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EDITOR'S PAGE

One of the signs of a good genealogist is the ability to recognize when something is proven and when it is not. This skill takes time and experience to develop, and requires a sound understanding of the history, culture, and records of the community under study. Too often we see inexperienced genealogists presenting speculation as fact, and this is invariably repeated by others who are indiscriminating in accepting whatever they find published about their ancestors. In this issue, there are several instances where our authors avoided the trap of jumping to a fast conclusion.

In his study of the Matthew Michener family, author Brent Owen discusses a record of Michael's children in the Cape Elizabeth vital records showing four children, born in 1777, 1779, 1781, and 1788, respectively. This record has been transcribed numerous times over the years (and most recently in the *Vital Records of Cape Elizabeth*, published by the Maine Genealogical Society) and there has never been any disagreement as to the dates. Owen, however, analyzes the recorded 1788 birth year for the youngest of these children, Sarah, in light of the fact that she married 1801. If true, she would have been only 13 at the time—an event that would have been so out of place in that time that it simply cannot be believed without supporting facts. Owen also notes that the Michener family moved to Nova Scotia permanently, probably in the spring or summer of 1783, and that it seems odd that his child born in 1788 would have been recorded in Cape Elizabeth where the family no longer lived. On the original birth record, the year certainly looks to be 1788, but closer inspection reveals it could also read 1783—a much more believable date. The entry, however, is inconclusive, and Owen resists the temptation to make a definitive judgment.

Priscilla Eaton presents Part 1 of her study of the Adrian Frye family of Kittery. The identity of Adrian's wife is not proven, although the Ancestry.com website has more than a hundred family trees stating that she was either Sarah or Hannah White. Eaton researched the origin of this claim and traced it back to a speculative statement by Stackpole and an error in Libby, Noyes, and Davis. Deeds and probate records prove that Adrian's wife was named Sarah, but there is no conclusive evidence that she was a White. While not disproven, Eaton shows there are other possibilities.

Author Michael Dwyer has searched many years for the parentage of his ancestor George Thrasher. The recent discovery of an entry for George's family in the Hebron, Maine, vital records appears to tie George to a group migration of families from Plymouth Co., Mass., to Maine, and adds support to Dwyer's hypothesis that George was a son of Daniel and Abiah (Richmond) Thrasher of Plymouth Co. An interesting deed shows that George purchased land seven years before he would marry and just two months after Daniel's Thrasher's death. While it is tempting to conclude that Daniel's death and the land purchase were related events, Dwyer is careful to recognize that such a conclusion is speculative. The case for George's parentage remains circumstantial, as there are no probate records showing that Matthew inherited money from Daniel nor any other kind of direct interaction found between the two men.

Joseph C. Anderson II, FASG, Editor

MATTHEW AND SARAH (McKENNEY) MICHENER
OF CAPE ELIZABETH, MAINE,
AND FALMOUTH, NOVA SCOTIA

By Brent M. Owen

The recent publication of Cape Elizabeth vital records¹ brought to light significant information concerning the family of Matthew Michener, a son of Abel Michener who was a settler of Newport, Nova Scotia. Matthew's family has received coverage in Duncanson's *Newport, Nova Scotia: A Rhode Island Township*² and in a number of internet genealogies.³ His wife's surname and children's birth records, however, have been lacking in all sources. Several of these records surfaced with the publication of the Cape Elizabeth records, which helped to fill in the background of this family, some of whose descendants resided in Eastport, Maine.

Matthew's own birth record has not been located. He was born probably in Newport, Rhode Island, sometime between 26 April 1746, when his parents, Abel Michener and Sarah Chadwick, married in that town,⁴ and 15 November 1760, when he and his brother Michael each received a grant to half of Lot 12 in Falmouth, Nova Scotia.⁵ It is likely that Matthew was named for Matthew Shepherd, who was related to Abel Michener, as evidenced by Abel's 1774 claim as Shepherd's "legatee or heir at law."⁶

The Michener family removed to Nova Scotia about 1761.⁷ On 19 July 1764, Matthew received a joint grant with his father, Abel, to Farm Lot 13 in Falmouth,

¹ Anne M. Diehm, comp., and Joseph Crook Anderson II and Marlene A. Groves, eds., *Vital Records of Cape Elizabeth, Maine* (Rockland, Maine, 2009) (hereafter cited as Diehm, *Cape Elizabeth VRs*).

² John Victor Duncanson, *Newport, Nova Scotia: A Rhode Island Township* (Belleville, Ont., 1985), 315–17 (hereafter cited as Duncanson, *Newport, N.S.*).

³ See, for example, Mitchner family tree <<http://members.shaw.ca/mitchner/abel.html>> and MitchnerMcFarlaneMortonFulcher family tree <<http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?db=:2910983>>.

⁴ James N. Arnold, *Vital Record of Rhode Island, 1630–1850*, 21 vols. (Providence, 1891–1912), 3:10:460.

⁵ Ray Greene Huling, "The Rhode Island Emigration to Nova Scotia," *The Narragansett Historical Register* 7(April 1889):121.

⁶ Matthew Shepherd and Abel Michener were two of five grantees, including Abel's other son Michael, to a 2,000-acre "tract adjoining Advocate Harbour in the Bay of Fundy," now Parrsboro, N.S. Shepherd was dead by 7 Feb. 1774 when Abel Michener leased his own as well as Shepherd's portion of the grant to Joseph Gray, claiming in the deed to be both "legatee or heir at law" to Shepherd (King's Co., N.S., Deeds, 3:538 [Family History Library (FHL), Salt Lake City, film #567,501]). On the same legal grounds, Michener later sold both portions to Thomas Harley on 15 Jan. 1785, his wife Sarah co-executing the deed in right of her dower (King's Co. Deeds, 4:57 [FHL film #567,502]).

⁷ Duncanson, *Newport, N.S.*, 313. See also Lorenzo Sabine, *Biographical Sketches of Loyalists in the American Revolution*, 2 vols. (Boston, 1864), 2:79 (hereafter cited as Sabine, *Loyalists in the American Revolution*).

Nova Scotia,⁸ which Abel Michener later conveyed to Benjamin DeWolfe.⁹ Matthew likely was one of the two “boys” enumerated in the household of Abel Michener in Falmouth in the 1770 Nova Scotia census.¹⁰ According to Duncanson, Matthew married Sarah — and they had nine children, including James, Eleazor, Bockhart, Michael, Maria Peoples, Anna, Statirah, Mercy, and perhaps Elisha.¹¹ Later Matthew Michener of Falmouth was charged one shilling in the Nova Scotia poll tax in 1792.¹² He deeded Lot #12 in Falmouth to Abel Michener on 4 July 1797 for £25.¹³ This farm became known as Michener Point and passed to descendants of Matthew’s brother Michael.¹⁴ Abel Michener of Falmouth, in his will, dated 5 July 1794 and proved 4 October 1804, left “unto my son Matthew Michener the sum of five shillings. . . .”¹⁵ Matthew signed a petition for the Halfway River Bridge on 26 February 1802.¹⁶ He was dead by 10 August 1805 when Sarah Michener of Falmouth, “widow and relict of Matthew Mitchener deceased,” purchased Lot #1 of the Hundred Acre Lots in Falmouth from Peter Hall of Windsor.¹⁷ There are no records of any estate proceedings for Matthew.

Neither Matthew nor his own family appeared in extant Nova Scotia public records for a number of years in the 1770s and 1780s. Unlike his brother Michael, who resided in the same area, none of the births of Matthew’s children’s are documented in vital or church records covering either Hants or Kings counties. Neither is there any record of Matthew’s marriage in local vital and church records.

In fact, Matthew did not reside in Nova Scotia during the Revolutionary War period. Lorenzo Sabine, in his two-volume work, *Biographical Sketches of Loyalists in the American Revolution*, stated that Matthew “Removed to Falmouth, (now Portland,) Maine,” and that he “went to Nova Scotia before the peace, and settled at Michener’s Point, where he died.” Sabine further noted that “James, his son, lived at Eastport, Maine, many years and died there, in 1846, at the age of sixty; [James’s] son Abel (still living, 1860) was master of a steamer on the river St. Croix for a

⁸ Nova Scotia Archives, Land Grants, RG 20, Series A, Old Book 5, 181 (copy of grant provided by Ms. Karen E. McKay, CG).

⁹ Hants Co., N.S., Deeds, 6:247 [FHL film #562,320].

¹⁰ Bernice C. Richard, comp., *Nova Scotia, 1770 Census* (Chicago, 1972), 35.

¹¹ Duncanson, *Newport, N.S.*, 315–17.

¹² Nova Scotia Archives, “Poll Tax Rolls, 1791–1793,” RG1, Vol. 444, online database, <www.gov.ns.ca/nsarm/virtual/polltax>).

¹³ Hants Co. Deeds, 6:247 [FHL film #562,320]. Interestingly, Matthew’s brother Michael had deeded the other half of Lot 12 on 22 Feb. 1770 “for natural love and affection which he hath . . . unto said Abel Michener his father. . . .” (Hants Co. Deeds, 3:221 [FHL film #562,319]).

¹⁴ In a mortgage dated 25 Jan. 1814, Robert Michener, son of Michael Michener, who now owned Lot Number 12, referred to the property as “Michener Point Farm” (Hants Co. Deeds, 9:166–67 [FHL film #562,322]).

¹⁵ Hants Co. Probate Records, #81A [FHL film #1,439,695].

¹⁶ Duncanson, *Newport, N.S.*, 315.

¹⁷ Hants Co. Deeds, 7:314 [FHL film #562,321].

considerable period.”¹⁸ Sabine resided in Eastport, as did Matthew’s son James and grandson Abel, so he probably had personal knowledge of the family’s background.

Matthew’s appearance in Sabine’s book would imply that he was a Loyalist. That, however, was not the case. He enlisted in Capt. Samuel Knight’s company, which was stationed to protect the Falmouth seacoast, on 28 July 1775, serving five months, two weeks, and three days.¹⁹ On 9 July 1776, Matthew Michener of Falmouth, Maine, enlisted again as a private in Capt. Knight’s company. He was paid £7 7s. 7½d. for his service.²⁰ No further record of service has been located for Matthew, but his loyalties apparently were not with the British, which could explain his removal from Falmouth, Nova Scotia, to Falmouth, Maine, during the war.

Matthew was residing in Cape Elizabeth on 3 August 1776, when the town clerk’s records show “A Purpose of Marriage between . . . Mr. Mathew Mitchener & Miss Sarah McKenny both of Cape Elizabeth was registered August 3d 1776.”²¹ Cape Elizabeth records show the births of four children to Matthew and his wife Sarah, as follows:

Abel Michener Son of Mathew Sheperd Michener and Sarah Michener his wife was born in Cape Elizabeth July 26th 1777
 Eleazer ~~McKinney~~ Michener Son of Mathew Shepherd Michener and Sarah Michener his wife was born in Cape Elizabeth July 8th 1779
 Anner Michener Daughter of Mathew Sheperd Michener and Sarah Michener his wife was born in Cape Elizabeth March 1st 1781
 Sarah Michener Daughter of Mathew Sheperd Michener and Sarah Michener his wife was born in Cape Elizabeth April 18th 1788²²

These records provide clear evidence that Matthew Michener who lived in Falmouth or Cape Elizabeth, Maine, was the same man as Matthew Michener of Falmouth, Nova Scotia. His naming of his first son *Abel* most certainly was in honor of his father. Additionally, Matthew’s use of the middle name *Shepherd* offers further proof of the family connection.

The marriage intention and birth records also offer evidence as to Sarah’s origin. The intention shows that she was from Cape Elizabeth where resided a number of McKenneys descended from Henry McKenney.²³ One of Henry’s probable sons was Eleazar McKenney,²⁴ who “entered his Name and Purpose of Marriage with Diana

¹⁸ Sabine, *Loyalists in the American Revolution*, 2:79.

¹⁹ *Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolutionary War*, 17 vols. (Boston, 1896–1908), 10:719.

²⁰ Z. K. Harmon, “Return of Capt. Samuel Knights’ Company,” *The Maine Historical and Genealogical Recorder* 3(1886):210–11.

²¹ Diehm, *Cape Elizabeth VRs*, 366.

²² Diehm, *Cape Elizabeth VRs*, 12–13. See discussion below regarding daughter Sarah’s reported birth date.

²³ Lora Altine Woodbury Underhill, *Descendants of Edward Small of New England*, 3 vols. (Cambridge, Mass., 1910), 1:346–49 (hereafter cited as Underhill, *Descendants of Edward Small*).

²⁴ Underhill, *Descendants of Edward Small*, 1:347.

Pebbles both of Falmouth Nov. 26, 1757.”²⁵ Birth records do not appear for Eleazar’s children in Cape Elizabeth records. Neither has a birth record been located for Sarah McKenney. However, the use of the name *Eleazar McKinney* for Matthew and Sarah’s second born son, even though McKinney was crossed out, strongly suggests a relationship between Sarah and Eleazar McKenney of Cape Elizabeth, most likely that she was his daughter.

Two other facts, both involving family names, provide further support for the identification of Matthew’s wife, Sarah, as a likely daughter of Eleazar McKenney. First, various sources have identified Eleazar’s other children as Jane, Henry, Elizabeth, Charles, Rachel, and Anne, many of whom removed to Danville (now Auburn), Maine.²⁶ Daughter Elizabeth married James Jordan on 12 February 1784 and, suggestive of a family connection, they named their first child and daughter, born 4 December 1784, Sally Michener Jordan.²⁷ Second, Matthew and Sarah Michener gave their youngest daughter Mariah, born about 1800, the middle name of *Peoples*, no doubt derived from the surname of Sarah’s probable mother Diana.²⁸

With respect to the Michener children, two of the Cape Elizabeth birth records, those for Eleazar and Anna, clearly relate to children of Matthew and Sarah identified by Duncanson. A third birth record, that of Sarah, probably is for the daughter called “Bockhart” by Duncanson and others, although there are two issues with this identification. “Bockhart” Michener was said to have married John Lockhart and resided in Falmouth as an adult.²⁹ A check of Nova Scotia marriage bonds, which are available through the internet, show that John Lockhard and Eleazer Mitchiner executed a marriage bond on 25 November 1801 in connection with the marriage of John Lockhard and Sarah Bockhart Mitchiner. Although the bond has been indexed

²⁵ Records of the Town of Falmouth, Book Two, 1728–1773, p. 62 [FHL film #10,868]. The surname *Pebbles* also appeared in Falmouth town records as *Peoples* and *People*. On 21 April 1761, Jonathan McKenney, Eleazar’s brother, published intentions of marriage with Ann *Peoples*, both of Falmouth (*ibid.*, p. 73). On 2 Sept. 1761, Henry McKinney, another brother of Eleazar, published marriage intentions with Jane *People*, both of Falmouth (*ibid.*, p. 75). See also, William Willis, “Records of Falmouth (now Portland), Maine,” *The New England Historical and Genealogical Register* [NEHGR] 17(1863):30–31. One author has stated “Pebbles (pronounced as if written Peoples)” in his discussion of the surname (Cyrus Eaton, *Annals of the Town of Warren* [Hallowell, Maine, 1877], 601).

²⁶ David C. Young, “Royal River Valley Families,” online database <<http://files.usgwarchives.net/me/cumberland/nyarmouth/settlers/filemamc.txt>>, listed as “McKenney Eleazar.”

²⁷ Danville Family Records, 1:85 [FHL film #10,822]. James and Elizabeth (McKenney) Jordan also gave their son William the middle name of *Pebbles* (*ibid.*). See also Tristram Frost Jordan, *The Jordan Memorial* (Boston, 1882), 111.

²⁸ Hants Co. Probate Records, #181A [FHL film #1,439,695], called Mariah Peoples in the will of her husband, William Shaw. See also Hants Co. Deeds, 21:279 [FHL film #562,328], signed deed as Mariah P. Shaw, and Duncanson, *Newport, N.S.*, 316, 365–66.

²⁹ Duncanson, *Newport, N.S.*, 315.

as connected to the marriage of John Lockhard and Bockhart Mitchiner, the name Sarah actually appears on the bond itself as the woman's given name.³⁰

Another issue with daughter Sarah's identification concerns her birth year as recorded in the Cape Elizabeth records. Births for Matthew's first three children appear like clockwork in the records, each separated by two years. But these are followed by a considerable gap in time prior to Sarah's reported birth year of 1788. It is by no means impossible that such a gap existed. However, a 1788 birth year coupled with the 1801 date of the Nova Scotia marriage bond would indicate that Sarah was a most improbable thirteen years of age when she married. Additionally, Matthew was in Nova Scotia in 1788, and it is unlikely that he would have had a child's birth recorded in Cape Elizabeth when he no longer was living there. A review of the original birth record at first glance appears to read 1788, but on closer inspection looks as if it could also read 1783 (see illustration below).³¹ 1783 would be more credible, as Matthew was likely still living in Cape Elizabeth at that time and easily able to report the date to the town clerk there. Also, a 1783 birth date would mean that Sarah was a more normal eighteen years old at her marriage.



No other children for Matthew and Sarah are recorded in Cape Elizabeth. Neither could birth records be located elsewhere for any of their other children. However, a number of Hants County, Nova Scotia, land records document their names as well as establish that Sarah McKenney was Matthew's only wife.

As noted previously, on 10 August 1805, Sarah Michener of Falmouth, "widow and relict of Matthew Mitchener deceased," purchased a one-hundred-acre farm in Falmouth from Peter Hall of Windsor for £150. Hall's deed granted to Sarah all of the property except for "the New House at [illegible] John Lockhart Junr now lives with four acres of land." Sarah mortgaged the property back to the seller as a part of the transaction for the full purchase price.³² Subsequently, on 20 May 1809, Peter Hall sold to Sarah Michener of Falmouth and "James Mitchener her son" the house and four acres reserved from the 1805 transaction which had since been sold to Hall by John Lockhart Junr. and "Sarah his wife." The purchase price of £60 was paid in full during the transaction.³³

³⁰ Nova Scotia Historical Vital Statistics, online database/digital images, Nova Scotia Archives, <www.novascotiagenealogy.com> (hereafter cited as N.S. Historical VRs).

³¹ *Original Records of Maine Towns and Cities, Town of Cape Elizabeth, Maine* (Picton Press CD, 2005), CD 2, image 192.

³² Hants Co. Deeds, 7:315 [FHL film #562,321].

³³ Hants Co. Deeds, 8:246 [FHL film #562,321].

Sarah made one more real estate acquisition. On 8 June 1811, she purchased a parcel of marshland in the “Great Marsh fronting the Township” in Newport from Barzillai Mosher of Newport for £5. The tract was more specifically described as “Lot Number Ten Letter A in the Second Division containing three acres more or less.”³⁴

Shortly thereafter, Sarah divested herself of the one-hundred-acre farm purchased from Peter Hall. On 26 June 1811, Sarah Michener “for love and affection she have to said James Michener her son” transferred the Hall property to James. The transfer was subject, however, to the condition that James not convey the property without the permission of his mother.³⁵ On 27 January 1812, Peter Hall released his mortgage on the property.³⁶

James Michener owned the 100-acre farm for almost six years, until 10 May 1817, when he sold it to Peter Shaw. The sale probably coincided with James’s removal to Eastport, Maine.³⁷ As a part of this transaction, the deed recited “and whereas Sarah Mosher of Newport then Sarah Mitchener of Falmouth widow did by deed bearing date twenty sixth day of June One Thousand eight hundred and eleven convey the aforesaid premises to James Mitchener with a condition . . . the said Sarah Mosher does freely and voluntarily consent to the sale of the within described premises.” James’s wife, Mary, also signed the deed in release of her dower rights.³⁸

Subsequently, Sarah (McKenney) (Michener) Mosher engaged in no purchases or sales of real estate although she still owned the piece of marshland purchased from Barzillai Mosher in 1811. Nevertheless, a deed for that property, still described as a “parcel of marsh land lying or being in the Great Marsh, fronting the Town plot in the township of Newport known and described as being lot number ten, letter A, second division,” was issued on 11 April 1823 to Barzilla Mosher of Newport for the purchase price of £5. The grantors were “Eleazar Michenar of Windsor, James Michenar of the port of Eastport, State of Main, Michael Michenar of Falmouth, Joseph and Anna Caldwell of Windsor, John and Sarah Lockhart of Falmouth, Michael and Mercy Barker of Falmouth, Woodbury and Statirah P. Harvie of Newport, and Mariah P. Shaw (widow woman) of Newport, province of Nova Scotia.” Also signing the deed were “Mary Michenar,” after the signature of James Michenar,

³⁴ Hants Co. Deeds, 9:116 [FHL film #562,322].

³⁵ Hants Co. Deeds, 9:117 [FHL film #562,322].

³⁶ Hants Co. Deeds, 9:230 [FHL film #562,322]. However, James Michener remortgaged the property to Peter Hall for £136 10s. on 6 May 1812 (*ibid.*, 9:293).

³⁷ James’s household was enumerated in Eastport in the 1820 census, dated 13 Dec. 1820, and consisted of six persons: 2 boys under ten, 2 males 16–25, 1 female under ten, and 1 female 16–25; four of these were not naturalized (James Michener household, 1820 U.S. Census, Eastport, Washington Co., Maine, p. 242). In his naturalization petition dated in 1840, James’s son Abel James Michener stated he came from Nova Scotia to Maine in 1818 (Washington County, Maine, Courthouse Records, 1785–1950, Declarations of Intent, Naturalization Petitions, 1831–1905, H-O, Abel Michener, 1840 [online database, Family Search.org, image 1900 of 2390]).

³⁸ Hants Co. Deeds, 12:115 [FHL film #562,323].

“Maria Michenar,” after the signature of Michael Michenar, and “Jane Michenar,” after the signature of Eleazar Michenar.³⁹

The relationship of the grantors to Sarah was not stated in the deed as transcribed in Hants County land records. Neither was the relationship of the three additional signers to the grantees spelled out. However, it seems quite clear that they were the children of Matthew and Sarah (McKenney) Michener or their spouses. Eleazar, Anna, and Sarah are identifiable as three children of Matthew and Sarah whose births appeared in Cape Elizabeth birth records. Moreover a fourth child, James, was identified as the son of Sarah (Michener) Mosher widow of Matthew Michener in other Hants County land records. Hants County land records revealed no sale of “Lot number ten, Letter A” from Sarah Michener or Mosher prior to or after 11 April 1823. No probate could be located for Sarah Mosher. Under these circumstances, the sole reason that could bring together all of these grantors, including four identifiable Michener children, on a deed of Sarah’s real estate would be a disposition of her property by all of her children and heirs subsequent to her death. Such a fact would account for the presence of Eleazar Michener, James Michener, Michael Michener, Anna Caldwell, Sarah Lockhart, Mercy Barker, Statirah P. Harvey, and Mariah P. Shaw among the grantors. Considering that all of them probably had reached the age of majority prior to signing the deed in 1823, coupled with the fact that Matthew Michener died between 26 February 1802 and 10 August 1805, all of these grantors undoubtedly would have been his children as well.

The deed also identifies the Michener spouses. Husbands of female heirs (Joseph Caldwell, John Lockhart, Michael Barker, and Woodbury Harvey) would have been required to sign as grantors. Wives of male heirs (Mary Michener, Maria Michener, and Jane Michener) would have been required to sign to release right of dower.

Two names do not appear on the deed. The first name missing is that of Abel Michener, Matthew and Sarah’s first son according to the Cape Elizabeth records. The implication is that he died prior to his mother Sarah. Given that no marriage or other records were located in connection with Abel, it is likely that he died as a child.

The second name missing is that of Elisha Michener. Duncanson placed him as a child of Matthew and Sarah, but with a question mark, indicating that he was unsure of the relationship. Elisha Michener married Eliza Caldwell on 12 June 1824, according to Duncanson.⁴⁰ Additionally, Elisha Michener of Falmouth purchased a quarter acre of upland in Falmouth for £100 from Robert and James Harvie on 5 January 1826.⁴¹ Elisha Michener of Falmouth, cordwainer, and Eliza his wife mortgaged that property to Rev. William Colsel King, executor of Benjamin DeWolf on 1 December 1825.⁴² All of these actions occurred subsequent to the deed of the heirs of Sarah (McKenney) (Michener) Mosher to Barzillai Mosher. If Elisha was alive

³⁹ Hants Co. Deeds, 21:279 [FHL film #562,328].

⁴⁰ Duncanson, *Newport, N.S.*, 317.

⁴¹ Hants Co., N.S., Deeds, 17:304 [FHL film #562,326].

⁴² Hants Co., N.S., Deeds, 17:305 [FHL film #562,326].

and an heir of Sarah's, he should have signed the deed. The fact that he did not implies that he was not one of her heirs or children.

GENEALOGICAL SUMMARY

1 **MATTHEW SHEPHERD² MICHENER** (*Abel*¹) was born probably in Newport, Rhode Island, between 26 April 1746 (parents' marriage) and 15 November 1760 (when he received a grant in Falmouth, Nova Scotia).⁴³ He died between 26 February 1802 (when he signed a petition) and 15 August 1805 (when his widow purchased real estate).⁴⁴ He married probably at Cape Elizabeth, Maine, about August 1776, SARAH MCKENNEY,⁴⁵ likely daughter of Eleazer and Diana (Pebbles) McKenney.⁴⁶ She married second — Mosher, after 26 June 1811 (signed a deed as Sarah Michener) and before 10 May 1817 (signed a deed as Sarah Mosher).⁴⁷ She died before 11 April 1823 (when her children and heirs sold her real estate).⁴⁸

Children of Matthew Shepherd² and Sarah (McKenney) Michener:⁴⁹

- i ABEL³ MICHENER, b. Cape Elizabeth, 26 July 1777; d. young.
- ii ELEAZAR MICHENER, b. Cape Elizabeth, 8 July 1779; m. abt. March 1801, JANE ALLISON;⁵⁰ daughter of Joseph and Ann (Prescott) Allison.⁵¹
- iii ANNA MICHENER, b. Cape Elizabeth, 1 March 1781; m. JOSEPH CALDWELL.⁵²
- iv SARAH BOCKHART MICHENER, b. Cape Elizabeth, 18 April [1783?]; m. abt. Nov. 1801, JOHN LOCKHART,⁵³ b. 14 Feb. 1776, son of John and Abigail (Trask) Lockhart,⁵⁴ d. Newport, N.S., 10 Oct. 1866, aged 80.⁵⁵
- 2 v JAMES MICHENER, b. abt. 1786, d. Eastport, 5 Aug. 1846; m. MARY PARKER.
- vi MERCY MICHENER,⁵⁶ b. say 1790;⁵⁷ m. abt. Feb. 1810, MICHAEL BARKER,⁵⁸ b. abt. 1789, son of Edward Barker,⁵⁹ d. 2 June 1855, aged 66.⁶⁰

⁴³ See notes 4 and 5.

⁴⁴ See notes 16 and 17.

⁴⁵ Diehm, *Cape Elizabeth VRs*, 366, intentions dated 3 Aug. 1776.

⁴⁶ See notes 23–28.

⁴⁷ See notes 35–38.

⁴⁸ Hants Co. Deeds 21:279 [FHL film #562,328].

⁴⁹ The births of the first 4 are recorded in Diehm, *Cape Elizabeth VRs*, 12.

⁵⁰ N.S. Historical VRs, Jane Allison and Eleazor Michener marriage bond dated 14 March 1801 in Halifax Co.

⁵¹ Duncanson, *Newport, N.S.*, 315.

⁵² Hants Co. Deeds, 21:279 [FHL film #562,328]. See also, Duncanson, *Newport, N.S.*

⁵³ N.S. Historical VRs, Bockhart Mitchiner and John Lockhard marriage bond dated 25 Nov. 1801 in Halifax Co.

⁵⁴ Duncanson, *Newport, N.S.*, 315.

⁵⁵ N.S. Historical VRs, Reg. Yr. 1866, Bk. 1809:17, No. 14. See also, Duncanson, *Newport, N.S.*, 315.

⁵⁶ Hants Co. Deeds, 21:279 [FHL film #562,328], signed deed as Mercy.

⁵⁷ Estimated considering date of marriage.

⁵⁸ N.S. Historical VRs, Mary Mitchener and Michael Barker marriage bond dated 1 Feb. 1810 in Halifax Co. Although indexed as Mary, her name may actually be written Mercy on the bond itself.

- vii MICHAEL MICHENER, b. abt. 1795,⁶¹ d. Hantsport, N.S., 1859;⁶² m. (1) before 11 April 1823, MARIA —,⁶³ who d. Hantsport, 20 Sept. 1849;⁶⁴ m. (2) Windsor, N.S., 8 Jan. 1852, REBECCA HARVIE,⁶⁵ b. 11 Nov. 1813, daughter of Andrew and Rebecca (Lockhart) Harvie.⁶⁶
- viii STATIRAH P. MICHENER, b. N.S., abt. 1797,⁶⁷ d. Parry Sound, Humphrey, Ontario, 4 March 1880;⁶⁸ m. WOODBERRY HARVIE,⁶⁹ b. N.S., 24 Dec. 1797, son of Andrew and Rebecca (Lockhart) Harvie.⁷⁰
- ix MARIAH PEOPLES MICHENER, b. 1800,⁷¹ d. 15 Jan. 1824;⁷² m. 28 Oct. 1817, WILLIAM SHAW,⁷³ b. Newport, N.S., 25 Jan. 1794, son of Anthony Shaw,⁷⁴ d. 17 Aug. 1820.⁷⁵

2 **JAMES³ MICHENER** (*Matthew Shepherd², Abel¹*) was born about 1786,⁷⁶ and died in Eastport, Maine, 5 August 1846.⁷⁷ He married in Windsor, Nova Scotia, 15 October 1815, MARY PARKER.⁷⁸ She was born in Nova Scotia about 1794,⁷⁹ daughter of Francis Parker.⁸⁰ She died in Eastport, 16 June 1871, aged 76 years, 9 months.⁸¹

⁵⁹ Hants Co. Probate Records, File #220A [FHL film 1,439,695]. Michael's son William was identified as Edward Barker's grandson in his will. See also, Hants Co. Deeds, 21:279 [FHL film #562,328].

⁶⁰ Duncanson, *Newport, N.S.*, 317.

⁶¹ Duncanson, *Newport, N.S.*, 254.

⁶² Duncanson, *Newport, N.S.*, 254.

⁶³ Hants Co. Deeds, 21:279 [FHL film #562,328].

⁶⁴ Duncanson, *Newport, N.S.*, 315.

⁶⁵ Duncanson, *Newport, N.S.*, 254, 315.

⁶⁶ Duncanson, *Newport, N.S.*, 254.

⁶⁷ Woodbury Harvey household, 1851 Census, Etobicoke Twp., York Co., Canada West (Ontario), p. 138 [online database, Ancestry.com].

⁶⁸ Statirah P. Harvey, death registration #818393 (1880) [Ontario, Canada, Deaths, 1869–1936, and Deaths Overseas, 1939–1947, database, Ancestry.com, indexed as “Statirah P. Harsey”].

⁶⁹ Hants Co. Deeds, 21:279 [FHL film #562,328].

⁷⁰ Duncanson, *Newport, N.S.*, 253. See also, Etobicoke Township, 1851 Canadian Census, entry for Woodbury Harvey (age 54).

⁷¹ Duncanson, *Newport, N.S.*, 366.

⁷² Duncanson, *Newport, N.S.*, 366.

⁷³ Duncanson, *Newport, N.S.*, 315 and 365–366.

⁷⁴ Duncanson, *Newport, N.S.*, 365.

⁷⁵ Duncanson, *Newport, N.S.*, 365.

⁷⁶ Hants Co. Deeds, 8:246 [FHL film #562,321], identified as son of Sarah Mitchener. See also, Sabine, *Loyalists in the American Revolution*, 2:79.

⁷⁷ *Original Records of Maine Towns and Cities: Town of Eastport, Maine* (Picton Press CD, 2005), CD #1, image 330 (hereafter cited as Picton, *Eastport VRs*).

⁷⁸ Duncanson, *Newport, N.S.*, 315. See also, Hants Co. Deeds, 21:279 [FHL film #562,328].

⁷⁹ Mary Michener household, 1850 U.S. Census, Eastport, Washington Co., Maine, p. 264, #468/621. See also, Duncanson, *Newport, N.S.*, 315.

⁸⁰ Duncanson, *Newport, N.S.*, 315.

⁸¹ Kenneth L. Willey, ed., *Vital Records from the Eastport Sentinel of Eastport, Maine, 1818–1900* (Camden, Maine, 1996), 253, issue dated 21 June 1871 (hereafter cited as Willey, *VRs from Eastport Sentinel*).

Apart from the land transactions with his mother, James had at least one other legal interaction evidencing his Michener family relationship. On [first] February 1810, James was a co-bondsman with Michael Barker on Michael's marriage bond concerning his marriage to James's sister Mercy Michener.

James and his family probably moved to Eastport during the British occupation in the War of 1812. Once the British left in 1818, James remained in Eastport where most of his children were born. His death is documented in the Eastport vital records. Afterwards, Mary and family stayed in Eastport where they were enumerated in the 1850 census. Included in the household were Mary, aged 56; James E., a 28-year-old ship master; Harriet B., aged 21; John G., aged 26; Statira P., aged 23; Elizabeth, aged 18; George W., aged 12; and, Charles, aged 9. All were born in Maine except for Mary, who was born in Nova Scotia. In the Eastport 1860 census, the household of Mary Michener, a 66-year-old housekeeper, born in Nova Scotia, included Statira P., aged 34; Charles, aged 19; Elizabeth Morrell, aged 29, and Elizabeth's children Edgar Morrell, aged 6, and Nellie Morrell, aged 1; Mary E. Michener, aged 14; Ophelia W. Michener, aged 11; and, John Michener, aged 8 [these last three being the children of Mary's son William]. In 1870 Mary Mitchener, aged 78 years, was living in the Eastport household of her daughter and son-in-law, Statira and Thomas Pearce. Also living there in 1870 were Mary's grandchildren, Edward [sic] L. Morrill, aged 16, and Nellie B. Morrill, aged 11, the two children of her daughter Elizabeth.⁸²

Children of James³ and Mary (Parker) Michener:

- i ABEL JAMES⁴ MICHENER, b. Hantsport, N.S., 24 Aug. 1816, d. Eastport, 30 May 1886;⁸³ m. 24 Dec. 1840, HULDAH ADELIN HENEY,⁸⁴ b. Deer Island, N.B., 16 March 1824,⁸⁵ daughter of Archibald and Elizabeth (Appleby) Heney,⁸⁶ d. Eastport, 17 March 1895, aged 71 years.⁸⁷ Abel Michener was a shipmaster on the St. Croix river for many years. In 1850 the census reported the household of Abel Michener in Eastport, listed after the household of his mother, Mary, and before the household of his brother William. Included were Abel, a 34-year-old steamboat captain; Huldah A., aged 26; Albert H., aged 6; and, Laura, aged 4.⁸⁸ The 1860 census for Eastport listed the household of Abel Michener, a 44-year-old ship master born in N.S., with Huldah A., aged 36, born in N.B.; Albert H., aged 16, born in Maine; Laura A., aged 14; and, Jessie M., aged 4. In 1870 Abel Mitchiner's household in-

⁸² Mary Michener households, 1850 and 1860 U.S. Censuses, Eastport, Washington Co., Maine, p. 264, #468/621 (1850), p. 777, #523/613 (1860); Thomas Pearce household, 1870 U.S. Census, Eastport, Washington Co., Maine, p. 241, #339/380.

⁸³ Picton, *Eastport VRs*, CD #1, image 47, 330 (birth and death).

⁸⁴ Picton, *Eastport VRs*, CD #1, image 47.

⁸⁵ Picton, *Eastport VRs*, CD #1, image 47.

⁸⁶ Maine Death Records, 1617–1922, online database at Ancestry.com.

⁸⁷ Willey, *VRs from Eastport Sentinel*, 531, issue dated 27 March 1895.

⁸⁸ Abel Michener household, 1850 U.S. Census, Eastport, Washington Co., Maine, p. 264, #469/622.

cluded Abel, a 53-year-old wharf builder and ship master; Huldah A., aged 46; and Alice, aged 15.⁸⁹

- ii MARY MARIA JANE MICHENER, b. 14 Feb. 1818.⁹⁰ No further information found.
- iii WILLIAM PARKER MICHENER, b. Eastport, 3 May 1820,⁹¹ d. San Francisco, Calif., bef. 21 Oct. 1873, aged 53 years;⁹² m. (1) ALMIRA E. —, b. abt. 1823,⁹³ d. Eastport, 11 March 1854, aged 31 years, 8 months;⁹⁴ m. (2) Sacramento, Calif., 18 Oct. 1860, MARY E. FITZGERALD.⁹⁵ William was a ship captain. The 1850 census reported the Eastport household of Wm. Michener, a 28-year-old ship master, b. Maine, listed after the households of Mary Michener and Abel Michener. Included were Almira, aged 27; Frederick A., aged 7; Mary E., aged 5; and, Ophelia, aged 2, all b. Maine. In the 1860 census, W. P. Michener, aged 40, upholsterer, was enumerated in Sacramento, Calif., living with his son Fred, aged 17, and brother George, aged 21. Meanwhile, his daughters Mary E. and Ophelia and son John were enumerated in the household of his mother in Eastport. In 1870 W. P. Michener, aged 49, grain sack maker, and wife M. E. Michener, aged 33, born N.Y., were living in Sacramento with their son Chas. J. Michener, aged 8 months.⁹⁶
- iv JAMES EDWARD MICHENER, b. Eastport, 28 April 1822,⁹⁷ d. Brooklyn, N.Y., 14 April 1866,⁹⁸ m. MARIA A. BIBBER,⁹⁹ b. Maine, Sept. 1819, living Minneapolis, Minn., in 1900, in the household of her son Edgar.¹⁰⁰ James was a ship captain. The 1860 U.S. census for Eastport listed the household of James E. Michener, a 37-year-old ship captain, b. Maine, with Maria A., aged 29; Edgar E., aged 8; Warren H., aged 4; and Jenny M., aged 2.¹⁰¹

⁸⁹ Abel Mitchener household, 1860 and 1870 U.S. Censuses, Eastport, Washington Co., Maine, p. 82, #522/612 (1860), p. 34, #249/274 (1870).

⁹⁰ Picton, *Eastport VRs*, CD #1, images 47, 330.

⁹¹ Picton, *Eastport VRs*, CD #1, images 47, 330.

⁹² Willey, *VRs from Eastport Sentinel*, 274, issue dated 14 May 1873, Wm. P.'s death notice had no date. See also, *ibid.*, 279, issue dated 5 Nov. 1873, death notice of son John W. refers to "the late" W.P.

⁹³ Computed from age at death. See Willey, *VRs from Eastport Sentinel*, 134, issued dated 15 March 1854.

⁹⁴ Willey, *VRs from Eastport Sentinel*, 134.

⁹⁵ California County Marriages, 1850–1952, online database, FamilySearch.org.

⁹⁶ Wm. Michener household, 1850 U.S. Census, Eastport, Washington Co., Maine, p. 264, #469/623; W. P. Michener household, 1860 U.S. Census, Ward 2, Sacramento, Sacramento Co., Calif., p. 84, #744/680; Mary Michener household, 1860 U.S. Census, Eastport, Washington Co., Maine, p. 83, #523/613; W. P. Michener household, 1870 U.S. Census, Ward 4, Sacramento, Sacramento Co., Calif., p. 301, #70/27.

⁹⁷ Picton, *Eastport VRs*, CD #1, images 47 & 330 of 489.

⁹⁸ Willey, *VRs from Eastport Sentinel*, 220, issue dated 25 April 1866, of Eastport, aged 45.

⁹⁹ James E. Michener household, 1860 U.S. Census, Eastport, Washington Co., Maine, p. 21, #129/147; Mariah's maiden name from the 1946 Davidson Co., Tenn., death record of her son Edgar Chester Michener (Tennessee Death Records, 1914–1955, online database, Family Search.org).

¹⁰⁰ Edgar C. Michener household, 1900 U.S. Census, Ward 5, Minneapolis, Hennepin Co., Minn., E.D. 62, p. 19, #245/398.

¹⁰¹ James E. Michener household, 1860 U.S. Census, Eastport, Washington Co., Maine, p. 21, #129/147.

- v JOHN GRANT MICHENER, b. Eastport, 26 April 1824;¹⁰² d. Capistrano, Calif., 27 March 1877, aged 53 years.¹⁰³ In 1860 John G. Michener, aged 36, miner, was enumerated in Greenwood, El Dorado Co., Calif., apparently unmarried.¹⁰⁴
- vi STATIRA PREBBLE MICHENER, b. Eastport, 2 May 1826;¹⁰⁵ m. Eastport, 13 March 1862, THOMAS A. PEARCE.¹⁰⁶ T. A. Pearce, aged 58, merchant, Statira, aged 53, and niece Nellie Morrel, aged 21, were living in Eastport in 1880.¹⁰⁷
- vii ELEAZAR CHARLES MICHENER, b. Eastport, 29 Nov. 1828, d. 8 Sept. 1836, prob. in Eastport.¹⁰⁸
- viii ELIZABETH MICHENER, b. Eastport, 22 Sept. 1831;¹⁰⁹ m. Eastport, 18 July 1852, WILLIAM FREDERICK MORRELL.¹¹⁰ As Elizabeth Morrell, she was living in her mother's household in Eastport in 1860 with a young son and daughter.¹¹¹ She may have died in the period 1860–70, as in 1870 her children were living in the household of her sister Statira Pearce.¹¹²
- ix GEORGE WASHINGTON MICHENER, b. Eastport, 1837;¹¹³ m. Escondido, Calif., 22 Feb. 1885, Mrs. V. BATTLEBERG.¹¹⁴ George W. Michener, aged 63, b. Jan. 1837, farmer, was listed as divorced in the 1900 U.S. Census when he was living in Encinitas, Calif.¹¹⁵
- x CHARLES LEFOREST MICHENER, b. Eastport, 1 Jan. 1841.¹¹⁶ His name is found on a 19 Sept. 1868 voter registration list in Sacramento, California,¹¹⁷ but he has not been located after that date.

Brent M. Owen (42 Wells Farm Drive, Wethersfield, CT 06109; brentmowen@sbglobal.net) is a retired manager from the U.S. Treasury Department and an attorney.

¹⁰² Picton, *Eastport VRs*, CD #1, images 47, 330.

¹⁰³ Willey, *VRs from Eastport Sentinel*, 309, issue dated 18 April 1877.

¹⁰⁴ Isaiah Terry household, 1860 U.S. Census, Greenwood, El Dorado Co., Calif., p. 723, #1655/2017.

¹⁰⁵ Picton, *Eastport VRs*, CD #1, images 47, 330.

¹⁰⁶ Willey, *VRs from Eastport Sentinel*, 187, issue dated 19 March 1862.

¹⁰⁷ T. A. Pearce household, 1880 U.S. Census, Eastport, Washington Co., Maine, E.D. 177, p. 233, #224/246.

¹⁰⁸ Picton, *Eastport VRs*, CD #1, images 47, 330 (birth and death).

¹⁰⁹ Picton, *Eastport VRs*, CD #1, images 47, 330.

¹¹⁰ Maine Marriages, 1771–1907, online database, FamilySearch.org.

¹¹¹ Mary Michener household, 1860 U.S. Census, Eastport, Washington Co., Maine, p. 777, #523/613.

¹¹² Thomas Pearce household, 1870 U.S. Census, Eastport, Washington Co., Maine, p. 241, #339/380.

¹¹³ Picton, *Eastport VRs*, CD #1, images 47, 330, month and day are illegible.

¹¹⁴ Willey, *VRs from Eastport Sentinel*, 374, issue dated 18 March 1885.

¹¹⁵ George W. Michener household, 1900 U.S. Census, Encinitas, San Diego Co., Calif., E.D. 181, p. 4A, #81/82.

¹¹⁶ Picton, *Eastport VRs*, CD #1, images 47, 330.

¹¹⁷ California, Great Registers, 1866–1910, online database, FamilySearch.org.

SOCIETY OF FRIENDS MARRIAGES
FOUND IN THE GORHAM, MAINE, TOWN RECORDS

Contributed by Dana E. Edgecomb

Two and a half pages of Quaker records were recorded in the Gorham, Maine, Town Records.¹ Only one of these marriages occurred in Gorham. Quaker marriages are not often found in town records, so their inclusion in the Gorham records is unusual. There was a Quaker Meeting for a short while in Gorham. Even though the title says these marriages occurred in the meeting house in Windham, the records themselves indicate they occurred in Windham, Gorham, Raymond, Limington, and Parsonsfield. The Maine Historical Society has many of the Maine Quaker records, but they do not have the Raymond records, so the three Raymond marriages listed here may not be found anywhere else.

[p. 276]

Marriages at the Friends Meeting House in Windham.

List of Persons Married by William Cobb Clerk

Married in the friends meeting House in Windham 11 Mo. 10.1825

Levi Varney to Huldah Varney both of Windham.

Married in friends Meetinghouse in Windham 11 Mo. 30-1826 Joseph Cook to Eunice Grant both of Windham

Married in Friends Meetinghouse in Gorham 5 Mo 2-1827

Thomas Cook to Mary Morton both of Gorham

Noah Winslow to Dorcas Jones both of Windham 7 Mo 5-1827

Card [Carried] to next page

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Married in Friends Meeting house in Windham 8 Mo. 30-1827

David Allen to Phebe Hawks [or Hawke] both of Windham

Married in Friends Meetinghouse in Raymond 9 M^o. 30-1829

Lemuel Jones of Windham to Huldah Cook of Raymond.

Married in friends Meetinghouse in Windham 4 Mo 1.1830

Timothy Varney to Peace Varney both of Gorham

Married in Friends Meetinghouse in Limington 6 Mo 10-1830

Abram Winslow of Windham to Betsy Frost of Gorham

¹ Gorham [Maine] Town Clerk, "Town and Vital Records, 1753-1881" [Family History Library, Salt Lake City, film #10,930].

Married in friends Meetinghouse in Windham 11 Mo 11-1830
Ebenezer Allen to Elizabeth Hussey both of Windham

Married in friends Meeting house in Windham 9 M^o. 29-1831
Amos Hanson to Cinthia Robinson both of Windham

Married in Friends Meeting house in Limington 3 Mo. 29.1832
John Cram of Parsonsfield to Emma Cobb of Limerick

Married in Friends Meetinghouse in Parsonsfield 7 M^o. 4.1832 Asa B. Parsons of
Parsonsfield to Lydia Morrell of Cornish

[p. 278]

Married in Friends Meetinghouse in Limington 9 M^o. 30 1832 James Cram Jr. of
Parsonsfield to Hannah Cobb of Limerick

Married in Friends Meetinghouse in Windham 3 Mo 7 1833
David P Howland of Vassalborough to Anna Robins of Windham

Married in Friends Meetinghouse in Windham 8 Mo. 29. 1833
Joseph Dolley to Esther Jones both of Windham

Married in friends Meetinghouse in Raymond 10 Mo 2-1833
W^m. Hall of Norway to Emma Cook of Raymond

Married in Friends Meetinghouse in Parsonsfield 7 Mo 2^d 1834
Daniel B. Hoag of Sandwich, N.H. to Content Cortland of Parsonsfield
William Cobb Clerk

Recorded pr Russell Linnell T Clerk
see his certificate on file

Editor's note: Dana E. Edgecomb, the contributor of these valuable records, died suddenly at his home in Standish, Maine, on 23 Dec. 2011 at the age of 57. He was born in Portland, Maine, on 16 March 1954, a son of John and Esther (Irish) Edgecomb. Dana was a member of the Maine Genealogical Society for many years and an avid genealogist and historian. He was a volunteer curator of the Standish Historical Society Museum and worked part-time at the South Portland Library. He was a life member of the John Libby Family Association. He will be missed by all who knew him.

THE EARLY DESCENDANTS OF ADRIAN¹ FRYE OF FRYE'S POINT, KITTERY, MAINE

By Priscilla Eaton

The Frye family of Maine traces its American ancestry back to Adrian¹ Frye who was living in Kittery as early as 1664. This account will examine the first three generations of the Frye family in New England, expanding upon and documenting three earlier accounts. These include: Everett S. Stackpole's *Old Kittery and Her Families*,¹ first published in 1903; Ellen Frye Barker's *Frye Genealogy: Adrian of Kittery, Maine, John of Andover, Massachusetts, Joshua of Virginia, and Thomas of Rhode Island*,² first published in 1920; and Noyes, Libby, and Davis's *Genealogical Dictionary of Maine and New Hampshire*,³ published from 1928 to 1939. The formats employed in these accounts vary enormously, as does the extent of the documentation. The intent here is to revisit the primary sources with a focus on resolving any discrepancies among the various accounts.

GENEALOGICAL SUMMARY

1 **ADRIAN¹ FRYE** was born say 1640, his parentage and origin unknown.⁴ He died, probably in Kittery, before 5 October 1708 when he was described as "late of Kittery" in a court document.⁵ He married before 1668,⁶ SARAH—, who died in

¹ Everett S. Stackpole, *Old Kittery and Her Families* (Lewiston, Maine, 1903), 432 (hereafter cited as Stackpole, *Old Kittery*).

² Elizabeth Frye Barker, *Frye Genealogy: Adrian of Kittery, Maine, John of Andover, Massachusetts, Joshua of Virginia, and Thomas of Rhode Island* (New York, 1920), 11–13 (hereafter cited as Barker, *Frye Genealogy*).

³ Sybil Noyes, Charles Thornton Libby, and Walter Goodwin Davis, *Genealogical Dictionary of Maine and New Hampshire* (Portland, 1928–39), 248 (hereafter cited as *Gen. Dict. Me. & N.H.*).

⁴ For those interested in exploring the origins of Adrian Frye, there are several possible leads. In 1928 George Samuel Fry noted that the "Fry Family of Kithery [*sic*], Maine, U.S.A., in all probability descend from Adrian Fry, born 1604, the son of Nicholas Fry, of Compton Bishop and Axbridge [co. Somerset, England]" (George Samuel Fry, *The Saxon Origins of the Fry Family* (London, 1928), 10). Noyes, Libby, and Davis noted that "One Adrian Frye was of 'Hooke,' [co.] Wilts, in 1601, another of Lydiard-Millicent, Wilts, 1603, and another mar[r]ied Margaret Bryant in Henbury, co. Glouc[ester] in 1627 (*Gen. Dict. Maine & N.H.*, 248). Numerous undocumented internet postings indicate that the wife of James Rollins of Dover, a known Quaker, was one Hannah Fry, the daughter of William and Sarah (Hill) Fry of Pimperne, co. Dorset. Given that Adrian Frye was also a Quaker and named his oldest son William, who then married into this same Hill family, this location certainly warrants investigation in terms of Adrian's English origins.

⁵ *Province and Court Records of Maine*, ed. by Charles Thornton Libby (vols. 1–2), Robert Earle Moody (vol. 3), and Neal Woodside Allen, Jr. (vols. 4–6), 6 vols. (Portland: Maine Historical Society, 1928–1975), 4:225 (hereafter cited as *Maine Province & Court Records*).

⁶ Their daughter Eleanor (Frye) Brooks was 28 years old when she deposed 7 April 1696 (*Maine Province & Court Records*, 4:73).

Kittery before 23 November 1709 when the administration of her estate was granted to her son William.⁷

Adrian's wife is given as *Sarah* when she witnessed Abraham Conley's will, deeded property to son William, and in her own will. Noyes, Libby, and Davis erred in giving Adrian's wife as *Hannah*, the daughter of Robert White. Stackpole noted that Adrian Frye married "Sarah (dau. of John White?)." His skepticism regarding Sarah as the daughter of John White is valid. The basis for Sarah *White* as the wife of Adrian Frye is tenuously founded on a deed in which their son William Frye called Francis Allen his "cousin,"⁸ a somewhat nebulous term in eighteenth-century usage. Francis Allen was the son of Robert Allen, as he was granted administration of his father's estate on 21 April 1701.⁹ Robert Allen's wife was Hannah White, the proven daughter of John White. It may well be the case that Sarah Frye was the sister of Hannah (White) Allen, but it is odd that in November 1678, John White, noting the "naturall love which I beare to my naturall Child Hannah Allen," deeded all his property after his death to the Allens, with reversion to their oldest surviving son, with no mention of daughter Sarah Frye or any other heirs.¹⁰ Adrian and Sarah Frye did not name a child John or Lucy, as may have been expected if she was the daughter of John and Lucy White. It is also possible that Adrian Frye's wife Sarah was the sister of Robert Allen, whose family were Quakers as were the Fries.

Stackpole noted that Adrian Frye was in Kittery as early as 1663 when he witnessed a deed. This deed could not be discovered. Noyes, Libby, and Davis also noted that Adrian Frye was in "Eliot" in 1663, without indicating the source.¹¹ The first mention of Adrian Frye which could be discovered in Maine is from court records. At a grand jury held on 5 July 1664, Abraham Conley, Adrian Frye, and Elizabeth Conley were witnesses against Thomas Crawley.¹² Three years later, on 9 July 1667, Adrian was again a witness at court when Thomas Crawley was presented for "being drunke & for beateing & abuseing his wife, being a weake ould woman."¹³ Adrian had grants in Kittery of ten acres each in 1666, 1668, and 1679, and a twenty-acre grant in 1682. In 1699 one of his grants was laid out to his son-in-law, John Brooks.¹⁴ The record also indicates a final grant of unspecified size in 1709 to "self," but this is apparently an error, as Adrian Frye was dead by this time.

⁷ John Eldridge Frost, *Maine Probate Abstracts*, 2 vols. (Camden, Maine, 1991), 1:55 (hereafter Frost, *Maine Probate Abstracts*), citing York Co. Probate Records, 2:56. *Gen. Dict. Maine & NH*, 248, errs in saying that William was her grandson.

⁸ York County Register of Deeds, *York Deeds*, 18 vols. in 19 (Portland, 1887–1910), 7:224 (hereafter cited as *York Deeds*).

⁹ Frost, *Maine Probate Abstracts*, 1:37, citing York Co. Probate Records, 1:94.

¹⁰ *York Deeds*, 3:235.

¹¹ Eliot did not become a town until 1810.

¹² *Maine Province & Court Records*, 2:151.

¹³ *Maine Province & Court Records*, 1:288.

¹⁴ *Gen. Dict. Maine & N.H.*, 35.

The record could possibly refer to his son Adrian Frye, given that his son William had inherited the homestead.

Adrian Frye's homestead was located on the south side of Sturgeon Creek at the point where it intersects with what was then called the Newichawannock River, now the Salmon Falls River, at what came to be called Frye's Point.¹⁵ His neighbors immediately to the south were William Thompson, Jabez Jenkins, Anthony Emery, and John Morrell, with whom his family had frequent interaction.¹⁶

Maine records do not suggest any particular relationship with Alexander and Nicholas Shapleigh, as suggested by Barker. She begins her account of Adrian Frye by relating the business dealings of the Shapleighs in both Kittery Point, Kingsweare, co. Devon, England, and Kittery Point, Maine, and goes on to observe that "with the name of Nicholas Shapleigh that of Adrian Frye appears often in the Kittery, Me., records."¹⁷ Shapleigh likely arrived in Maine twenty years earlier than Adrian Frye. One possible but tenuous connection arises from the claim that Adrian's wife, Sarah, was a daughter of John White. John White was one of the Shapleigh servants, and both he and Adrian Frye were mentioned in Abraham Conley's will.¹⁸

Adrian Frye was frequently associated with Abraham Conley. As noted, he was mentioned in Conley's 1 March 1674 will in which Conley bequeathed "unto Adrian Fry with whom I doe now live nine pounds or there abouts which is due unto me on two bills and Doe acquit him thereof for ever." Abraham Conley went on to "give unto John White my Neighbor all such debts as he oweth me and Doe thereof acquit him." Adrian Frye witnessed the will with his mark. On 3 March 1674, Adrian witnessed the sale of two acres of Sturgeon Creek property which Abraham Conley sold to Reynold Jenkins.¹⁹ On 5 March 1690/1, Abraham Conley's will was sworn to by the attesting witnesses, Adrian and Sarah Frye.²⁰ Despite these interactions, no family relationship between Abraham Conley and Adrian Frye can be established in the Maine records.

During King Philip's War, Adrian moved his family to Portsmouth where his name appears on a 3 June 1678 list of tythingmen.²¹ On 16 July 1690 Adrian Frye and family appeared on a grand jury presentment list for "not Coming to Mitting,"²² probably an indication of the family's Quaker sentiments. On 13 February 1691, Adrian purchased six acres at Sturgeon Creek from Robert Allen.²³

¹⁵ E.g., the place was called Frye's Point in the 30 Jan. 1710/1 probate record of neighbor Jabez Jenkins (Frost, *Maine Probate Abstracts*, 1:84, citing York Co. Probate Records, 5:32).

¹⁶ See Map of Middle Parish of Kittery (Now Eliot) 1632–1700 (Stackpole, *Old Kittery*, 106).

¹⁷ Barker, *Frye Genealogy*, 11–13.

¹⁸ *Gen. Dict. Maine & N.H.*, 746.

¹⁹ *York Deeds*, 3:266.

²⁰ William M. Sargent, *Maine Wills, 1640–1760* (Portland, 1887), 97.

²¹ *Gen. Dict. Maine & N.H.*, 48.

²² *York Deeds*, 5:217.

²³ *York Deeds*, 5:141–42. As noted above, Robert Allen was possibly his brother-in-law. While no relationship is mentioned in the deed, a trustworthy relationship is implied, since the land was

On 12 October 1692, Adrian and wife, Sarah, deeded their homestead at Frye's Point to son William in exchange for "ye comfortable provision for my self and my wife Sarah during our Naturall lives."²⁴ Adrian had died by 5 October 1708, when Major William Vaughn of Portsmouth sued Adrian Frye's estate for a debt owed to him in the amount of £8. Adrian's son William Frye appeared as defendant. "The Case being fairly Debated," the court found for the defendant.²⁵

Adrian Frye had at least six children and forty-eight grandchildren, and as many as 160 great-grandchildren, not counting those born in Canada. When William sold ten acres of the homestead to Philip Pike on 4 April 1713, he reserved "a burying place of three Rod long & Two Rod Wide fronting on Dover [Salmon Falls] River."²⁶ This was likely the burial place of his parents, Adrian and Sarah Frye.

Children of Adrian¹ and Sarah (White) Frye, all b. Kittery, birth order uncertain:

- 2 i ELEANOR² FRYE, b. about 1668; m. (1) JOHN BROOKS; m. (2) JOHN BISHOP; possibly m. (3) JAMES HAYLET.
- 3 ii WILLIAM FRYE, b. say 1672; m. HANNAH HILL.
- 4 iii SARAH FRYE, b. say 1675; m. NICHOLAS MORRELL.
- 5 iv ELIZABETH FRYE, b. say 1677; m. JAMES THOMPSON.
- 6 v JOSEPH FRYE, b. about 1679; m. MARIE-LOUISE BIGRAS.
- 7 vi JOANNA FRYE, b. say 1680; m. THOMAS MUZEET.
- vii ADRIAN FRYE, b. say 1683, d. bef. 1719;²⁷ m. Dover, N.H., 8 June 1705, MERCY CHAPMAN,²⁸ b. Ipswich, Mass., daughter of Nathaniel and Mary (Wilborne) Chapman.²⁹ From 7 June to 17 July 1708, Adrian served as a sentinel at Fort William and Mary (located at New Castle, N.H., at the mouth of Piscataqua River estuary).³⁰ On 5 April 1709 he was the plaintiff on a plea of title to a parcel of land in Kittery "in Controversie between the sd Fry & Joseph Hill of Kittery it being originally an action of Trespass . . . brought by the sd Joseph Hill." The jury found for Frye.³¹ On 1 July 1709, Adrian Frye of the County of York, weaver, with wife Mercy, sold to [his brother-in-law] John Chapman 15 acres in Kittery.³² On 26 Sept. 1711 he sold to John Chapman 7½ acres of Kittery land that Adrian had purchased on 3 Dec. 1708

already in Adrian's possession, and Adrian had wintered his mare for which he received an additional acre of land adjoining his current property.

²⁴ *York Deeds*, 6:152–53.

²⁵ *Maine Province & Court Records*, 4:225.

²⁶ *York Deeds*, 8:230–31.

²⁷ When he was called "late of Kittery."

²⁸ *Collections of the Dover, N.H., Historical Society, Vol. 1* (Dover, 1984), 131 (hereafter cited as *Dover VRs*).

²⁹ Her parents m. Ipswich, 30 Dec. 1674 (*Vital Records of Ipswich, Massachusetts, to the End of the Year 1849*, 3 vols. [Salem, Mass., 1910–19], 2:94 [hereafter cited as *Ipswich VRs*]). See Jacob Chapman, *A Genealogy of Edward Chapman of Ipswich, Massachusetts, and His Descendants* (Concord, NH, 1893), 5.

³⁰ *Gen. Dict. Maine & N.H.*, 248.

³¹ *Maine Province & Court Records*, 4:227.

³² *York Deeds*, 7:291.

from Thomas Jenkins,³³ and on 1 Oct. 1711 sold the adjoining 7½ acres to [his brother-in-law] Thomas Muzeet.³⁴ In 1715 Adrian acted as surety for “Black Will Jr.,” a mulatto man accused of being “the father of a Child begotten on the body of Elizabeth Turbit of Barwick [*sic*: Berwick] Single woman.”³⁵ Black Will Jr. was the son of Black Will Sr., who had had a child in 1712 by Elizabeth Brooks.³⁶ Though not noted by Noyes, Libby and Davis, Adrian’s agreement to act as surety possibly points to a relationship between Elizabeth Brooks and John Brooks, below, who married Adrian’s sister Eleanor Frye. In 1717 Adrian Frye was described as a glazier when he purchased and sold property in Kittery.³⁷ No known children.

2 **ELEANOR² FRYE** (*Adrian*¹) was born about 1668,³⁸ and died probably after 13 February 1719/20 (see below). She married first, probably in Kittery, by 1692, JOHN BROOKS.³⁹ He died in Kittery before 26 November 1712 when his widow, “Ellinor,” was granted the administration of his estate.⁴⁰ Eleanor married second, in Kittery on 8 January 1712/3, JOHN BISHOP.⁴¹ He was dead by early 1720 if she was the same Elenor Bishop who published intentions at Kittery on 13 February 1719/20 to marry JAMES HAYLET.⁴²

John Brooks had grants at Kittery in 1694 and 1696.⁴³ He lived in the area known as “The Cedars,” an old landing place just north of Sturgeon Creek.⁴⁴ On 16 March 1695/6, “Elner brukes,” aged 28 years, deposed before William Pepperrell “that the spreng bee for [spring before] John dimont [Diamond] was killd with the Engeons [Indians] that shee sou [saw] thomas trafton at sead [said] john dimants hous & hard [heard] sead trafton demand of sead dimont twinty shel-lens for a mare wich was dou [due] in parte & saed dimont dead [did] seay it was good man traftons dou [due] and hee youlld [yelled] take som care to peay him and forder seth not [further saith naught].”⁴⁵ In 1699 twenty acres from Adrian Frye’s grant was laid out to John Brooks.⁴⁶ In 1704, the name of John Brooks appears on a list of Kittery residents “known to have met with most sufferings by the Heathen,”

³³ *York Deeds*, 7:428.

³⁴ *York Deeds*, 7:427.

³⁵ *Maine Province & Court Records*, 5:170.

³⁶ *Gen. Dict. Maine & N.H.*, 93.

³⁷ *York Deeds*, 8:371–73.

³⁸ “Elner brukes aged 28 years” deposed on 7 April 1696 (*Maine Province & Court Records*, 4:73).

³⁹ *Gen. Dict. Maine & N.H.*, 112.

⁴⁰ Frost, *Maine Probate Abstracts*, 1:58, citing York Co. Probate Records, 2:81.

⁴¹ Joseph Crook Anderson II and Lois Ware Thurston, *Vital Records of Kittery, Maine, to the Year 1892* (Camden, Maine, 1991), 47 (hereafter cited as Anderson and Thurston, *Kittery VRs*). Her name is given as “Eleoner Brookes.”

⁴² Anderson and Thurston, *Kittery VRs*, 89. Her name is given as “Elenor Bishop.”

⁴³ *Gen. Dict. Maine & N.H.*, 34.

⁴⁴ Stackpole, *Old Kittery*, 228.

⁴⁵ *Maine Province & Court Records*, 4:73.

⁴⁶ *Gen. Dict. Maine & N.H.*, 35.

and the town gave him a tax abatement of six shillings.⁴⁷ By 1716 Eleanor and second husband John Bishop were living in Kingston, New Hampshire.⁴⁸ In 1718 John Brooks' 1694 Kittery grant was owned by William Godsoe.⁴⁹

Children of John and Eleanor² (Frye) Brooks, b. Kittery:⁵⁰

- i ELIZABETH BROOKS, b. 24 Jan. 1695; m. Kingston, N.H., 12 Nov. 1718, EBENEZER FELLOWS, b. Salisbury, Mass., 10 Nov. 1692, son of Samuel and Abigail (Barnard) Fellows,⁵¹ d. Kingston, N.H., 5 Feb. 1741/2. Administration of Ebenezer Fellows' estate was granted 28 April 1742 to his widow, Elizabeth, and his son John, both of Kingston. Children named in the 22 June 1745 division of the estate included sons John, Joseph, Ebenezer, and Benjamin Fellows, daughter Abigail the wife of Theophilus Eaton, and daughters Mary, Elizabeth, and Ann Fellows.⁵²
 - Children of Ebenezer and Elizabeth (Brooks) Fellows, b. probably Kingston:⁵³ 1. *John Fellows*. 2. *Joseph Fellows*. 3. *Ebenezer Fellows*. 4. *Benjamin Fellows*. 5. *Abigail Fellows*. 6. *Mary Fellows*. 7. *Elizabeth Fellows*. 8. *Ann Fellows*.
- ii ROBERT BROOKS, b. 1 Nov. 1698, d. Biddeford, bef. 30 Sept. 1752 when his widow was granted administration of his estate;⁵⁴ m. bef. 11 Sept. 1724,⁵⁵ SARAH (SAWYER) ROBERTS,⁵⁶ b. Gloucester, Mass., 26 Nov. 1701, daughter of John and Rebecca (Stanford) Sawyer,⁵⁷ d. Narragansett No. 1 [Buxton], after 16 March

⁴⁷ Stackpole, *Old Kittery*, 176.

⁴⁸ *Gen. Dict. Maine & N.H.*, 112.

⁴⁹ *Gen. Dict. Maine & N.H.*, 35.

⁵⁰ The births of Elizabeth, Robert, Sarah, Hester, and John are recorded in Anderson and Thurston, *Kittery VRs*, 25. One William Brooks m. Kittery, 11 Aug. 1709, Mary Fogg (Anderson and Thurston, *Kittery VRs*, 35) and had many descendants in Kittery (Stackpole, *Old Kittery*, 304–8). Nothing was discovered to directly connect William and John Brooks, other than that they both appeared in Kittery at the same time and William was seemingly the right age to have been the son of John and Eleanor (Frye) Brooks. William does not appear to have inherited John Brooks' land, which in 1718 was owned by William Godsoe. William did not at any time remove to Kingston, N.H., or Biddeford, Maine, as was the case with known children of John Brooks. And William Brooks did not name any children John or Eleanor. The only factor that might link these two men is that they formed the only two Brooks families in Kittery, and indeed, in much of Maine.

⁵¹ David W. Hoyt, *The Old Families of Salisbury and Amesbury, Massachusetts*, 3 vols. plus supple. (Providence, R.I., 1897–1919), 1:156. His parents m. Salisbury 2 June 1681 (*Vital Records of Salisbury, Massachusetts, to the End of the Year 1849* [Topsfield, Mass., 1915], 350).

⁵² Otis Grant Hammond, *Probate Records of the Province of New Hampshire*, vol. 3: 1741–49, vol. 33: N.H. State Papers Ser. (Concord, NH, 1915), 105–9.

⁵³ Children as named in their father's will. For more on their descendants, see Maxwell Henry Fellows, *Eleven Generations of the Fellows Family, 1639–1976* (Framingham, 1976), 9–10.

⁵⁴ Frost, *Maine Probate Abstracts*, 1:373, citing York Co. Probate Records, 8:290.

⁵⁵ Date of daughter Hannah's birth at Biddeford (John D. Beatty, ed., *Vital Records of Biddeford, Maine, Prior to 1856* [Camden, Maine, 1998], 7 [hereafter cited as Beatty, *Biddeford VRs*]).

⁵⁶ *Gen. Dict. Maine & N.H.*, 112.

⁵⁷ *Vital Records of Gloucester, Massachusetts, to the End of the Year 1849*, 3 vols. (Topsfield and Salem, Mass., 1917–24), 1:646; Fred E. Sawyer, *Sawyer Family of Elliotville, Maine, Descendants of James Sawyer of Gloucester, Massachusetts* (Swan Falls, Idaho, 1945), 3 (hereafter cited as *Sawyer Family of Elliotville*). Her parents reportedly m. Gloucester, 20 Feb. 1700/1 (*Gen.*

1756, at the home of her son Isaiah Brooks.⁵⁸ Sarah was the widow of William Roberts who was b. Gloucester, Mass., about 1693, son of John and Hannah (Bray) Roberts, and d. Falmouth before 6 May 1723 when his estate was administered, including a homestead in Gloucester which he and his mother Hannah Roberts had purchased from his sisters and brothers.⁵⁹

Robert Brooks was “of Biddeford, Labourer,” 5 Jan. 1719/20, when the General Sessions court required him and Jonathan Nason of Kittery to provide sureties for Joseph Abbot Jr. in a fornication case.⁶⁰ On 6 June 1729, Robert Brooks of Biddeford, Planter, sold 30 acres of land in Biddeford to [his cousin] James Thompson, with his wife, Sarah, relinquishing her thirds.⁶¹ On 4 June 1734, Robert Brooks purchased meadow in Scarborough from his [father-in-law] John Sawyer and Benjamin York of Falmouth.⁶²

On 20 Nov. 1738, Lt. Robert Brooks of Biddeford purchased Lot 24 in Range C of the 1st division in Narragansett No. 1, but sold it in 1741 to [his stepson] Job Roberts.⁶³ On 25 May 1741 Robert Brooks “of Biddeford” sold three-quarters of an acre of Kittery land bordering the Piscataqua, with a house, to Timothy Richardson of Kittery.⁶⁴ On 26 May 1742 Robert Brooks was one of eleven settlers of Narragansett No. 1 to sign a petition to the General Court of Mass. describing the limited circumstances of the settlement “and the constant danger for their lives and substance.”⁶⁵ The following year, on 10 July 1743, Robert Brooks was admitted to the First Church of Christ in Biddeford, where his wife Sarah was already a member.⁶⁶ Robert was commissioned by Gov. William Shirley as “Robert Brooks, Gentleman,” a lieutenant in the Company of Capt. Ammi Ruhamah Cutter, under the com-

Dict. of Maine & N.H., 654). This marriage also appears in Sawyer’s *Sawyer Family of Ellitsville*. The marriage date is certainly plausible, but it does not appear in the Gloucester vital records.

⁵⁸ *Sawyer Family of Ellitsville*, 3. This genealogy gives Sarah Sawyer’s husband as William “Robinson/Robbins/Roberts,” with no mention of Robert Brooks. They are likely the William and Sarah Roberts whose son Job was bp. Falmouth, 14 March 1721 (“Records of Falmouth,” *The New England Historical and Genealogical Register* [NEHGR], 14(1860):147). Job Roberts, along with Robert Brooks, was one of the early settlers of Narragansett No. 1. Robert Brooks’ grandson John Brooks of New Durham, N.H. [son of Isaiah, whom John noted was b. 12 June 1736] related in an 1872 letter that “my grandfather is said to come from England and married widow Roberts and settled in Saco about 2 miles from the old meeting house on the Ferry Road on the same site where Deacon Chase resided in after years.” He also notes that “Job Roberts was a half brother to my father” (J. M. Marshall, *A Report of the Proceedings at the Celebration of the First Centennial Anniversary of the Incorporation of the Town of Buxton, Maine, Held at Buxton Aug. 14, 1872* [Portland, 1874], 158–59, hereafter cited as *Buxton Centennial*).

⁵⁹ Lora Altine Woodbury Underhill, *Descendants of Edward Small of New England*, 3 vols., (Cambridge, 1910), 3:991–1006.

⁶⁰ *Maine Province & Court Records*, 6:31.

⁶¹ *York Deeds*, 13:14.

⁶² *York Deeds*, 17:571.

⁶³ *Buxton Centennial*, 157.

⁶⁴ *York Deeds*, 23:30.

⁶⁵ W. W. Clayton, *History of York County, Maine* (Philadelphia, 1880), 250.

⁶⁶ “Records of the First Church of Christ in Biddeford,” *Maine Historical and Genealogical Recorder* 5(1888):203–4.

mand of Col. Jeremiah Moulton as part of the forces raised within the province for an expedition against Cape Breton.⁶⁷ Following the hostilities, on 21 Aug. 1749, Robert Brooks signed a petition in Biddeford calling for a meeting of Narragansett proprietors.⁶⁸ At a meeting on 3 Oct. 1749, Robert was appointed to help run the boundaries for the new township and also empowered as an agent or trustee of the proprietors to ensure that timber was not removed illegally.⁶⁹ Following Robert's death, in a deed dated 16 March [1756], Sarah Brooks of Narragansett Township No. 1, widow, gave her right of thirds in the real estate of her late husband to her sons and sons-in-law—John Brooks, John Ridlon, David Martin, and Isaiah Brooks—in exchange for support. Sarah, the wife of John Ridlon, and Hannah, the wife of David Martin, acknowledged the deed.⁷⁰

Children of Robert and Sarah (Sawyer) Brooks, birth order speculative:⁷¹ 1. *Hannah Brooks*, b. Biddeford, 11 Sept. 1724.⁷² 2. *John Brooks*. 3. *Sarah Brooks*. 4. *Isaiah Brooks*, b. Saco, 12 June 1736.⁷³

iii SARAH BROOKS, b. 11 Oct. 1699. No further record found.

iv HESTER/ESTHER BROOKS, b. 22 Nov. 1702; m. (int.) Biddeford, 14 Oct. 1731, SAMUEL COLE,⁷⁴ b. prob. Wells, about 1686 and bp. Wells, 12 July 1702,⁷⁵ son of Thomas and Abigail (—) Cole,⁷⁶ d. Biddeford, bef. 10 Oct. 1749, when the administration of his estate was granted to Esther Cole, widow, William Cole, millman, and Amos Chase [his son-in-law], Gentleman, all of Biddeford.⁷⁷ Samuel Cole had m.

⁶⁷ Gideon T. Ridlon, *Saco Valley Settlements and Families* (Portland, 1895), 107.

⁶⁸ W.W. Clayton, *History of York County, Maine*, (Philadelphia, 1880), 251.

⁶⁹ William Frederick Goodwin, *Records of the Proprietors of Narragansett Township No. 1, Now the Town of Buxton, York County, Maine* (Concord, N.H., 1871), 147–49 (hereafter cited as *Narragansett No. 1 Proprietors Records*).

⁷⁰ *Buxton Centennial*, 160–62. The date of the deed is transcribed as “this Eighteenth day of February in this 29th year of his Magestys Reign Annoq Domini 1746.” The year is certainly erroneous, probably a transcription error by the author, J. M. Marshall, who noted that the deed was in his possession. On 18 Feb. 1746, Robert Brooks was still living, his daughter Hannah had yet to marry David Martin, and his daughter Sarah had yet to marry John Ridlon. However, King George II of Britain ascended the throne in 1727, so the 29th year of his reign was 1756.

⁷¹ The names are determined from the deed described above. In 1872 John Brooks wrote that my father [Isaiah Brooks] had two sisters, one married David Martin, the other married Thomas Pennell. John may not have been well acquainted with his aunts, as it seems his Aunt Hannah married both of these men. Hannah Brooks m. Biddeford, 28 March 1743, Thomas Pennell and then as Hannah Pennell m. 12 April 1748, David Martin (Beatty, *Biddeford VRs*, 16, 103). Her sister Sarah Brooks m. 19 Oct. 1749, John Ridlon (Beatty, *Biddeford VRs*, 104).

⁷² Beatty, *Biddeford VRs*, 7.

⁷³ *Buxton Centennial*, 161.

⁷⁴ Beatty, *Biddeford VRs*, 11: “Samuel Coell and Ester broox both of Biddeford.”

⁷⁵ “Records of the First Church of Wells, Me.,” NEHGR 75(1921):44. Samuel Cole and his sister Elizabeth were bp. as the adopted children of Josiah Littlefield. They were not infants, as their parents Thomas and Abigail Cole had been shot dead by Indians 24 June 1696 as they were returning from York (Edward Emerson Bourne, *The History of Wells and Kennebunk from the Earliest Settlement to the Year 1820* [Portland, 1875], 221 [hereafter cited as Bourne, *History of Wells*]).

⁷⁶ Samuel referred to his father Thomas Cole in a 29 April 1719 deed (*York Deeds*, 10:293–94).

⁷⁷ Frost, *Maine Probate Abstracts*, 1:332, citing York Co. Probate Records, 8:10.

(1) Wells, 3 Nov. 1708, Rebecca Stimpson,⁷⁸ b. prob. Ipswich, Mass., daughter of George and Alice (Phillips) Stimpson,⁷⁹ d. bef. 14 Oct. 1731 when Samuel remarried.

On 4 Oct. 1709 “Samuel Cole of Wells and Rebecca Stimson his now wife” were presented at the Court of General Sessions for fornication. Samuel appeared on 3 Jan. 1709/10 for himself and on behalf of his wife, denying the fact and showing sundry reasons to the court to clear him. The court ruled that he be acquitted paying fees of court 7s. apiece.⁸⁰

Samuel Cole was a leading force in the Biddeford milling industry.⁸¹ He was one of the owners of the Great Falls sawmill, “the best property in the town [Wells] in a time of peace,” but he and his wife Rebecca sold out his part of it on 29 April 1719 to Samuel Wheelwright.⁸² The deed gave Wheelwright the right to build a dam as “expressed in a grant to Mr. John Wheelwright, Joseph Taylor, and ‘my father, Thomas Cole, deceased.’”⁸³ Four months later, on 24 Aug. 1719, Samuel Cole of Biddeford purchased 12 acres near Jordan’s Creek, with mill privileges, from William Phillips.⁸⁴ This is where he built what came to be called Cole’s Mill. On 2 April 1720, at a meeting for the purpose of dividing the common lands at Biddeford, Samuel Cole was granted 45 acres. Just over a year later, on 2 Dec. 1721, he sold this grant to John Stackpole.⁸⁵ On 13 March 1732/3, Samuel Cole Jr. and Samuel Cole Sr. of Biddeford sold the 30-acre lot which had been granted to Samuel Jr. by the town of Biddeford on 9 May 1729. It is interesting to note that the town gave a land grant to a child, as Samuel Cole Sr. had to sign on behalf of his son, who “was underage to give a deed.”⁸⁶ In 1740 Samuel Cole sold, as part of his 12 acres, one-half of his mill privilege to Thomas Wheelwright of Wells. In his conveyance, he speaks of his *old mill*, referring to the Cole Mill, which he had built around 1720. Thomas Wheelwright directly sold one-fourth to Benjamin Gooch of Wells. In the spring, the three men built the Gooch Mill on what came to be called Gooch Island. The right of Samuel Cole to convey any part of this island “has long been a vexed question from which innumerable lawsuits have sprung.”⁸⁷ Noyes, Libby, and Davis note that Samuel Cole had only three children with his first wife Rebecca, but there were at least six.⁸⁸

⁷⁸ Hope Moody Shelley, ed., *Vital Records of Wells, Maine, 1619–1950* (Rockport, Maine, 2005), 2 (hereafter cited as *Wells VRs*).

⁷⁹ George Stimpson m. Ipswich, 22 July 1676, Alice Phillips (*Ipswich VRs*, 411). Rebecca’s birth is not recorded in Ipswich, as is the case with other Stimpson siblings who turn up in Wells. Richard Stimpson m. Wells, 25 Nov. 1708, Elizabeth Cole, sister of Rebecca’s husband Samuel Cole (*Wells VRs*, 2).

⁸⁰ *Maine Province & Court Records*, 4:369–71.

⁸¹ See Michael P. Chaney, *White Pine on the Saco River: An Oral History of River Drafting in Southern Maine* (Orono, Maine, 1993), 14.

⁸² Bourne, *History of Wells*, 299.

⁸³ *York Deeds*, 10:293–94.

⁸⁴ *York Deeds*, 10:88–89.

⁸⁵ *York Deeds*, 10:513.

⁸⁶ *York Deeds*, 15:402–3.

⁸⁷ George Folsom, *History of Saco and Biddeford* (Saco, Maine, 1830), 206–8.

⁸⁸ These include four at Wells: Sarah, bp. 11 March 1710/1; Samuel bp. [no day] April 1713; William, bp. 16 Jan. 1714/5; and Mary, bp. 4 Aug. 1717. Another daughter, Mary, was bp. at the

Child of Samuel and Hester (Brooks) Cole, b. Biddeford.⁸⁹ 1. *Abigail Cole*, b. 10 June 1734.

- v JOHN BROOKS, b. 27 Feb. 1703/4, d. Kittery, after 1786, aged 82 years;⁹⁰ m. (int.) Biddeford, [no day] Aug. 1740, ELEANOR (MEADER) LIBBY of Biddeford,⁹¹ b. Dover, N.H., 3 June 1704, daughter of Nathaniel and Eleanor (Marrow) Meader.⁹² Eleanor had m. (1) Dover, 13 Jan. 1724/5, Daniel Libby, son of Daniel and Elizabeth (Kirke) Libby,⁹³ who d. Biddeford, before 14 July 1740 when his estate was administered by his widow, then named Eleanor Brooks.⁹⁴

John was living in Kingston, N.H., in 1725 and sold out in 1729.⁹⁵ On 20 June 1729 John Brooks of Biddeford, for £70, sold upland and meadow in Biddeford to his brother Robert Brooks.⁹⁶ In July 1729 he sued John White for debt.⁹⁷ Frequently in financial distress, John Brooks was sued for debt five times between 1732 and 1742.⁹⁸ On 19 Feb. 1738, still “of Biddeford,” he purchased land at Narragansett Township No. 1 [Buxton], one-half of one whole right. On 13 Dec, 1751, then “of Narragansett,” he sold this same property to James Gray of Biddeford. The following year, John bought Lot 8 in Range B of the 1st division, and purchased one half of adjoining Lot 7 in 1758.⁹⁹ In 1748 Eleanor Brooks was reportedly a witness at Kittery Point.¹⁰⁰ Either he or his nephew John (son of Robert Brooks) was still in Buxton on 5 July 1769 when he was mentioned at a Proprietor’s Meeting.¹⁰¹

Child of John and Eleanor (Meader) Brooks: 1. (poss.) *Eleanor Brooks*.¹⁰²

Biddeford Lecture 21 Feb. 1723/4 (“Records of the First Church of Wells, Me.,” NEHGR 75 (1921):46–49, 54). A second son William was b. Biddeford, 16 Oct. 1719 (“Early Vital Records of Saco and Biddeford, Me.,” NEHGR 7[1917]:123), and another possible daughter is the Rebecca Cole who m. (int.) Biddeford, 30 Dec. 1738, Ebenezer Watson of Arundel (Beatty, *Biddeford VRs*, 18).

⁸⁹ Beatty, *Biddeford VRs*, 13.

⁹⁰ *Gen. Dict. Maine & N.H.*, 112.

⁹¹ Beatty, *Biddeford VRs*, 19.

⁹² *Dover VRs*, 18; her mother’s maiden name from *Gen. Dict. Maine & N.H.*, 476.

⁹³ “Records of the Dover Monthly Meeting,” *New Hampshire Genealogical Record* [NHGR], 1(1903–4):52; *Gen. Dict. Maine & N.H.*, 433.

⁹⁴ Frost, *Maine Probate Abstracts*, 1:217, citing York Co. Probate Records, 5:245.

⁹⁵ *Gen. Dict. Maine & N.H.*, 112.

⁹⁶ *York Deeds*, 15:296.

⁹⁷ “Maine Court Records, 1796–1854,” online at <www.maine-genealogy.net/court_record_search.asp>, citing York Co. Court of Common Pleas, #8-87-2509.

⁹⁸ From 1729 to 1742, John Brooks was sued for debt by John Plaisted, Benjamin Webber, Joseph Holt, James Bane, and Samuel Sleppe (“Maine Court Records, 1796–1854,” online at <www.maine-genealogy.net/court_record_search.asp>, citing York Co. Court of Common Pleas, #s 9-211-3369, 12-231-6209, 12-308-6343, 12-406-6588, and 12-333-6463).

⁹⁹ *Buxton Centennial*, 156.

¹⁰⁰ *Gen. Dict. Maine & N.H.*, 112.

¹⁰¹ *Narragansett No. 1 Proprietors Records*, 268.

¹⁰² She may be the Eleanor Brooks who m. Capt. Samuel Wilson of Kittery (Stephen Whitney Phoenix, *Descendants of John Phoenix, an Early Settler of Kittery, Maine* [New York, 1867], 10–11). Samuel Wilson was b. 6 Feb. 1740/1, son of Moses and Elizabeth (Parsons) Wilson (Stackpole, *Old Kittery*, 801). He died before 6 Feb. 1782 when the administration of his estate was granted to his widow Eleanor (Frost, *Maine Probate Abstracts*, 2:811, citing York Co. Probate Records, 13:440). Samuel and probably Eleanor had at least four children—Moses, Susan, Ruth,

- vi (prob.) MICHAEL/MICAH BROOKS, b. prob. Kittery, bef. 26 Nov. 1712 when his father's estate was administered,¹⁰³ bur. Kingston, N.H., 20 June 1781;¹⁰⁴ (poss.) m. (1) (int.) Biddeford, 17 Feb. 1738[9], JOANNA COLWELL/COLDRIDGE;¹⁰⁵ m. (2) Kingston, 8 Nov. 1739, LYDIA (ROBIE) DOW, he then "of Biddeford,"¹⁰⁶ b. 23 May 1703, daughter of Ichabod and Lucy (Page) Robie of Kingston.¹⁰⁷ Lydia Robie had m. (1) Hampton, 14 Aug. 1729, Amasa Dow of Salisbury,¹⁰⁸ son of Joseph and Hannah (Challis) Dow, d. Seabrook, N.H., before 28 Sept. 1730.¹⁰⁹

Given that Michael turns up in both Kingston, N.H., and Biddeford, Maine, where there are no other Brooks families present, it seems probable that he was an unrecorded son of John and Eleanor (Frye) Brooks. On 20 Sept. 1757, Micah Brooks of Kingston witnessed the will of his sister-in-law Meribah (Robie) Connor, who left her nephew Amasa Dow [Micah Brooks' stepson] her entire estate.¹¹⁰ No known children.

(to be continued)

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and Pamela—who were bp. at Kittery Point from 1764 to 1771 (Robert J. Dunkle and Valerie Ruocco, "Parish Records of the First Church and Society of Kittery, Maine, 1714 to 1791," NEHGR 151[1997]:448, 451, 453). Other than noting the birth of Samuel, this family is not treated by either Stackpole or by Fred A. Wilson in his *Early History of the Wilson Family of Kittery, Maine* (Lynn, Mass., 1903).

¹⁰³ Frost, *Maine Probate Abstracts*, 1:58, citing York Co. Probate Records, 2:81.

¹⁰⁴ Kathleen E. Hosier, *Kingston, New Hampshire, Early Families, Patriots & Soldiers* (Bowie, Md., 1993), 19.

¹⁰⁵ Beatty, *Biddeford VRs*, 18, she called "Colwell." In the Kittery records, she is called Joanna "Coldridge" (Anderson and Thurston, *Kittery VRs*, 102). Michael and Joanna may have never married. Oddly, there are two other marriage intentions for the mysterious Joanna Coldridge in the Kittery records: 9 May 1735 to John Hialin and 7 July 1741 to John Hicke (Anderson and Thurston, *Kittery VRs*, 99, 214). No one else with the surname *Coldridge* or *Colwell* appears in the Kittery records. [There is a Mrs. Elizabeth Cowell who m. Kittery 9 Oct. 1746, Nathaniel Leach (Anderson and Thurston, *Kittery VRs*, 115, 119, 217)]. Apparently Joanna married John Hickey, as four children of "John and Jonna Heckey" were born at Kittery from 1742 to 1746/7 (Anderson and Thurston, *Kittery VRs*, 112).

¹⁰⁶ "Kingston First Church Records," NHGR 3(1905-6):40.

¹⁰⁷ *Gen. Dict. Maine & N.H.*, 590.

¹⁰⁸ Warren Brown, *History of the Town of Hampton Falls, New Hampshire* (Manchester, N.H., 1900), 131.

¹⁰⁹ George F. Sanborn, Jr., "Joseph Dow's Second Wife, and the Byfield Crew," NHGR 7(1990):181-82.

¹¹⁰ Otis Hammond, *Probate Records of the Province of New Hampshire*, vol. 6: 1757-1760, vol. 36: N.H. State Papers Ser. (Concord, NH, 1938):138.

MARRIAGES FROM THE MANUSCRIPT RECORDS OF
REV. SAMUEL FOXCROFT, NEW GLOUCESTER, MAINE

Contributed by Janice D. Gower

Following is a transcription of eight ledger-sized pages of marriages performed by Reverend Samuel Foxcroft of New Gloucester, Maine, between 1765 and 1793. These pages are found in the Zebulon King Harmon papers, Maine Historical Society, Coll. 22, Vol. 11, pp. 78–85.¹ The pages preceding these marriages in Vol. 11 include marriages performed by Rev. Ephraim Clark of Cape Elizabeth, which have been published elsewhere. Following the Foxwell marriages are a series of military pension applications. It would appear that many of these Foxcroft marriages have not appeared in print previously. The earliest appearing in the New Gloucester vital records is the 19 April 1787 marriage of John Maxwell Morgan and Sarah Tarbox.

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Marriages from the Manuscript Records of Rev. Samuel Foxcroft, New Gloucester

Nov. 28 th , 1765	Jonathan Tyler to Mercy Hacket
Dec 10 "	Robert Bartol Hannaford to Martha Tucker
Dec 26 "	Imlah Merrill to Mary Sawyer
Feb 7, 1766	Richard Morse to widow Mary Chandler
Apr. 10 "	Bradbury True to Sarah Parsons
Apr. 14 "	Joseph Merrill to Elizabeth True
Nov. 13 "	Barnabas Tufts to Susanna Tucker
Feb 26, 1767	Luke Worcester to Sarah Noyes
Apr. 30 "	Barnabas Winslow to Rispah Glass
May 29 "	Josiah Wilson to Sarah Ward both of New Boston
	Edward Parsons to Abigail Thoyt sometime in the year 1766
May 18 th 1769	David Hunt of New Boston to Sarah Millet of New Gloucester
June 13 th "	George Doughty to Molly Cummings both of New Boston
Aug. 31 "	Samuel Tyler to the widow Elizabeth Gordin
Oct. 26 "	William Warner to Elizabeth Nevens
Aug. 31 st 1770	David Orne to Mary Parkerson both of New Boston
Nov. 27, "	John Daniels to Betty Gott
Nov. 4, 1771	David Woodman to Mary Hacket
Dec 25 "	Joshua Merrill to Abigail Stanwood
Dec 25 "	Perkins Eveleth to Hannah Merrill
Apr. 27, 1772	W ^m Blay West to Patience Hammond
Aug 6, "	Jabez Mathews of N. Boston to Sarah Tufts of N. Gloucester
Aug. 13 "	Benjamin Merrill to Sarah Collins
Sept. 7 "	Elijah Royal to widow Susanna Paul

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Oct. 21 " John Nason of Cape Elizabeth to Priscilla Small of N. Boston
 Dec. 28, " Edmund Cleaves to Abigail Row
 March 30, 1773 Isaac Small to Susanna Hobbs both of N. Boston
 May 27, " W^m Goff to Anna Morse of N. Boston
 July 22 " Thos Dinsmore to Anna True of North Yarmouth
 Oct 7 " Rogers Stinchfield to Sarah Babson
 Oct 12 " Sam^l Stevens of Old Gloucester to Elizabeth Allen of N. Gloucester
 Nov. 11 " Nathaniel Woodbury to Anna Nevens

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Jany 6, " 1774 Ebenezer Mason to Anna Cleaves
 Jany 17 " Joseph Rain to Eunice Babson
 Feby 24 " Samuel Hammon to Mary Kinnaston
 April 14 " James Stinchfield to Sarah Parsons
 May 19 " John Daniels to Eunice Tucker
 July 28 " James Humphrey to Mary Twitchell both of New Boston
 Jany 17, 1775 Sampson Colby to Sarah Hammon
 Feb. 2 " John Tufts to Abigail Allen
 Feb. 13 " Nathan Merrill to Rachel Campbell of Windham
 Mar. 9, " Seth Dutton to Lucretia White both of New Boston
 Mar. 31 " Peter Lenfest to Lydia Harris of Lewiston
 Apr. 20 " Tho^s Haskell of North Yarmouth to Eunice Millet of New Gloucester
 Nov. 9, " Jabez Merrill to Hannah Sawyer
 Dec. 12 " Jesse Wright to Abigail Cook
 Dec. 21 " Peter Graffam to Mary Allen
 Feby 29, 1776 John Hodge to Lucy Tucker
 Mar. 8, " Abner Phillips to Hannah Haskell
 July 18 " Joseph Leavit to Anna Stevens, both of a place called Sylvester
 July 30 " William Tucker to widow Sarah East
 Sept 10 " Daniel Davis to Mary Collins
 Nov. 14 " Nathaniel Eveleth to Mary Glass
 _ _ " John Millet to Sarah Cordwell
 Dec 12 " W^m Bradford to Asenath Mason
 Mar 13, 1777 Josiah Staples to Abigail Parsons
 Apr. 15 " Edward Jumper to Elisabeth Noyes
 May _ " W^m Nevens to Elizabeth Ray
 July 24 " Jacob Hammon to Peggy Chipman
 Aug. 14 " Eliphalet Lane to Ruth Pecker
 Nov. 20 " David Millet to Lydia Stanwood
 Dec^r 23 " Timothy Wright to Judith Row
 Jany 22, 1778 Seth Staples to widow Isabella Collins
 _ _ " Moses Bradbury to Deborah Parsons
 _ _ " William Haskell to Elizabeth Bradbury

June 16	"	Eben ^r Cleaves to Mary Millett
Feb _	"	Benja Clifford of Lewiston to Mary Prince of New Gloucester
Augt	"	William Bradbury to Hannah Tufts
Sep. 22	"	Abner Brown of North Yarmouth to Naomi Bradbury
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23, 1778		Nicholas Chesley to Sarah Hammon
24	"	Jabez Bradbury to Molly Preston
Nov. 19,	"	James Nevens to Joanna Haskell
Dec. 10	"	Thomas Penny to Lydia Haven
_	"	Jon ^a Chandler Jr to Zerviah Brown
Ap. 19, 1779		Hezekiah Hill of Sylvester to Eunice Collins of New Gloucester
May 3	"	Nathaniel Stevens to Mary Francis
Sept. 5	"	Jacob Stevens to Martha Sawyer
_ 9	"	David Hayes of North Yarmouth to Dorcas Allen of New Gloucester
Nov. 11,	"	Moses Davis to Olive Bodewell both of Bakerstown
Jany 20, 1780		Amos Harris to Isabella Parsons
Mar 2,	"	Solomon Millet to Anna Wilcom
_ 13	"	Matthias Vickery of Cape Elizabeth to Betty Wagg of N Glou ^s
Ap. 24	"	Sam ^l Varrill to Sarah Prince
Ap 25	"	W ^m Cordwell to Tryphosa Leach of Bakerstown
Sep. 10,	"	True Woodbury to Susanna Nevens
_ 12,	"	Sam ^l Bradbury to Bethuel Haskell
Oct 3	"	Nehemiah Stout to Rebecca Dunn both of Bakerstown
_ _	"	Moses Bradbury to Eunice Millett
_ 24	"	Benja Jones to Tabitha Leavitt both of Sylvester
_	"	James Hodgkins to Deborah Crandall
26	"	Benj ^a Lane to widow Sarah Pool
Jany 18, 1781		Moses Stevens of Sylvester to Hannah Davis of n. Glou ^r
Mar 20	"	Lemuel Tucker to Phoebe Buckman
Apr. 4,	"	Moses Buck to Hannah Chubb, both of a place called 20 mile River
May 24	"	Lemuel Tucker to widow Elisa Tyler
July 5	"	Jabez Cushman to Ursula Bass of Shepardsfield
July 23	"	John Warrents to Elizabeth Buck both of a place called 20 Mile River
Nov 22	"	Shubal Bumpus to widow Rebecca Witham
Apr. 29, 1782		Davis Varrell to Elizabeth Jumper both of Bakerstown
June 20	"	Lemuel Jackson of a place called N ^o . 4 to Susanna Hammon.
_ 23	"	Sam ^l Cole to Nanny Pettengille
July 23	"	Samuel Ames to Jerusha Baker of Shepardsfield
Aug. 11,	"	Zebulon Davis of Bakerstown to Hannah Allen of New Gloucester
_ 29	"	Moses Harris to Betty Harsey
Sept 19	"	Nathaniel Stevens to Rebecca Cobb both of Gray
Nov 14	"	Jesse Briggs to Naomi Bailey

_ 30	"	Joseph Parry of No ⁴ so called to Elizabeth Tucker of Bakerstown
Nov. 17	"	Ebenezer Lane to Peggy Graffam
_ 24	"	William Varrill to Katharine Yeaton both of Bakerstown
Dec. 15	"	John Prince to Rebecca Collins
Feb. 14, 1786		John Pike to Molly Tarbox
_ 16	"	Allen Davis to Abigail Jumper
_ 23	"	Aaron Dwinall of Bakerston to Susanna Lane of N. Gloc ^f .
Mar 2	"	W ^m Davis to Hannah Marble, Bakerstown
Aug 7	"	Reuben Chandler to Hannah Dennen both of Bakerstown
_ 16	"	Edward Jones to Judith Lane both of Littleborough
Nov. 2	"	Eben Hodgkins to Elisabeth Varrill both of Bakerstown
_ 5	"	Joshua Allen to Comfort Cotton
_ 16	"	Jacob Strout to Sarah Flagg both of Bakerstown
_ 19	"	Simeon Harris to Ruth Green Robertson
Dec 9	"	Stevan Yeaton to Alice Latol (Sawtel) Bakerstown
_ 14	"	William Chipman to Esther Lane
Feb. 7, 1787		Daniel Lane Jr of Littleboro to Eunice Varrill of Bakerstown
_ 12	"	John Bosmos to Hannah Libby both of the Claim
_ 15	"	Daniel Jumper to Mary Leach (Bakerstown)
_ 23	"	Zebulon Parry to Judith Tucker, No. 4 & Bakerstown
Mar 8	"	W ^m Tucker & Anna Goff
_ 10	"	James Maxwell to Jane Noyes
_ 25	"	Amos Harsey to Mercy Mason
Apr. 19	"	John Maxwell Morgan to Sarah Tarbox 6/5
Nov. 16	"	John Stenchfield Jr. to Sarah Lake 6/
29	"	Bela Hammon to Ruth Cotton 6/3
Dec 4,	"	Giles Merrill to Judith Cotton
_ 6	"	Lemuel Raymond to Abigail Haskell
Jany 7. 1788		Ebenr Bragdon to Hulday Chandler, both of Royalston
Jany 10	"	Oliver Hail to Eunice Fletcher both of Gray
_ 30	"	W ^m Beard to Lois Tucker both of Bakerstown
Mar. 12	"	Hugh Potter to Molly Bailey
Mar. 13	"	Ezekiel Martin to Molly Stenchfield
Mar 25	"	Elijah Richardson to Jane Todd Bakerstown
June 1	"	Isaac Sturdivant of Butterfield, so called, to Hannah Bradbury of N. Gloucester

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July 1, 1788		Peter Brook to Betty Bryant both of N ^o . 4, so called.
July 12	"	Joseph Washburn of Shepardf ^{ld} to widow Sarah Hammon
July 31	"	Moses Davis to Deborah Marble both of Bakerstown
Aug. 14	"	William Haskell of Bakerstown (so called) to Elizabeth Davis Witham of Gloucester

Aug 17	"	Richard Jackman of New Penny Cook, so called, to Sarah Johnson of New Gloucester
Sept 25	"	Samuel Bradbury of Bakerstown to Mrs Hannah Noyes
Sep. 28	"	William Winslow Garrett, Shepardsfield, to Miss Nancy Franklin of Pembroke, in Co. of Plymouth.
Oct. 7	"	Peres Andros to Sarah Richardson both of Bakerstown
Oct 30	"	Seth Randall (Shepardsfield) to Sally Cushman of N. Gloucester
Nov 4.	"	John Downing to Ruth Emory both of Bakerstown
18	"	John Walker to Jane Lake both of N. Gloucester
_ 28	"	Zephaniah Bumpus Jr. to Mary Toollbooth of Shepardsfield, so called
Dec. 18	"	Edmund Lander to Hannah Seabring both of Bakerstown, so called.
Dec 24	"	Joshua Hutchins of Falmouth to Lydia Prince of N. Gloc ^f .
Dec. 30	"	Samuel Garnett of Shepardsfield to Mehitable Rider of N. Yarm ^f .
Jany 1, 1789		John Fletcher of Butterfield to Elizabeth Spaulding of Buckstown, so called
8	"	Isaac Crooker to Sarah Barrows both of Shp ^f d.
16	"	Davis Parsons to Anna Lilley both of Buckstown, so called.
Feb 5	"	Samuel Boaz to Jerusha Lewis
Feb. 12	"	Sam ^l . Bailey to Mary Small both of Bakerstown so called.
Feb 19	"	Sam ^l Royal to Martha Riggs, Bakerstown
26	"	Josiah Smith of No ^r 4 to Deborah Haskell
Mar 5	"	Joseph Bradbury to Tabitha Cotton
9	"	Andrew Robertson Giddins to Anna Lane
19	"	Sam ^l Merrill Jr. to Sarah Campbell
May 14	"	Mark Emery to Anna Mequier both of New Gloucester
June 14	"	Edmund Mequier to Sarah Merrill both of New Gloucester
Sep 10,	"	Nathaniel Bennet to Rachel Hannaford both of N. Glo ^f
Sep 1	"	Joseph Bridgham of Bakerstown to Betty Lane of N Glo ^f .
_ 10	"	Israel Packard to Jane Richardson both of Bakerstown
Nov 12	"	Wm Pickett to Dorcas Bennett both of N Gloc ^f .
Dec. 10	"	Andrew Potter of Fairfield to Martha Bailey of N. Gloc ^f
_ 31	"	Jon ^a . Haskell to Elizabeth Arnald both of N. Gloc ^f
Jany 7, 1790		Nathaniel Eveleth Jun to Judith Parsons both of N.G.
19	"	Isaac Parsons Jr. to Martha Chandler both of N. Glo.
Jany. 21	"	Phillip Chandler to Deborah Hewett both of N. Glo ^f
28	"	Joseph Allen to Rhoda Chandler both of N. Glo ^f .
Feb 5	"	John Woodman to Abigail Merrill both of N. G.
18	"	Edmund Knight of Falm ^o . to Dorothy Haskell of N. Glo.

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Mar 4 1790		Willard Bridgham of Bakerstown to Jemima Packard of Shepardsfield
7	"	Robert Bailey to Abigail East both of N Glo ^r .
Ap ^r . 5	"	Benj ^a , Hutchins of N ^o . 4, to Nancy Rider of N. Yarm ^o .
26	"	W ^m Nash to Abigail Tarbox both of N. Gloc ^r .

June 10	"	Jon ^a . Row Jr. to Betty Putnam both of N. Glo ^f .	
July 1	"	Asa Parry of N ^o . 4 to Hannah Hannaford both of N Gloc ^f .	
Oct 14	"	Ephraim Bradford to Anna Warren both of N Gloc ^f .	
D ^f 30	"	W ^m Mequire to Thankful Haskell both of N. G.	
Jan'y 13, 1791	"	Eben ^f . Marble to Sarah Cash both of Bakerstown	
Feb 17	"	Alden Bridgham of Shephds ^f to Sarah Lane of N. Glo ^f .	
Mar. 3	"	John Parsons, Rusfield to Dorothy Stevens, N. Glo ^f .	
24	"	Moses Parsons to Salome Haskell both of N. Gloucest ^f	
Ap. 25	"	Mr Robert Bartlet AE 78 to Mrs. Anna Godfrey AE 68 both of N Glo.	
Same day	"	Job Haskell to Judith Danning both of N. Gloucester	
Apr 27	"	Tho ^s . Downing to Abigail Bailey both of Bakerstown	
Ap, 28	"	Curtis Walker to Sally Pool both of N. Glo ^f .	
May 3	"	William Stevans to Sally Witham both of N. Glo ^f .	
June 15	"	Samuel Lane to Polly Dwinell both of Bakerstown	
19	"	W ^m Childs to Anna Washburn both of Bakerstown	
Aug 1,	"	Edward Andros of N ^o . 4, to Elizabeth Nevens of Bakerstown	
2	"	Amos Dwinell of Bakerstown to Sarah Lane of N. Glo ^f .	
25	"	Moses Basford to Sally Pond both of N ^o . 4.	
Oct. 6,	"	John Tappan Merrill to Hannah Chipman both of N.G.	
Nov 13,	"	Joseph Conant of Falmouth to Lucy Tufts of Baker_____	
Nov 17,	"	Benj ^a Witt to Betsey Parsons both of Rusford	The above three
" "	"	Silas Harris of Green, to Mary Haskell of N Glo ^f .	Couples married
" "	"	Paul Stevens to Lydia Collins both of N. Glo ^f .	in same day
Dec. 8	"	Peter Haskell to Salome Parsons, both of N. Glo ^f .	
Mar. 1, 1792	"	Israel Haskell to Judith Wilcom both of Bakerston	
Ap. 19	"	Amos Harris Ju ^r . of N. Yarm ^o , to Elisabeth Hutchinson, N.G.	
24	"	Isaac Gross to Sarah Woodman both of N. Glo ^f .	
June 7	"	Sam ^l . Porter of Bridgewater in County of Plymouth to Elizabeth Hersey of N. Glo ^f .	
June 10	"	Oliver Wiswall to Hannah McKenney both of ye claim.	
July 18	"	Jeremiah Field of Falm ^o . To Miriam Doughty of Gray	
Aug 23	"	Jonathan Prince to Rhoda Merrill both of N. Glo ^f .	
Sep 20	"	W ^m Stenchfield to Susanna Smith both of N.G.	
De ^f 6	"	George Denning to Eleanor Rollins both of Bakerstown, so called	
18	"	Joseph Treadwell to Mary Tyler both of N.G.	
" 27	"	William Maxwell of Pejebscot claim to Hannah Mequire of N.Glo ^f .	

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Jan'y 6, 1793 Eben^f. Collins Jur to Salome Lang both of N. Glo^f.

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GEORGE THRASHER:
A HEBRON, MAINE, INTERLUDE

By Michael F. Dwyer

The vital records of Hebron, Maine, have the following entry for the family of George and Rachel Thrasher:

Rachel Daughter of George and Rachel Thrasher born august 3d 1785
Cloe Daughter of George & Rachel Thrasher born april 20 1787
George son of George and Rachel Thrasher born octr 20 1788
and Deceased January 5th 1794
David son of George and Rachel Thrasher born april 15 1797
and Deceased the 25 of the same month
Jonathan son of George and Rachel Thrasher born November 23 1798
Reuben son of George and Rachel Thrasher [born] January 3d 1801
and Deceased September 28 1801
Reuben son of George and Rachel Thrasher born august 11 1802¹

Judging from the entries both before and after it, the family record was entered after July 1804. This page, with entries all written in the same hand, contains both single births near to the time they happened, and seemingly complete families like that of the Thrashers. Since the Thrasher entry lists the births of seven children and the deaths of three of them over a span of seventeen years, the original source was likely a family Bible. Inexplicably, two children, Lucy, born in 1791, and a second George, born in 1795, are missing. The entry gives no further information on the parents, George and Rachel.

The omissions notwithstanding, the above entry represents the only surviving contemporary recording of the children of George and Rachel (Holmes) Thrasher. It makes one wonder why none of the children had hitherto been recorded at a town level in their previous twenty years of marriage. In fact, the Thrashers lived in Hebron for just seven years, and only their last child was born there. The Hebron record raises several questions: Why did the Thrasher family move to Hebron, why did they leave, and does their sojourn in Hebron shed any light on George's elusive parentage?

About two dozen of the early residents of Shepardsfield Plantation, later Hebron, with surnames like Cushman, Churchill, Holmes, and Le Barron, hailed from the Middleboro/Plymouth area of Massachusetts.² Another connection between the two areas was Hebron's Baptist minister for forty-eight years, Rev. John Tripp, who

¹ *Original Records of Maine Towns and Cities, Town of Hebron, Maine* (Picton Press CD, 2005), image 203.

² *Heads of Families at the First Census of the United States Taken in the Year 1790: Maine* (Washington, 1908), p. 24.

had served churches in Carver and Middleboro before being called to Maine.³ With the exception of his Hebron years, George Thrasher lived in Plymouth County, Massachusetts, a region with well-established traditions of vital records. Yet his birth and death went unrecorded. George's earliest appearance in a known record is a Plymouth, Massachusetts, deed dated 30 January 1778 wherein he purchases from William Warren a one-acre lot adjoining South Pond.⁴ Eliab Richmond was a witness to the deed. Presumably, George was at least twenty-one years old when he executed the deed. Analyzing further the families who lived at South Pond does provide clues to George's parentage.

No Thrashers are found in Plymouth town or church records before 28 October 1770, when Thankful, daughter of Azariah and Thankful (Pratt) Thrasher married William Williams.⁵ Azariah and Thankful's first seven children were recorded in Middleboro town records between 1750 and 1761, and two additional children are listed when Azariah was warned out of Plymouth on 28 May 1767.⁶ George, however, is not listed among their children. William T. Davis's *Genealogical Register of Plymouth Families*, originally published in 1899 as Part II of the author's *Ancient Landmarks of Plymouth*, gives an incomplete and unconnected vignette of nine men named Thrasher associated with Plymouth in the late-eighteenth and early-nineteenth centuries. The account makes no attempt to connect George to parents or siblings. His entry simply reads, "George Thrasher m. Rachel Holmes, 1784."⁷

Azariah Thrasher's brother, Daniel Thrasher, also came to Plymouth from Middleboro.⁸ Daniel, a cordwainer,⁹ married Abiah Richmond in Middleboro on 28 March 1750/1,¹⁰ but none of their children were recorded in any town or church record. A variety of circumstantial evidence points to Daniel and Abiah as George's parents. Daniel never owned land in Plymouth, and only his death, on 23 November 1777, is listed in the records of the First Church of Plymouth.¹¹ George is also mentioned several times in the records of that church.¹² Interestingly, Daniel died just two months before George purchased land at South Pond, seven years before he

³ Marquis F. King, *Annals of Oxford, Maine* (Portland, 1903), 278, (hereafter cited as *Annals of Oxford*).

⁴ Plymouth Co., Mass., Deeds, 59:91.

⁵ Lee D. van Antwerp, comp., and Ruth Wilder Sherman, ed., *Vital Records of Plymouth, Massachusetts* (Camden, Maine, 1993), 359 (hereafter cited as Antwerp and Sherman, *Plymouth VRs*).

⁶ Plymouth Co. Court Records, 3:214.

⁷ William T. Davis, *Genealogical Register of Plymouth Families* (Boston, 1899).

⁸ Daniel, Azariah et al. were named as minor children in the will of their father, Christopher Thrasher of Taunton, dated 17 April 1728 (Bristol Co., Mass., Probate 6:171).

⁹ While George Thrasher was never listed as a cordwainer, his grandson Jonathan A. Thrasher is listed as a shoemaker in the 1860 census (1860 U.S. Census, Plymouth, Plymouth Co., Mass. census, p. 146, #653/518).

¹⁰ *Mayflower Descendant*, 18(1916):84.

¹¹ Plymouth Church Records 1620–1859, online database, NewEnglandAncestors.org.

¹² Plymouth Church Records (see note 11) mention George Thrasher twice in reporting the deaths of his sons George and Reuben.

would marry, but whether there was any connection between Daniel's death and George's subsequent land purchase is not known.

Daniel Thrasher's move from Middleboro to Plymouth is also corroborated in the testimony, years later, of Daniel Thrasher Jr. (ca. 1754–1837),¹³ who stated in his declaration for a Revolutionary War pension that he was born in Middleboro, lived there until 1825 “excepting a few years immediately after said service when his father moved to Plymouth and he lived with him.”¹⁴ Perhaps Daniel Sr. left Middleboro to join Abiah (Richmond) Thrasher's brother, Henry Richmond, who also lived on South Pond.¹⁵ Henry Richmond sold land to Jonathan Holmes, George's future father-in-law, in 1773.¹⁶ Henry was enumerated in the 1790 census directly after George Thrasher,¹⁷ and his first wife, Sarah (Washburn) Richmond, is buried near George Thrasher's child in South Pond Cemetery.¹⁸ Eliab Richmond was Henry's son and continued to live in Plymouth until

Jonathan Holmes	1	1	2
Geo Thrasher	1	1	2
Henry Richmond	1		1
Samuel Right	1	2	2

1780, when he is listed directly after George Thrasher in a Plymouth Militia, “ye 20th Class,” commanded by Capt. Robert Finney.¹⁹ That same year, Eliab Richmond and his young family relocated to Shepardsfield Plantation, Maine, becoming one of the town original proprietors.²⁰ Henry Richmond, still in Plymouth as late as 1795, when he married his second wife,²¹ is alleged to have joined his son in Hebron, where he died.²² Directly following Henry Richmond's name on the 1790 census is that of Samuel Right [Wright], who married Henry's daughter, Sarah, in Plymouth

¹³ Joshua Bailey Richmond, *The Richmond Family 1594–1896 and Pre American Ancestors 1040–1594* (Boston, 1897), 44. Only Daniel Jr. (with incorrect information) and Abel are given as children of Daniel and Abiah.

¹⁴ Revolutionary War Pension Application #S30734 for Daniel Thrasher. In Aug. 1832, he was 78 years old.

¹⁵ Family relationships stated in *Mayflower Families Through Five Generations*, 2: James Chilton, Richard More, Thomas Rogers, ed. Robert M. Sherman (Plymouth, 1978), 292.

¹⁶ Plymouth Co. Deeds, 57:54.

¹⁷ *Heads of Families at the First Census of the United States Taken in the Year 1790: Massachusetts* (Washington, 1908), p. 177.

¹⁸ Cemetery inscriptions, South Pond Cemetery, Plymouth. Sarah, wife of Henry Richmond, d. Dec. 3, 1793, age 64 years, 10 months. George, son of George and Rachel Thrasher, d. Jan. 5, 1794, age 5 yrs. 2 mos., 5 days.

¹⁹ William Thomas Davis, *Records of the Town of Plymouth Town 1743 to 1783* (Plymouth, 1903), 410.

²⁰ *Annals of Oxford*, 256.

²¹ Antwerp and Sherman, *Plymouth VRs*, 371. Henry Richmond & Submit Wethered of Plymouth, 25 Sept. 1795.

²² D.A.R. Lineage #155459, Mrs. Stella King White. Henry is said to have died in Hebron at the age of 72.

on 8 November 1783.²³ Samuel also removed to Oxford [Hebron] in 1801,²⁴ shortly before George left Plymouth for Maine. George Thrasher's eventual move to Hebron cannot be viewed as an isolated act but must be seen in a wider context of Richmond family relationships.

One more strand that links George to his putative parents lies in the identification of a sister, Abiah Thrasher, born about 1762,²⁵ who married William Persons on 14 October 1784 in Plymouth.²⁶ Her unusual name makes her a likely child of Daniel and Abiah. Perhaps she lived with George Thrasher prior to her marriage, and it is no coincidence that she would marry a South Pond neighbor. William, a son of William and Phebe (Holmes) Pearson, was named in the will of his grandmother, Phebe (Churchill) Holmes and therefore a first cousin of Rachel (Holmes) Thrasher.²⁷ In

the 1790 census, William's name appears at the top of the next column, following Samuel Right, but in 1800, at right, he immediately follows George. Unlike some of his South Pond neighbors who moved to other places, William remained on his property. Further analysis of deeds with George



Thrasher as grantee reveal William had not moved from South Pond. He added twice to his original holding and so by 1794 his property included over 50 acres.²⁸ Two generations later, in the 1860 census, Abiah and William's grandson, William Pearson, would appear, as a shoemaker, in the household of George Thrasher's son, Jonathan Thrasher.²⁹ Shortly after the census enumeration, William Pearson married Jonathan's daughter, Maria Thrasher.³⁰

In the first decade of the nineteenth century, when the land mass of the United States doubled with the Louisiana Purchase, there were significant demographic changes all over New England. While the town of Plymouth grew at a faster rate than the rest of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, there were still a number of residents from the area, like Samuel Wright, who continued the migration to Hebron.

²³ Antwerp and Sherman, *Plymouth VRs*, 364.

²⁴ *Annals of Oxford*, 295.

²⁵ Antwerp and Sherman, *Plymouth VRs*, 637. Abiah Persons was 85 at the time of her death on 21 April 1847.

²⁶ Antwerp and Sherman, *Plymouth VRs*, 387. In his Revolutionary War pension application, #W13806, William indicates his preferred spelling is *Pearson*. William's marriage, only a few months apart from George and Rachel's marriage, was also solemnized by Josiah Cotton, Esq., a Justice of the Peace, an indication they were not affiliated with a church at that time.

²⁷ Will of Phebe Holmes, 3 Sept. 1772, Plymouth Co. Probate Records, #10541.

²⁸ Plymouth Co. Deeds, 72:109, 77:71.

²⁹ See note 9.

³⁰ "Massachusetts Vital Records, 1841–1910" (from original records held by the Mass. Archives), online database, AmericanAncestors.org, Marriages, 1860, 136:280 (hereafter cited as Mass. VRs, 1841–1910).

On 11 January 1802, George Thrasher sold his homestead adjoining South Pond to Belcher Manter for \$575.³¹ Undoubtedly, much of the 180-mile journey northward would have taken place by water. George would thus join a well-established group of former Plymouth residents, and as a man in his mid to late forties, with five living children, he may have envisioned this move as a permanent one. For the sum of \$200, he purchased fifty-one acres in lot 9 of Hebron from Isaac Thayer.³² On 30 March 1807, George sold his property in Hebron to Solomon Russell, a man who also had roots in Plymouth,³³ and moved back to Plymouth. Certainly, this type of migration pattern was not the norm. The explicit reason for the Thrashers return to Plymouth may never be known, but for at least a year they lived in straightened circumstances, sharing a house with Paul and Anna Sturtevant.³⁴ The deed stipulated George would have rights to “a certain part of a dwelling house . . . beginning at the middle of the front door . . . and from thence from said door to run through the middle of the chimney.” It also gave George “privilege to bake in the oven and fill with water out of the well.”³⁵ Perhaps Solomon Russell defaulted on the mortgage, because George eventually won a suit against him in the amount of \$179.05.³⁶ By 1809, George purchased a homestead from Reuben Briggs, near Clam Pudding Pond, on both sides of the Sandwich Road, not far from the town line of Wareham.³⁷

For the remainder of his life, George Thrasher lived in Plymouth and seemed to be absent from public affairs. His death was not recorded in Plymouth records, but a quitclaim deed of his children to their brother Reuben on 3 September 1829 indicates that he was dead by that time.³⁸ Rachel, his widow, lived for another twenty years, cared for by their youngest son, Reuben, who did not marry until after his mother’s death. The area where George and his sons resettled eventually became known as Thrasherville. No gravestone has survived for George and Rachel. George’s last homestead and an adjoining cemetery were casualties of a devastating fire, as described in Plymouth’s newspaper, *The Old Colony Memorial*, on 15 September 1900:

Never before in the memory of the oldest inhabitant has Plymouth woodland received such a visitation by fire, when so much damage was done in so short a time as it got last Wednesday afternoon and night.³⁹

³¹ Plymouth Co. Deeds, 119:76. Belcher Manter’s granddaughter, Cynthia Manter, married Jonathan Thrasher.

³² Oxford Co., Maine, Deeds, 1:462.

³³ Oxford Co. Deeds, 1:461. Solomon married Nabby Wright in Hebron.

³⁴ There is no known family relationship between Paul and Anna (Whitten) Sturtevant and either George or Rachel.

³⁵ Plymouth Co. Deeds, 113:65–66, 27 Sept. 1808.

³⁶ Plymouth Co. Court Records, 12:142, Court of Common Pleas, Aug. 1810.

³⁷ Plymouth Co. Deeds 112: 155.

³⁸ Plymouth Co. Deeds 174:22.

³⁹ Ellis W. Brewster, “Thrasherville, An Old Plymouth Settlement,” *Pilgrim Society Notes*, Plymouth Massachusetts, No. 10, June 1960.

The article further describes how hundreds of acres and several homes burned, including that of James T. Thrasher, son of George and Content (Cornish) Thrasher.⁴⁰ This fire is just another instance of clues being obliterated or made scanty in the location where one would expect to find more detailed records. While representing just one episode in their lives, the Hebron sojourn of George and Rachel Thrasher belongs to a wider web of intricate kinship networks. Patterns of neighborhood settlement and communal bonds from Plymouth County were duplicated in Hebron, and sometimes the evidence appears in surprising places. When Hannah (Holmes) Richmond, widow of Eliab, at the age of 95 was attempting to obtain a Revolutionary War widow's pension in May 1846, she relied on the testimony of Molly Soule, age 77, a resident of Oxford. Molly stated she was a native of Plympton, about nine miles from Plymouth, and her acquaintance with the Richmonds "commenced in my childhood before we removed from Massachusetts and has continued for the span of 65 years. I have been a neighbor to Mrs. Richmond in this town for 62 years."⁴¹ Molly's statement affirms the endurance of community over distance and time.

GENEALOGICAL SUMMARY

GEORGE THRASHER was born say 1756 in Middleborough, Massachusetts. He died, probably in Plymouth, before 3 September 1829.⁴² George is likely to have been a son of Daniel⁴ Thrasher (*Christopher*³, *John*², *Christopher*¹) and Abiah (Richmond). He married in Plymouth on 1 July 1784 RACHEL HOLMES,⁴³ a probable daughter of Jonathan and Rachel (—) Holmes. She was born about May 1762 in Plymouth, and died there on 26 December 1849, aged 87 years, 7 months, "the widow of George Thrasher."⁴⁴ George resided in Plymouth from 1778 until 1801 when he removed to Hebron, Maine. By 1808, he had returned to Plymouth where he lived for the rest of his life. There are no Plymouth County probate records for George.

Children of George and Rachel (Holmes) Thrasher, all recorded in Hebron except iv and v; first eight children b. Plymouth:

- i RACHEL THRASHER, b. 3 Aug. 1785, d. Plymouth, 15 Oct. 1864, aged 80 years.⁴⁵
At the time of the 1850 census, Rachel resided with her unmarried brother Reu-

⁴⁰ James T. Thrasher (1840–1908) was the son of George and Content (Cornish) Thrasher.

⁴¹ Revolutionary War Pension Application, #W26947, Hannah Richmond.

⁴² Plymouth Co. Deeds, 174:22. George, Jonathan, Lucy Thrasher, and William and Chloe Ripley quitclaimed to their brother Reuben their share of their father's estate.

⁴³ Antwerp and Sherman, *Plymouth VRs*, 387.

⁴⁴ Antwerp and Sherman, *Plymouth VRs*, 650. For discussion of Rachel's parentage, see *New England Ancestors*, Vol. 2, No. 2, p. 13.

⁴⁵ Mass. VRs, 1841–1910, Deaths, 1864, 75:338. The record names her parents as George and Rachel Thrasher.

- ben.⁴⁶ By 1860, she was listed as a pauper.⁴⁷ She may not have been mentally competent because she did not participate with her siblings in the quitclaim deed of 1829.
- ii CHLOE THRASHER, b. 20 April 1787, d. Quincy, Mass., 3 Feb. 1867;⁴⁸ m. Plymouth, 24 April 1812, WILLIAM RIPLEY,⁴⁹ b. Plymouth, 21 May 1790, d. Quincy, Mass., 26 Dec 1866, son of Thaddeus and Mary (Shurtleff) Ripley.⁵⁰
 - iii GEORGE THRASHER, b. 20 Oct. 1788, d. Plymouth, 5 Jan 1794.⁵¹
 - iv LUCY THRASHER, b. ca. 1791, d. Plymouth, 29 July 1858, aged 67 years.⁵² She was omitted from the Hebron record. Lucy never married and resided with her brother Reuben in 1850 and 1855.⁵³
 - v GEORGE THRASHER, b. [calc.] Nov. 1795, d. Plymouth, 5 Dec. 1875, aged 80 years, 1 month;⁵⁴ m. Plymouth, 10 Aug. 1818, CONTENT CORNISH,⁵⁵ b. Plymouth, 6 Feb. 1799, d. Plymouth, 13 Oct. 1880, aged 81 years, 8 month, 7 days, daughter of Thomas and Jerusha (Holmes) Cornish.⁵⁶ George's birth was also omitted from the Hebron record.
 - vi DAVID THRASHER, b. 15 April 1797, d. Plymouth, 25 April 1797.⁵⁷
 - vii JONATHAN THRASHER, b. 23 Nov. 1798, d. Plymouth, 3 Jul 1880, aged 81 years, 7 months, 9 days;⁵⁸ m. (1) Plymouth, 4 Dec. 1822, RUTH LUCAS,⁵⁹ b. Carver, Mass., 20 Oct. 1801, daughter of Calvin and Ruth (Godfrey) Lucas,⁶⁰ d. Plymouth, 22 Feb. 1825;⁶¹ m. (2) bef. 3 Sept. 1829, CYNTHIA (MANTER) LUCAS,⁶² b.

⁴⁶ Reuben Thrasher household, 1850 U.S. Census, Plymouth, Plymouth Co., Mass., p. 175, #831/1135.

⁴⁷ Reuben Thrasher household, 1860 U.S. Census, Plymouth, Plymouth Co., Mass., p. 147, #1038/1283.

⁴⁸ Mass. VRs, 1841–1910, Deaths 1867, 203:246

⁴⁹ Antwerp and Sherman, *Plymouth VRs*, 377.

⁵⁰ Mass. VRs, 1841–1910, Deaths 1866, 193:261.

⁵¹ Gravestone, South Pond Cemetery, Plymouth. Death date agrees with Hebron record. The Plymouth Church Records (see note 11) state "George Thrasher's Child, Jan. 3, 1794."

⁵² Mass. VRs, 1841–1910, Deaths 1858, 121:259. No parents listed.

⁵³ Reuben Thrasher household, 1850 U.S. Census, Plymouth, Plymouth Co., Mass., p. 175, #831/1135; Reuben Thrasher household, 1855 Massachusetts State Census, online database at FamilySearch.org.

⁵⁴ Mass. VRs, 1841–1910, Deaths 1875, 275:326. Parents named as George and Rachel (Nightingale [*sic*]) Thrasher.

⁵⁵ Antwerp and Sherman, *Plymouth VRs*, 468.

⁵⁶ Mass. VRs, 1841–1910, Deaths 1880, 320:306; her parents' marriage on 14 Feb. 1797 in Antwerp and Sherman, *Plymouth VRs*, 286.

⁵⁷ See Hebron family record.

⁵⁸ Mass. VRs, 1841–1910, Deaths 1880, 320:304.

⁵⁹ Antwerp and Sherman, *Plymouth VRs*, 446.

⁶⁰ *Vital Records of Carver, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850* (Boston, 1911), 42; her mother's maiden name documented in Elizabeth Pearson White, "The Godfreys of Chatham, Mass.," *The New England Historical and Genealogical Register* 127(1973):97.

⁶¹ Plymouth Church Records (see note 11). Under a list of deaths for 1825, the record states: "Feb. 18, George Thrasher's son's wife on the way to Sandwich."

⁶² Cynthia, wife of Jonathan Thrasher, was a witness to the quitclaim deed (Plymouth Co. Deeds 174:22).

Plymouth, abt. 1804, d. Plymouth, 1 March 1883, aged 79 years, daughter of Prince and Lucy (Besse) Manter.⁶³ Plymouth vital records mistakenly call Jonathan “Joshua” when they list the children born to him and Cynthia.⁶⁴

viii REUBEN THRASHER, b. 3 Jan. 1801, d. Plymouth, 28 Sept. 1801.⁶⁵

ix REUBEN THRASHER, b. Hebron, 11 Aug. 1802,⁶⁶ d. Plymouth, 2 Sept. 1874, aged 72 years, 22 days;⁶⁷ m. Plymouth, 1 April 1851, MARY C. (VAUGHN) DOUGLASS,⁶⁸ widow of William Douglass.⁶⁹ She was b. Plymouth, [calc.] 20 Jan. 1828, d. Brockton, Mass., 11 Feb 1901, aged 73 years, 21 days, daughter of Elisha and Annie (Holmes) Vaughn.⁷⁰ Massachusetts is listed as Reuben’s birthplace in the 1850 and 1860 censuses, as well as the Massachusetts state censuses for 1855 and 1865, but Maine is listed as his birthplace in the 1870 census.⁷¹ Although he married late, Reuben fathered nine children born between 1852 and 1868.

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⁶³ Mass. VRs, 1841–1910, Deaths 1883, 347:332. Cynthia had m. (1) Plymouth, 31 Dec. 1822, James Lucas (Antwerp and Sherman, *Plymouth VRs*, 446). For the ancestry of Cynthia’s mother, see Michael F. Dwyer, “Lucy Besse: To Maine and Back?” *The Maine Genealogist* 32(2010):177–83.

⁶⁴ Antwerp and Sherman, *Plymouth VRs*, 542.

⁶⁵ Gravestone, South Pond Cemetery, Plymouth. Death date agrees with Hebron record. The Plymouth Church Records (see note 11) state “George Thrasher’s Child, Jan. 3, 1794.”

⁶⁶ *Vital Records of Brockton, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850* (Boston, 1911), 145, claim Reuben was born there. In 1901 his remains were removed from Union Cemetery, Plymouth, and reinterred in Melrose Cemetery, Brockton. A cemetery stone cites his birth year, 1802, and the compiler of the published Brockton vital records concluded he was born in Brockton.

⁶⁷ Mass. VRs, 1841–1910, Deaths 1874, 266:319. Reuben’s birthplace is given as Maine.

⁶⁸ Mass. VRs, 1841–1910, Marriages 1851, 55:246.

⁶⁹ Mary C. Vaughn had m. Plymouth, 30 April 1844, William Douglass (Antwerp and Sherman, *Plymouth VRs*, 603).

⁷⁰ Mass. VRs, 1841–1910, Deaths 1901, 518:150.

⁷¹ Reuben Thrasher household, 1850 U.S. Census, Plymouth, Plymouth Co., Mass., p. 175, #831/1135; Reuben Thrasher household, 1860 U.S. Census, Plymouth, Plymouth Co., Mass., p. 147, #1038/1283; Reuben Thrasher household, 1855 and 1865 Massachusetts State Censuses, online database at FamilySearch.org; Reuben Thrasher household, 1870 U.S. Census, Plymouth, Plymouth Co., Mass., p. 622, #82/82.

MARRIAGE RECORDS OF PALMYRA, SOMERSET COUNTY,
MAINE

Transcribed by Joseph C. Anderson II, FASG, Editor

[*Marriage Book*, p. 1]

Marriage between Mr Luther Brown and Miss Caroline Cowing both of Palmyra performed by Joseph P Roberts March 21 1845
Marriage in Palmyra Dec 8th 1844 by Joseph P Roberts Mr Elisha W Shaw to Miss Mary E. Palmer both of this town
Joined in the bands of Matrimony Jan 01 1845 by Joseph P Roberts Mr Randal McCrillis to Miss Emerline R Elkins
Joined in Matrimony by the Rev Peter Burgess Dec 13th 1844 Mr John Vickery to Miss Mary C Lane both of Dexter
Marriage between Mr John McDermot of Newport and Miss Mary Carter of Palmyra were joined in Marriage, by Sam^l Clements Justice of the Peace

[p. 2]

William Willie & Polly Bickford both of Palmyra June 15 1844
Charles Dillingham of Fairfield & [Ab^s?] Heald of Palmyra Sept 30 1844
[*Illegible name*] & Sarah B [Spearin?] both of Pittsfield Dec 20 1844
[*Illegible*] Bragg of Newport & Eliza M Pollee of Palmyra Jany 1 1845
Ellbridge Applebee & Sarah Carr both of Palmyra Sept 13 1845
By John Larry, Justice of the Peace

Mr Merrill H. Harriman and Miss Laura J. Parker both of Palmyra 22d day of May 1845, By Jesse Harriman, Ordained minister of the Methodist E. Church
Mr. Joseph Parkman and Miss Sarah Miles both of Palmyra, July 6 1845 by Nathl F Mason
Mr Samuel Farnham & Miss Eliza C Robinson the 24 day of Dec 1844, by F. A. Soule, Minister of the Gospel

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Mr Ichabod Shory & Mrs Polly Fogg both of Palmyra, November 1845 by John [Galusha] Minister of Gospel
Mr. William W. Tracy & Miss Mary Sibbel both of Palmyra January 22nd 1844, by Samuel Bickford, Minister of the Gospel
Mr Sam^l S Lang and Miss Sarah J. Burgess both of Palmyra, Palmyra Sept 23rd 1845, by Aaron Sanderson.
Mr Simon Frost of Lincoln in the county of Penobscot and Miss Susan Davis of Palmyra July 20th 1845, by William H. Ireland, ordained Minister of the Gospel
Mr. John Davis to Miss Mary Davis both of Palmyra, Dec. 4 1845, by D. P. Bailey

Mr. Dennis L Hodgman & Miss Mary E Sanborn both of St. Albans were joined in marriage in Palmyra 17 Nov^r 1845, by O. D. Merrick, Justice of the Peace

[p. 4]

Mr. Ambrose White & Miss Betsey White both of Palmyra July 18th 1846

Mr. Sam^l Dexter Jr and Miss Lanora L Whitman both of Palmyra April 10 1847, by Sam^l Dexter Justice of the Peace

Mr. Sewell Lovell of Abbot in the county of Piscataquis and Miss Elizabeth Cook of Palmyra March 30 1847, by Rev. Peter Burgess Minister of the Gospel

Horatio Morrell & Miss Hannah M Shaw both of Palmyra were joined in marriage at Palmyra 24 December 1846, by James French, Justice Peace

Mr Otis M Whitman and Louisa Ann Dexter both of Palmyra were joined in marriage at Palmyra 13 June 1847, by Samuel Dexter, Justice of the Peace

[p. 5]

Mr Michael Coffee of Palmyra and Miss Maria Perkins of Hartland at the dwelling house of Mr Patrick Coffee in Palmyra 30 April 1848, by Joseph M Moor Justice of the Peace

Mr James Ledbetter & Miss Harriet Hodgdon 20 September 1847, by Peter Burgess, Minister of the Gospel

Mr Edward F Welshire and Miss Mary Nurrill both of Palmyra Nov 5th 1847 at Palmyra, by O. D. Merrick, Jus^t of the Peace

[p. 6]

Mr. William Farnham and Miss Adeline O. Langley both of Palmyra Oct 22d 1848 at Palmyra, by Sam^l Bickford, Minister of the Gospel

Mr Alfred Lang and Miss Mary Lancey both of Palmyra January 24. 1849 at Palmyra, by Samuel Bickford, Minister of the Gospel

Zebulon Young of Hampden and Mrs. Roxanna Pollard of Palmyra Oct 22d 1848 at Palmyra, by Samuel Bickford, Minister of the Gospel

Mr. Confucius Lancey of Bangor and Miss Eliza A Hubard of Palmyra Aug. 27 1848, by Sam^l Bickford, Minister of the Gospel

[p. 7]

Mr Samuel Y. Mitchell of Pittsfield and Miss Harriet W. Cushman of Palmyra 1 Nov. 1849 at Palmyra, by Geo Whitney Justice of the Peace

Simon Tibbets & Lydia Record both of Palmyra 13 Mar 1847

Gorham H Moor & Mary Anne Jenkins both of Detroit Feb. 6th 1849
by Greenville Flint Justice of Peace

Mr Thomas C Fairbrother to Miss Caroline Mackie both of Palmyra 10 June 1849

Mr Samuel Ells of Clinton in the county of Kennebec to Miss Mehalia C Libby of
Pittsfield in the county of Somerset 23 September 1849
by Samuel Dexter Justice of the Peace

Mr Thomas Riggs and Miss Lydia B Davis both of Palmyra 1 January 1800, by D P
Baley

Mr Naham L Hodgden of Jay and Miss Livia C Lang of Palmyra 15 May 1849 at
Palmyra, by John S Lang Minister of the Gospel

[p. 8]

Mr James H M^cLure & Miss Emerly A Nason both of Palmyra 24 October 1849, by
Nathaniel Nason, Minister

Mr Julius Tibbets & Miss Sarah J. Cook both of Palmyra 11 August 1846

Mr Peleg H Tracy and Miss Mary E. Hubbard both of Palmyra 20 December 1845

Mr Joseph Patten and Miss Susan R Anderson both of the city of Bangor 19 May
1848 at Palmyra

by Greenville Flint Justice of the Peace

Mr Ambrose White and Miss Betsey J White both of Palmyra 18 July 1846, by W^m
Morton Minister of the Gospel

W^m W. Davis and Judeth Ann Ham both of Palmyra 13 April 1851 at Palmyra, by
Stephen Russell, Preacher of the Gospel

Mr Benjamin Davis and Miss Loisa M Robinson July 31 1851 at Palmyra, by Jo-
seph Merrill Minister of the Gospel

Mr Edward Tripp and Miss Maria J Osborn both of Palmyra 31 August 1851, by
Greenville Flint Justice of the Peace

[p. 9]

Mr Wilbert D. Farnham of Dixmont and Miss Sarah O. Davis of Palmyra 31 July
1951 at Mr Davis house in Palmyra, by Daniel Farnham Minister of the Gospel

Mr Benjamin F Fairbrothe and Miss Hannah P Squires both of Palmyra June 7 1851

Mr Zachariah K Hersom and Jane Daggitt both of Biddeford 29 May 1850 in Pal-
myra

Mr Alexander Goodwin and Miss Mary Jane Wethern both of Detroit September 21
1848 in Palmyra

Mr David Y. Witham and Miss Ether [*sic*] A. Niles both of Detroit September 21
1848 in Palmyra

Mr Thomas B Tenney of St. Albans and Miss Elizabeth White of Palmyra 26 March
1851 in Palmyra

by Peter Burgess Minister of the Gospel

Mr Everett Goding and Margaret C Allen both of Palmyra 2 May 1851, by Nathaniel F Nason Minister of the Gospel

Mr John A Davis to Miss Sarah J Spaulding both of Palmyra 2 March 1851 in Palmyra, by Joseph P. Roberts

Mr Oliver Davis of Palmyra and Miss Rebecah P Lowell 10 November 1850, by Greenville Flint Justice of Peace

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Mr Peleg Sanford and Miss Orinda Robinson both of Palmyra 23 November 1851 at Palmyra, by Hiram Chase, Minister of the Gospel

David Chapman of Carmel & Althea Woodman of Palmyra, 22 June 1852, by O. D. Marreck, Justice of Peace

Mr Joseph Patten of Newport and Miss Mary E Lowell of [blank] 1 April 1852 at Palmyra

George Hubbard & Amanda M F Holway both of Palmyra 25 April 1832 [sic] at Palmyra, by Edward Chase Justice of the Peace

Mr Woodbridge W Osborn and Mary B. Nason both of Palmyra 15 December 1852, by Nath^l F. Nason

[p. 11]

James O. Tracy of Palmyra & Miss Mary Call of Pittsfield Oct 13th 1838

Jonas Mills & Sarah A Thurston both of Palmyra March 20 1839

William Leavitt & Sarah E. Pillsbury both of Palmyra Oct 4 1841

Nathan G Sturtevant of Dexter, Penobscot County & Miss Abigail F Miles of Palmyra Jan 1 1842

Samuel Nay of Skowhegan & Rebecca F. Lancey of Palmyra Dec 25 1842

Moses T Durville of Boston and Miss Harriet Miles of Palmyra Oct. 8 1843

James B Towle & Clara S Maxim of Palmyra July 26 1846

Hiram Burrill & Fanny C Tracy both of Palmyra March 4 1847

Edwin Cook & Lucinda Soule both of Hartland Apr 2 1847

Daniel Bachelor & Sibel Heald of Palmyra May 11. 1847

Cyrus W French of Lovell & Miss Lidia J. Pillsbury of Palmyra [no date]

Albert Applebee & Almira W. Parkman both of Palmyra Nov 30. 1847

John R Weymouth of Orono, County of Penobscot & Margret Soule of Palmyra Sept 10 1848

James C Tayler of Brunswick & Mary A Soule of Palmyra May 10. 1849

Edward V Gordon and Clarinda W Berry of Palmyra Nov 4th 1849

Lewis H. Johnson of Skowhegan and Sarah J. Lancey of Palmyra Aug 14. 1850

James Y. Shaw & Caroline W Jewett both of Palmyra Dec 8 1850

John C Pillsbury & Miss E S. Wedgwood of Newport Apr 2 1852

Timothy H Pooler & Miss Sarah Estes both of Palmyra Oct. 26 1853

by Asil Stetson Justice of Peace

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Mr Daniel Tripp & Miss Lois Pillsbury both of Palmyra Sept 15 1832 in St. Albans
Mr. Benj Parkman & Miss Abigail Berry both of Palmyra Oct 30 1853 in St. Albans
Mr Frederick Flanders of Cornville and Miss Sarah A Berry of Palmyra Oct 30
1853

by Stephen Perry Minister of the Gospel

Daniel T. Cook and Ann C. Parkman in Palmyra April 17th 1853

Mr Samuel P Miles of Kirkland and Miss Ann M Marsh of Palmyra Oct 14th 1853
in Palmyra

Mr Peter H Lang and Miss Nancy E Farnham both of Palmyra March 20th 1854 in
Palmyra

by John S Lang Minister of the Gospel

Mr Arthur R Richardson to Miss Roxana L Nelson both of Pittsfield May 14th 1854
in Palmyra, by H. T. A. Patterson Preacher of the Gospel

Eben H Dodd of Boston, Mass & Miss Samantha T Sweetland of Palmyra March
30th 1854 in Palmyra

Mr Elisha W Shaw to Miss Maria W Elkins both of Palmyra March 23d 1855 in
Palmyra

Mr Elbridge G Davis to Miss Sophia R Spaulding both of Palmyra Dec 25th 1853 in
Palmyra

by H Hawes Minister of the Gospel

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Mr Sylvester W Wilkins to Miss Emeline A Soule both of Palmyra 11 October 1853
at Palmyra, by B F Furber, Justice of the Peace

Mr Edward Cooley of Athens to Miss Louisa P Soule of Hartland 26 March 1853 at
Palmyra, by B F Furber, Justice of the Peace

Mr Henry A. Wheeler and Miss Jane Hilton both of Palmyra 20th November 1854
at Palmyra, by B F Furber, Justice of the Peace

Mr Nicholas Dodge of Bradford & Mrs Abiah Hacket of Palmyra May 7th 1855, by
Bradford Blanchard Justice of the Peace

Mr Judson Higgins of Palmyra & Miss Avis White of Corinth July 4th 1855, by
Harry White Minister of the Gospel

Mr Seth Eastman of Exeter, County of Penobscot with Miss Eloiza A. Atwood of
Fairfield, County of Somerset 29 May 1855 at Palmyra

Mr Joseph C Kinsman of Newport, Penobscot County & Miss Kate E Dow of
Athens in Somerset County 31 August 1855 at Palmyra

by O D Merrick Justice Peace

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Joseph Hurd of Harmony & Jane E. Towle of Palmyra Feb. 26th 1856, by J. P. Roberts, Minister of the Gospel
Braddock Hathaway of Troy, County of Waldo and Mrs Alice Dodge of Palmyra 24 March 1856 at Palmyra, by Elder James Coffin
Calvin T Towle of Palmyra and Eliza A. Herrin of Plymouth 13 March 1856 at Palmyra, by O.D. Herrick, Justice of Peace
Warren E. Hall of Palmyra and Miss Mary E. Mitchel of Palmyra Sept. 11th 1855 in my dwelling house, by John S. Lang, Minister of the Gospel
Benjamin F. Eliot of Searsport and Miss Caroline H. Lang of Palmyra Oct 15 1855 at my dwelling house in Palmyra, John S. Lang, Minister of the Gospel
Mr. H. M. Greely of Foxcroft & Miss Celestia E. Manter of Palmyra 1 May 1856 at Palmyra, by Eld. Z. Manter
Mr Hiram H. Houston of Newport & Miss Eliza J. Holbrook of Newport 29 May 1856 at Palmyra, by Eld. Z. Manter

[p. 15]

Mr. Cyrenus Metcalf of Palmyra & Miss Alice J. Fox of Palmyra 24 Aug. 1856 at Palmyra, by Eld. Z. Manter
Mr. B. H. Josslyn and Miss Olive Jane Seavey both of Lewiston 31 Aug. 1856 at Palmyra, by Eld. Z. Manter
Mr. Thomas J. Butler & Miss Abby W. Goodwin both of Detroit 30 Oct. 1856 at Palmyra, by Eld. Z. Manter
Mr. William G. Young of Vinalhaven & Miss Sylvina A. Grant of Palmyra 2 Nov. 1856 at Palmyra, by Eld. Z. Manter
Mr. George Norton of Newburyport, Mass. & Miss Julia A. More of Newport, Maine 2 Dec. 1856 at Palmyra, by Eld. Z. Manter
Mr Joseph F. Chadbourn of Newport & Miss Ann V. Smith of Dixmont 16 Dec. 1856 at Palmyra, by Eld. Z. Manter
Mr Jesse Hanson & Mrs Adaline O. Tripp both of Palmyra 17 Dec. 1856 at Palmyra, by Eld. Z. Manter
Mr. Ezra M^cGrey of St. Albans & Mrs Emma C. Soctt of Hartland 25 Jan. 1857 at Palmyra, by Eld. Z. Manter
Mr. Ivory H. Towle & Miss Alice C. Murch both of Palmyra 5 Jan. 1857 at Palmyra, by Eld. Z. Manter
Mr. Orin M. Herrington of Newport & Miss Sarah J. Fernald of Newport 7 Feb. 1857 at Palmyra, by Eld. Z. Manter
Mr. Grenville Flint and Miss Augusta Shepley both of Newport 29 June 1856 at Palmyra, by H. F. A. Patterson, Preacher of the Gospel

(to be continued)

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