorrect year of birth.

¹²⁵ U.S., Social Security Death Index, 1935–2014, database, ancestry.com.

¹²⁶ District of Columbia, Marriage Records, 1810–1953, database, ancestry.com.

¹²⁷ Washington, Birth Index, 1907–1919, database, ancestry.com.

¹²⁸ California Death Index, 1940–1997, database, ancestry.com; gravestone photo, findagrave.com #179439504.

¹²⁹ Washington, Marriage Records, 1854–2013, image, ancestry.com.

¹³⁰ Month and year of birth per James S. Wyman household, 1900 U.S. Census [note 109].

¹³¹ Gravestone, no photo, findagrave.com #162051319; U.S. Social Security Death Index, 1934–2014, database, ancestry.com.

¹³² Washington Marriage Records, 1854–2013, image, ancestry.com.

¹³³ Fred J. Carlson household, 1900 U.S. Census, Aberdeen, Chehalis Co., Wash., E.D. 7, p. 8A.

¹³⁴ Washington, County Deaths, 1891–1907, database, ancestry.com; gravestone photo, findagrave.com #132031090.

¹³⁵ Washington, Marriage Records, 1854–2013, image of marriage certificate, ancestry.com. Fred Carlson was born in Sweden and the family was still apparently using the patronymic system. Fred was surnamed Carlson, his father's first name being Carl. On the marriage record, Fred's father was called Carl Anderson, with Carl's father likely bearing the first name Anders.

¹³⁶ James S. Wyman household, 1900 U.S. Census [note 109].

¹³⁷ Gravestone, no photo, findagrave.com #19211616.

¹³⁸ Washington, Marriage Records, 1854–2013, image of marriage certificate, ancestry.com.

LINCOLN COUNTY, MAINE, WILL ABSTRACTS
1800–1830

(continued from p. 95)

100. JOHN FISHER of Georgetown (LCP 14:503)

Being very sick and weak in body

To my wife Dorcas, the use of my house and furniture with 2 cows, 6 sheep and grass and pasturage for the same on sd farm dur her nat life.

I also will that my son Jeremiah have the house and barn after my wife's dec.

To my 2 sons Michael and Jeremiah, all my land on Arrowsick Island, with the mill privilege and fishing, which my son Michael is to have the N half and Jeremiah the S half.

To my 2 sons John and Henry, the land on which they now live in eq shares, which land is in Bowdoinham.

To my 3 daus Ruth Preble, Judith Murray and Dorcas Church, \$100 each, which Michael Fisher is to pay 1/2 and Jeremiah Fisher the other 1/2, to be pd in 1y aft my dec.

I also will that my son Jeremiah give them, that is Ruth, Judith and Dorcas, 1 cow and 6 sheep each, which is to be pd them in 2y aft my dec.

I also will that my wife Dorcas shall have her maintenance off sd farm dur her nat life.

I will that my son Jeremiah have 1 bed & bedding and the remainder of the stock on sd farm, with all the utensils of sd farm.

Appt my 2 sons Michael Fisher, Jeremiah Fisher, and William Butler, all of Georgetown execs.

Dated: 20 Feb 1805

Signed with his signature ("John Fisher")

Witnesses: John Pattee, John Swett, William Butler

In Probate: 28 Jan 1811

101. MARY HODGE of Edgecomb, widow (LCP 14:514)

Being aged and sometimes weakly, tho' in the main enjoying a comfortable state of health

To James Hodge, son to my late beloved husband, and to Jane Osborn, dau to my sd husband, 8 pence each to be pd them on demand.

To my daus Sarah Kennedy, Ann Woodbridge, Ellis Trask, and Elizabeth Trask, 8 pence each to be pd them upon demand.

To my chn William Hodge and Jane Bradbury, a certain note signed by Josiah Parsons payable to me, sd note to be demanded, sued for and recovered by my execs and the content thereof when received to be pd to sd William and sd Jane on demand and to be eq div betw them. I also give to sd William and Jane a certain cow which I now have in the hands of Capt. Allen Malcom and which sd Allen holds by lease from me, which cow, together with all the increase and profits that

I may leave, I do hereby give to sd William and Jane to be eq shared and div betw them and my taking sd cow from sd Malcom and leasing her to some other person or keeping her myself is to make no difference.

I give all the residue of my RE & PE to my chn, the sd William Hodge, John Hodge and Jane Bradbury to be eq div betw them and their several heirs forever. And if it should happen that my son John should never more return, he having been at sea and absent from me for a number of years, it is my will that his portion be eq div betw the sd William and Jane.

Appt Ebenezer Gove of Edgecomb and Silas Lee of Pownalboro, both in sd County, gentlemen, execs, hereby requesting them as my friends to see this will duly executed.

Dated: 1 May 1793

Signed with her mark (“M”)

Witnesses: Tempe Lee, Mary Lee, William Hodge. (I decline the trust within mentioned and given—Silas Lee).

In Probate: 8 Jan 1811

102. EBENEZER WHITTIER of Wiscasset, Gentleman (LCP 15:5)

Being infirm in body

To my wife Elizabeth, all the RE & PE which I shall die seized of for her nat life, or as she continues my wid, and aft her decease the same to be eq div betw my 3 daus in manner and form as is hereinafter mentioned, or should she marry again, then the same is to be div as hereinafter mentioned.

Whereas at my dec it is probable I may owe some debts, which will put my execs to the necessity of selling part of my est to make payment. Now it is my will that no part of my PE be sold to raise money to make such payments, but that my execs sell the following part of my RE, viz. beg on the main street on the line of land by me sold by deed of gift to Francis Blyth near my well, thence running SE by sd main street 50 ft running parallel with sd Blyth’s SE side line so as to contain 2500 sq ft. And should the above described lot be insufficient then I order that so much of my land in New Castle and the land which I purchased of Abijah Dickenson should be sold as will pay my sd debts. But no part of the above sd lands are to be sold unless it should appear to be necessary to pay my debts.

Aft the dec of my wife Elizabeth or when she shall cease to be my wid, I give to my 3 daus, viz. Molly Webster, Elizabeth Blyth and Abigail Hoskins, the whole of my est to be div among them as follows, viz. To my sd dau Molly Webster & heirs & assigns, one third. To my dau Elizabeth Blyth wife of Frances Blyth, one third near to or adj the lot of land now improved and owned by sd Blyth, taking into consideration that the lot now owned by sd Blyth is to be considered as part of sd Elizabeth Blyth’s share of my est, I having heretofore given them the same. To my dau Abigail Hoskins I give one third, which I direct to be set off her in and about my dwl house. By the foregoing clause, I mean to give my sd daus my whole est aft my wife’s dec or after her widowhood, eq betw them

In order to prevent any disputes betw my sd daus I appt 2 of the Hon. Judges of the Court of Common Pleas for Lin Co for the then time being to be a committee with such other persons as the Judge of Probate shall think proper to be a committee of 3 to divide my est among my sd daus.

Appt my wife Elizabeth Whittier, the Rev. Hezekiah Packard, and John Merrill Jr. execs.

Dated: 6 Dec 1804

Signed with his signature ("Ebenezer Whittier")

Witnesses: Seth Tinkham, Joseph T. Wood, James Marr

In Probate: 8 Jan 1811

103. TIMOTHY HIGGINS of Lisbon, yeoman (LCP 15:68)

Being weak in body

To my wife Elizabeth Higgins, all my h/h furniture. Also 1/3 of all the income of my RE.

To my youngest son Elijah Higgins, all the RE that I have to the N of the road that runs by my house with all the bldgs standing thereon.

To my son Timothy Higgins, all my stock of every kind with the remainder of my RE to be disposed of in the following manner, that is to say to pay all my just debts and himself for his trouble shall receive his payment of my est, and when the debts are pd to divide what is bequeathed to him among the rest of my chn according to his own judgment.

Appt my son Timothy Higgins sole exec.

Dated: 27 Jun 1810

Signed with his signature ("Timothy Higgins")

Witnesses: Saml. Tibbets, John Smith, John Henderson

In Probate: 2 Mar 1811

104. JOHN BAKER of Wiscasset, yeoman (LCP 15:73)

[No statement of health]

To my chn Daniel Baker, Andrew Baker, Azariah Baker, Abner Baker, Jane Hagget, Henry Baker, Nancy Baker and John Baker, \$1 each as a legacy to be pd to each one of them on demand by my exec.

To my wife Jane Baker and her heirs and assigns forever, all my RE & PE wherever situated to have the same as her own property forever.

Appt my wife Jane Baker exec.

Dated: 26 Jan 1810

Signed with his signature ("John Baker")

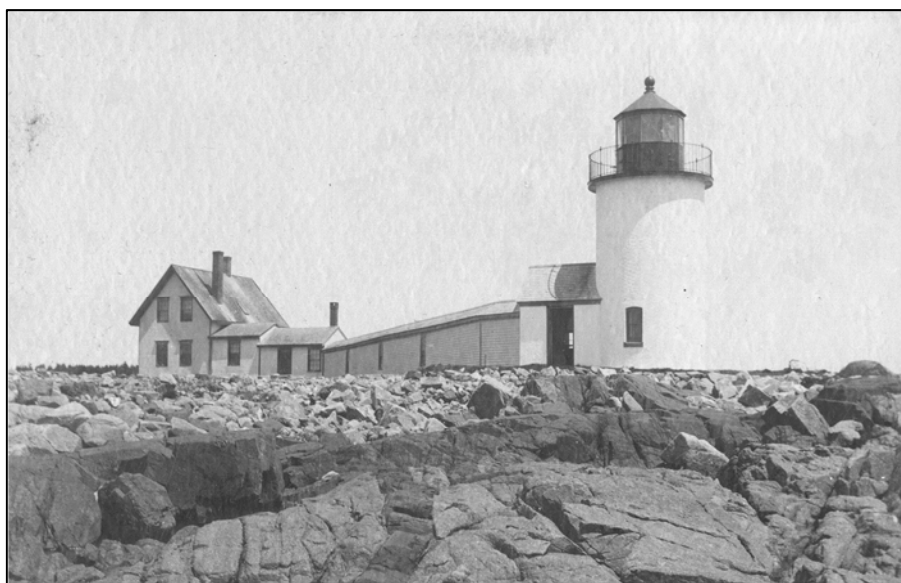
Witnesses: Abiel Wood, Jere Baily, John Homes

In Probate: 4 Mar 1811

(to be continued)

LIGHTHOUSE KEEPERS OF GOAT ISLAND,
CAPE PORPOISE, MAINE

By Priscilla Eaton



The Goat Island Lighthouse in 1859
(Photograph Courtesy of National Archives)

On 3 March 1831, Congress appropriated \$6000 to build a lighthouse on Goat Island at the entrance of Cape Porpoise harbor. The island is a small one, fewer than eight acres, situated roughly a mile off Cape Porpoise. The light was needed to help mariners find their way to the sheltered Cape Porpoise harbor, which was a busy fishing center. A twenty-foot conical rubblestone tower, topped by an octagonal seven-lamp wrought-iron lantern was constructed. The original keeper's dwelling was a stone house with three rooms on its first floor and another three rooms on its small upper story. The light was thirty-three feet above the level of the high water, and could be seen easily in clear weather for over eight miles. The lighthouse was first lit in August 1833. John Lord, Thatcher Hutchins, and George Fletcher served as the light's first three keepers, commencing a long tradition. The Goat Island Lighthouse has the distinction of being the last manned lighthouse in Maine, not being fully automated until 1990.¹

¹ "Goat Island Lighthouse," <www.lighthousefriends.com>. See also "Goat Island Light House," <www.kportrust.squarespace.com>.

CAPTAIN JOHN LORD,
GOAT ISLAND LIGHTHOUSE KEEPER 1834–1841

Captain **JOHN LORD** was appointed Goat Island's first keeper, with an annual salary of \$350. He was the first to light the lanterns in August 1833. Captain John⁶ Lord (*Joseph*⁵, *Benjamin Meeds*⁴, *Abraham*³, *Nathan*²⁻¹) was born in Arundel in 1790, son of Joseph and his second wife Lucy (Mitchell) Lord.² Listed as "Capt. John Lord," he died in Kennebunkport in 1847.³ He married in Arundel, 6 December 1818, Mrs. MARY/POLLY (FAIRFIELD) LORD,⁴ widow of his half brother Captain Joseph Lord. Mary Fairfield was born in Kennebunkport circa 1787, daughter of William and Sarah (Burnham) Fairfield.⁵ She died in Kennebunkport, 7 August 1870, aged 83.⁶ The names of Capt. Joseph Lord (1783–1817), "Mary Fairfield his wife" (1787–1870), and Capt. John Lord (1790–1847) are inscribed on a single gravestone in the Village Cemetery in Kennebunkport.⁷

Polly Fairfield had married, first, in Arundel, 24 August 1805, Captain Joseph Lord,⁸ born 9 May 1783, son of Joseph and his first wife Hannah (Wiswall) Lord.⁹ Joseph was master of the ship *Madison* in 1809 and of the ship *George* in 1811,¹⁰

² Charles Chase Lord, *A Full History of the Descendants of Nathan Lord of Ancient Kittery, Maine* (Concord, N.H., 1912), 111–12, 145–46. Joseph Lord m. Arundel, 30 Nov. 1786, Lucy Mitchell ("A Book of the Records of the Church of Christ in Arundel (Kennebunkport), Maine," *The New England Historical and Genealogical Register* [NEHGR] 108[1954]:123).

³ Gravestone photo, Kennebunkport Village Cemetery, findagrave.com #78295874.

⁴ Kennebunkport VRs, 1:524 [FamilySearch digital film (DGS) #7595726, image 325].

⁵ William Fairfield's will of 15 July 1826 mentions his daughter Mary Lord. He named his son-in-law John Lord his sole executor (York Co. Probate Records, #5499 [DGS #7315323, image 302]). William Fairfield m. Arundel, 27 Dec. 1781, Sarah Burnham ("Arundel Church of Christ" [note 2], NEHGR 108[1954]:122).

⁶ Kennebunkport VRs, 2:47 [DGS #7595726, image 417].

⁷ Gravestone photo [note 3]. The lighthouse keeper is frequently referred to as "Captain John Lord" and said to be from an "upstanding local family." See for example Melville C. Freeman, *History of Cape Porpoise, Maine* (Cape Porpoise, 1955), 95, and "Goat Island Lighthouse," <www.lighthousefriends.com>. He is not to be confused with Captain John⁶ Lord (*Samuel*⁵, *Tobias*⁴⁻³, *Nathan*²⁻¹) Lord, b. Wells, 27 Nov. 1803, son of Samuel and Hannah (Jefferds) Lord (Hope Moody Shelley, ed., *Vital Records of Wells, Maine, 1619–1950* [Rockport, Maine], 120, 160), who m. Kennebunk, 28 Dec. 1829, Sarah Kimball (VRs [DGS #7595725, image 367]) and d. 13 Dec. 1835, aged 32 (*ibid.*, image 251), well before 1841 when John Lord was still the lighthouse keeper on Goat Island. He is also not to be confused with John⁶ Lord (*John*⁵, *Tobias*⁴, *John*³, *Nathan*²⁻¹), b. Arundel, ca. 1790, son of John and Charity (Curtis) Lord (Lord, *Nathan Lord Descs.* [note 2], 69, and Charles Bradbury, *History of Kennebunkport* (Kennebunk, 1837), 259, a farmer (John Lord household, 1850 U.S. Census, Kennebunkport, York Co., Maine, p. 37) who m. Kennebunkport, 28 Dec. 1809, Alice Towne (VRs, 1:528 [DGS #759726, image 327]) and d. 12 Dec. 1870 at the age of 80 (gravestone photo, Hope Cemetery, Kennebunk, findagrave.com #121185460).

⁸ Maine Marriages, 1771-1907, database, familysearch.org("Arundel Church of Christ" [note 2], NEHGR 108[1954]:191).

⁹ Lord, *Nathan Lord Descs.* [note 2], 111–12; Joseph Lord m. Arundel, 11 Aug. 1774, Hannah Wiswall ("Arundel Church of Christ" [note 2], NEHGR 108[1954]:121).

¹⁰ Lord, *Nathan Lord Descs.* [note 2], 145–46.

and was closely allied in business and real estate dealings with his brother-in-law and fellow mariner Captain James Fairfield, the two sharing property so that their wives could keep company during their long absences at sea. On 1 November 1814, both Captain Lord and Captain Fairfield were captured by the British from their privateer *MacDonough*. They were sent first to Halifax, and then to Dartmoor Prison in England. They managed to survive this ordeal and were released seven months later, 3 July 1815. The Fairfields then built a large home, selling half to Joseph Lord.¹¹ Neither man had much opportunity to enjoy the home (now the Captain Fairfield Inn bed and breakfast in Kennebunkport), as Captain Joseph Lord, who was involved in the cotton trade to Europe, was lost at sea in 1817.¹² Joseph and Mary (Fairfield) Lord had four children, William, Sally, Joseph, and Augusta, born between 1806 and 1814. Only Augusta survived to adulthood.¹³

When Polly remarried the following year, she and her second husband, John Lord, continued to reside in the house conjoined to the Fairfields. Captain James Fairfield died 22 July 1820, aged 57,¹⁴ his will noting that after the death of his wife, Lois, his sister Mary Lord was to receive half of his property. John Lord was one of the executors.¹⁵ Lois Fairfield died the following year, 30 December 1821, aged 36.¹⁶

Little is known of John Lord's stint as the first keeper at Goat Island. Bradbury, writing in 1837 while John Lord was lighthouse keeper, noted that Mr. Cromwell, before the Revolution, lived on "the point of land near the fish wharf of Captain John Lord."¹⁷ This suggests that John Lord was engaged in fishing while serving as keeper. In 1838 John Lord of Kennebunkport, master mariner, purchased land from Daniel W. Lord located "on the road which leads through the village toward the observatory," a possible reference to the lighthouse.¹⁸ In 1841 John deeded his land to his son John F. Lord in exchange for his promise to support John and Mary in their last years.¹⁹ John Lord, "gentleman," left a very brief will, undated, but presented for probate 3 January 1848, in which he left all his personal and real estate to his wife, Mary, whom he named sole executrix. Since there is no mention of son John F. Lord, the will was probably written after John F.'s 3 March 1847 death. Stepdaughter Augusta (Lord) Larrabee survived him, but the will includes no mention of children or grandchildren.²⁰

¹¹ See <www.captainfairfield.com/a-mystery-of-the-seas/> for this and the story of Capt. Fairfield's long lost portrait.

¹² See <www.captainfairfield.com/a-mystery-of-the-seas/>.

¹³ Lord, *Nathan Lord Descs.* [note 2], 145.

¹⁴ Gravestone photo, Village Cemetery, Kennebunkport, findagrave.com #76730429.

¹⁵ York Co. Probate Records, #5486 [DGS #7315323, image 84].

¹⁶ Gravestone photo, Village Cemetery, Kennebunkport, findagrave.com #76731110.

¹⁷ Bradbury, *History of Kennebunkport* [note 7], 235.

¹⁸ York Co. Deeds, 170:259.

¹⁹ York Co. Deeds, 174:36–37. Thanks to Frederick R. Boyle for accessing these deeds.

²⁰ York Co. Probate Records, #12179 [DGS #7315409, images 1042–43].

Child of John and Mary/Polly (Fairfield) (Lord) Lord:²¹

- i JOHN F[AIRFIELD?] LORD,²² b. say 1819, d. 3 March 1847, when he was lost overboard at sea;²³ m. (cert.) Kennebunkport, 1 Dec. 1845, CASSANDRA O. WENTWORTH,²⁴ b. Kennebunk, 25 Jan. 1822, daughter of Benjamin and Olive (Cousins) Wentworth,²⁵ d. Rollinsford, N.H., 6 Feb. 1890, aged 68.²⁶ After the death of John F. Lord, Cassandra m. (2) Kennebunkport, 29 Nov. 1854, her cousin Edwin Wentworth of Rollinsford,²⁷ and in 1870 they were living in Rollinsford where their household included “Florentine” Lord, age 24.²⁸

Child: 1. *Florentina Lord*, b. Kennebunkport, 25 May 1846,²⁹ d. prob. Rollinsford, before 18 July 1878, when James Garvin m. as his 2nd wife, Lina A. Hanson;³⁰ “Flora” W[entworth?] Lord m. Rollinsford, 22 March 1871, James H. Garvin,³¹ b. Rollinsford, 30 Sept. 1836, son of John and Rebecca (Roberts) Garvin, d. Rollinsford, 27 April 1912.³² No known children.

THATCHER HUTCHINS,
GOAT ISLAND LIGHTHOUSE KEEPER 1841–1846

THATCHER HUTCHINS was born in Arundel about 1808 and was baptized at the Church of Christ in Arundel, 29 September 1810, son of John Carr and Elizabeth (Seavey) Hutchins.³³ He died in Kennebunkport, 19 January 1890, aged 81 years.³⁴ He married in Kennebunkport, 6 December 1832, MARY FLETCHER.³⁵ Mary was born, probably in Arundel, [calc.] May 1805, and was baptized at the Church of Christ there as the third named of three siblings, 28 September 1805,

²¹ Only one child could be discovered, consistent with Lord, *Nathan Lord Descs.* [note 2], 145–46, and the 1840 census in which their household of three included a boy 15–19 years old (John Lord Jr. household, 1840 U.S. Census, Kennebunkport, York Co., Maine, p. 17).

²² “A son, John F., married Cassandra Wentworth, lost at sea; left a daughter, Florentina, who m. — Garvin” of Rollinsford, N.H., and died about 1884, leaving no children” (*Nathan Lord Descs.* [note 2], 145–46).

²³ John Wentworth, *The Wentworth Genealogy: English and American*, 3 vols. (Boston, 1878), 2:242.

²⁴ Kennebunkport VRs, 3:62 [DGS #7595726, image 489].

²⁵ Wentworth, *Wentworth Genealogy* [note 23], 2:241–42.

²⁶ New Hampshire Death Records, 1654–1947, image, familysearch.org.

²⁷ Kennebunkport VRs, 4:44 [DGS #7595726, image 537].

²⁸ Edwin Wentworth household, 1870 U.S. Census, Rollinsford, Strafford Co., N.H., p. 33.

²⁹ Wentworth, *Wentworth Genealogy* [note 23], 2:242.

³⁰ New Hampshire Marriage Records, 1637–1947, image, familysearch.org.

³¹ New Hampshire Marriage Records, 1637–1947, image, familysearch.org. Flora, age 24, was b. in Kennebunkport. The record incorrectly gives her mother as “Phebe” Lord.

³² New Hampshire Death Records, 1654–1947, image, familysearch.org.

³³ “Arundel Church of Christ” [note 2], NEHGR 108[1954]:60. His parents m. Arundel, 20 Nov. 1794 (*ibid.*, p. 188).

³⁴ Kennebunkport VRs, 2:76 [DGS 7595726, image 447]. His gravestone in Arundel Cemetery notes that he d. 18 Jan. 1890, aged 82y 1m (findagrave.com #51838326).

³⁵ Kennebunkport VR, 4:20 [DGS 7595726, image 525].

daughter of Joseph Jr. and Deborah (Jacobs) Fletcher.³⁶ She died in Kennebunkport, 7 October 1885, aged 80 years and 5 months.³⁷

In August 1842, Thatcher Hutchins was interviewed by a U.S. Treasury-appointed engineer conducting a survey of the condition of lighthouses along the New England coast, including Cape Porpoise. Although Congress had appropriated \$6000, only \$2711.80 was actually spent, and it seems that the government got what it paid for. Hutchins reported the buildings to be in a deplorable state of disrepair, this less than a decade after they were first erected:

I was appointed keeper of the light in July 1841, upon a salary of \$350 per annum. The lighthouse is built of split stone. It is leaky about the window frames and deck. The ventilator of the lantern also leaks, and sweats so much that I have to wipe it three times in one night.

The dwelling house leaks badly about the window frames and roof, though I have succeeded in stopping the leaks about the chimneys, which smoke very badly indeed. The eastern room cannot be used in the winter on account of the smoke. The walls of the house are cracked on two sides, through which cracks the rain finds its way. The front gutter of the house is out of level about four inches, owing to the corner of the house having settled for want of foundation. There is a cellar under two-thirds of the house.

I have three rain-water cisterns and a well; the well water cannot be used, being brackish. One of the cisterns is so stale that the water in it smells badly. The late keeper erected a barn upon the island here, for which I have paid rent of \$6 per year. I am allowed a boat, but there is no boathouse. My oil has been tolerably good.³⁸

It is not known how soon these conditions improved, but Thatcher Hutchins remained a keeper for only five years. During this period, he also worked as a fisherman, which apparently required the approval of Congress. On 12 June 1841, Rep. Nathan Clifford of Maine “presented a petition of Thatcher Hutchins, managing owner and master of the schooner *Calypso*, of the port of Cape Porpoise . . . praying to be allowed fishing bounty upon said schooner.”³⁹ By 1850 Thatcher Hutchins had returned to fishing full time. Thatcher’s 1850 Kennebunkport household included his wife and all six children: Thatcher, age 41, fisherman; Mary, 45; Wesley, 16, fisherman; Mary E., 14; Charles S., 12; Lorinda, 10; Julia A., 8; and Gerry [George] S., 4.⁴⁰ In 1880 Mary’s sister Deborah Fletcher, aged 68, was a member of the household. Thatcher, aged 71, was still employed as a fisherman, living next

³⁶ Elias Jacobs, Paulina, and Mary, the children of Joseph and Deborah Fletcher were bp. 26 Sept. 1805 (“Arundel Church of Christ” [note 2], NEHGR 108[1954]:59; their parents m. Arundel, 7 Nov. 1799 (ibid., 189).

³⁷ Gravestone photo, Arundel Cemetery, findagrave.com #51838341.

³⁸ “Condition of Goat Island Lighthouse and Dwelling in 1842,” <www.someoldnews.com>.

³⁹ *Journal of the House of Representatives of the United States, First Session of the Twenty-Seventh Congress* (Washington, DC, 1841), 95.

⁴⁰ Thatcher Hutchins household, 1850 U.S. Census, Kennebunkport, York Co., Maine, p. 9.

door to his son Charles, wife Louisa, and their four children.⁴¹ Thatcher survived his wife and five of his six children. In January 1890, Thatcher, his only surviving son Charles, and his grandson Howard all died within a few days of each other of influenza, commonly known as “la grippe.” The *Portland Daily Press* reported the story on 23 January:

A Bereaved Family

KENNEBUNKPORT, JANUARY 22.—At Cape Porpoise village, today, died Mr. Charles L. Hutchins, aged 52 years and three months. His father, Thatcher Hutchins, died the 19th, and his son, Howard R. Hutchins, on the same day, as before reported, and this makes within about three days three deaths in three generations in the same house. Mr. Charles Hutchins had a typical case of la grippe, and the deaths of both his father and his son were partly caused by that disease.⁴²

Thatcher, Mary, and five of their six children are buried together in a family plot in the Arundel Cemetery in Kennebunkport.

Children of Thatcher and Mary (Fletcher) Hutchins, all b. Kennebunkport:

- i JOHN WESLEY HUTCHINS, b. ca. 1834, reportedly d. Bay of Chaleur, Newfoundland, Canada, in 1855.⁴³ In the 1850 U.S. Census, “Wesley,” age 16, was identified as a fisherman.⁴⁴ He was likely on a cod fishing voyage to the banks of Newfoundland when he met his death.
- ii MARY ELIZABETH HUTCHINS, b. ca. 1836, d. Kennebunkport, 26 March 1854, aged 18.⁴⁵
- iii CHARLES L. HUTCHINS, b. [calc.] Oct. 1837, d. Kennebunkport, 22 Jan. 1890, aged 52y 3m, which was three days after the death of his father;⁴⁶ m. say 1863, (birth of 1st child) LOUISA H. TRACY,⁴⁷ b. Milton, Mass., 11 Aug. 1838, daughter of Charles and Olive (Gooch) Tracy, d. Berlin, N.H., 20 Jan. 1913.⁴⁸ Charles was a Civil War soldier, a private in Co. D, 27th Regiment Maine Volunteers.⁴⁹

⁴¹ Thatcher and Charles Hutchins households, 1880 U.S. Census, Kennebunkport, York Co., Maine, p. 20. In 1850 Deborah Fletcher, aged 39, was living in Kennebunkport with her father, Joseph Fletcher (Joseph Fletcher household, 1850 U.S. Census, Kennebunkport, York Co., Maine, p. 12). In 1870 Deborah was living in Wells with another sister Paulina (Fletcher) Clark (Samuel B. Clark household, 1870 U.S. Census, Wells, York Co., Maine, p. 1).

⁴² *Portland Daily Press*, Thurs. morning, 23 Jan. 1890, p. 2.

⁴³ Family tradition, undocumented.

⁴⁴ Thatcher Hutchins household, 1850 U.S. Census, Kennebunkport, York Co., Maine, p. 9.

⁴⁵ Gravestone, no photo, findagrave.com #163511213.

⁴⁶ Gravestone photo, findagrave.com #51838403; death notice, *Portland Daily Press*, Thurs. morning, 23 Jan. 1890, p. 2.

⁴⁷ The 1907 death record of son Thatcher D. Hutchins gives his parents as Charles L. Hutchins, b. Kennebunkport, fisherman, and Louisa H. Tracy, b. Milton, Mass. (Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921, image, familysearch.org). The marriage record for Charles and Louisa could not be found.

⁴⁸ New Hampshire Death Records, 1654–1947, image, familysearch.org. The record gives her date and place of birth as well as the names of her parents and husband.

⁴⁹ United States Veteran’s Administration Pension Payment Cards, 1907–1933, image, familysearch.org.

- Children, all b. Kennebunkport: 1. *Albert Grafton Hutchins*, b. Sept. 1864,⁵⁰ d. Portsmouth, N.H., 6 Sept. 1939;⁵¹ m. (1) Dover, N.H., 15 Nov. 1883, Mary Harriet/Hattie Hammond;⁵² m. (2) Dover, 9 April 1904, Alice M. Hersey.⁵³ 2. *Thatcher Dana Hutchins*, b. [calc.] 1 Dec. 1870, d. Kennebunkport, 16 Aug. 1907, age 36y 8m 15d;⁵⁴ m. Dover, N.H., 19 Dec. 1895, Annie Belle Watson.⁵⁵ 3. *Howard R. Hutchins*, b. [calc.] 8 Sept. 1872, d. Kennebunkport, 18 or 19 Jan. 1890, age 16y 4m 10d.⁵⁶ 4. *Mary Olive Hutchins*, b. ca. 1878, d. Berlin, N.H., 5 Feb. 1949;⁵⁷ m. Dover, N.H., 23 March 1898, Henry W. Philbrick.⁵⁸
- iv LORINDA HALLET HUTCHINS, b. ca. 1840, d. Kennebunkport, 5 Dec. 1855, aged 16.⁵⁹
- v JULIA ANN HUTCHINS, b. ca. 1842, d. Kennebunkport, 6 March 1868, aged 26.⁶⁰
- vi GEORGE SCOTT/GERRY HUTCHINS, b. [calc.] Oct. 1845, d. Kennebunkport, 20 Aug. 1871, age 25y 10m.⁶¹ Gerry was a fisherman.

GEORGE FLETCHER,
GOAT ISLAND LIGHTHOUSE KEEPER 1846–1850

GEORGE B. FLETCHER was born in Arundel, 18 March 1802, son of George and Hannah (Huff) Fletcher.⁶² He died in Kennebunkport, 2 February 1880, aged 77 years 11 months.⁶³ He married in Kennebunkport, 16 November 1832, MARY JANE LORD.⁶⁴ Mary Jane was born in Kennebunkport, [calc.] 12 August 1814, daughter of David and Susan (Towne) Lord.⁶⁵ She died in Kennebunkport, 20 October 1905, aged 91 years 2 months 8 days.⁶⁶

⁵⁰ Albert G. Hutchins household, 1900 U.S. Census, Dover Ward 2, Strafford Co., N.H., E.D. 222, p. 11.

⁵¹ New Hampshire Deaths and Burials, 1884–1949, database, familysearch.org.

⁵² New Hampshire Marriage Records, 1637–1947, database, familysearch.org.

⁵³ New Hampshire Marriage Records, 1637–1947, database, familysearch.org.

⁵⁴ Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921, image, familysearch.org.

⁵⁵ New Hampshire Marriages, 1720–1920, database, familysearch.org.

⁵⁶ Maine, Faylene Hutton Cemetery Collection, 1780–1990, database, familysearch.org; *Portland Daily Press*, Thurs. morning, 23 Jan. 1890, p. 2, gives d. 19 Jan.

⁵⁷ New Hampshire Death Certificates, 1938–1959, database, familysearch.org.

⁵⁸ New Hampshire Marriages, 1720–1920, database, familysearch.org.

⁵⁹ Gravestone photo, findagrave.com #163511170.

⁶⁰ Gravestone photo, findagrave.com #70380280.

⁶¹ Gravestone photo, findagrave.com #703799955.

⁶² Mrs. E. Harris Dickinson and Frederick C. Warner, “The James Huff Family of Arundel, Maine,” *NEHGR* 116(1962):180. George Fletcher and wife, Mary Jane, were mentioned among the heirs of Hannah (Huff) Fletcher. George Fletcher [Sr.] m. Arundel, 15 Dec. 1796, Hannah Huff (“Arundel Church of Christ” [note 2], *NEHGR* 108[1954]:188).

⁶³ Gravestone photo, findagrave.com #40579406.

⁶⁴ Kennebunkport VRs, 4:19 [DGS #7595726, image 524].

⁶⁵ Her birth date calculated from her age at death; David Lord m. Arundel, 30 July 1807, Susan Towne (Kennebunkport VRs, 1:551 [DGS #7595726, image 339]).

⁶⁶ Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921, image, familysearch.org; gravestone photo, findagrave.com #40579395.

In 1850 George's occupation is listed as lighthouse keeper.⁶⁷ A 21 August 1850 inspection noted that

[the] tower, dome and lantern are now in good order. In the year past the tower has been whitewashed inside and out, and the dome and lantern painted inside and out. Lamps and reflectors are very good and clean. Put on seven iron top burners. Dwelling house is built of stone. The keeper is a good one.⁶⁸

In the summer of 1856, George Fletcher and fellow United Methodist "Church on the Cape" trustees Thatcher Hutchins and Joseph Huff raised funds in order to purchase the land and lumber necessary to erect a church with a congregation comprised largely of Cape Porpoise fishermen and their families. The very simple building was completed the following year, with no vestry, steeple, clock, or bell, none of which were added until decades later.⁶⁹ Following his stint as keeper at Goat Island, George Fletcher returned to fishing.⁷⁰ George, wife Mary J., son George L., daughter Susan Lord and husband George, and daughter Ellen F. are buried together at the Cape Porpoise Cemetery in Kennebunkport.⁷¹

Children of George B. and Mary (Lord) Fletcher, all b. Kennebunkport:

- i JOHN B. FLETCHER, b. [calc.] 1 Nov. 1833, d. Kennebunkport, 26 Oct. 1920, aged 86y 11m 25d;⁷² m. Kennebunkport, 2 Jan. 1863, MARTHA A. WAKEFIELD,⁷³ b. [calc.] 11 June 1842, daughter of James and Mary (Russ) Wakefield,⁷⁴ d. Kennebunkport, 6 March 1926 aged 83y 8m 25d.⁷⁵ In 1880, John, aged 46, wife Martha, 38, son Ernest L., 17, daughter Ada M., 13, and son Albert H., 7, were residing in Kennebunkport where both John and Ernest were employed as fishermen.⁷⁶

Children, all b. Kennebunkport: 1. *Ernest L. Fletcher*, b. 24 Jan 1864,⁷⁷ d. Kennebunkport, 14 March 1889, aged 28y 1m.⁷⁸ 2. *Adeline M./Addie Fletcher*, b.

⁶⁷ George Fletcher household, 1850 U.S. Census, Kennebunkport, York Co., Maine, p. 10.

⁶⁸ *House Documents, Otherwise Published as Executive Documents, 31st Congress, 2nd Session* (Washington, DC, 1850), 4:71.

⁶⁹ Tom Bradbury, "History of the Church on the Cape," <www.churchonthecape.org/church-history>.

⁷⁰ George Fletcher household, 1860 U.S. Census, Kennebunkport, York Co., Maine, p. 17.

⁷¹ Maine Old Cemetery Association, *Maine Cemetery Inscriptions: York County*, 4 vols. (Camden, Maine, 1995), 2:961–62.

⁷² Death record, Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921, image, familysearch.org, which also provides his date of birth; also, g.s. photo, Arundel Cemetery, findagrave.com #64569489.

⁷³ Kennebunkport VRs, 5:2 [DGS #7595726, image 554].

⁷⁴ Her birth date calculated from her age at death; James Wakefield household, 1850 U.S. Census, Kennebunkport, York Co., Maine, p. 4, included 8y old Martha A. Wakefield; James Wakefield m. Kennebunkport, 15 Aug. 1830, Mary Russ (Kennebunkport VRs, 4:16 2 [DGS #7595726, image 523]).

⁷⁵ Gravestone photo, Arundel Cemetery, findagrave.com #64569707.

⁷⁶ John B. Fletcher household, 1880 U.S. Census, Kennebunkport, York Co., Maine, p. 27.

⁷⁷ Kennebunkport VRs, 2:28 [DGS #7595726, image 397].

⁷⁸ Kennebunkport VRs, 2:76 [DGS #7595726, image 447]; gravestone photo, findagrave.com #64569199.

[calc.] July 1865, d. Kennebunkport, 20 March 1930, aged 64y 8m;⁷⁹ m. Kennebunkport, 26 June 1889, Charles M. Smith.⁸⁰ 3. *Albert Henry Fletcher*, b. 1 Dec. 1873,⁸¹ d. 2 April 1942;⁸² m. (1) Kennebunkport, 28 Nov. 1895, Maud G. Martin;⁸³ m. (2) West Coxsackie, N.Y., 28 March 1806, Doretta Day.⁸⁴ In 1910 Albert and Doretta were living in Weehawken, N.J., and Albert was employed as a pilot on a steam barge.⁸⁵

- ii SUSAN L[ORD?] FLETCHER, b. May 1835,⁸⁶ d. Saco, Maine, 6 Nov. 1901, aged 66y 6m;⁸⁷ m. Biddeford, 24 Feb. 1858, GEORGE LORD,⁸⁸ b. Kennebunk, Feb. 1826,⁸⁹ son of Asa and Lavina (Thompson) Lord,⁹⁰ d. Saco, 16 Nov. 1914, aged 87.⁹¹ George and Susan Lord resided in Biddeford and Saco where George was employed as a carpenter. No known children. They are bur. in Cape Porpoise Cemetery with Susan's parents.⁹²
- iii GEORGE L. FLETCHER, b. Dec. 1839,⁹³ d. 10 July 1919, age 79 years.⁹⁴ George was a fisherman. He never married. In 1900, still single, he was living in Kenne-

⁷⁹ Gravestone photo, Arundel Cemetery, findagrave.com #163360497.

⁸⁰ Kennebunkport VRs, 5:79 [DGS #7595726, image 644].

⁸¹ Kennebunkport VRs, 2:54 [DGS #7595726, image 424], This record lists the 1 Dec. 1873 birth of a son, no name given, of John B. Fletcher. Confirmation that he was Albert Henry Fletcher is found in his World War I draft registration giving the same date of birth (United States World War I Draft Registration Cards, 1917–1918, image, familysearch.org).

⁸² U.S., Social Security Applications and Claims Index, 1936–2007, database, ancestry.com; he was living in Kennebunkport in 1940 (Albert H. Fletcher household, 1940 U.S. Census, Kennebunkport, York Co., Maine, E.D. 16-39, p. 25).

⁸³ Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921, database, familysearch.org.

⁸⁴ New York State, Marriage Index, 1881–1967, image, ancestry.com.

⁸⁵ Albert Fletcher household, 1910 U.S. Census, Weehawken Ward 2, Hudson Co., N.J., E.D. 270, p. 13. Daughter Helena's 16 Jan. 1918 birth record gives her parents as Albert H. Fletcher and Doretta C. Day (Massachusetts Vital Records, 1841–1920, image, familysearch.org). Albert's occupation is given as "Sea Captain."

⁸⁶ George Lord household, 1900 U.S. Census, Saco, York Co., Maine, E.D. 249, p. 7.

⁸⁷ Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921, database, familysearch.org.

⁸⁸ Biddeford Marriages Vol. 1, 1855–92, p. 20 [DGS #7595319, image 18].

⁸⁹ George Lord household, 1900 U.S. Census, Saco, York Co., Maine, p. 13.

⁹⁰ In 1850, George, age 21, was living with his parents Asa and Lavina Lord (Asa Lord household, 1850 U.S. Census, Kennebunkport, York Co., Maine, p. 42). The household also included his brother Justin, age 14, who in 1860 resided next door to George and Susan Lord in Saco where both men were employed as carpenters (George and Justin Lord households, 1860 U.S. Census, Biddeford, York Co., Maine, p. 195). Asa Lord m. (int.) Lyman, Maine, 22 Sept. 1821, Lavina Thompson both of Kennebunkport (Lyman VRs [DGS #7598726, image 321]).

⁹¹ Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921, image, familysearch.org.

⁹² *York Co. Inscriptions* [note 71], 2:962.

⁹³ George L. Fletcher household, 1900 U.S. Census, Kennebunkport, York Co., Maine, E.D. 238, p. 13.

⁹⁴ Gravestone photo, Cape Porpoise Cemetery, Kennebunkport, findagrave.com #40579415. His death record gives his parents as George B. Fletcher and Mary Lord (Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921, image, familysearch.org). His age in the 1850 census is incorrectly given as 7. There are several inaccuracies in the 1850 census for the George Fletcher household [note 67]; perhaps the census taker did not take the time to row out to the island.

bunkport with his widowed mother, and next door to his sister and brother-in-law, Henry and Sarah Hutchins.⁹⁵

- iv SARAH ELIZABETH FLETCHER, b. 25 Dec. 1842, d. 9 July 1917, aged 74y 6m 14d;⁹⁶ m. (cert.) Kennebunkport, 25 April 1868, HENRY B. HUTCHINS,⁹⁷ b. Kennebunkport, Dec. 1840, son of William and Hannah (Littlefield) Hutchins, d. Kennebunkport, 28 Dec. 1914.⁹⁸ Henry was a fisherman. Henry, Sarah, and their two children are all buried in Arundel Cemetery.⁹⁹

Children, both b. Kennebunkport: 1. *infant Hutchins*, b. and d. 1872.¹⁰⁰ 2. *Merton Pierce Hutchins*, b. 7 Sept. 1873,¹⁰¹ d. Biddeford, 22 Sept. 1966;¹⁰² m. (1) Kennebunkport, 29 Nov. 1893, Olive F[lavilla/Florilla] Martin;¹⁰³ m. (2) Waltham, Mass., 27 Nov. 1913, Florence E. Boardman;¹⁰⁴ m. (3) Kennebunkport, 14 Nov. 1937, Sophronia L. (Robbins) Doane,¹⁰⁵ widow of Frederick Doane.¹⁰⁶

- v ELLEN FRANCES FLETCHER, b. [calc.] May 1850, d. Kennebunkport, 26 March 1868, aged 17y 10m.¹⁰⁷

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⁹⁵ George L. Fletcher household, 1900 U.S. Census [note 93].

⁹⁶ Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921, image, familysearch.org, which gives her dates of both birth and death.

⁹⁷ Kennebunkport VRs, 5:17 [DGS #7595726, image 569].

⁹⁸ Death record, Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921, image, familysearch.org, which gives his date of death, age at death of 74, place of birth, and names of his parents; Henry B. Hutchins household, 1900 U.S. Census, Kennebunkport, York Co., Maine, E.D. 238, p. 13, which gives his month and year of birth.

⁹⁹ *York Co. Inscriptions* [note 71], 1:103.

¹⁰⁰ *York Co. Inscriptions* [note 71], 1:103. The inscription reads “Our Baby.”

¹⁰¹ Kennebunkport VRs, 2:54 [DGS #7595726, image 424].

¹⁰² Maine Death Index, 1960–1966, database, familysearch.org.

¹⁰³ Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921, image, familysearch.org.

¹⁰⁴ Massachusetts Marriages, 1841–1915, image, familysearch.org.

¹⁰⁵ Maine Marriage Index, 1892–1966, database, familysearch.org.

¹⁰⁶ Frederick Doane m. Boston, 13 June 1906, Sophronia Robbins (Mass. Marriages, 1841–1915, image, familysearch.org). Sophronia’s 1st husband, Frederick Doane (1869–1934), is buried in the same 5-person plot in Arundel with the Henry B. Hutchins family. He has been incorrectly transcribed in *York Co. Inscriptions* [note 71], 1:103, as “Frederick Doane Hutchins,” and therefore presumed by many to be a son of Henry B. and Sarah (Fletcher) Hutchins. “Frederick Doane Hutchins” does not exist elsewhere.

¹⁰⁷ *York Co. Inscriptions* [note 71], 2:961. George Fletcher’s 1850 household included a daughter, “Cynthia,” age 3 months. Ellen Frances does not appear. Ellen Frances, aged 10, does appear in George’s 1860 household, while Cynthia does not. There is no further record of Cynthia; likely Ellen and Cynthia were the same person.

CAPTAIN JESSE HOLBROOK MISERABLE WRETCH OR MALIGNED MARINER?

By Anita A. Lustenberger, CG

Six men named Capt. Jesse Holbrook, all cousins descended from John⁴ and Sarah (Chrittenden) Holbrook through their sons Abiezer⁵ or Thomas⁵ Holbrook, were active in Maine on the waters of the Penobscot and Kennebec rivers from the 1770s to the 1870s. They can be separated by occupation from the Jesse Holbrooks who were farmers or in other kinds of work but, as these six were sea captains, occupation is of no aid in distinguishing them. One Capt. Jesse⁷ Holbrook (1770–1825) is differentiated because an uninhibited family genealogy referred to him as “a miserable wretch.”¹

A Pennell genealogy written in 1916 by Clara Pennell Phinney contains assorted unflattering or honest assessments of Pennell relatives (“a drunkard,” “a suicide,” “a half breed of mixed blood”). Her annotations are rarely found in other genealogies of a century ago, in which families were more typically “ancient and honorable” with unpleasant or embarrassing facts omitted. Another compiler of the Pennell and Holbrook families, Charles Nelson Sinnett, characterized family members as “a very worthy citizen . . . of sturdy and helpful character,” “a truly helpful woman,” “an excellent farmer and citizen.” Sinnett was probably in contact with some of the relatives with whom Phinney was corresponding, but his only comment on the Jesse Holbrook treated here was “a sea Captain from Great Sebascodegan, Me.”²

Phinney, who lived from 1863 to 1943, was a second cousin twice removed of Lucy (Pennell) Holbrook, wife of Capt. Jesse Holbrook, but Phinney could not have known Lucy or Jesse personally, both of whom had died by 1830. One acknowledgement in Phinney’s bibliography was to “Records by Robert Pennell on Brunswick line.” Of four possible Robert Pennells,³ the most likely to have been Phinney’s informant was Robert Pennell Jr., 1811–1877, a first cousin once-removed of Lucy (Pennell) Holbrook.⁴ In 1865 this Robert purchased “the old Pennell homestead in Brunswick” and lived there until his death. He would have been fourteen when Capt. Jesse Holbrook died, and he could have heard his parents’ comments about the life of Capt. Holbrook and the Pennells. Lucy’s father, John Pennell, who died when informant Robert was eleven, was described as “a very tall, round-shouldered man, red haired, good natured, religious, and generally liked.”⁵ Clara Phinney and Robert Pennell detailed the children and grandchildren of John Pennell’s seven

¹ Clara Pennell Phinney, “The Pennell Family in Brunswick, Maine” (typescript, 1916), 4:15 [FamilySearch digital film (DGS) #7561829]. The descent of Capt. Jesse Holbrook⁷ is Abiezer⁶⁻⁵, John⁴⁻³⁻², Thomas¹.

² Charles N. Sinnett, “The Holbrook Families of Maine” (typescript, 1926), p. 4, copy at Maine State Library Augusta, Maine. Great Sebascodegan is the largest island of the Town of Harpswell.

³ Phinney, “Pennell Family” [note 1], 4:73, 105, 120, 131.

⁴ Phinney, “Pennell Family” [note 1], 4:132, 131, 46, 3:13, 15, 33.

⁵ Phinney, “Pennell Family” [note 1], 4:15.

daughters, although they knew little about the children of Capt. Jesse and Lucy (Pennell) Holbrook, except to note: “John Pennell left his property to his grandson John Pennell Holbrook who quickly squandered it.”⁶

JOHN PENNELL HOLBROOK

John Pennell’s only son, John Pennell Jr., died in infancy, and John Pennell Holbrook, son of Capt. Jesse and Lucy (Pennell) Holbrook, became the namesake of his grandfather.⁷ On 2 April 1814, John Pennell and wife, Hannah, sold seventy acres with buildings to John Pennell Holbrook for \$700,⁸ possibly occasioned by John Pennell Holbrook’s marriage two weeks later to his cousin Polly Holbrook.⁹ One wonders how a nineteen-year-old had amassed \$700 and if money was truly exchanged. More importantly, John Pennell Holbrook was too young to buy or sell land legally.¹⁰ Hannah Pennell may have known this, or had other reservations, because she did not acknowledge the deed and relinquish her dower rights until two weeks after John Pennell Holbrook turned twenty-one in 1816.

On 25 January 1816, the same day that Hannah Pennell acknowledged the 1814 deed, her grandson John P. Holbrook, yeoman, “sold” the seventy acres and buildings back to his grandfather for \$700, with the stipulation that

... if John Holbrook his heirs or assigns shall maintain said John Pennell and his wife during their natural life with victuals, drink, lodging and clothing & find and provide all things necessary for them & maintain them in a comfortable manner and pay to Hannah Speer my daughter, after my decease, fifteen dollars, to Rachel Ross fifteen dollars, to Mary Mitchell, Lucy Holbrook, Mehitable Ross, Jennett Lovit and Margaret Cary fifteen dollars each, then this deed to be void, otherwise to be and remain in full force.¹¹

This deed was signed two weeks after John’s twenty-first birthday, and there was no recorded dower release by John’s wife, Polly. Polly left no records and she may have died at any time, although the note that John and Polly had “one dau[ghter] who lived with her mother at Federal St, Brunswick”¹² strongly implies that Polly was alive two years after her marriage.

Two years later, on 28 December 1818, John P. Holbrook sold the land, now “eighty” [*sic*] acres, to John Jordan Jr. for \$500. This implies that John P. Holbrook had taken care of his grandparents in accordance with the conditions of the earlier deed. John P. Holbrook would then owe the \$15 to each of the sisters.¹³

⁶ Phinney, “Pennell Family” [note 1], 4:15.

⁷ Phinney, “Pennell Family” [note 1], 4:34.

⁸ Cumberland Co. Deeds, 78:101, John Pennell to John Holbrook, 2 April 1814.

⁹ Joseph Crook Anderson II, *Vital Records of Brunswick, Maine, 1740–1860, and the Forsaith Book of Brunswick Family Records* . . . (Rockport, Maine, 2004), 168.

¹⁰ He was b. 11 Jan. 1795 per Anderson, *Brunswick VRs* [note 9], 51.

¹¹ Cumberland Co. Deeds, 73:462.

¹² Phinney, “Pennell Family” [note 1], 4:34.

¹³ Cumberland Co. Deeds 84:206.

Again, wife Polly did not relinquish dower, and John P. Holbrook may have retained the property with the sale never happening. Then, confusingly, five months later, on 10 May 1819, John P. Holbrook again sold the land (now seventy acres) for only \$400 to a merchant, David Stone of Brunswick, to whom he may have been indebted.¹⁴ And yet again, wife Polly was not noted on the deed as having signed off. For some reason, the sale to Stone apparently never was finalized, as two years later, on 6 September 1821, five of the daughters of John Pennell quitclaimed the seventy acres that had been sold in 1818 to John Jordan Jr.:

Jesse Holbrook and Lucy Holbrook his wife in her right, Samuel Ross and Mehitable Ross his wife, W^m Mitchell and Mary Mitchell his wife, in right of their said wives all of Brunswick and George Leavitt yeoman and Jane Leavitt his wife in her right of Harpswell, Henry Carey of Harlem in the County of Kennebeck and Margaret his wife, in consideration of ninety dollars paid by John Jordan Jun^r of Brunswick.¹⁵

Of the five daughters, only Lucy Holbrook and Mary Mitchell signed. No separate deed was found with signatures for the other three daughters (Mehitable Ross, Margaret Carey, and Jane Leavitt), nor is a deed found for daughter Hannah Spear, who was living but not named. Rachel Ross had died, leaving heirs, but the 1816 deed had not mentioned rights for heirs of the daughters. The sale price of \$90 is equal to six times fifteen, which would give each of the six living daughters \$15 as originally requested by John Pennell in 1816. This carelessly incomplete deed must have been intended to provide neighbor John Jordan Jr. with a good title, and to provide each of the daughters the \$15 apiece that must not have been given to them by John P. Holbrook. The family seems to have agreed to this deed to clean up the mess.

Thus, documented by five deeds over a seven-year period, John Pennell Holbrook had indeed quickly squandered the land from his grandfather.

CAPT. JESSE HOLBROOK

JESSE⁷ HOLBROOK, a sea captain, was born in Harpswell, Maine, about 1770–73, son of Abiezer⁶ and Elizabeth (Snow) Holbrook.¹⁶ He died in Brunswick, “very suddenly,” 4 December 1825, aged 55.¹⁷ He married in Harpswell, 8 December 1791, LUCY PENNELL.¹⁸ Lucy was born in Brunswick, 4 January 1770, daughter of John and Hannah (Graham) Pennell of Brunswick,¹⁹ and died about April 1826, aged 55 years.²⁰

¹⁴ Cumberland Co. Deeds, 84:325.

¹⁵ Cumberland Co. Deeds, 90:95–96.

¹⁶ He was 37 years old in the 1810 List of Vaccinations in Mary Pelham Hill, ed., *Vital Records of Topsham, Maine, to the Year 1892*, 2 vols. (Concord, N.H., 1929–30). 1:97. He was aged 55 at his death in 1825. His parentage is given in Sinnett, “Holbrook Families” [note 2], pp. 3, 4.

¹⁷ [Brunswick] *Maine Baptist Herald*, Tuesday, 6 Dec. 1825, p. 3 [genealogy bank.com]).

¹⁸ Judith Holbrook Kelley and Clayton Rand Adams, *Marriage Returns of Cumberland County, Maine, Prior to 1892* [Rockport, Maine, 1998], 85.

¹⁹ Anderson, *Brunswick VRs* [note 9], 32, 121.

²⁰ [Portland] *Christian Mirror*, 21 April 1826, p. 3: “In Brunswick, Mrs. Lucy Holbrook, 55.”

Jesse Holbrook and his young family were named in an 1810 List of Vaccinations in Topsham, and in the Topsham 1810 census.²¹ On 13 June 1814, Jesse Holbrook, born Harpswell, Cumberland [Co] “Mass.,” aged 37 [*sic*], mariner, 5' 10½" tall, with hazel eyes, dark hair, and dark complexion, was enlisted by Capt. Douglass as a corporal in the U.S. Army for the duration of the War of 1812. On 16 February 1815, he was recorded in Capt. John Merrill's detachment of the 34th Regiment, U.S. Infantry, and on 31 March 1815 he was discharged at Portland, Maine, his term of service having expired.²²

His enlistment would have been in reaction to loss of livelihood after the British Atlantic blockade shifted to New England. The War of 1812 had its greatest effect in Maine beginning in April 1814, when the British, not having enough ships to blockade the entire American seacoast at once, shifted their blockade from the Carolinas to New England. Neither merchant ship nor privateer could get past the Royal Navy, and captured American seamen were impressed into service on the British ships. The coasting trade became so perilous that American merchants had to resort to overland transportation. The shift of the blockade in 1814 explains why records of activations of Maine militias in the War of 1812 and enlistments in the U.S. Army only begin in 1814.²³

By 1820 the family was in Brunswick, with Jesse “Holebrook” working in commerce and the household of married son Jesse Holebrook Jr. adjacent.²⁴ Jesse Holbrook was of Brunswick when he died there “suddenly.”

Children of Jesse⁷ and Lucy (Pennell) Holbrook:

- i ABIEZER⁸ HOLBROOK, b. Brunswick, 28 Aug. 1792;²⁵ according to Phinney he m. SUSAN LEAVITT,²⁶ although no record of the marriage nor of his death have been found. On 9 March 1814, a month before his father, Abiezer reacted to the British blockade by enlisting for the duration of the war in the U.S. Army at Topsham in the company of Capt. Holden. He was aged 21, b. Brunswick, a mariner, 5' 9½" inches tall, with gray eyes, brown hair, and a dark complexion. He served in the 45th U.S. Infantry in the companies of Capt. Smith Elkins and Capt. Joseph Flanders. Abiezer was tried 11 April 1815 by a Regimental Court Martial at Sacketts Harbor on Lake Ontario for unsoldier-like conduct and was reduced to the ranks. On 5 June 1815, his term expired, and he was discharged at Sacketts Harbor.²⁷

²¹ *Topsham VRs* [note 16], 1:97; Jesse Holebrooks [*sic*] household, 1810 U.S. Census, Topsham, Lincoln Co., Maine, p. 9.

²² U.S. Army, Register of Enlistments, 1798–1815, Enlistments prior to the Peace Establishment, 1798 May 17–1815, vol. H, p. 8 [ancestry.com, image 319].

²³ Donald R. Hickey, *The War of 1812: A Forgotten Conflict* (Urbana, Ill., 1989).

²⁴ Jesse Holebrook household, 1820 U.S. Census, Brunswick, Cumberland Co., Maine, p. 394.

²⁵ Anderson, *Brunswick VRs* [note 9], 51. While he was listed as age 16 in the 1810 List of Vaccinations in *Topsham VRs* [note 16], 1:97, the ages in the vaccination records do not entirely agree with the dates of birth from vital records and other sources.

²⁶ Phinney, “Pennell Family” [note 1], 4:33.

²⁷ U.S. Army Register of Enlistments 1798–1914 [note 22], vol. 11-H, p. 21, # 247 [image 21].

He was probably the Abiezer Holbrook, b. Brunswick, with hazel eyes, brown hair, ruddy complexion, 5' 10½" tall, age 24, who enlisted in Jan. 1817 in Savannah, Ga., to serve in the 4th Battalion of Artillery.²⁸ There was no other Abiezer Holbrook born during the 1790s in the Brunswick/Harpswell/Topsham area. The physical descriptions, aside from the change in complexion, agree well enough, and there is no record of him in Maine after 1814.

Sinnett says Abiezer had "one child that died without issue" but "the name of his wife is not given."²⁹ Phinney says Abiezer m. Susan Leavitt and they were the parents of "Lucy Holbrook, born before wedlock, took the name of Leavitt. Book-keeper for Jesse Jordan, New Meadows, Brunswick, Maine, and spinster."³⁰ One Lucy Leavitt was b. Brunswick, 19 March 1815, no parents listed on the record.³¹ In 1860 Lucy Leavitt, aged 45, was in Brunswick sharing a dwelling with the family of Lemuel Ward. She had \$500 in personal estate but no real estate.³² Susan Leavitt might be the woman of that name who married ca. 1829 at the age of 33 William Toothaker, b. 15 July 1791.³³ This Susan Leavett was b. in 1796 and d. 1 Nov. 1833, and she and William were the parents of two children b. 1830–32.³⁴

Reputed child of Abiezer Holbrook and Susan Leavitt: 1. *Lucy Leavitt*, b. Brunswick, 19 March 1815, d. after 1860.

- ii JOHN PENNELL HOLBROOK, b. 11 Jan. 1795;³⁵ m. (cert.) Brunswick, 13 April 1814, MARY/POLLY HOLBROOK,³⁶ b. Harpswell, 10 Jan. 1792, daughter of Jonathan and Rebecca (Veazie) Holbrook.³⁷ She was his 1st cousin once removed.

No record has been found for John after his confusing series of deeds for the land his grandfather tried to give him in April 1814. He did not serve in the militia in 1814 for the War of 1812, although he was old enough. The last reference naming him is on a list of letters in the Brunswick post office as of 1 July 1824.³⁸

John and Polly are said to have had a daughter who d. without issue and who lived with her widowed mother at Federal St., Brunswick."³⁹

²⁸ U.S. Army Register of Enlistments 1798–1914 [note 22], Enlistments 1815 May 17–1821 June 30, vol. D–H, p. 94, #48 [image 313].

²⁹ Sinnett, "Holbrook Families" [note 2], p. 4.

³⁰ Phinney, "Pennell Family" [note 1], 4:33.

³¹ Anderson, *Brunswick VRs* [note 9], 456.

³² Lucy Leavitt household, 1860 U.S. Census, Brunswick, Cumberland Co., Maine, p. 877. She might be the Lucy Holbrook (indexed as "Westbrook"), 35, living in Brunswick in 1850 with Beulah "Lavett," 63 (Beulah Lavett household, 1850 U.S. Census, Brunswick, Cumberland Co., Maine, p. 204). She could be the Lucy Leavitt, d. 30 Nov. 1885, aged 92y, bur. in New Meadows Cemetery, Brunswick (g.s. photo, findagrave.com #46245233).

³³ Anderson, *Brunswick VRs* [note 9], 511.

³⁴ Anderson, *Brunswick VRs* [note 9], 511.

³⁵ Anderson, *Brunswick VRs* [note 9], 51.

³⁶ Anderson, *Brunswick VRs* [note 9], 168.

³⁷ "Genealogical Records of Harpswell, Me.," *The Genealogical Quarterly* 4[1903]:23; her parents m. Harpswell, 21 May 1772 ("Harpswell, Maine, Vital Records, Recorded by Rev. Elisha Eaton, 1754–1764, and by His Son Samuel Eaton, V.D.M., 1765–1843," typescript [n.d.], Maine Historical Society, Portland, call #Mv H236.1, p. 25).

³⁸ "List of Letters," *Weekly Eastern Argus*, Monday, 12 July 1824, p. 1 [genealogybank.com].

³⁹ Sinnett, "Holbrook Families" [note 2], pp. 4, 22; Phinney, "Pennell Family" [note 1], 4:34.

- iii JESSE HOLBROOK Jr., b. Brunswick, 7 March 1797,⁴⁰ d. 31 May 1882;⁴¹ m. (cert.) Brunswick, 16 March 1819, as Mr. Jesse Holbrook “Jur.,” JOHANNAH THOMAS of Hartford, Maine⁴² b. Middleboro, Mass., about 1799, d. Dexter, Maine, between the 1860 and 1870 censuses.⁴³

Sinnett said Jesse Jr. “went west and all trace was lost,” while Phinney wrote, “he went North, no trace.”⁴⁴ Jesse, however, left many records. He served 20–22 June and 10–29 Sept. 1814 in Capt. Nathaniel Walker’s company, Maj. D. Holden’s Battalion of Artillery, raised at Topsham. The company was stationed in Bath. Jesse served as a hostler, in charge of the horses which pulled the artillery cannons.⁴⁵

After their 1818 marriage, the couple began their family in Brunswick but soon moved north to Piscataquis and Penobscot counties where Jesse worked as a millman, and a day laborer.⁴⁶ He never owned real estate, and in 1860 his personal wealth was a meager \$75. He was of Blanchard, Maine., listed on 1 Sept. 1842 as having filed a petition, with a schedule of debts and inventory of property, praying to be declared bankrupt under the Uniform System of Bankruptcy Act.⁴⁷

On 7 April 1855, Jesse applied for, under the Act of 3 March 1855, and received 160 acres of bounty land for his 21 days of service in the War of 1812. On 1 June 1871, he applied for a pension under the Act of 14 Feb. 1871, but was rejected as having served fewer than 60 days. He later applied for a pension under the Act of March 1878, which was granted, and he received a pension until his death on 31 May 1882.⁴⁸

Children of Jesse⁸ and Johannah (Thomas) Holbrook:⁴⁹ 1. *Charala Thomas⁹ Holbrook*, b. Brunswick, 13 Dec. 1819. 2. *Lucy Pennell Holbrook*, b. Gardiner, 28 Feb. 1821. 3. *Zebadee Thomas Holbrook*, b. Hartford, 21 July 1822. 4. *Jesse Holbrook*, b.

⁴⁰ Anderson, *Brunswick VRs* [note 9], 51. He was listed as age 13 in the 1810 List of Vaccinations (*Topsham VRs* [note 16], 1:97).

⁴¹ Jesse Holbrook, War of 1812 Pension Application, Soldier App. #19013, Cert. #22658, Bounty Land Warrant #84745-160-55 [images, fold3.com].

⁴² Anderson, *Brunswick VRs* [note 9], 176.

⁴³ Johannah Thomas town of birth (Middleboro, Maine [*sic*]) from 1877 death record of son John P. Holbrook (Massachusetts Vital Records, 1841–1910, 292:215 [image, americanancestors.org]); Jesse Holbrook household, 1860 U.S. Census, Dexter, Penobscot Co., Maine, p. 8 (Joanna, aged 60, b. Mass.); John P. Holbrook household, 1870 U.S. Census, Parkman, Penobscot Co., Maine, p. 162 (Jessee, aged 73, living with his son, Joanna not listed).

⁴⁴ Sinnett, “Holbrook Families” [note 2], p. 4, and Phinney, “Pennell Family” [note 1], 4:34.

⁴⁵ *Records of the Massachusetts Volunteer Militia Called Out by the Governor of Massachusetts to Suppress a Threatened Invasion During the War of 1812–14* (Boston, Mass., 1913), 148.

⁴⁶ Jesse “Holebrook” Jr. household, 1820 U.S. Census, Brunswick, Cumberland Co., Maine, p. 394; not found in 1830 U.S. Census; Jesse Holbrook household, 1840 U.S. Census, Blanchard, Piscataquis Co., Maine, p. 17; Jesse Holbrook household, 1850 U.S. Census, Guilford, Piscataquis Co., Maine, p. 248; Jesse Holbrook household, 1860 U.S. Census, Dexter, Penobscot Co., Maine, p. 8; John P. Holbrook household, 1870 U.S. Census, Parkman, Penobscot Co., Maine, p. 162; Augustus Bond household, 1880 U.S. Census, Dexter, Penobscot Co., Maine, E.D. 13, p. 526.

⁴⁷ “Notices in Bankruptcy,” *Portland Weekly Advertiser*, Tues., 13 Sept. 1842, p. 1 [genealogy bank.com].

⁴⁸ Jesse Holbrook, War of 1812 Pension Application [note 41].

⁴⁹ Births and birthplaces of first 6 children recorded Foxcroft (VR, 1: 37 [DGS #7595362, image 156]; last 6 children from Jesse Holbrook household, 1850 U.S. Census, Guilford, Piscataquis Co., Maine, p. 248, and 1860 U.S. Census, Dexter, Penobscot Co., Maine, p. 8.

Monson, 29 Feb. 1824. 5. *John Pennell Holbrook*, b. Monson, 26 Jan. 1826. 6. *Joan Holbrook*, b. Foxcroft, 26 Jan. 1828. 7. *Mercy Holbrook*, b. ca. 1830. 8. *Elmira A. Holbrook*, b. Blanchard, [calc.] 9 May 1831.⁵⁰ 9. *Mary Holbrook*, b. ca. 1834. 10. *Caroline Holbrook*, b. ca. 1836. 11. *Clarissa S. Holbrook*, b. ca. 1840. 12. George W. Holbrook, b. ca. 1842.

- iv MARY ELIZABETH/POLLY HOLBROOK, b. Brunswick or Harpswell,⁵¹ 1801–2,⁵² d. after 1880 when she was living in Chelsea, Maine;⁵³ m. (1) Brunswick, 3 Oct. 1820, ISAAC YORK,⁵⁴ b. ca. 1789, d. Brunswick, ca. Aug. 1824, “formerly of Andover, Mass., aged about 35”;⁵⁵ m. (2) (int.) Lisbon, Maine, 30 Aug. 1826, JOHN YORK (as John York of Lisbon and Mrs. Mary York of Brunswick),⁵⁶ who d. between 1842 (last child) and 1850 (when Mary was enumerated as head of household).⁵⁷ Mary was living in Brunswick in 1860, but moved to Pittston by 1870 and Chelsea by 1880, where she lived with her son Colby adjacent to her son Abiezer.⁵⁸

Children of Isaac and Mary Elizabeth (Holbrook) York: 1. *Abiezer York*, b. 25 Dec. 1821.⁵⁹ 2. *Clarissa Ann York*, b. say Nov. 1822.⁶⁰

Children of John and Mary Elizabeth (Holbrook) (York) York:⁶¹ 3. *Mercy Marden York*, b. ca. 1828. 4. *George H. York*, b. ca. 1829. 5. *Abigail York*, b. ca. 1832. 6. *Asa York*, b. ca. 1833. 7. *Charles Dana York*, b. ca. 1836. 8. *Colby W. York*, b. ca. 1841. 9. *Jesse Holbrook York*, b. Brunswick, [calc.] 12 April 1843.⁶²

⁵⁰ As Elmira Hill, she d. East Rochester, N.H., 1 May 1886 aged 54y 11m 22d (New Hampshire Death Records 1654–1947 [DGS #4243608, image 1941].

⁵¹ She was born in Brunswick according to the 1904 death certificate of daughter Clarissa Ann Welch (Maine Vital Records 1670–1921, image, familysearch.org). She was born in Harpswell in the 1905 death certificate of son Jesse H. York (Massachusetts Deaths, 1841–1915, image, familysearch.org).

⁵² Aged 49y in Mary York household, 1850 U.S. Census, Brunswick, Cumberland Co., Maine, p. 244); aged 67y in Mary York household, 1860 U.S. Census, Brunswick, Cumberland Co., Maine, p. 18; she was 10y old in the 1810 List of Vaccinations in *Topsham VRs* [note 16], 1:97. She was listed as child of Lucy Pennell Holbrook, with no further information, in Phinney, “Pennell Family” [note 1], 4:34.

⁵³ Colby W. York household, 1880 U.S. Census, Chelsea, Kennebec Co., Maine, E.D. 88, p. 142. Mary York, “mother,” was aged 79.

⁵⁴ Anderson, *Brunswick VRs* [note 9], 162, 179.

⁵⁵ Death notice, *Portland Advertiser*, 25 Aug. 1824, p. 3 [genealogybank.com].

⁵⁶ Anderson, *Brunswick VRs* [note 9], p. 299; Lisbon VRs, 1:239 [DGS #7834680, image 135].

⁵⁷ Mary York household, 1850 U.S. Census, Brunswick, Cumberland Co., Maine, p. 244.

⁵⁸ Mary York household, 1860 U.S. Census, Brunswick, Cumberland Co., Maine, p. 18; Colby York household, 1870 U.S. Census, Pittston, Kennebec Co., Maine, p. 433; Colby York household, 1880 U.S. Census, Chelsea, Kennebec Co., Maine, E.D. 88, p. 142.

⁵⁹ Abiezer York family record, Anderson, *Brunswick VRs* [note 9], 437.

⁶⁰ She was aged 78, with a birth date of Nov. 1821, in Elmer Welch household, 1900 U.S. Census, Brunswick, Cumberland Co., Maine, E.D. 36. The year “1821” is not compatible with the birth date of her brother Abiezer.

⁶¹ Mary York household, 1850 U.S. Census, Brunswick, Cumberland Co., Maine, p. 244; Mary York household, 1860 U.S. Census, Brunswick, Cumberland Co., Maine, p. 18.

⁶² He was aged 62y 10d at his death in Gardner, Mass., 22 April 1905 (Massachusetts Deaths, 1841–1915, image, familysearch.org).

- v SIMON HOLBROOK, b. ca. 1804,⁶³ d. Brunswick, ca. Jan. 1847, “aged about 48” [sic];⁶⁴ m. (int.) Brunswick, 15 June 1825, NANCY VARNEY both of Brunswick.⁶⁵ In 1830 the couple lived in Brunswick,⁶⁶ but were not located in the 1840 census. Children of Simon and Nancy (Varney) Holbrook, b. Brunswick:⁶⁷ 1. *Patience Holbrook*, b. 21 May 1830. 2. *Abiezer Holbrook*, b. 12 March 1832. 3. *Sarah Elizabeth Varney Holbrook*, b. 7 April 1841.
- vi MERCY HOLBROOK, b. ca. 1809.⁶⁸ No further information.
- vii GEORGE HOLBROOK, not included on the 1810 List of Vaccinations,⁶⁹ but he was possibly the male under 10 in the 1820 census.⁷⁰ According to Sinnett, he “went west and all trace was lost”; according to Phinney, he “went North, no trace.”⁷¹ A George Holbrook, however, m. Brunswick, 18 Oct. 1840, MARTHA MAXWELL of Brunswick,⁷² and the couple was found on the 1850 census as George Holbrook, age 36, laborer, Martha Holbrook, age 34, Abby Holbrook, age 8, and two Maxwells.⁷³ Neither George, Martha, nor Abby were found in 1860 or later.

CONCLUSION

Clara Phinney and Robert Pennell erred in giving the name of Mrs. John Pennell as *Harriet* rather than *Hannah* and omitted Simon Holbrook from the list of Jesse and Lucy (Pennell) Holbrook’s children, even though Simon was in the 1810 list of vaccinations. The information they gave for the seven Pennell sisters and their spouses, Lucy Leavitt’s existence and spinsterhood, Jesse Holbrook Jr.’s move north rather than west, and John Pennell’s squandering of his grandfather’s land has all been corroborated. The kind words describing John Pennell may well be true.

No record has been found to confirm the description of Capt. Jesse Holbrook as a miserable wretch. The statement is difficult to prove. Everyone has opinions about their neighbors, but few write them down.

Land records have proven that Phinney and Pennell were correct about John Pennell Holbrook’s inability to manage his inheritance.

Anita A. Lustenberger CG (6114 SW Riverpoint Lane, Portland, OR 97239; anita.alustenberger@gmail.com) is descended from another of the five confusing Capt. Jesse Holbrooks.

⁶³ He was aged 6 in the 1810 List of Vaccinations, *Topsham VRs* [note 16], 1:97.

⁶⁴ Death notice, [Augusta] *Maine Farmer*, 7 Jan. 1847, p. 3 [genealogybank.com].

⁶⁵ Anderson, *Brunswick VRs* [note 9], 188.

⁶⁶ Simon Holbrook household, 1830 U.S. Census, Brunswick, Cumberland Co., Maine, p. 11.

⁶⁷ Anderson, *Brunswick VRs* [note 9], 334, 366.

⁶⁸ She was aged 1 in the 1810 List of Vaccinations in *Topsham VRs* [note 16], 1:97. She was listed as a child of Lucy Pennell with no information (Phinney, “Pennell Family” [note 1], 4:33, 34).

⁶⁹ *Topsham VRs* [note 16], 1:97.

⁷⁰ Jesse Holebrook household, 1820 U.S. Census, Brunswick, Cumberland Co., Maine, p. 394.

⁷¹ Sinnett, “Holbrook Families” [note 2], p. 4; Phinney, “Pennell Family” [note 1], 4:34.

⁷² *Cumberland Co. Marriage Returns* [note 18], 218.

⁷³ George Holbrook household, 1850 U.S. Census, Brunswick, Cumberland Co., Maine, p. 239.

REFUGEES TO MAINE:
THE FAMILY OF ROGER SR. AND PATIENCE (BURGESS)
MERITHEW, AND THEIR GODFREY AND ROBINSON KIN

By *Raymond C. Niro, MLIS, MEd, CG*

(concluded from p. 69)

iii BENJAMIN MERITHEW, b. say 1742, prob. in Mass., d. after 19 June 1776.¹³³ Like Roger Merithew Sr., Benjamin was a Yarmouth grantee.¹³⁴ He received, however, just a half share, an amount reserved for unmarried men.¹³⁵ Benjamin had to have been at least 21 years of age to be eligible for a grant, and as an unmarried man, he was likely under the age of 25 (or born in the period 1741–45).

By 1773 Benjamin was head of household of four, including a woman, a boy, and a girl, suggesting he married within a few years of settling in Yarmouth.¹³⁶ No marriage for him has been found in Yarmouth records, nor does a wife's name appear on his only deed.¹³⁷ He sold all his land in Yarmouth on 19 June 1776, exactly a week after his brother-in-law and sister Joanna and Timothy Robinson sold theirs.¹³⁸

Gowdey identifies Benjamin as one of the sons of Roger Merithew Sr., but cites no sources nor any biographical information for him.¹³⁹ Gowdey further claims that he had a son named Roger to whom she assigns three children: Roger, Elizabeth, and Benjamin. Judging from the names, “Benjamin” has been confused with Roger Merithew Jr., who was the father of a Benjamin, Roger 3rd, and Arlaney, whose wife was named Elizabeth.¹⁴⁰

Benjamin, son of Roger Merithew Sr., had an almost exact contemporary: Benjamin Merrihew [*sic*], born in Dartmouth, 14 October 1744, son of Preserved Merrihew (*Josiah*², *?Teag*¹).¹⁴¹ The latter Benjamin was taxed in Dartmouth, along with his father and brothers Amos and Abner at the same time when Benjamin, son of Roger, was living in Yarmouth.¹⁴²

Benjamin is the only one of the Merithew children not documented on the Saint John River, nor elsewhere after 1776.¹⁴³ It is possible he migrated with the rest of his family from Yarmouth to the Saint John River, and died not long after.

¹³³ Yarmouth Co., N.S., Deeds, 1:65–66 [DGS #8287721, image 41].

¹³⁴ Brown, *Yarmouth Sequel* [note 29], 177.

¹³⁵ Yarmouth Twp. Book of Land [note 30], p. 181, entry dated 9 Sept. 1762.

¹³⁶ Yarmouth, N.S., 1773 [note 49], and Table 1, p. 58.

¹³⁷ Yarmouth Co., N.S., Deeds, 1:65–66 [DGS #8287721, image 41].

¹³⁸ Yarmouth Co., N.S., Deeds, 1:65–66 (Benjamin Merithew) [DGS #8287721, image 41], 1:64–65 (Timothy and Jonna [*sic*] Robinson) [images 40–41].

¹³⁹ Gowdey, *Merrithews* [note 2], 4.

¹⁴⁰ Gowdey, *Merrithews* [note 2], 12, 62–63.

¹⁴¹ Dartmouth, Mass., VRs [note 5], pp. 216 (penned), 248 (stamped) [DGS #7009647, image 376].

¹⁴² Dartmouth, Mass., Tax Records [note 86], Box 2: fols. 2 (1766), 7 (1769), 10 (1770), 12 (1771).

¹⁴³ He was not the “Benja Merryhue” who enlisted at Halifax, N.C., on 3 Sept. 1778, age 28, b. Beaufort, N.C., or Va. (North Carolina Digital Collections, “Carteret County: Roster of Enlistments” [digital.ncdcr.gov]).

- iv JONATHAN MERITHEW, b. say 1744, prob. in Mass. (see discussion below), d. after 22 April 1792, the date when a “Jonⁿ Merithew” signed a petition in New Brunswick.¹⁴⁴ He was evidently married before 1773.¹⁴⁵ His wife was named Hannah, according to Gowdey, but without any supporting evidence.¹⁴⁶

The 1773 census includes Jonathan as head of a household containing a woman and four children, one of whom was born during that year (Table 1, p. 58). To be married with four children, assuming they were his, he must have been close in age to Benjamin Merithew, and therefore born say 1744. That he was not a Yarmouth grantee suggests that he was not yet 21 in 1764. It is also possible that he was older than Benjamin, but came to Yarmouth after 1764 and before 1773. There is no record of his having purchased land or receiving a grant there.

Jonathan was a sailor, and served aboard Seth Barne’s schooner *Polly*, which departed 5 Dec. 1775 for the West Indies, and returned to Yarmouth with Jonathan aboard, 25 April 1776.¹⁴⁷ The voyage might have offered Jonathan an opportunity to avoid further problems with local authorities. He was among the “mob” that on the evening of 9 Nov. 1775 unloaded a ship bearing food sent from New England, a treasonable act.¹⁴⁸ With him was Timothy Robinson, husband of his sister Joanna Merithew. At the hearing a week later, as recounted by Rev. Jonathan Scott, the accused “treated the Justices with much contempt and refused to give any account of their Proceedings to the Justices; but declared that they would bring them before their Betters for offering to call them to account for any of their Behaviour.”¹⁴⁹

Jonathan’s name does not appear among the settlers surveyed by Maj. Studholme in 1783.¹⁵⁰ Yet in Jan. 1785 Jonathan was living near Grimross (now Gage) when he petitioned Gov. Carleton for a grant of land, claiming:¹⁵¹

That your Petitioner being unwilling to comply with the Measures taken by the Americans Against their King was under a Necessity to leave his former place of abode in Boston Government in the beginning of the Late Unhappy War and come and Dwell on the River St John’s. That your Petitioner hath ever been ready when Opportunity presented to Assist [*sic*] Government as far as he was able. That your Petitioner by the Imprisonment, abuses, and Losses met with on Account of his Loyalty is brought to a Low state, and being Desirous to Settle himself in this province, Most humbly prays that your Excellency will be pleas’d to Allow him the privileges [*sic*] Allowed to other Loyalists come to this Province.

¹⁴⁴ N.B. Land Petitions [note 115], Petition of the Dissenting Protestants of Sunbury, 22 May 1792 [DGS #8191397, images 608–19]. Jonathan’s signature is found on image 615, col. 1, 32nd in the list.

¹⁴⁵ Yarmouth, N.S., 1773 [note 49], and Table 1, p. 58, household of Jonathan Merithew.

¹⁴⁶ Gowdey, *Merrithews* [note 2], 5. Gowdey’s source for her sketch of Jonathan mistook him for the Jonathan Merithew of Burrillville, R.I., who married Hannah Blanchard. This Jonathan, probably the son of William Merithew of Foster, R.I., was a younger man, born no earlier than 1766 (Jonathan [*sic*] Merithew household, 1810 U.S. Census, Scituate, Providence Co., R.I., p. 86).

¹⁴⁷ J. Murray Lawson, Record of the Shipping of Yarmouth, N.S. (Saint John, N.B., 1876), 258. Jonathan was paid £10-5-11 for his service.

¹⁴⁸ Rev. Jonathan Scott [note 6], 71.

¹⁴⁹ Rev. Jonathan Scott [note 6], 71.

¹⁵⁰ Studholme’s Report [note 68].

¹⁵¹ N. B. Land Petitions [note 115], Jonathan Merrithew, 15 Jan. 1785 [DGS #8130847, images 530–33].

Jonathan's petition did not produce a grant. Apparently sincere in his wish to remain in New Brunswick, he purchased property in Gagetown on 1 Dec. 1787 from John and Elizabeth Wheeler with "one good dwelling house viz. Lot 6 in Block D," and parts of Lots 4 and 5.¹⁵² By this date, Jonathan was the only one of the children of Roger and Patience Merithew still present along the Saint John River. Brothers Roger Jr. and William, and sisters Phebe, wife of Prince Godfrey, and Joanna, wife of Timothy Robinson, had departed.

In May 1792, Jonathan Merithew signed a petition requesting the New Brunswick governor to confirm the land originally granted to the "dissenting Protestants" (i.e., not Church of England) for their non-conforming church and minister.¹⁵³

Several Merithew/Merrithew marriages were performed in Mougerville: two in 1793, two in 1797, and one in 1781.¹⁵⁴ They were possibly children of Jonathan (or of Benjamin), but direct evidence is lacking.

- v PHEBE MERITHEW, b. prob. in Mass., about 1746, d. Harlem (now China), Maine, about March 1814;¹⁵⁵ m. Yarmouth, N.S., 29 Nov. 1764, PRINCE GODFREY,¹⁵⁶ b. Chatham, Mass., about 1740, son of Samuel and Thankful (—) Godfrey,¹⁵⁷ d. Harlem about June 1814.¹⁵⁸ Additional evidence that Phebe was the daughter of Roger and Patience Merithew is provided by the birth of twin daughters at Yarmouth, who were christened *Thankful* and *Patience*, no doubt in honor of their grandmothers.¹⁵⁹ Also, Prince was one of the sureties for his mother-in-law's bond as administratrix of her husband Roger Merithew's estate.¹⁶⁰

Prince Godfrey, a yeoman, was among the original Yarmouth grantees, along with his father Samuel, brother Josiah, and brother-in-law Daniel Nickerson who married his sister Susanna.¹⁶¹ He was granted a full share, the amount granted to married men.¹⁶² During the French and Indian War, Prince served in Capt. Thomas West's

¹⁵² Queens Co., N.B., Deeds, B:16–17 [DGS #4159448, image 19].

¹⁵³ N.B. Land Petitions [note 115], Petition of the Dissenting Protestants of Sunbury, 22 May 1792 [DGS #8191397, images 608–19].

¹⁵⁴ Mougerville Anglican Church Records, microfilm #F1096 (1793 marriages), and Mougerville Parish Registers microfilm #F22771 (1797 and 1801 marriages), Provincial Archives of New Brunswick (PANB), Fredericton.

¹⁵⁵ Birth year calculated from age at death: "Died . . . In Harlem, Mrs. Phebe, wife of Mr. Prince Godfrey, Aet. 68," *Hallowell [Maine] Gazette*, 23 March 1814, p. 3, col. 5 [genealogybank.com]. Phebe's precise day of death is not stated.

¹⁵⁶ Yarmouth, N.S., VRs [note 51], 1–28.

¹⁵⁷ *Mayflower Families Through Five Generations*, 6: Stephen Hopkins, by John D. Austin (Plymouth, Mass., 2001), 412–13. Prince named Samuel and Thankful of Yarmouth as his parents in a deed (Prince Godfrey to Amasa Durkee of Yarmouth, Yarmouth Co., N.S., Deeds, 1:67–69, signed 1 Nov. 1779 by Prince and Phebe [her mark], rec. 23 March 1789 [DGS #8287721, image 93–94]).

¹⁵⁸ *Columbian Centinel* [Boston], 18 June 1814 [genealogybank.com], date of death not stated.

¹⁵⁹ *Records of the Church of Jeboque* [note 47], 122.

¹⁶⁰ Queens Co., N.S., Probate Records, Estate File A-33 [note 9].

¹⁶¹ *Mayflower Fams. 5 Gens.*: Hopkins [note 157], 413 (William Robinson family). Brown, *Yarmouth Sequel* [note 29], 176–77. Prince Godfrey called "yeoman" (Yarmouth Co., N.S., Deeds, 1:167–69 [note 157]).

¹⁶² Brown, *Yarmouth Sequel* [note 29], 176.

company stationed at Annapolis Royal, located about sixty miles north of Yarmouth on the Bay of Fundy coast.¹⁶³

Prince signed the first covenant at the Jebogue Church drawn up on 18 Dec. 1767 by Rev. John Frost.¹⁶⁴ The baptisms of Prince and Phebe's first eight children (and death of one) were recorded there.¹⁶⁵ Prince was apparently a member in good standing, despite one public admonishment. On 18 May 1773, Prince Godfrey and fellow church member Mrs. Temperance Richardson were censured by the Church for "their loose Behavior, viz. Dancing and Frolicking with Loose Company." The two responded by admitting their guilt and asking for forgiveness.¹⁶⁶ Prince served from 12 Nov. to 18 Dec. 1776 in Colonel Shaw's Annapolis militia.¹⁶⁷ Several other Yarmouth men appear on the militia list, but no Merithews.¹⁶⁸

Prince and family left Yarmouth around the same time as Patience Merithew. The last of Prince and Phebe's children b. in Yarmouth, daughter Elizabeth, was bp. there 6 April 1777.¹⁶⁹ Their next known child, Olive, was b. in New Brunswick about 1779.¹⁷⁰

Prince and Phebe were "of Maugerville" on 1 Nov. 1779 when they signed a deed selling their one share in Yarmouth, plus smaller lots later granted, as well as land that Prince had inherited from his father, Samuel.¹⁷¹ About this time the Godfreys settled at Jemseg on the banks of the Saint John River, less than twenty miles downriver from Maugerville.¹⁷² It is likely Prince, with brother-in-law Roger Merithew Jr., were squatters together on land that had no legal proprietor until 1780, when Col. William Spry purchased it.¹⁷³ They became tenants of Col. Spry, holding adjacent Lots 15 and 16, respectively.¹⁷⁴ In 1784 the governor of what had just become the Colony of New Brunswick escheated Spry's Jemseg lands, prompting Spry to sue,

¹⁶³ Elizabeth Pearson White, "Nova Scotia Settlers from Chatham, Mass.," *National Genealogical Society Quarterly* 62(1974):104–5.

¹⁶⁴ *Jebogue Church Records* [note 47], 12.

¹⁶⁵ *Jebogue Church Records* [note 47], 120–23.

¹⁶⁶ *Documents Relating to the Great Awakening in Nova Scotia, 1760–1791*, Champlain Soc. Pubs. vol. 52 (Toronto, 1982), 45.

¹⁶⁷ W. A. Calnek, *History of the County of Annapolis* (Toronto, 1897), 208.

¹⁶⁸ *History of Annapolis County* [note 167]: Jeremiah Allen, Eleazar Butler, Seth Barnes, Phineas Durkee, Peleg Holmes, et al.

¹⁶⁹ *Jebogue Church Records* [note 47], 123.

¹⁷⁰ Mabel Goodwin Hall, *Vital Records of Hallowell, Maine, to the Year 1892*, 6 vols. (n.p., 1924–29), 3:64: "Olive d[daughter of] Prince of Harlem, and James Lowell . . . int. Nov. 29, 1800"; Olive Lowell household, 1870 U.S. Census, Farmingdale, Kennebec Co., Maine, p. 224 (stamped), in which her age of 91 years and birthplace of "New Brunswick" are given.

¹⁷¹ Yarmouth Co., N.S., Deeds, 1:67–69 [note 157].

¹⁷² Ganong, *Historic Sites* [note 67], 334. The Jemseg area was part of Crown Lands with no proprietor until granted in Feb. 1780.

¹⁷³ Ganong, *Historic Sites* [note 67], 334. In Feb. 1780, William Shaw was granted 2,000 acres on the east side of the Saint John River, including the remains of the former Acadian town of Jemseg. He sold the entire tract to Col. William Spry later the same year. The new land was called by the same name as Spry's other holdings in the area, "Spry Hampton."

¹⁷⁴ "Roger Merryhew" sold Lot 16 in 1784 for £63 to Reuben Williams (N.B. Land Petitions [note 115], 26 June 1786 [DGS #8191395, image 634]). Bradford Gilbert, 16 June 1786, stated that Prince Godfrey had possession of Lot 15 "several years" before Col. Spry gained possession [in 1780], and that he purchased the lot from Godfrey "about two years ago," i.e., in 1784 (ibid. [DGS #8191394, images 76–78]).

first in New Brunswick, then on appeal to the King's Privy Council.¹⁷⁵ Spry's attorney and agent in New Brunswick, Samuel Denny Street, stated that "Prince Godfrey, Roger Merithew [et al.] . . . had been . . . in the possession and occupation [of lots] and had made and kept very considerable improvements, buildings, and stock thereon, as tenants to the said Colonel William Spry for several years prior to the arrival of the loyal refugees from New York, to whom many of them had at that time sold their possessions and improvements."¹⁷⁶ The first Loyalists from New York arrived on 18 May 1783.¹⁷⁷ Street's observation regarding tenants selling their land seems to have applied to Prince who sold his Lot 15 to Bradford Gilbert in 1784.¹⁷⁸

Prince and Phebe left the Saint John River area, and settled at Jones Plantation (later Harlem, subsequently China) in Maine near the Kennebec River, as did brother-in-law William Merithew, and where both were recorded in the 1790 census.¹⁷⁹ Prince's home was probably the same one-hundred-acre parcel in Harlem on which he was assessed Federal Tax in 1798.¹⁸⁰ Prince and Phebe Godfrey sold Lot 11 to their sons Prince Godfrey Jr. (north fifty acres) and Samuel Godfrey (south fifty acres) in 1806.¹⁸¹ William Merithew was their near neighbor in Jones Plantation, dwelling on Lot 15 until early 1796.¹⁸²

Both Prince and Phebe Godfrey were among the many residents of Harlem who in the spring of 1814 succumbed to "the ravages of the prevailing fever in Maine."¹⁸³

- vi ROGER MERITHEW Jr., b. prob. Dartmouth, Mass., ca. 1748, d. Vinalhaven, Maine, 29 Nov. 1818, aged 70, and bur. in Calderwood ("Ames") Cemetery, North Haven;¹⁸⁴ m. about 1776,¹⁸⁵ ANNIS MALLORY, b. Milford, Conn., probably the daughter b. 29 Jan. 1758 to Moses and Frances (Oviatt) Mallory.¹⁸⁶ Annis d. North Belmont (now Morrill), Maine, 17 June 1850.¹⁸⁷

¹⁷⁵ William Spry v. Rex ex parte Attorney-General of New Brunswick: appeal at Cockpit, Whitehall, from New Brunswick, 1797, Privy Council, case file TS 11/819, British Archives, Kew, U.K. The Provincial Archives of New Brunswick holds a comparatively small number of documents from Spry's suit ("Spry, General Willie, Disputes, 1785-1795," MS, RS637, PANB, Fredericton).

¹⁷⁶ Spry v. Rex [note 175], affidavit of S. D. Street, 2 May 1798. A copy of this particular affidavit by Street was not found in the PANB file [note 175].

¹⁷⁷ "Loyalist Ships," United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada [uelac.org].

¹⁷⁸ See note 174.

¹⁷⁹ 1790 U.S. Census [note 70].

¹⁸⁰ "Massachusetts and Maine: Direct Tax, 1798 [note 130]," 1:621.

¹⁸¹ Kennebec Co. Deeds, 11:148-49, Prince Godfrey to Samuel Godfrey, signed 11 Aug. 1806, Prince and Phebe Godfrey (her mark), rec. 21 March 1807 [DGS #7834685, image 104].

¹⁸² Kennebec Co. Deeds, 2:287-88, William and Lydia Merithew of Pittston to Samuel Blasdel of Vassalborough, signed 27 Feb. 1796, rec. 1 Dec. 1800 [DGS #7834687, image 449-50].

¹⁸³ *Columbian Centinel* (Boston, Mass.), 18 June 1814, p. 2 [image, genealogybank.com].

¹⁸⁴ Gravestone photo, findagrave.com #137117075. Roger's birthplace was stated as "Dartmouth, N.S." on his son Bennajah Merithew's marriage record (Old Town, Maine, VRs, "Marriage Intentions, 1864-1891," entry of 21 Oct. 1876 [DGS#7595778, image 420]).

¹⁸⁵ Marriage date estimated from birth of first child, Arlene, age 28 on 16 July 1805, i.e., b. about 1777 (affidavit of Arlene Merithew, proofs of citizenship used to apply for seamen's protection certificates for the port of New Orleans, Louisiana, NARA RG36, microfilm pub. #M1826, roll 2 [DGS# 7782133, image 596]).

¹⁸⁶ Raymond C. Niro, "Lost in the Fog: The Identity of Annis, Wife of Roger Merithew Jr. of Vinalhaven" (forthcoming).

¹⁸⁷ "Died" [Anis, widow of Roger Merithew], *Republican Journal* [note 50], 28 June 1850, p. 3, col. 5.

Roger Merithew Jr., not long after his father's death, received a grant from the Yarmouth Proprietors of two and one-half acres of salt marsh on Rabbit Island in Yarmouth.¹⁸⁸ It is doubtful Roger made any use of the land, for he was then in his mid-twenties and a sailor.¹⁸⁹ Moreover, it was at about that time that Roger settled in Connecticut, where he likely married.¹⁹⁰ He relocated to the Saint John River valley at the outbreak of the American Revolution, and lived several years at Jemseg Point on Lot 16, next to brother-in-law Prince Godfrey.¹⁹¹ He mortgaged the land to William Hazen and James White for £120, promising to repay with interest by June 1785.¹⁹² Later, in 1784, Roger sold the same lot to Reuben Williams for £65.¹⁹³ In Jan. 1785, Roger petitioned the New Brunswick governor for a grant, stating:

That your Petitioner being formerly an Inhabitant in the Colony of Connecticut was Obligated in the Beginning of the War between England and America to leave his former place of Abode and come and reside here in Order to avoid taking up Arms against his present Majesty. That your Petitioner being a Sea faring Man hath three Several Times had the Misfortune to be taken Prisoner by the French and Rebels, and hath suffered considerable of Losses and many Months Imprisonment. And that as your Petitioner desires to remain on said River and live under his Majesty's Government He most Humbly begs your Excellency will be pleas'd to grant him Lands Provisions and other Benefits enjoyed by other subjects.¹⁹⁴

No further trace of Roger is found in New Brunswick after the date of his petition. He headed to Maine, probably at about the same time as his Maine-bound siblings. The story of his overland travel to the Penobscot Bay region has been recounted many times.¹⁹⁵

Despite published statements to the contrary, there is no evidence that Roger served under either the American or British flag in the Revolutionary War.¹⁹⁶ His fealty to the King was unambiguously stated in his petition. The claims that Roger Merithew was a veteran are probably due a confusion between Roger Jr., and his son Roger 3rd (1796–1884) who served in the War of 1812.¹⁹⁷

¹⁸⁸ Yarmouth Twp. Book of Land [note 30], signed 13 July 1773, rec. 14 July 1806.

¹⁸⁹ N.B. Land Petitions [note 115], Roger Merrithew ["a Sea-Faring man"], 13 Jan. 1785 [DGS #8130847, images 533–36]; Roger Merrithew, "mariner," to William Hazen and James White, mortgage, Saint John Co., N.B., Deeds, A-3:187, 17 July 1784, rec. 25 Feb. 1785 [DGS #4141390, image 190].

¹⁹⁰ N.B. Land Petitions [note 115], Roger Merrithew, 13 Jan. 1785 [note 189].

¹⁹¹ *Spry v. Rex* [note 175], affidavit of S. D. Street, 2 May 1798.

¹⁹² Saint John Co., N.B., Deeds, A-3:187 [DGS #4141390, image 190]; N.B. Land Petitions [note 115], Roger Merrithew, 13 Jan. 1785 [note 189].

¹⁹³ N.B. Land Petitions [note 115], Reuben Williams, 26 June 1786 [DGS #8191395, image 634].

¹⁹⁴ N.B. Land Petitions [note 115], Roger Merrithew, 13 Jan. 1785 [note 189].

¹⁹⁵ For example, *Traditions and Records of Brooksville, Maine* (Auburn, Maine, 1936), 149–50, and Gowdey, *Merrithews* [note 2], 4, 62.

¹⁹⁶ Carleton and Sue G. Fisher, *Soldiers, Sailors, and Patriots of the Revolutionary War: Maine* (Louisville, Ky., 1982), p. 538. Roger Merrithew is listed as a soldier.

¹⁹⁷ War of 1812 Pension Applications, Soldier App. #16,424 and Widows App. #43,981. Roger Merithew [3rd] served in Capt. Peter Chadwick's Co., 34th U.S. Infantry.

Roger Merithew was admitted, with wife and child, to the almshouse in Boston, Mass., on 6 April 1787.¹⁹⁸ The child was likely son Benjamin (b. 6 Feb. 1786).¹⁹⁹ There is no mention of the Merithew children born earlier; presumably they were in the care of family members. At their departure from the almshouse six months later, the Merithews were “Provided for there [*sic*] passage home.”²⁰⁰ Home was likely the Penobscot River settlement of Marsh Plantation (later Frankfort) where Roger was living as a “new settler” (i.e., squatter) before 27 Sept. 1788.²⁰¹ Gen. Henry Knox, the proprietor of Marsh Plantation, visited on that date, and negotiated easy terms of sale with the settlers.²⁰²

Marsh Bay was incorporated as Frankfort in 1789; regrettably, a fire in 1903 destroyed the town records.²⁰³ In Nov. 1792, Roger Merithew, “mariner,” sold his Frankfort property, and moved to Vinalhaven in Penobscot Bay where he spent the remainder of his life.²⁰⁴ Family lore relates that, during a moose hunt, Roger got lost and by the time he was found, his legs had frozen, necessitating amputation of both limbs.²⁰⁵

Roger is not found as a grantor or grantee for land in Vinalhaven, nor anywhere else in Hancock County, nor was he taxed in either 1794 or 1798 at Vinalhaven.²⁰⁶ He resided in Vinalhaven on a small island, said to have been Babbidge or Ames Island,²⁰⁷ which was purchased by his brother William in 1799.²⁰⁸ Given his physical state, Roger was unlikely to move from his established home on the island even after William Merithew sold the island to Ephraim Stimpson in 1808.²⁰⁹

Annis, widowed at Roger’s death in Nov. 1818, survived him by almost thirty-two years.²¹⁰ Her name does not appear in any subsequent censuses. In 1830 Roger Merithew 3rd’s household included a woman between 70 and 80, perhaps his mother

¹⁹⁸ Eric Nellis and Anne Decker Cercere, eds., *Eighteenth-Century Records of the Boston Overseers of the Poor* (Boston, 2007), 375. The admission was approved by just one selectman and one overseer, an indication that Roger Merithew “belonged” to a Mass. town from which reimbursement might be sought by the Boston Overseers. To admit anyone not of Mass. would require approval from two selectman and an overseer (*ibid.*, 58).

¹⁹⁹ Orland, Maine, Town and Vital Records, 1765–1892, 1:18 [DGS #7595781, image 16]. No birthplace is written for Benjamin.

²⁰⁰ *Boston Overseers of the Poor* [note 198], 382. Roger departed on 13 Oct. 1787.

²⁰¹ Henry Knox Papers, 1750–1806, vol. 51, pp. 155–56, Settlers in Frankfort Plantation, 27th Sept. 1788, list entry no. 27, Roger Merithew; microfilm copy, part of Coll. 66, Henry Knox Papers, Maine Historical Society, Portland.

²⁰² Henry Knox Papers [note 201], 51:161ff. The terms allowed payment in three installments, in cash or goods, and title would be given to the settler after the first payment.

²⁰³ Elizabeth M. Mosher, *Vital Records of Frankfort, Waldo County, Maine* (Camden, Maine, 2000), ix.

²⁰⁴ Hancock Co. Deeds, 2:52–53 [DGS #7834663, image 340]. Roger’s name appears in the U.S. censuses taken at Vinalhaven in 1800 (Roger Merrithew, p. 9) and 1810 (Rogers Marithew, p. 545).

²⁰⁵ Gowdey, *Merrithews* [note 2], 11A.

²⁰⁶ “Massachusetts and Maine 1798 Direct Tax” [note 130], 1:231. “Early Vinalhaven [tax list],” *The Wind* (Vinalhaven, Maine), 15 March 1884, p. 1, col. 2, Vinalhaven Historical Society.

²⁰⁷ Hosmer, *Historical Sketch of Deer Isle* [note 129].

²⁰⁸ Hancock Co. Deeds, 7:410, James Cooper to William Merithew, signed 20 May 1799, rec. 30 Aug. 1800 [DGS #8128221, image 224].

²⁰⁹ Hancock Co. Deeds, 32:21, signed 12 Jan. 1808, rec. 9 May 1812 [DGS #8202797, image 16].

²¹⁰ *Republican Journal* [note 50], 28 June 1850, p. 3.

- Annis.²¹¹ Roger 3rd moved to Belmont on the mainland by 1850, and was the only one of Roger and Annis's children then living in Belmont when she died in 1850.²¹²
- vii (poss.) daughter MERITHEW, b. say 1751 (see child viii below). No further record.
- viii (poss.) daughter MERITHEW, b. say 1753, d. Yarmouth, 1773. Patience Merithew's household included an unnamed woman, according to the 1773 census, and another unnamed female in her household died that year.²¹³ Of all the plausible identifications, the likeliest is that they were unmarried daughters still living at home. As such, they must have been born after Roger (1748) and before William (1755). Genealogist Lenna Gowdey assigned Roger Merithew three daughters, without identifying her sources, viz., Ruth, Rhoda, and Patience, but overlooked daughter Phebe.²¹⁴
- ix WILLIAM MERITHEW, b. Martha's Vineyard, Mass., 7 Dec. 1755, prob. at Chilmark, and d. Searsport, Maine, 28 May 1850;²¹⁵ m. about 1786, LYDIA ADAMS, b. about 1765 in Maine, of unknown parentage, d. Searsport, 9 March 1853.²¹⁶

John S. Holt and Robert Carver Brooks prepared a genealogical summary of William Merithew and his children published in the *Maine Families in 1790* series.²¹⁷ The present sketch provides additional details concerning his early life in Canada and his association with the Gowdey and Robinson families.

At age 17, William was probably the boy living in the Patience Merithew household at Yarmouth in 1773.²¹⁸ By Nov. 1779 he was in Maugerville on the St. John River when he witnessed the deed of his brother-in-law and sister, Prince and Phebe Godfrey.²¹⁹ Sometime before Aug. 1781 William acquired from James Simonds a 125-acre lot lying on the Saint John River just below Maugerville, although the deed was not recorded until April 1784.²²⁰ The lands had been purchased by Simonds from the sons and heirs of Charles Morris.²²¹ William's unregistered ownership of the land

²¹¹ Rogers [*sic*] Merithew [3rd] household, 1830 U.S. Census, Islesborough, Waldo Co., Maine, p. 372. The household includes one female age 70–79.

²¹² Roger Merithew household, Belmont, Waldo Co., Maine, p. 167 (stamped). There was a second Merithew household in Belmont in 1850, headed by Nancy, widow of Annis's son Aaron Merithew who drowned at Deer Isle, 23 Dec. 1843 (Benjamin Lake Noyes, *Vital Records of Deer Island, Maine, Prior to 1867* [Camden, Maine, 1997], 79).

²¹³ Yarmouth, N.S., 1773 [note 49] and Table 1, p. 59.

²¹⁴ Gowdey, *Merrithews* [note 2], 4.

²¹⁵ William Merithew family, contributed by Rev. John S. Holt and Robert Carver Brooks, in *Maine Families in 1790 Vol 11*, ed. Joseph C. Anderson II (Waterville, Maine, 2015), 398–402.

²¹⁶ *Maine Families in 1790 Vol 11* [note 215].

²¹⁷ *Maine Families in 1790 Vol 11* [note 215].

²¹⁸ Yarmouth, N.S., 1773 census [note 49] and Table 1, p. 58.

²¹⁹ Yarmouth Co., N.S., Deeds, 1:67–69 [note 157]. The surname in the signature looks like “Meaithae” at first glance, but upon closer inspection the name “Merithew” can be discerned.

²²⁰ James Simonds to William Merrithew, signed 19 Nov. 1782, rec. 8 April 1784, “land . . . lying about a mile and an half below the Township of Maugerville . . . at the lower boundary of Zebede Ring's land” (Record Book of Sunbury County [Nova Scotia, 1776–1784], MS, pp. 130–31, Library and Archives of Canada, item MG9-A23-09, V. 1, Ottawa). On 30 Aug. 1781, Simonds sold land to James McDormand described as being “land . . . beginning on the bank of the River St. John on land of William Merithew,” (ibid., p. 96). The record volume predates the creation of New Brunswick.

²²¹ Saint John Co., N.B., Deeds, A3:167–72 [DGS# 4141390, images 170–5]. The purchases, dating from 1767–1777, were all registered by Simonds in the new Colony of New Brunswick deed book on 21 Feb. 1785.

may explain why on 30 April 1783 William signed a petition with other “freeholders” complaining that they were struck from the voting lists “for no other reason than they had not taken Deeds of their Lands in common form.”²²² For £20, payable before 10 Sept. 1784, William mortgaged back to Simonds this same tract described as located “between the land of Zebede Ring and James McDormand.”²²³ No notation appears on the registered copy of the deed indicating the mortgage was satisfied. Unlike brothers Roger and Jonathan, William did not file a petition for a grant of land in the new colony of New Brunswick.

William next appears living at Jones Plantation, Maine, where he was enumerated in the 1790 U.S. census.²²⁴ William likely migrated from the Saint John to the Kennebec River Valley with his sister and brother-in-law Phebe and Prince Godfrey and, possibly, also with sister Joanna and brother-in-law Timothy Robinson. William was the owner of half of Lot 15 located about one-half mile below his brother-in-law Prince Godfrey’s Lot 11.²²⁵

William was of Pittston when he sold his Jones Plantation land in Feb. 1796.²²⁶ Sometime before 1 Oct. 1798, he had settled on Vinalhaven where was assessed federal taxes for 100 acres of land and a building.²²⁷ The property taxed was probably Ames Island (now called Babbidge Island) that William formally acquired by deed on 20 May 1799.²²⁸ Brother Roger Merithew had probably already settled on Vinalhaven after selling his property in Frankfort in 1792.²²⁹

On 12 Jan. 1808, William purchased a ninety-six-acre tract of land in Prospect from Ephraim Stimpson for \$500.²³⁰ On the same day, for the same price and with the same witnesses, William sold Ephraim Stimpson Ames Island in Vinalhaven.²³¹ In both deeds William was still “of Vinalhaven.” Two months later, William “of Vinalhaven” purchased of John Day a tract of land at Indian Point located on the southeast corner of Vinalhaven’s north island, now part of North Haven, plus one-third of Burnt Island just offshore from Indian Point.²³² The lot the north side of the lot shared the boundary of the south side of Salathiel Robinson’s lot, although the deed description

²²² Nova Scotia, Records of the Legislative Assembly, RG 5, series A, vol. 1b, item no. 87; microfilm copy, Nova Scotia Archives, Halifax.

²²³ Sunbury Co., N.S., Records [note 220], pp. 132–33.

²²⁴ 1790 U.S. Census [note 70].

²²⁵ Lincoln Co. Deeds, 32:352, signed 20 Oct. 1792 [DGS #8296951, image 563]. Vassalborough was part of Lincoln Co. before the creation of Kennebec Co. in 1799. Plan of Jones Plantation in Henry D. Kingsbury and Simeon L. Deyo, eds., *Illustrated History of Kennebec County, Maine, 1799–1892* (New York, N.Y., 1892), 1140. Distance is estimated by comparing the present-day dimensions of China Lake with the position of lots on the lake shown on the Jones Plantation plan.

²²⁶ Kennebec Co. Deeds, 2:287–88 [DGS #7834687, images 449–50].

²²⁷ “Massachusetts and Maine 1798 Direct Tax” [note 130], 1:231.

²²⁸ Hancock Co. Deeds, 7:410, James Cooper to William Merithew, signed 20 May 1799, rec. 30 Aug. 1800 [DGS #8128221, image 224]. Ames Island has had several names but has been called Babbidge since the 1850s (Charles B. and Carol Evarts McLane, *Islands of the Mid-Maine Coast: Volume I: Penobscot Bay*, rev. ed. [Rockland, Maine, 1997], 175).

²²⁹ Hancock Co. Deeds, 2:52–53 [DGS #7834663, image 340].

²³⁰ Hancock Co. Deeds, 26:27–28, rec. 18 Aug. 1808 [DGS #8202795, images 325–26].

²³¹ Hancock Co. Deeds, 32:21, signed 12 Jan. 1808, rec. 9 May 1812 [DGS #8202797, image 16].

²³² Hancock Co. Deeds, 29:441, rec. 12 Dec. 1810 [DGS #8128226, image 248].

of what Merithew purchased looks to be nearly identical to the lot acquired in March 1797 from the same John Day by Salathiel Robinson, William's probable nephew.²³³

William did not remain long at Indian Point; he was "of Prospect" (formerly part of Frankfort) on the mainland six months later when he sold the property he had so recently purchased.²³⁴ Prospect, part of which was set off to form Searsport, remained William's home until his death in May 1850.²³⁵

Wife Lydia apparently spent the remaining few years of her life with the family of her eldest son Benjamin.²³⁶ No probate was filed for William.²³⁷ Both Lydia and William's remains are interred at what was until recently named Mt. Ephraim Cemetery, now Merithew Cemetery, in Searsport.²³⁸

SUMMARY AND IMPLICATIONS

1. There was only one Merithew family living in Nova Scotia before the American Revolution: that of Roger Sr. and Patience (Burgess) Merithew.
2. Their children remained part of the same family cluster in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Maine for many years after Roger Sr. and Patience had died.
3. The younger-generation Merithews born in Nova Scotia or New Brunswick by about 1785 were most probably grandchildren of Roger Sr. and Patience.
4. Other Merithew families, not descended from Roger Sr. and Patience Merithew, immigrated from Vermont and New York into Lower Canada at least as early as 1792.²³⁹
5. The children of Roger Sr. and Patience Merithew who settled in Maine by 1800 are all descendants of *Mayflower* passenger and religious leader, William Brewster
6. By 1850, other Merithew families from New Brunswick and elsewhere began to settle in Maine.²⁴⁰ They might or might not be descendants of Roger Sr. and Patience Merithew.

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²³³ Hancock Co. Deeds, 6:420–21 [DGS #8128220, images 511–12].

²³⁴ Hancock Co. Deeds, 26:201, William and Lydia Merithew to William Norwood, signed 13 Sept. 1808, rec. 24 Nov. 1808 [DGS #8202795, images 414–15].

²³⁵ *Republican Journal* [note 50], 21 June 1850, p. 3.

²³⁶ Benjamin Merithew household, 1850 U.S. Census, Searsport, Waldo Co., Maine, p. 131 (stamped), line 10, Lydia Merithew, age 85.

²³⁷ Waldo Co., Maine, Probate Indexes, courthouse, Belfast, Maine.

²³⁸ William Merithew. gravestone photo, findagrave.com, #19364939.

²³⁹ Land Petitions of Lower Canada, 1764–1841, database and digital images, Library and Archives Canada [www.bac-lac.gc.ca]. Searches on the surnames *Merihew*, *Merrihew*, *Merrikew*, etc., yield numerous records dating back to 1792. For example, David, Joseph, and John "Merrichew" (indexed as Merihew) from South Hero, Vt., petitioned for land in Lower Canada on 18 May 1792 (digital image #53829 [stamped], citing microfilm C-2535, item 60856).

²⁴⁰ Benjamin Merithew household, 1850 U.S. Census, Hodgdon, Aroostook Co., Maine, p. 33 (stamped). All eight members of Benjamin's household were born in New Brunswick. R. C. Weaver household, 1850 U.S. Census, Hallowell, Kennebec Co., Maine, p. 188. Five household members surnamed Merithew were born in Mass.

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