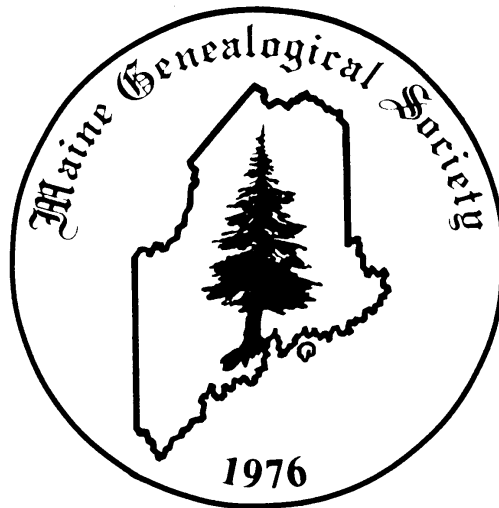


# The Maine Genealogist



February 2019  
Volume 41, Number 1

# The Maine Genealogical Society

P.O. Box 2602, Waterville ME 04903

<http://maineroots.org/>

## OFFICERS FOR THE YEAR 2019

<i>President</i>	Carol Prescott McCoy, Ph.D	Brunswick, Maine
<i>Vice President</i>	Peter M. Smith	South Gardiner, Maine
<i>Membership Secretary</i>	Deborah Nowers	Belfast, Maine
<i>Newsletter Editor</i>	Deborah Roberge	Old Town, Maine
<i>Event Co-Chairs</i>	Emily A. Schroeder	South China, Maine
	Lynne Holland	Brunswick, Maine
<i>Publications Sales Manager</i>	Roland Rhoades	Gorham, Maine
<i>Recording Secretary</i>	Pam Beveridge	Kenduskeag, Maine
<i>Treasurer</i>	Terry A. Gerald	Wells, Maine
<i>Webmaster</i>	Brian Bouchard	Brunswick, Maine
<i>Corresponding Secretary</i>	Theresa Davis	Holden, Maine

## DIRECTORS

<i>Term Expiring in December 2019</i>	Cindy Spaulding	Albion, Maine
	Lynne Holland	Brunswick, Maine
<i>Term Expiring in December 2020</i>	Helen A. Shaw, CG	Rockport, Maine
	Marlene A. Groves	Rockland, Maine
<i>Term Expiring in December 2021</i>	Charlene Fox Clemens	Hancock, Maine
	Ralph Harris	Carmel, Maine

---

## *The Maine Genealogist*

<i>Editor</i>	Joseph C. Anderson II, FASG	Dallas, Texas
<i>Contributing Editors</i>	Gregory S. Childs	Clamart, France
	Michael F. Dwyer, FASG	Pittsford, Vt.
	Priscilla Eaton, CG	Rochester, N.Y.
	Patricia Law Hatcher, FASG, FGSP	Dallas, Texas

---

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

# The Maine Genealogist

Journal of the Maine Genealogical Society

---

February 2019

Vol. 41, No. 1

---

## CONTENTS

	PAGE
EDITOR'S PAGE	2
THE ORIGIN AND FAMILY OF BENJAMIN H. CROCKER OF MEDWAY, MAINE Douglas A. Wolf	3
BETTY AND SARAH FELLOWS OF SALISBURY, MASS. First and Second Wives of Levi Shaw of Minot, Maine Joseph C. Anderson II and Glenn D. Nasman	14
THE PARENTS OF JOEL AND PATTY (TRAVIS) ADAMS OF BROWNFIELD, MAINE Michael F. Dwyer	19
TWO WRONGS MIGHT BE RIGHT: Samuel Mosher of Knox, Maine, and the Benefits of Erroneous Family Histories Kenneth Alton Clark	29
THE FAMILY OF ALVIN BRIDGHAM NASH AND HARRIET H. COLE OF HARRINGTON, MAINE: With an Account of Elverdo Norton of Milbridge and Lubec, Maine Carolyn J. Nash	32
LINCOLN COUNTY, MAINE, WILL ABSTRACTS, 1800–1830 <i>(continued)</i>	45

Copyright © 2019 by  
The Maine Genealogical Society

## EDITOR'S PAGE

Okay, I'll admit it. Genealogists can be boring. We all know the feeling of being cornered at a library or a conference by someone who wants to tell us all about their genealogy. They can drone on and on. In such situations, I try to listen politely but, to be honest, I really am not very interested. I'm sure that most of you are more tolerant than me, but I think we all experience these feelings to some extent. If it is not about our own family or doesn't involve the research we are currently conducting, hearing someone rattle on like that can be tiresome.

There are many different families discussed in this issue of *The Maine Genealogist*, but my guess is that most readers are unlikely to find any connection in these articles to their own families and their own research. So why should we bother to read it? If our families are not discussed, what good are these articles and why should we spend our time reading about other people's relatives?

There is, however, a common thread in all of these articles, and that is why we should pay close attention. The common thread is the solving of genealogical problems. We all run into roadblocks and brick walls. The greatest satisfaction in our research occurs when we finally find the solution to a problem that has frustrated us for a long time. The authors in this issue confront their own vexing problem. They then take the reader down the path they followed to solve that problem. While the particular family under study may not be of relevance to us, the techniques and sources utilized by the author to solve the problem just might be something we can use in our own research. I know from experience that reading about others' success can be both inspirational and educational, and that is why I subscribe to the best genealogical journals and read them cover to cover.

Some of the problems discussed in this issue include (1) documenting a descent from someone who left nearly no records at all; (2) establishing that town vital records erred about the same person, not once, but twice over a fifty-year period; (3) proving a case of illegitimacy; (4) using erroneous information published in two family genealogies to piece together the correct story; and (5) determining the identity and surname of a child whose name was incorrectly written in a census record and who was shown as living in a family that was not his own. None of these problems are unique, and all of us have encountered similar quandaries. For that reason, it pays to study these articles for ideas and solutions that we might use.

I am very pleased to welcome back Ken Clark as an author for *The Maine Genealogist*. I first worked with Ken on an article that he wrote for the May 1995 issue, and this was followed by several others over the next few years. The requirements of work and family intervened, but I hope Ken will find the time to publish more in the future. I also welcome Greg Childs as a new Contributing Editor. Although Greg has lived in France for many years, he has deep Maine roots and is a highly skilled researcher. The Contributing Editors are a valuable resource for me, and provide important editorial, research, and copyediting advice on much of the material that appears in these pages.

—Joseph C. Anderson II, Editor

## THE ORIGIN AND FAMILY OF BENJAMIN H. CROCKER OF MEDWAY, MAINE

*By Douglas A. Wolf*

On 29 April 1833, Benjamin Harris Crocker and Jane Abbott, both of Letter A in the 6th range (later Medway, Penobscot County), recorded their intentions to marry in Lincoln, Maine.<sup>1</sup> On the same day Benjamin bought land in Medway, where he is believed to have become the first permanent resident.<sup>2</sup> Later, the couple hosted Thoreau during one of the journeys described in *The Maine Woods*.<sup>3</sup> Following Jane's death in 1863,<sup>4</sup> Benjamin married, second, his first cousin, Eliza Ann (Crocker) (Stanwood) Bodwell, becoming her third husband.<sup>5</sup>

Benjamin and Jane's descendants are well documented. Yet despite the efforts of several family members, nothing has been learned about Benjamin's birth and ancestry. Recently uncovered records from an 1830s Maine Supreme Judicial Court case, together with a Revolutionary War pension application made by Benjamin Crocker of Dresden, Maine, provide some important clues. This evidence, combined with information from several additional sources, supports an emerging picture of the family of Benjamin and Hannah (Bassett) Crocker of Barnstable, Massachusetts, and Maine. This family does not appear to have been previously documented. Moreover, some of its members appear to have been erroneously attributed to other families.

In the 1850 census for Medway, Benjamin H. Crocker is shown as age 42 and born in Maine;<sup>6</sup> likewise, in the 1860 census for Medway he is age 52 and born in Maine.<sup>7</sup> In the 1870 census for Medway, his age is given as 59.<sup>8</sup> The place-of-birth fields for both of his parents were left blank on the original 1870 form. He died on 13 July 1874, aged 66 years.<sup>9</sup> With the exception of the 1870 enumeration, these sources suggest that Benjamin was born between mid-1807 and mid-1808. Neither the census nor published vital records indicate that anyone else named Benjamin Crocker was born in Maine during that time.

In the remainder of this article, I will refer to "Benjamin Crocker, Revolutionary War Pensioner" as BC1 and "Benjamin H. Crocker of Medway, Maine" as BC3. A middle-generation Benjamin Crocker—a likely son of BC1 and the father of BC3—is accordingly represented as BC2.

---

<sup>1</sup> Lincoln Intentions, 1829–1847, p. 39 [Family Search digital film (DGS) #7595734, image 398].

<sup>2</sup> Penobscot Co. Deeds, 35:430; Harold C. Beathem, *History and Genealogy of Medway Maine* (Medway, 1975), 5.

<sup>3</sup> Henry D. Thoreau, *The Maine Woods* (Boston, 1864), 16.

<sup>4</sup> Gravestone, Snow Cemetery, Winn, Maine, photo, findagrave.com #96065315.

<sup>5</sup> Penobscot Co. Probate Records, 40:229.

<sup>6</sup> "Benj<sup>am</sup>" Crocker household, 1850 U.S. Census, Letter A R6, Penobscot Co., Maine, p. 379B.

<sup>7</sup> B.H. Crocker household, 1860 U.S. Census, A.R. 6, Penobscot Co., Maine, p. 788.

<sup>8</sup> Benjamin H. Crocker household, 1870 U.S. Census, Medway, Penobscot Co., Maine, p. 206A.

<sup>9</sup> *Bangor Daily Whig & Courier*, Thursday, 16 July 1874, p. 2.

## BENJAMIN CROCKER'S REVOLUTIONARY WAR PENSION FILE

BC1's Revolutionary War pension application provides a clue to BC3's ancestry. The file consists of ten pages.<sup>10</sup> One of those pages is a sworn statement dated 11 July 1820, according to which this Benjamin Crocker of Dresden, Maine, was 68 years old, suggesting a year of birth of 1751 or 1752. His household contained his wife Hannah, aged 64, and a grandson Benjamin Crocker, aged 11, whose "father drowned." The grandson's date of birth is thus between mid-1808 and mid-1809, consistent with what is known from census and other records about BC3.

The pension application states that BC1 served as a private in the 3rd Massachusetts Regiment under a three-year enlistment beginning in 1781. At various places in the application, Benjamin is stated to have served in Colonel Bradford's regiment, Capt. Williams's company, and Capt. Fisher's company. The *Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors in the Revolutionary War* series lists a Benjamin Crocker (the 3rd) of Barnstable, age 27 in August 1779 (in agreement with the age given in the pension application), but with a nine-month enlistment and two or more separate (and overlapping) six-month enlistments; but none of the units shown, however, correspond to those named in the pension application.<sup>11</sup> The only Benjamin Crocker shown with a three-year enlistment was from New Salem (in western Massachusetts) and was born about 1763.<sup>12</sup> Another problem is that the pension application itself seems to contradict the official U.S. Army history. Although the 3rd Massachusetts Regiment was, in fact, disbanded in November 1783 at West Point (consistent with BC1's application), it was not commanded by Col. Bradford; rather, Bradford commanded the 14th Massachusetts Regiment. The 14th Regiment included companies from Barnstable County and was disbanded 1 January 1781.<sup>13</sup>

## EDWARD BETHAM'S COURT CASES

Edward Betham, BC1's son-in-law, was involved in two court cases that shed additional light on BC1's family. The first, a lawsuit filed against the town of Lincoln, sought compensation for Betham's support of BC1. I have not determined the initial filing date of this case, but depositions were taken in 1833 and 1834, and the Supreme Judicial Court issued an opinion in 1838.<sup>14</sup>

Among the papers included in the docket for the lawsuit are the following (with *emphasis added*):<sup>15</sup>

<sup>10</sup> Benjamin Crocker, Revolutionary War Pension Application #S36999 [images, ancestry.com].

<sup>11</sup> *Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolutionary War*, 17 vols. (Boston, 1896–1908), 4:114.

<sup>12</sup> *Mass. Soldiers & Sailors Rev. War* [note 11], 4:115.

<sup>13</sup> Robert K. Wright, Jr., *The Continental Army* (Washington, D.C., 1983), 214.

<sup>14</sup> The case and its outcome are summarized in John Shepley, ed., "Edward Beetham vs. Inhabitants of Lincoln," *Reports of Cases Determined in the Supreme Judicial Court of the State of Maine, Vol. IV, Maine Reports, Volume XVI* (Portland, 1876), 137–40.

<sup>15</sup> Maine State Archives, Box 195, location 26310707, "Civil Oct, Jul 1838, 1839."

Claim filed by Edward Betham, dated Sept 21<sup>st</sup> 1833: “Mr. Benjamin Crocker has bin at my house two months and three dayes and I have provided his Board for that Space of time and I am under the necessity of calling on you to pay his expenses as you are the Select men of the Town of Lincoln *Mr Crocker is a Continental pensioner* but he has squandered away his pension money so that he has nothing to live upon and his clothing is not sufficient to make him comfortable.”

Deposition of Freeman Crocker, dated 27 Dec 1834: “I Freeman Crocker being duly cautioned sworn do testify and say that at the time *Benj. Crocker my Father* went to live with Mr. Betham he went from my house the arrangement that I had made with *my Brother*<sup>16</sup> was that we should each of us keep him six months as long as he lived. At the time he left my house I was able & willing to keep him Mr Bethams family persuaded my Father to go up to there house Mr Bethams wife and hired man came after him I did not know that Mr Betham had called upon the town for his support if I had I should have taken him away I have always been willing to maintain him and I frequently told Mr Betham that I was willing to support him.”

During the period that the lawsuit against the town of Lincoln was being processed, Betham applied to the Penobscot County Probate Court, asking to be named executor of BC1’s estate. The court filing reads as follows:

“To the Hon Judge of probate within and for the County of Penobscot—Edward Betham of Chester (late Medaunkeunk) in said County yeoman deceased, respectfully represents that Benjamin Crocker late of said Chester died in the month of January last, seized and possessed of chattels rights & credits which ought to be administered according to law and that your petitioner is the principal creditor and brother in law of the said deceased—the said Crocker left no widow—wherefore he prays your Honor that administration of the estate of said deceased may be granted to him”—Bangor May 7 1835.<sup>17</sup>

A problem with this document is that it represents Benjamin Crocker as the “brother in law” of Edward Betham, but “father in law” is the correct relationship. It establishes, however, that BC1 died in January 1835, and that he was predeceased by his wife (the Hannah mentioned in the pension application).

### THREE GENERATIONS OF BENJAMIN CROCKERS

It is reasonable to conclude that the Benjamin Crocker named in the 1820 pension application and the Benjamin Crocker named in the Betham legal cases are the same person, given the circumstances described and the locations (Edward Betham is known to have moved from Pittston to Chester in 1827<sup>18</sup>). These documents prove the existence of three siblings, all the offspring of BC1: Freeman Crocker,

---

<sup>16</sup> Edward Betham was Freeman Crocker’s brother-in-law, having married Margaret Crocker of Dresden, 14 May 1803 (“Records of the Dresden, Me., Congregationalist Church,” *The New England Historical and Genealogical Register* [NEHGR] 66[1912]:108).

<sup>17</sup> Penobscot Co. Probate Records, Estate Files [DGS #4115912, image 997].

<sup>18</sup> *History of Penobscot County, Maine, with Illustrations and Biographical Sketches* (Cleveland, 1882), 285.

Margaret (Crocker) Betham, and a deceased brother who drowned and who was the father of BC3.

Barnstable, Massachusetts, vital records show a Benjamin Crocker “the third” marrying Hannah Bassett on 7 November 1772.<sup>19</sup> Hannah’s name is consistent with BC1’s wife in his 1820 pension application, and he would have been about 21 at that time of that marriage. Hannah, aged 64 in 1820, would have been 16 at the time of this marriage, also plausible. A Hannah Bassett, daughter of Nathaniel and Hannah (Hall) Bassett, was born 25 May 1755 in Sandwich, Massachusetts.<sup>20</sup> This is consistent with the age shown on the 1820 document as well.

BC1’s wife, Hannah, named in the pension application is undoubtedly the mother of the three siblings established by the court papers. One of Freeman Crocker’s children was named John *Bassett* Crocker, strengthening this conclusion.

It appears that Benjamin and Hannah remained in Barnstable after their marriage until sometime after 1800, and had as many as seven children there. They later relocated to the adjacent towns of Dresden and Pittston in Maine. The 1790 Barnstable census shows two households headed by “Benjn Crocker,” in households containing eight and seven people, respectively.<sup>21</sup> The 1800 census for Barnstable shows a “Benjamin Crocker” in a household containing nine people,<sup>22</sup> and a “Benjamin Crocker Jr,” also in a nine-person household.<sup>23</sup> Both of the 1800 households contained one male aged 45 and over, and either of these could be the Revolutionary War pensioner of Dresden, Maine.

In an 1802 Barnstable deed, Benjamin Crocker, yeoman, and his wife Hannah sold “all of my real estate lying in Barnstable” to Isaac Crocker Jr.<sup>24</sup> On 23 May 1805, Benjamin Crocker of Dresden, yeoman, bought land in Pittston on the western side of Eastern River from Edmund Bridge of Dresden.<sup>25</sup> A history of Dresden shows Benjamin Crocker as one of the “new names” appearing there in 1809.<sup>26</sup>

The 1810 census for Pittston lists “Benj<sup>sr</sup>” Crocker heading a household made up of five persons: one male aged 45+, one female 45+, two males 10–15, and one male 16–25.<sup>27</sup> A separate household headed by “Benj<sup>a</sup> Crocker Jr” contained four

<sup>19</sup> Barnstable Vital Records, 3:155 [image, “Massachusetts: Vital Records, 1620–1850,” Barnstable V1, p. 201, americanancestors.org].

<sup>20</sup> Caroline Lewis Kardell and Russell A. Lovell, Jr., *Vital Records of Sandwich, Massachusetts, to 1885*, 3 vols. (Boston, 1996), 1:169 (citing original records 1:134); her parents m. 4 July 1745 per *ibid.*, 1:532 (citing original records 4:167).

<sup>21</sup> “Benjn” Crocker households, 1790 U.S. Census, Barnstable, Barnstable Co., Mass., p. 65 (8-person household), p. 66 (7-person household).

<sup>22</sup> Benjamin Crocker household, 1800 U.S. Census, Barnstable, Barnstable Co., Mass, p. 89.

<sup>23</sup> Benjamin Crocker, Jr., household, 1800 U.S. Census, Barnstable, Barnstable Co., Mass, p. 90.

<sup>24</sup> Town of Barnstable, Deeds, 5:4 [DGS #7460706, image 305].

<sup>25</sup> Kennebec Co., Maine, Deeds, 20:280.

<sup>26</sup> Charles Edwin Allen, *History of Dresden, Maine* (Lewiston, Maine, 1931), 509.

<sup>27</sup> Benj<sup>a</sup> Crocker household, 1810 U.S. Census, Pittston, Kennebec Co., Maine, p. 680.



people: one male under 10, one male 16–25, one female under 10, and one female 16–25.<sup>28</sup> The 1820 census for Pittston, however, shows just one head-of-household named Benjamin Crocker.<sup>29</sup> These 1810 and 1820 census entries are consistent with the story told by the pension application, if we assume that the father of BC3 is “Benj<sup>a</sup> Crocker Jr” (in 1810), who died by drowning between 1810 and 1820.

There are several additional deeds involving a “Benjamin Crocker of Pittston” (and in a few cases, of Dresden) between 1805 and 1819.<sup>30</sup> There is no designation on any of these deeds, however, such as Sr. or Jr., to clarify which Benjamin was the party to the transactions.

My interpretation of these various facts is that Benjamin Crocker, the 1820 pension applicant (BC1), was a household head shown in the 1790 and 1800 censuses of Barnstable as well as in the 1810 and 1820 censuses of Pittston. Moreover, his son Benjamin (BC2) was the “Benj Jr” listed in the 1810 census for Pittston.

It is necessary to reconcile this interpretation with the other Benjamin Crockers listed as Barnstable household heads in these censuses. The other Benjamin Crocker shown in both the 1790 and 1800 Barnstable censuses is probably the husband of Deliverance Childs, whom he married 4 July 1778.<sup>31</sup> Some sources give that Benjamin Crocker’s year of death as 1803.<sup>32</sup>

In the 1810 census for Barnstable, after BC1’s departure for Maine, there is a five-person household headed by “Benj<sup>a</sup> Crocker,” including a male 26–44 and a female 26–44.<sup>33</sup> There is also, in Barnstable, a “Benj<sup>a</sup> F Crocker” heading a household of five persons containing a male 26–44 and a female aged 45 and over.<sup>34</sup> The first of these could be the son of Benjamin and Deliverance, who married Elizabeth/Betsy Bourne and later relocated with his family to Indiana.<sup>35</sup> The second is probably Benjamin F. Crocker, who married in Barnstable (1) 16 September 1805, Temperance Hathaway, and (2) 22 April 1808, Eunice Chadwick.<sup>36</sup> In fact, a great deal of confusion is produced by the proliferation of people named “Benjamin Crocker” in early Massachusetts and Maine. For example, one source shows eighteen different

---

<sup>28</sup> Benj<sup>a</sup> Crocker Jr., household, 1810 U.S. Census, Pittston, Kennebec Co., Maine, p. 680.

<sup>29</sup> Benjamin Crocker household, 1820 U.S. Census, Pittston, Kennebec Co., Maine, p. 514.

<sup>30</sup> For example: Benjamin Crocker mortgaged land “in Pittston” to Edmund Bridge, 27 June 1807 (Kennebec Co. Deeds, 11:432), this being the same land purchased in the 23 May 1805 transaction. Also, John Hathorn of Dresden sold land located “by land in possession of Edward Bethern” [i.e., Edward Betham] to Benjamin Crocker “of Pittston,” 15 Oct. 1811 (*ibid.*, 18:147).

<sup>31</sup> Barnstable Vital Records, 3:162 [image, “Massachusetts: Vital Records, 1620–1850,” Barnstable V1, p. 207, [americanancestors.org](http://americanancestors.org)].

<sup>32</sup> James Russell Crocker, *Crocker Genealogy* (San Diego, Calif., 1967), 79.

<sup>33</sup> Benja Crocker household, 1810 U.S. Census, Barnstable, Barnstable Co., Mass., p. 107.

<sup>34</sup> Benja F. Crocker household, 1810 U.S. Census, Barnstable, Barnstable Co., Mass., p. 107.

<sup>35</sup> Lydia B. (Phinney) Brownson and Maclean W. McLean, “The Rev. Richard<sup>1</sup> Bourne of Sandwich, Mass.,” *NEHGR* 119(1965): 40; William Roy Shurtleff, *The Miller and Simmons Families* (Lafayette, Calif., 1987).

<sup>36</sup> Barnstable Vital Records, 3:305, 167 [image, “Massachusetts: Vital Records, 1620–1850,” Barnstable V1, p. 270, 214, [americanancestors.org](http://americanancestors.org)].

Benjamin Crockers among the first six generations of the descendants of William Crocker, the earliest of the family to locate on Cape Cod.<sup>37</sup>

My conclusion that Benjamin (BC1) and Hannah (Bassett) Crocker had children named Freeman, Margaret, and (probably) Benjamin contradicts several published genealogies. Freeman Crocker is sometimes shown as a child of Benjamin and Deliverance (Childs) Crocker of Barnstable, with siblings Robinson, Benjamin, Celia, Peter, Eunice, Henry, and Alexander.<sup>38</sup> But Freeman cannot be part of that family if his father, Benjamin Crocker, was alive and living with Edward Betham in the early 1830s. Moreover, the Barnstable records show the births of two of these children, Robinson (19 July 1779) and Peter (25 August 1786) to “Benjamin Crocker and Deliverance [*Childs*] his wife,” with the additional annotation “[*Whole family not here—was a clergyman settled out west*].”<sup>39</sup> This confirms that the Benjamin Crocker who married Deliverance Childs was not the Benjamin Crocker who later appeared in Dresden and Pittston, Maine. Finally, a family history produced by descendants of Benjamin Crocker and Deliverance Childs lists the seven siblings named above as the children of Benjamin and Deliverance, but does not include Freeman.<sup>40</sup>

I cannot find any records of the births of Benjamin (BC1) and Hannah (Bassett) Crocker’s children. They would presumably have been born in Barnstable. Beginning with the three children established by the court and pension records mentioned earlier, together with inferences based largely on geography and naming patterns, I propose as the seven likely children of Benjamin and Hannah those listed below.

#### GENEALOGICAL SUMMARY<sup>41</sup>

**BENJAMIN CROCKER** (BC1) was born in or near Barnstable, Massachusetts, in about 1751. His marriage to HANNAH BASSETT took place in Barnstable on 7 November 1772. Hannah was born in Sandwich, Massachusetts, 25 May 1755, daughter of Nathaniel and Hannah (Hall) Bassett. According to his pension application, Benjamin was a Revolutionary War soldier, serving for Massachusetts from 1781 to 1783. Census records indicate that he and Hannah had as many as seven children. The family remained in Barnstable until about 1802, when they moved to Dresden and, later, Pittston, Maine. By 1820 Benjamin and Hannah, whose household included an orphaned grandson also named Benjamin (BC3), were living in conditions of poverty. His material support became the subject of a family dispute and a court case, eventually settled in 1838. Benjamin, however, died early in 1835, predeceased by Hannah.

<sup>37</sup> Crocker, *Crocker Genealogy* [note 32].

<sup>38</sup> Crocker, *Crocker Genealogy* [note 32], 79; Andrea Leonard, *A Crocker Genealogy, Vol. I* (Bowie, Md., 1995), 47 and 69.

<sup>39</sup> Barnstable Vital Records, 3:334 [image, “Massachusetts: Vital Records, 1620–1850,” Barnstable V1, p. 284, americanancestors.org].

<sup>40</sup> Shurtleff, *Miller and Simmons Families* [note 35], 630.

<sup>41</sup> In the interests of space, sources cited earlier in this article are not repeated here.

Children of Benjamin and Hannah (Bassett) Crocker, b. Mass., order partially conjectural:

- i MARGARET CROCKER, b. ca. 1778, d. Nov. 1850, and bur. in Beatham Cemetery, Chester;<sup>42</sup> m. 14 May 1803, EDWARD BETHAM, both of Dresden.<sup>43</sup> A total of 8 children of Edward and “Peggy” Betham/Beatham are recorded, born 1805–20.<sup>44</sup> One of the daughters was named Hannah, possibly for her grandmother. Members of Margaret’s family appear in the 1820 census of Pittston, in 1830 in Lincoln, and in 1840, 1850, 1860, and 1870 in Chester.<sup>45</sup> The 1850 enumeration shows Margaret’s age as 72 and her birthplace as Massachusetts.
- ii BASSETT CROCKER, b. ca. 1781–82, d. Woolwich, 26 Feb. 1859, age 77, and bur. there in Partridge Cemetery;<sup>46</sup> m. poss. Barnstable, about 1801 (1st child b. Barnstable, 19 Jan. 1802) SARAH —, <sup>47</sup> b. ca. 1783, d. Woolwich, 17 Nov. 1871, age 88, and bur. in Partridge Cemetery.<sup>48</sup> Bassett is included in BC1’s family on the basis of his given name and his presence in Pittston at the same time as BC1, Freeman, and other members of that family. Bassett appears as a family head in Dresden in the 1810 census, nowhere that I can find in 1820, and again in the Woolwich censuses of 1830, 1840, and 1850.<sup>49</sup> In 1850 his age is 67. Although this shows Maine as his birthplace, the likelihood that he was born in Barnstable is strongly suggested by the fact that his first child was born there. Among his 15 recorded children is a daughter named Hannah, and another daughter named Margaret.<sup>50</sup>
- iii FREEMAN CROCKER, b. ca. 1785, d. Aug. 8, 1848, aged 63;<sup>51</sup> m. (cert.) Dresden, 23 June 1808, REBECCA/BECKY GLIDDEN/GLITTEN, both of Dresden,<sup>52</sup> b. 1785–88, daughter of Arnold and his 1st wife, Anna (Soward) Glidden of Pittston.<sup>53</sup> Re-

<sup>42</sup> Findagrave.com #184641385, no photo.

<sup>43</sup> See note 16.

<sup>44</sup> Henry Sewall Webster, ed., *Vital Records of Pittston, Maine, to the Year 1892* (Gardiner, Maine, 1911), 21–22.

<sup>45</sup> Edward Betham household, 1820–40 U.S. Censuses, Pittston, Kennebec Co., Maine, p. 514 (1820), p. 15 (1830), p. 210 (1840); 1850 U.S. Census, Chester, Penobscot Co., Maine, p. 361A. “Edmund” Beatham is found in the household of Lot Beatham in the 1860 U.S. Census, Chester, Penobscot Co., Maine, p. 796, as well as in the 1870 U.S. Census, Chester, Penobscot Co., Maine, p. 367A; Margaret, however, does not appear in either 1860 or 1870.

<sup>46</sup> Marlene A. Groves, *Vital Records of Woolwich, Maine* (Waterville, Maine, 2015), 253, 319; gravestone photo, findagrave.com #46386700.

<sup>47</sup> Groves, *Woolwich VRs* [note 46], 253, 319.

<sup>48</sup> Groves, *Woolwich VRs* [note 46], 253, 319; gravestone photo, findagrave.com #46386753.

<sup>49</sup> Bassett Crocker household, 1810 U.S. Census, Dresden, Lincoln Co., Maine, p. 179; 1830–50 U.S. Censuses, Woolwich, Lincoln Co., Maine, p. 234 (1830), p. 20 (1840), p. 261 (1850).

<sup>50</sup> Groves, *Woolwich VRs* [note 46], 253, 319.

<sup>51</sup> Gravestone photo, findagrave.com #72083086.

<sup>52</sup> On the original Pittston marriage record (DGS #7595344, image 18), her name looks to be spelled either “Betsy” or “Becky.” On the birth records of Freeman’s seven children recorded in Pittston from 1809 to 1824, his wife’s name is given as “Rebecca.”

<sup>53</sup> Arnold Glidden m. (1) Pownalborough, 9 Feb. 1783, Anna Soward (Marlene A. Groves, *Vital Records of Wiscasset, Maine* [Rockland, Maine, 2011], 61), and m. (2) Pittston, 18 Oct. 1798, Hannah Davis (*Pittston VRs* [note 44], 198). He had eight children recorded in Pittston: Mary, b. 9 Nov. 1795; Nancy, b. 17 June 1799; Polly, b. 15 May 1801; Susannah, b. 14 Jan. 1803; Betsey, b. 2 April 1804; George, b. 10 May 1806; Charles, b. 10 Feb. 1808; and Hannah, b. 20 Sept. 1810

becca was living in Lee in 1850, aged 62, and in 1860, aged 75.<sup>54</sup> Freeman was a household head in the 1820 census in Whitefield, Maine.<sup>55</sup> In 1830 he was in Township 1, Range 8 [Chester], aged 40–49, and living adjacent to George Glidden, aged 20–29, and two households away from Charles Glidden, aged 20–30, both of whom were Rebecca’s half brothers.<sup>56</sup> Next to Charles was Benjamin Crocker, aged 20–29, apparently single, he possibly being BC3.<sup>57</sup> In 1840 Freeman was in Lee, Maine.<sup>58</sup> Among the 9 recorded children born to Freeman and Rebecca Crocker are sons named Benjamin, Arnold, and John Bassett.<sup>59</sup>

- iv BENJAMIN CROCKER (BC2), b. 1785–88, drowned prior to 1820. As noted above, I conclude that “Benj<sup>a</sup> Jr” in the 1810 Pittston census is the son of the Revolutionary War pensioner BC1, also resident in Pittston at the same time. The 1810 census entry [note 28] shows a male aged 16–25, implying he was born between 1785 and 1794. He would have been married by 1807 to be the father of BC3, born in 1808. If he was around 20 when he married, his birth can be narrowed to roughly 1785–88. This 1810 census entry is the only trace of this person that I have found (but see the Addendum below for the possible identity of his wife).

Child: 1. *Benjamin Harris Crocker* (BC3), b. ca. 1808–9, d. Medway, 13 July 1874; m. (1) (int.) Lincoln, 29 April 1833, Jane Abbott, who d. 1863; m. (2) bef. Dec. 1866, his 1st cousin Eliza Ann (Crocker) (Stanwood) Bodwell, daughter of Avery Crocker (below).<sup>60</sup> Benjamin Harris Crocker is the only child of BC2 and his unnamed wife for whom documentary evidence has been located. He moved to Medway, where he and Jane had 10 children: (John) Harris, Reuben, James, Alfred,

---

(*ibid.*, 62). Arnold and his 1st wife apparently had several children born before these eight, as in 1790 his household contained a male 0–15 and three females other than his wife (Arnold Glidden household, 1790 U.S. Census, Pittston, Lincoln Co., Maine, p. 256). One of the females in 1790 was undoubtedly Rebecca, as Freeman and Rebecca gave one of their sons the uncommon name *Arnold*, for her father (*Pittston VRs* [note 44], 43). Rebecca was therefore a half sister of Elizabeth and Nancy Glidden, who m. Freeman’s younger brothers William and Avery, respectively. Arnold Glidden was a Revolutionary War pensioner and his widow, Hannah, was living in Chester in 1849 (Revolutionary War Pension Application, #W1594 [images, ancestry.com]).

<sup>54</sup> Isiah Crocker household, 1850 U.S. Census, Lee, Penobscot Co., Maine, p. 314; Isiah Crocker household, 1860 U.S. Census, Lee, Penobscot Co., Maine, p. 57.

<sup>55</sup> Freeman Crocker household, 1820 U.S. Census, Whitefield, Lincoln Co., Maine, p. 43.

<sup>56</sup> Freeman Crocker, George Glidden, and Charles Glidden households, 1830 U.S. Census, Twp. 1, Range 8, Penobscot Co., Maine, p. 16. For Charles and George Glidden, see note 53.

<sup>57</sup> Benjamin Crocker household, 1830 U.S. Census, Twp. 1 R8, Penobscot Co., Maine, p. 16.

<sup>58</sup> Freeman Crocker household, 1840 U.S. Census, Lee, Penobscot Co., Maine, p. 124.

<sup>59</sup> *Pittston VRs* [note 44], 43; Kay Stevens Crocker, comp., *Vital Records of Lee, Maine* (Rockport, Maine, 2005), 119.

<sup>60</sup> Although I have not located a birth record for Eliza Ann, the conclusion that she was Avery’s daughter is supported by her presence (at age 14), along with her mother, in Avery’s 1850 household, and again (at age 24) in his 1860 household (see note 87). The 1860 household also includes 2 minor children from Eliza’s first marriage, to Thomas Henry Stanwood (Thomas Henry Stanwood Civil War Pension File, certificate #883893). BC3’s 1870 census household (see note 8) includes Eliza and her mother (“Annie”) along with one of the Stanwood children, as well as “Martin N Crocker” (b. Bodwell), a child of Eliza’s second marriage to Nathaniel Bodwell Jr. (BH3 was granted guardianship of Martin in Dec. 1866, Penobscot Co. Probate Records, 40:229).

Catherine, Benjamin F., Clara Jane, Ada, Asher, and Abbie.<sup>61</sup> He and Eliza Ann had 3 more children: Lillie M., Eliza S., and Benjamin H.<sup>62</sup>

- v ELIPHALET CROCKER, b. 1 May 1789, d. 17 April 1864 and bur. in Maple Grove Cemetery, Pittston;<sup>63</sup> m. (int.) Pittston, 7 April 1820, LYDIA JACKENS,<sup>64</sup> b. 1 June 1792,<sup>65</sup> probable daughter of Christopher and Lydia (Farrington) Jackens,<sup>66</sup> d. 11 March 1865 and bur. with her husband in Maple Grove Cemetery.<sup>67</sup> Like Bassett, Eliphalet does not appear in any published genealogies that I can find, nor is his birth or parentage recorded. Like Bassett, Eliphalet appears in the same geographical area as others in this family (in Pittston in the censuses of 1820 through 1860).<sup>68</sup> His placement in this family is further supported by an 11 March 1813 deed in which Benjamin Crocker and Eliphalet Crocker of Pittston, yeoman, sold land to Daniel and Benaiah Cate of Dresden.<sup>69</sup> Despite his gravestone giving his date of birth as 1 May 1789, Eliphalet's age is shown in 1850 and 1860 as 58 and 68, respectively, suggesting he was born about 1792. Both census returns give Mass. as his birthplace. His War of 1812 army enlistment record indicates that he was born in Barnstable, and that he enlisted in 1814 at age 23 (implying he was b. ca. 1791).<sup>70</sup> 7 children, b. 1821–37, are recorded in Pittston, including a son Benjamin F.<sup>71</sup>
- vi (prob.) WILLIAM CROCKER, b. [calc.] 7 April 1789 [*sic*: possibly should be 1790], d. 28 Oct. 1876, age 87y 6m 21d, and bur. in Greenfield Cemetery, Greenfield, Maine;<sup>72</sup> m. (1) Nobleboro, Maine, 2 May 1811, MARTHA WHITEHOUSE, reportedly b. about 1787, daughter of Jacob and Dorothy (Bryant) Whitehouse;<sup>73</sup> m. (2) by say 1826 (oldest child, Lucy, b. 30 June 1827<sup>74</sup>), ELIZABETH/BETSEY GLID-

<sup>61</sup> 1850 and 1860 census records (see notes 6 and 7); also, extensive family records in the possession of the author.

<sup>62</sup> Eliza H. Crocker household, 1880 U.S. Census, Medway, Penobscot Co., Maine, p. 396C.

<sup>63</sup> Gravestone photo, findagrave.com #92568938. Eliphalet and Lydia's full dates of birth and death are inscribed on a stone that also includes inscriptions for two grandchildren.

<sup>64</sup> *Pittston VRs* [note 44], 179.

<sup>65</sup> Gravestone [note 63].

<sup>66</sup> Christopher's family was the only Jackens family in Pittston in 1790 (Christopher Jakens household, 1790 U.S. Census, Pittston, Lincoln Co., Maine, p. 256). His marriage intentions, 6 May 1787, to Lydia Farrington are recorded in *Pittston VRs* [note 44], 215.

<sup>67</sup> Gravestone [note 63].

<sup>68</sup> Eliphalet Crocker household, 1820–60 U.S. Censuses, Pittston, Kennebec Co., Maine, p. 514 (1820), p. 239 (1830), p. 242 (1840), p. 154A (1850, ancestry.com transcribing his name as "Elizabeth"), p. 187 (1860).

<sup>69</sup> Kennebec Co. Deeds, 18:130.

<sup>70</sup> U.S. Army, Register of Enlistments 1798–1814 [image 124 of 606, ancestry.com].

<sup>71</sup> *Pittston VRs* [note 44], 43–44.

<sup>72</sup> Gravestone photo, findagrave.com #79242147. His calculated date of birth is in conflict with the reported birth date of Eliphalet Crocker, and William my have been born a year of two later. His age was given as 52 [*sic*] in 1850, 69 in 1860, and 80 in 1870 (William Crocker household, 1850 U.S. Censuses, Greenfield, Hancock Co., Maine, p. 429B; 1860 and 1870 U.S. Censuses, Greenfield, Penobscot Co., Maine, p. 113 [1860], p. 38A [1870]).

<sup>73</sup> Christine Huston Dodge, ed., *Vital Records of Old Bristol and Nobleboro in the County of Lincoln, Maine*, 2 vols. (n.p. 1947–51), 1:779, 2:57.

<sup>74</sup> Lucy's birth date is given on her gravestone, Ridge Cemetery, Enfield, Maine, photo, findagrave.com #83682582.

DEN,<sup>75</sup> b. Pittston, 2 April 1804, daughter of Arnold and his 2nd wife Hannah (Davis) Glidden,<sup>76</sup> d. 15 Feb. 1863, age 59y 10m 11d, and bur. with William in Greenfield Cemetery.<sup>77</sup> The 1860 and 1870 censuses give William's birthplace as Mass. William's relocation from Mass., to the Pittston area, and then to Greenfield parallels the geographic patterns of other members of this family. Also, one of William and Elizabeth's sons was named Bowman W. Crocker, while one of Bassett Crocker's sons was named William Bowman Crocker.<sup>78</sup> With his first wife, Martha, William had 2 sons recorded in Pittston: Warren Crocker, b. 14 Oct. 1814, and Ephraim Crocker, b. 8 Aug. 1816.<sup>79</sup> In 1860 Warren Crocker, age 46, was living in Enfield, Maine, in the household of Elbridge Crocker, age 27.<sup>80</sup> Elbridge was a son of Avery Crocker (see below) and was thus Warren's nephew.<sup>81</sup> With his 2nd wife, Betsey, William had at least 8 more children.<sup>82</sup>

- vii AVERY CROCKER, b. ca. 1796, d. after 1860 when he was living in Enfield, Maine;<sup>83</sup> m. Pittston, 10 Sept. 1818, ANNA/NANCY GLIDDEN,<sup>84</sup> b. Pittston, 17 June 1799, daughter of Arnold and his 2nd wife Hannah (David) Glidden,<sup>85</sup> d. after 1870 when Annie Crocker, aged 70, was living with the family of her daughter and son-in-law, Eliza Ann and Benjamin H. Crocker (BC3).<sup>86</sup> Anna was a sister of Elizabeth Glidden, who married William Crocker (above), and a half sister of Rebecca Glidden, who married Freeman Crocker (above). Avery was a head of household in 1820 and 1830 in Pittston, in 1840 in Lincoln, and in 1850 and 1860 in Enfield.<sup>87</sup> One of Avery and Nancy's daughter Eliza Ann became the 2nd wife of BC3.

Additional evidence that Bassett, Eliphalet, William, and Avery belong to this family would be welcome. As I have reconstructed it, however, these family members fit perfectly with the 1800 census listing for Benjamin Crocker's Barnstable

<sup>75</sup> The death record of her son Willard Crocker gives his age as 63y 11m on 7 April 1894, his birthplace of Chester, and his parents William and Elizabeth (Glidden) Crocker (Maine, Death Records, 1761–1922, image, ancestry.com).

<sup>76</sup> *Pittston VRs* [note 44], 62. In further support of Elizabeth's identification as a daughter of Arnold Glidden, on 2 May 1735 Arnold Glidden of Chester, yeoman, sold to George Glidden, William Crocker, and Elizabeth Crocker, in exchange for "their agreement to support me and my wife Hannah during our natural lives," all of his right to any lands that he may receive from the state from his Revolutionary War service (Penobscot Co. Deeds, 56:137).

<sup>77</sup> Gravestone photograph, findagrave.com #79242147.

<sup>78</sup> 1850–70 censuses, see note 72; Groves, *Woolwich VRs* [note 46], 253, 319.

<sup>79</sup> *Pittston VRs* [note 44], 43–44.

<sup>80</sup> Elbridge Crocker household, 1850 U.S. Census, Enfield, Penobscot Co., Maine, p. 863.

<sup>81</sup> Elbridge P. Crocker, d. 1896 (Maine, Death Records, 1761–1922, image, ancestry.com).

<sup>82</sup> William Crocker household, 1850 U.S. Census, Greenfield, Hancock Co., Maine, p. 429B.

<sup>83</sup> He was aged 54 in 1850 and 64 in 1860, Avery Crocker household, U.S. Censuses, Enfield, Penobscot Co., Maine, p. 271 (1850, "Avry" Crocker), p. 863 (1860).

<sup>84</sup> *Pittston VRs* [note 44], 179.

<sup>85</sup> *Pittston VRs* [note 44], 62.

<sup>86</sup> 1870 U.S. Census, Medway [see note 8].

<sup>87</sup> Avery Crocker household, 1820–60 U.S. Censuses, Pittston, Kennebec Co., Maine, p. 517 (1820); Pittston, Kennebec Co., Maine, p. 238 (1830); Lincoln, Penobscot Co., Maine, p. 223 (1840); Enfield, Penobscot Co., Maine, p. 271 (1850; ancestry.com transcribed his name as "Amy"); Enfield, Penobscot Co., Maine, p. 863 (1860).

household: one male 45 and older (BC1), one male 16–25 (Bassett), three males 10–15 (Freeman, BC2, and Eliphalet), two males under 10 (William and Avery), one female 45 and older (Hannah); and one female 16–25 (Margaret).

#### ADDENDUM

The Benjamin Crocker whom I have labeled BC2—the proposed son of Benjamin (BC1) and Hannah (Bassett) Crocker and father of Benjamin Harris Crocker (BC3)—did not live long enough to create many records and little is known of him. A possible identity of his wife, however, is suggested by the 5 October 1807 marriage in Georgetown, Maine, of a Benjamin Crocker and Mrs. Catherine Webster, both of Boothbay, Maine.<sup>88</sup> As “Miss Catey Harris,” she had married first in Boothbay, 25 December 1803, Benjamin Webster, with whom she had a daughter Elizabeth Webster, born 1 April 1804.<sup>89</sup> BC3’s middle name, *Harris*, and the appearance of the name *Catherine* among his offspring, makes this a compelling possibility. Furthermore, in 1810 BC2’s household included a male and a female in the 0–9 age category. That would fit both BC3, born about 1808, and Catherine’s daughter Elizabeth Webster, born in 1804.

Catherine Harris (her name also given as Catey and Kitty) was born in Boothbay, 8 September 1775, a daughter of Samuel and Catherine (—) Harris.<sup>90</sup> If her second husband was indeed BC2, he likely would have been born around this time as well, well before the 1785–88 window calculated above. This discrepancy is readily resolved if the census enumerator had merely checked the wrong column of the 1810 census form, i.e., 16–25 rather than the more likely 26–44. If true, this would move BC2 to the firstborn among his siblings, a plausible scenario given the six-year gap between BC1’s marriage and the birth of his daughter Margaret. This would also imply that BC1 named his eldest son for himself.

Some secondary sources claim that the Benjamin Crocker who married Catherine Webster was a child of Paul and Nancy (Martin) Crocker who married in Bristol, Maine, in 1783.<sup>91</sup> That identification, however, is unlikely, given the timing of Paul and Nancy’s marriage, as well as the known years of birth of their other children.

*Douglas A. Wolf* (dawolf@maxwell.syr.edu), a demographer and gerontologist, is the Gerald B. Cramer Professor of Aging Studies at the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs of Syracuse University.

<sup>88</sup> Mary Pelham Hill, ed., *Vital Records of Georgetown, Maine, to the Year 1892*, 3 vols. (n.p., 1939–43), 2:23; their marriage intentions were recorded in Boothbay, 8 Aug. 1807 (Marlene A. Groves, *Vital Records of Boothbay and Southport, Maine* [Waterville, Maine, 2018], 381).

<sup>89</sup> Groves, *Boothbay & Southport VRs* [note 88], 134, 448.

<sup>90</sup> Groves, *Boothbay & Southport VRs* [note 88], 34; Francis B. Greene, *History of Boothbay, Southport, and Boothbay Harbor, Maine, 1623–1905* (Portland, 1906), 538.

<sup>91</sup> See, for example, Frances Sterling Drisko, *Drisko-Crocker-Foster: Some of the ‘Coasters’ of Maine and New Hampshire* (Bowie, Md., 2001).

## BETTY AND SARAH FELLOWS OF SALISBURY, MASS.

### First and Second Wives of Levi Shaw of Minot, Maine

By Joseph C. Anderson II, FASG, and Glenn D. Nasman

Levi Shaw was born in Hampton, New Hampshire, in 1759, a son of Edward and Ruth (Fellows) Shaw.<sup>1</sup> He was an early settler of Bakersfield Plantation in Maine, settling there by 1790,<sup>2</sup> and he probably lived in the part of Bakersfield (and later Poland) that was set off as Minot in 1802. He died in Minot on 7 or 8 November 1834, aged 75 years, and is buried there in Center Hill Cemetery.<sup>3</sup>

Levi was married three times. His first wife was Betty Fellows, whom he married in Salisbury, Massachusetts, 14 April 1788,<sup>4</sup> and who died in Minot, 30 September 1803.<sup>5</sup> His second wife was Sarah Fellows of Salisbury, whom he married in Minot, 1 November 1804,<sup>6</sup> and who died in Minot, 20 September 1808.<sup>7</sup>

His third and last wife was Dorcas Millet, whom he married in Minot, 15 March 1810.<sup>8</sup> Dorcas was born in Poland, Maine, 8 September 1784, a daughter of David and Lydia (Stanwood) Millet.<sup>9</sup> She died in Minot, 6 June 1832 aged 47 years, and is buried with Levi in Center Hill Cemetery.<sup>10</sup> Levi had no known children with his first two wives, but he had eight children with Dorcas.<sup>11</sup>

The family of Levi Shaw will be included in the next volume of the *Maine Families in 1790* series. In order to document all of the facts regarding Levi's children and his wives, we wanted to know the relationship of his first two wives, Betty and Sarah Fellows. Were they sisters, cousins, or unrelated? Were they related to Levi's mother, Ruth (Fellows) Shaw?

---

<sup>1</sup> Revolutionary War Pension Application #S29449; will of Edward Shaw of Hampton, N.H., dated 1 Feb. 1783 and naming, among others, his wife Ruth and son Levi (Rockingham Co., N.H., Probate Records, 29:166); his parents m. Salisbury, Mass., 7 May 1746 (*Vital Records of Salisbury, Massachusetts to the End of the Year 1849* [Topsfield, Mass., 1915], 477).

<sup>2</sup> Levi Shaw household, *Heads of Families at the First Census of the United States Taken in the Year 1790: Maine* (Washington, 1908), p. 11, column b.

<sup>3</sup> Death notice, [Portland] *Jeffersonian*, 17 Nov 1834, p. 3 [7 Nov] [genealogybank.com]: "In Minot, 7th inst., Mr. Levi Shaw, aged 75"; gravestone photo, findagrave.com #71212078, inscription: "Levi Shaw / Died / Nov. 1834 / Æt. 75"; Final Payment Vouchers Index for Military Pensions, 1818–1864 [image, fold3.com], giving his death date as 8 Nov. 1834.

<sup>4</sup> *Salisbury VRs* [note 1], 477.

<sup>5</sup> Joseph Crook Anderson II, *Early Vital Records of Minot, Maine* (Rockport, Maine, 2005). 277.

<sup>6</sup> Anderson, *Early VRs of Minot* [note 5], 33. Marriage intentions were recorded in Salisbury, 18 Sept. 1804 (*Salisbury VRs* [note 1], 350).

<sup>7</sup> Anderson, *Early VRs of Minot* [note 5], 278.

<sup>8</sup> Anderson, *Early VRs of Minot* [note 5], 36.

<sup>9</sup> "Early Vital Records of Poland, Maine," *The New England Historical and Genealogical Register* [NEHGS] 88[1934]:71; her parents m. (int.) New Gloucester, Maine, 9 Aug. 1777 (New Gloucester VRs, Intentions, p. 248 [FamilySearch digital film (DGS) #7595774, image 135]).

<sup>10</sup> Anderson, *Early VRs of Minot* [note 5], 287; gravestone photo, findagrave.com #71212045.

<sup>11</sup> Anderson, *Early VRs of Minot* [note 5], 159–60.



Levi Shaw's mother, Ruth Fellows, was born in Salisbury, 3 April 1723, daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth (Eastman) Fellows.<sup>12</sup> She had surviving siblings named Elizabeth (b. 1715), Abigail (b. 1716), Thomas (b. 1718/9), and Samuel (b. 1727/8).<sup>13</sup>

The only candidate found for Betty Fellows, Levi's first wife, in the Salisbury birth records is "Battey" Fellows, born 5 October 1756, daughter of Samuel and Hannah (Buswell) Fellows.<sup>14</sup> Betty would have been a few years older than Levi Shaw and thirty-one years old at the time she married him. She was also Levi's first cousin (his mother and her father being siblings).

The only candidate found for Sarah Fellows, Levi's second wife, in Salisbury is Sarah Fellows, born 7 August 1758, daughter of Samuel and Sarah (—) Fellows.<sup>15</sup> The mother's maiden name is not given, and no marriage is found in Salisbury or in any nearby town for a Samuel Fellows with a bride named Sarah.

The Salisbury records include seven children born to Samuel and Hannah Fellows and two children born to Samuel and Sarah Fellows, as follows:<sup>16</sup>

Children of Samuel and Hannah Fellows

Batty, b. 5 Oct. 1756  
Joseph, b. 31 Oct. 1762  
Samuel, b. 27 Nov. 1765  
Hannah, b. 14 Jan. 1767  
Nanne [Anna], b. 12 July 1769  
John, b. 1 Aug. 1771  
Molle, b. 1 May 1774

Children of Samuel and Sarah Fellows

Sarah, b. 7 Aug. 1758  
Hannah, b. 16 Sept. 1760

While the records clearly show Samuel and Sarah as the parents of the two children born in 1758 and 1760, those two births would have fit very neatly into the six-year gap between the births of Batty in 1756 and Joseph in 1762 in the family of Samuel and Hannah.

On 17 October 1756, "Sam<sup>l</sup> Fellows" owned the covenant at the First Church of Salisbury. No wife owned the covenant with him. On the same day, "Betty Da'ter of Sam<sup>l</sup> Fellows" was baptized.<sup>17</sup> Again, no wife of Samuel was named. She was apparently not a member of the church. Over the next eighteen years, all of the children shown above were baptized, as follows:<sup>18</sup>

<sup>12</sup> *Salisbury VRs* [note 1], 91; her parents m. 10 Dec. 1713 (*ibid.*, 350).

<sup>13</sup> *Salisbury VRs* [note 1], 90–91. A twin sister of Elizabeth named Abigail, b. 1715, died that same year.

<sup>14</sup> *Salisbury VRs* [note 1], 91; Samuel Fellows m. Salisbury, 17 Dec. 1755, Mrs. Hannah Buswell (*ibid.*, p. 350).

<sup>15</sup> *Salisbury VRs* [note 1], 91.

<sup>16</sup> *Salisbury VRs* [note 1], 91; see also DGS #7009666, images 470, 472, 473, 476, 477, 481, 482, 484, and 486. These records were entered chronologically, not in family group format.

<sup>17</sup> "Records of the First Church at Salisbury, Mass., 1752–1805," *Essex Institute Historical Collections, Volume XXI* (Salem, Mass., 1884), 135, 150.

<sup>18</sup> "First Church at Salisbury" [note 17], 135–40. We note some minor discrepancies between the dates of birth and baptism for Samuel, John, and Molly.

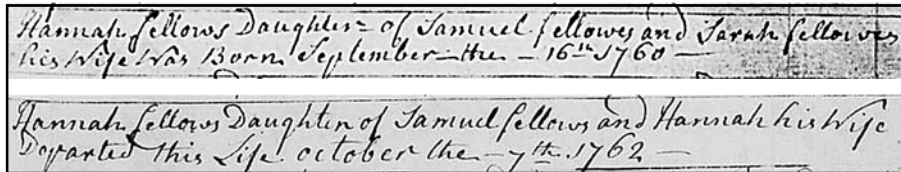
17 Oct. 1756	Betty Da'ter of Sam <sup>l</sup> Fellows
13 Aug. 1758	Sarah Da'ter of Sam <sup>l</sup> Fellows
28 Sept. 1760	Hannah Da'ter of Sam <sup>l</sup> Fellows
7 Nov. 1762	Joseph Son of Sam <sup>l</sup> Fellows
9 Dec. 1764	Sam <sup>l</sup> Son of Sam <sup>l</sup> Fellows
18 Jan. 1767	Hannah Da'ter of Sam <sup>l</sup> Fellows
16 July 1769	Nanny Da'ter of Sam <sup>l</sup> Fellows
14 July 1771	John Son of Sam <sup>l</sup> Fellows
10 April 1774	Molly Da'ter of Sam <sup>l</sup> Fellows

While none of these baptisms list the mother's name, what is notable is that Samuel Fellows is the only adult person with that surname listed in these church records, and none of the above baptisms make any distinction between a Samuel "Jr." or "2nd" or "Sr." Neither do the births on the town records make any such distinction to imply more than one Samuel Fellows was living in town.

A death record would appear to confirm that there was in fact only one Samuel Fellows living in Salisbury, that the children born and baptized in Salisbury were all his children, and that his wife was named Hannah:<sup>19</sup>

Hannah Fellows Daughter of Samuel Fellows and Hannah his Wife Departed this Life october the 7<sup>th</sup> 1762

Samuel and Hannah Fellows had no recorded daughter named Hannah born by this date in 1762, although Samuel and "Sarah" did. It is interesting to note that the first female child born to Samuel and Hannah after the death of this Hannah Fellows was also named Hannah, she born 14 January 1767.



Birth and death record of Hannah Fellows in Salisbury

An old gravestone in the Colonial Burying Ground in Salisbury has this inscription:<sup>20</sup>

Samuel Fellows  
died  
Jan. 20, 1810;  
Aged 82.  
Hannah, his wife  
died July 1803;  
Aged 73.

<sup>19</sup> DGS #7009666, image 547.

<sup>20</sup> Gravestone photo, findagrave.com #62661627.

No gravestone is found in Salisbury cemeteries for another Samuel Fellows, nor is there a gravestone for a Sarah Fellows.

At this point, all evidence pointed to the conclusion that the two births records naming Samuel's wife as Sarah were simply clerical errors, and that his only wife was Hannah Buswell. That conclusion, however, is challenged when the Salisbury death records are considered:<sup>21</sup>

Samuel [Fellows], d. Jan. 20, 1810, age 82 y [citing gravestone]  
 Hannah, wife of Samuel [Fellows], d. July —, 1803, age 73 y [citing gravestone]  
 Sarah [Fellows], wife of Samuel, d. July 22, 1803

The first two records were clearly taken from the gravestone transcribed above. The third record, however, is found in the original Salisbury town records:<sup>22</sup>

*Sarah Fellows wife of Samuel Fellows  
 died July 22 1803*

Was the Sarah Fellows who died on 22 July 1803 the mother of the two children born in 1758 and 1760? If so, who was her husband? Is it a coincidence that this Sarah happened to die in the same month and year as Hannah Fellows?

In both 1790 and 1800, there was only one Samuel Fellows enumerated in the census in Salisbury.<sup>23</sup> He wrote his will on 12 October 1804 (as Samuel Fellows of Salisbury, yeoman), a little more than a year after the death of his wife. The will was in probate on 5 February 1810.<sup>24</sup> In it he named his daughters Hannah Goodwin and Anna Pike, his daughter Sarah Fellows, his son Joseph Fellows, his deceased son Samuel Fellows, and his son John Fellows.

The births of Hannah, Anna [Nanny], Joseph, Samuel, and John were all recorded in Salisbury as children of Samuel and Hannah Fellows. Samuel and Hannah, however, did not have a recorded daughter named Sarah, although Samuel and “Sarah” Fellows did. This daughter Sarah was apparently still single in October 1804 when Samuel wrote his will. She is most likely the second wife of Levi Shaw, whom she would marry in Minot the next month. The key point, however, is that the will confirms that Samuel was the father of all of the children born in Salisbury. Is it possible, then, that his wife went by two names, Hannah and Sarah?

Hannah Buswell, whom Samuel Fellows married in 1755,<sup>25</sup> was the daughter of Daniel Buswell of Bradford, Massachusetts. Daniel Buswell wrote his will on 9

<sup>21</sup> *Salisbury VRs* [note 1], 557. Muddying the waters further, on the same page are found two more entries: “Nathaniel [Fellows], Jan. 20, 1810, a. 82 y [g.r. 1]” and “Hannah [Fellows], w. Nathaniel, July —, 1803, a. 73 y [g.r. 1].” These clearly refer to Samuel Fellows’s gravestone, “Nathaniel” being a transcription error.

<sup>22</sup> DGS #7009666, image 555.

<sup>23</sup> Sam<sup>l</sup> Fellows household, 1790 U.S. Census, Salisbury, Essex Co., Mass., p. 571; Samuel Fellows household, 1800 U.S. Census, Salisbury, Essex Co., Mass., p. 50.

<sup>24</sup> Essex Co., Mass., Probate Records, 379:44–45.

<sup>25</sup> See note 14.

May 1756,<sup>26</sup> and named, among others, his daughters Sarah Kimball and Hannah Fellows. If Hannah (Buswell) Fellows, wife of Samuel Fellows, had a sister named Sarah, who was definitely still living in 1756 (and quite possibly also in 1789 when her husband, Joshua Kimball of Pembroke, New Hampshire, made his will mentioning, but not naming, his beloved wife<sup>27</sup>), it seems unlikely that Hannah also would have been using the name “Sarah.”

#### CONCLUSION

There was only one Samuel Fellows living in Salisbury in the latter half of the eighteenth century and he had one wife, Hannah (Buswell) Fellows. The records which name his wife as “Sarah” must be erroneous, even though the error occurred several times over a forty-year span:

1. The births of the children of Samuel and “Sarah” Fellows in 1758 and 1760 fit perfectly into the family of Samuel and Hannah Fellows in the six-year gap between Betty, born in 1756, and Joseph, born in 1762.
2. Samuel and “Sarah” Fellows’s daughter Hannah, born in 1760, is most likely the same who died in 1762 as the daughter of Samuel and “Hannah” Fellows. Samuel and Hannah’s next-born daughter was named Hannah, likely to honor her deceased sister.
3. Only one Samuel Fellows is found in Salisbury records who was old enough to be the father of the children recorded there.
4. Samuel Fellows’s children named in his will include those recorded as children of his wife “Hannah” (Hannah, Anna, Joseph, Samuel, and John) and the child who was recorded as a daughter of his wife “Sarah” (also named Sarah).
5. It seems more than coincidence that Hannah and Sarah, both named as the wife of Samuel Fellows, died in the same month and year.
6. Hannah (Buswell) Fellows had a sister named Sarah. It is, therefore, implausible that Hannah would have also been known by her sister’s name.

We therefore conclude that Levi Shaw’s first two wives—Betty Fellows and Sarah Fellows—were sisters, his first cousins, and nieces of his mother Ruth Fellows.

Appreciation is expressed to Gregory S. Childs of Clamart, France, for his assistance with this research.

*Joseph C. Anderson II is the editor of The Maine Genealogist and editor of the Maine Families in 1790 project of the Maine Genealogical Society. Glenn D. Nasman (157 Church Street, Westwood MA 02090-3628; <gdnasman@aol.com>) is a professional engineer in the field of mechanical engineering and a frequent contributor to this journal.*

---

<sup>26</sup> Essex Co., Mass., Probate Recs., 334:57.

<sup>27</sup> Rockingham Co., N.H., Probate Recs., 29:278.

## THE PARENTS OF JOEL AND PATTY (TRAVIS) ADAMS OF BROWNFIELD, MAINE

*By Michael F. Dwyer, FASG*

Researching a friend's unexplored Adams lineage led me with ease to nineteenth-century Maine, but then I encountered some challenges. The subject in question, Joel Adams, lived in Oxford County, Maine, where he was counted as a head of household in the censuses from 1820 through 1850.<sup>1</sup> A family register in the Brownfield vital records for "Joel Adams & Patty" gives the couple's dates of birth:<sup>2</sup>

Joel, b. 6 Nov. 1783

Patty, b. 7 Jan. 1789

Patty's maiden name is not stated, nor is the date of their marriage provided. A list follows of their seven children:

Patty, b. 16 June 1810, d. 30 March 1888 at Town Farm

Almira, b. 16 April 1812

Oliver T., b. 19 June 1818

Moses H., b. 15 Feb. 1820

James, b. 29 Nov. 1823

Jere C., b. 23 May 1825

Jane Stickney, b. 27 July 1830

Brownfield's 1850 census counted this household:<sup>3</sup>

Joel Adams	69	b. Mass.	
Martha Adams	62	b. Mass.	
Martha Adams	39	b. Maine	
Jeremiah Adams	25	b. Maine	
Jane Adams	20	b. Maine	
Martha Stickney	62	b. N.H.	
John Stickney	39	b. Maine	farmer
Sarah Stickney	33	b. Maine	

With Joel and Patty's birthplaces cited as Massachusetts, this raised a number of questions, such as where they were from in Massachusetts, their parentage, their date and place of their marriage, and when they moved to Oxford County. Moreover, a possible connection to the Stickney family needed to be investigated.

---

<sup>1</sup> Joel Adams household, 1820 U.S. Census, Denmark, Oxford Co., Maine, p. 164; Joel Adams household, 1830–1850 U.S. Censuses, Brownfield, Oxford Co., Maine, pp. 264 (1830), 269 (1840), p. 76A (1850).

<sup>2</sup> Charles F. Haseltine, "Vital Records from Chatham, New Hampshire, and Lovell and Brownfield, Maine, and Slave Records from New Hampshire," also known as "Haseltine Papers" (MS, Philadelphia, n.d.), 198 [digital image available at familysearch.org, catalogued under United States, Maine, Oxford, Brownfield, Vital Records].

<sup>3</sup> Joel Adams household, 1850 U.S. Census, Brownfield, Oxford Co., Maine, p. 76.

## PATTY ADAMS'S PARENTAGE

The process of verifying Patty's maiden name and discovering her parents proved to be less difficult than finding her husband's origin. Two of her children, James Adams and Almira (Adams) Poor, lived to the era of statewide death certificates which gave the name of their mother as Martha Travis.<sup>4</sup> In 1820 there was only one Travis household in Brownfield—Oliver Travis, a Revolutionary War veteran.<sup>5</sup> Knowing that Patty Adams named her oldest son Oliver T. Adams led me to this family entry in Brownfield records, and thus confirmed Patty's parentage:

Oliver Traves & Milly

He b. May 4, 1761, Waltham, Mass., d. May 8, 1838

She b. Mar. 13, 1763, Cambridge, Ms, d. May 1842

Samuel b Sep 1784 d. Denmark

Anna b. Ap. 12 1787 md Wm Poor

Patty b Jan 7 1791 [*sic*] md Joel Adams

Daniel b Oc. 24 1796<sup>6</sup>

This entry does not indicate where Oliver and Milly Travis's children were born. Oliver's Revolutionary War pension file supplies evidence of the former soldier's migration path to Maine. His declaration states that after his term of service, he lived in Waltham, Massachusetts, Deering, New Hampshire, and Brownfield, Maine. Oliver married Milly Gooding in Waltham, Massachusetts, on 11 December 1782.<sup>7</sup> Although none of their children are recorded in Massachusetts, their first three children were certainly born in Waltham. The 1790 census confirms that Oliver Travis lived there with a household of five.<sup>8</sup> In 1800 he was counted in Deering, New Hampshire, then in 1810, with a household of three, in Bethlehem, New Hampshire. By 1820, he reached Brownfield, Maine.<sup>9</sup> As a resident of Brownfield, he made his declaration for a pension on 7 August 1832 and was subsequently awarded \$40 per year. After his death, however, his

<sup>4</sup> James M. Adams death record, 1 Dec. 1907 (parents: Joel Adams and Martha Travis), and Elmira A. Poore death record, 20 March 1905 (parents: Joel Adams and Martha Travis) (Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921, images, familysearch.org). *Patty* was a common diminutive for *Martha*. In most records, Joel's wife was Patty. With a daughter of the same name, she then used Martha.

<sup>5</sup> Oliver Travis household, 1820 U.S. Census, Brownfield, Oxford Co., Maine, p. 185.

<sup>6</sup> "Haseltine Papers" [note 2], 177. Patty's year of birth of 1791 differs from 1789 given in the Joel Adams family record. 1789 is likely the correct year as validated by her age in the 1850 and 1860 censuses and Patty's declaration in her father's pension file. This entry also does not give the complete date of Milly's Travis's death, which is recorded in the pension file.

<sup>7</sup> Oliver Travis (or Travers), Milly, Revolutionary War Pension Application, #R10687. The surname was spelled *Travis* in Oliver's declaration in 1832 (and he signed as Oliver Travis), but Milly's surname was written by the scribe as *Travers* in her 1838 (she signing by mark).

<sup>8</sup> Oliver Travis household, 1790 U.S. Census, Waltham, Middlesex Co., Mass., p. 683. His daughter Anna's entry with that of her husband, William Poor, in the Brownfield records states Anna was b. Waltham, 12 April 1787 ("Haseltine Papers" [note 2], 187).

<sup>9</sup> Oliver Traves household [indexed as Oliver Levis], 1800 U.S. Census, Deering, Hillsborough Co., N.H., p. 490; Oliver Travis household, 1810 U.S. Census, Bethlehem, Grafton Co., N.H., p. 380; Oliver Travis household, 1820 U.S. Census, Brownfield, Oxford Co., Maine, p. 185.

Signature of Martha Adams in Oliver Travis's pension file.

widow, Milly, was unsuccessful in her attempt to gain a pension. With the passage of laws allowing for some greater latitude in granting widows' pensions, Martha Adams

attempted, on 10 July 1850, as Oliver Travis's only surviving child, to gain any money that might have been due her mother. Request denied.<sup>10</sup>

While tracking the Travis family did not reveal Patty's date or place of marriage to Joel Adams, it narrowed the possibilities to the area in or around Bethlehem, New Hampshire, say about 1809, based on the birth of their first child.

#### JOEL ADAMS'S PARENTAGE

As recorded in the Brownfield records, Joel Adams's November 1783 birth date matched two births in Massachusetts records. The first, that of Joel Adams, son of Timothy and Joanna, born in Chelmsford on 4 November 1783, could be ruled out because that Joel remained in Chelmsford, dying there 21 November 1864, aged 81 years, 17 days.<sup>11</sup> Joel Adams, son of Hannah Russell, born in Winchendon on 6 November 1783, matched exactly the man in Brownfield.<sup>12</sup> Hannah Russell evidently gave birth to this child out of wedlock. Neither Winchendon records nor Worcester County court records shed any light on the father of Hannah's child. No other Adams births were recorded in Winchendon until 1794.<sup>13</sup> Only one Russell family lived there in the decades preceding Joel Adams's birth. Samuel Russell married Lydia Wheeler in Concord, Massachusetts, on 21 November 1754.<sup>14</sup> They had ten children:

Lydia Russell, b. Littleton, Mass., 29 Aug. 1755  
 Lucy Russell, b. Littleton, 16 July 1757  
 Hannah Russell, b. Littleton, 1 Aug. 1759  
 Martha Russell, b. Littleton, 6 April 1764  
 Peter Russell, b. Littleton, 7 Aug. 1766  
 Stephen Russell, b. Littleton, 15 Jan. 1769  
 Lydia Russell, b. Winchendon, 16 July 1771  
 Rebeckah Russell, b. Winchendon, 5 Aug. 1773  
 Betty Russell, b. Winchendon, 15 June 1775  
 John Russell, b. Winchendon, 29 Aug. 1778<sup>15</sup>

<sup>10</sup> Oliver Travis, Milly, Revolutionary War Pension Application, #R10687.

<sup>11</sup> *Vital Records of Chelmsford, Massachusetts, to the End of the Year 1849* (Salem, Mass., 1914), 11.

<sup>12</sup> *Vital Records of Winchendon, Massachusetts, to the End of the Year 1849* (Worcester, Mass., 1909), 9.

<sup>13</sup> Benjamin Adams, Jr., son of Benjamin and Zeruiah (*Winchendon VRs* [note 12], 9).

<sup>14</sup> *Concord, Massachusetts, Births, Marriages, and Deaths, 1635–1850* (Boston, Mass., 1895), 190.

<sup>15</sup> The first three are recorded in Littleton, the last seven in Winchendon (*Records of Littleton, Massachusetts: Births and Deaths* [Littleton, Mass., 1900], 70; *Winchendon VRs* [note 12], 68).



The only candidate for Joel Adams's mother therefore was Samuel and Lydia's third child, Hannah, who would have been twenty-four at the time of Joel's birth. No other evidence, however, has surfaced in Massachusetts linking Joel Adams to this Russell family.

#### RUSSELL CONNECTIONS IN BETHLEHEM, NEW HAMPSHIRE

Elmira (Adams) Poor's death record disclosed her birthplace as Franconia, New Hampshire; the death record of her brother James Madison Adams averred his birthplace as Bethlehem, New Hampshire, the neighboring town.<sup>16</sup> These assertions of New Hampshire places of birth seemed entirely plausible because of Oliver Travis's presence there in 1810. Though Joel Adams has not been found in the 1810 census, he purchased fifty acres in Bethlehem from Stephen Houghton on 22 April 1808 for

<sup>16</sup> See note 4.



\$127.<sup>17</sup> Other Winchendon residents, such as Joseph Barrett, were among Bethlehem's early settlers.<sup>18</sup> Just two years later, on 2 January 1811, Joel Adams sold this same lot to Peter Russell of Bethlehem for \$150.<sup>19</sup>

Was Peter Russell the same man born in Winchendon and thus Joel Adams's uncle? Answering this question revealed a surprising number of family associations. Peter Russell married Sally Noyes in Winchendon on 27 December 1792.<sup>20</sup> In 1800 Peter headed a household of six in Winchendon,<sup>21</sup> but by early 1803 he had moved to Bethlehem, where he witnessed a deed from John Russell of Waterford, Vermont, who bought one hundred acres in Bethlehem at public auction.<sup>22</sup> John Russell lived an extraordinarily long life. When he died in Kirby, Vermont, on 27 June 1875, death notices appeared in a several Vermont newspapers, including this from Randolph, Vermont:

Kirby. John Russell, who died last Sunday, nearly 97 years of age, was born in Winchendon, Mass. and moved to Vermont at the age of 20 years.<sup>23</sup>

Hence, John Russell, the land speculator, proved to be Peter Russell's brother and another of Joel Adams's uncles. Moreover, two other Grafton County deeds link John and Peter Russell to their brother Stephen Russell, who lived for a time in Bethlehem and then moved to Franconia, New Hampshire.<sup>24</sup> Stephen Houghton, from whom Joel Adams purchased land in Bethlehem, had married Lydia Russell, sister of Peter, John, and Stephen.<sup>25</sup> Joel Adams consequently had moved from Massachusetts to Grafton County, New Hampshire, amid this web of Russell family relationships.

#### HANNAH RUSSELL, JOEL ADAMS'S MOTHER

Five months after Peter Russell wed Sally Noyes of Winchendon, Peter's sister Rebecca Russell married James Noyes Jr., brother of Sally, in Winchendon on 29 April 1793.<sup>26</sup> With two marriages among siblings, I looked more closely at a third Noyes-Russell marriage: on 27 February 1793, James Noyes Sr. of Winchendon married as his second wife Hannah Russell of Rindge, New Hampshire.<sup>27</sup> James Noyes had three children with Hannah born in Winchendon: William (1798), Joel (1800), and Susanna (1802).<sup>28</sup> James was almost fifty at the time of his marriage to Hannah, but how old was

---

<sup>17</sup> Grafton Co., N.H., Deeds, 48:49.

<sup>18</sup> Hamilton Child, *Part First Gazetteer of Grafton County, N.H., 1709–1886* (Syracuse, N.Y., 1886), 165.

<sup>19</sup> Grafton Co. Deeds, 53:347.

<sup>20</sup> *Winchendon VRs* [note 12], 158.

<sup>21</sup> Peter Russell household, 1800 U.S. Census, Winchendon, Worcester Co., Mass., p. 228.

<sup>22</sup> Grafton Co. Deeds 36:80.

<sup>23</sup> *Vermont Journal* (Randolph, Vt.), 10 July 1875, p. 5.

<sup>24</sup> Grafton Co. Deeds 42:527, 528.

<sup>25</sup> *Winchendon VRs* [note 12], 158.

<sup>26</sup> *Winchendon VRs* [note 12], 158.

<sup>27</sup> Rindge Vital Records [DGS #5468817, image 93]; Henry E. Noyes, *Genealogical Record of Some of the Noyes Descendants of James, Nicholas, and Peter Noyes*, 2 vols. (Boston, 1904), 1:319.

<sup>28</sup> *Winchendon VRs* [note 12], 56.

Hannah, and more importantly, who were her parents? As counted in Winchendon's 1800 census, the James "Noyce" household had a man and a woman over 45. Again, in 1810, his household had a man and woman over 45.<sup>29</sup> James Noyes sold his land and homestead in Winchendon to Daniel Day on 12 April 1806, with his wife Hannah signing away her dower rights.<sup>30</sup> Thereafter, they seem to disappear from public records. Considering the entwined relationships between the Russell and Noyes family, it is highly probable that Hannah Russell, Joel Adams's mother, is the same who married James Noyes Sr. She would have been in her early thirties and forty-two at the birth of her youngest child, Susanna.<sup>31</sup> It is not without precedent that a woman, like Hannah, would have given the same name to the child of a different father. Her son Joel Noyes never married and spent a long portion of his life as a pauper, living at Winchendon's town farm.<sup>32</sup> He died from pneumonia on 23 November 1874, at age 74.<sup>33</sup>

#### JOEL ADAMS'S YEARS IN BROWNFIELD

When Joel Adams moved to Maine from Grafton County, New Hampshire, he seems to have left Russell family connections behind him. His associations now included his wife's family. In January 1817, Oliver Travis bought twelve acres of land in Brownfield at public auction.<sup>34</sup> Joel Adams does not appear in Oxford County land records. In 1844 his son James M. Adams was the first of the family to purchase land in Brownfield when he bought thirty acres from Horace Moulton "on the easterly side of the road from Joel to Oliver Adams."<sup>35</sup> In both the 1830 and 1840 censuses, Joel's household consisted of eight people, including an unknown woman between 70 and 79. His adult children lived close by during Joel's lifetime. Though Joel and Patty's youngest daughter was named Jane Stickney, and three members of the Stickney family—Martha, her son John, and wife Sarah—lived with them in 1850, no blood relationship has been found between the two families.<sup>36</sup> After Joel's death, Martha Adams, age 70, and daughter Patty, 48, comprised their own household.<sup>37</sup> In 1870, daughter Patty, aged 52 [*sic*], lived with shoemaker Ephraim Hubbard, 73, and made her living from

<sup>29</sup> James Noyce household, 1800 and 1810 U.S. Censuses, Winchendon, Worcester Co., Mass., pp. 227 (1800), 951 (1810).

<sup>30</sup> Worcester Co., Mass., Deeds, 212:623.

<sup>31</sup> For more on the Noyes family, see <<http://evermore.imagedjinn.com/blg/1607/james-noyes-and-rebecca-russell>> This website has rich details on James and Rebecca (Russell) Noyes and fills in information not included in *Noyes Descendants* [note 27]. It is claimed here that Rebecca Russell and Hannah Russell were sisters.

<sup>32</sup> Joel Noyes, 1850–1870 U.S. Censuses, poor farm, Winchendon, Worcester Co., Mass., pp. 300A (1850), 778 (1860), 442A (1870).

<sup>33</sup> Massachusetts Vital Records, 1841–1910, 267:406 (images at [americanancestors.org](http://americanancestors.org)).

<sup>34</sup> Oxford Co. Deeds [Western District], 7:158.

<sup>35</sup> Oxford Co. Deeds [Western District], 24:203.

<sup>36</sup> Jonathan Stickney m. 10 Dec. 1810, as his 3rd wife, Patty Eastman ("Haseltine Papers" [note 2], 186). Jonathan and Martha/Patty Stickney were both b. in Conway, N.H. (*ibid.*). Martha was aged 62 in the 1850 census (see note 3).

<sup>37</sup> Martha Adams household, 1860 U.S. Census, Brownfield, Oxford Co., Maine, p. 322.

spinning and knitting.<sup>38</sup> She has not been discovered in the 1880 census and ended her days at the Brownfield town farm.

#### GENEALOGICAL SUMMARY

1 **JOEL ADAMS** was born in Winchendon, Massachusetts, 6 November 1783, son of Hannah Russell.<sup>39</sup> He died, probably in Brownfield, Maine, 8 November 1856, aged 72 years, and is buried in Pine Grove Cemetery, Brownfield.<sup>40</sup> He married by 1810, **MARTHA/PATTY TRAVIS**. She was born in Waltham, Massachusetts, 7 January 1789, daughter of Oliver and Milly (Gooding) Travis,<sup>41</sup> and died, probably in Brownfield, 31 December 1863, aged 73 years.<sup>42</sup>

Children of Joel and Martha/Patty (Travis) Adams, recorded Brownfield:<sup>43</sup>

- i **PATTY ADAMS**, b. 16 June 1810, d. Brownfield, 30 March 1888, unmarried.<sup>44</sup>
- ii **ALMIRA/ELMIRA G. ADAMS**,<sup>45</sup> b. 16 April 1812, d. Brownfield, 20 March 1905, age 92y 11m 3d,<sup>46</sup> m. (cert.) Brownfield, 23 Jan. 1836, **JOSEPH HOWARD POOR**,<sup>47</sup> b. Brownfield, 16 March 1810, son of William and Anna (Travis) Poor,<sup>48</sup> d. after 1880.<sup>49</sup> Joseph was Elmira's first cousin. Joseph was a farmer in Brownfield, as described in the 1850 through 1870 censuses.<sup>50</sup> By 1880, he was blind, living in the household of his son Joseph.<sup>51</sup>
- iii **OLIVER T[RAVIS] ADAMS**, b. 19 June 1818, d. after 22 July 1881, when he was living in Stoneham;<sup>52</sup> m. (cert.) Brownfield, 30 Sept. 1840, **ESTHER ELIZABETH LANE**,<sup>53</sup> b. Brownfield, 8 Nov. 1823, daughter of Living and Elizabeth (King)

<sup>38</sup> Ephraim Hubbard household, 1870 U.S. Census, Brownfield, Oxford Co., Maine, p. 66.

<sup>39</sup> *Winchendon VRs* [note 12], 9.

<sup>40</sup> Gravestone photo, Pine Grove Cemetery, Brownfield, findagrave.com, #147718429.

<sup>41</sup> "Haseltine Papers" [note 2], 177, 198; pension [note 7]. As noted, her birth date was given as 7 Jan. 1789 in Joel's Adams's family record and as 7 Jan. 1791 in Oliver Travis's family record.

<sup>42</sup> Gravestone photo, Pine Grove Cemetery, findagrave.com, #147718434.

<sup>43</sup> "Haseltine Papers" [note 2], 198.

<sup>44</sup> "Haseltine Papers" [note 2], 198. She died at the town farm.

<sup>45</sup> Her middle initial "G." given on her marriage record.

<sup>46</sup> Elmira A. Poore death record (Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921, image, familysearch.org). Her birthplace was listed as Franconia, N.H., parents: Joel Adams, b. Beverly, Mass., and Martha Travis, b. Denmark, Maine.

<sup>47</sup> "Haseltine Papers" [note 2], 169.

<sup>48</sup> "Haseltine Papers" [note 2], 177, 187.

<sup>49</sup> Joseph H. Poor, age 70, and Elmira, age 68, were living in the household of their son Joseph N. Poor (1880 U.S. Census, Brownfield, Oxford Co., Maine, pp. 44A–B).

<sup>50</sup> Joseph Poor household, 1850–1870 U.S. Censuses, Brownfield, Oxford Co., Maine, pp. 76A (1850), 323 (1860), 53B (1870).

<sup>51</sup> Joseph N. Poor household, 1880 U.S. Census, Brownfield, Oxford Co., Maine, pp. 44A–B.

<sup>52</sup> Oxford Co. Deeds [Western District], 69:249. On that day, Oliver T. Adams, for \$500, sold to his son John W. Adams a house and parcel of land "to provide for, maintenance and support food clothing, medicine at his house and in his family in a comfortable and suitable manner Oliver T. Adams and Esther E. Adams his wife, father and mother."

<sup>53</sup> "Haseltine Papers" [note 2], 171.

Lane,<sup>54</sup> d. after 21 June 1884, when she was living in Stoneham.<sup>55</sup> Oliver was a farmer in Brownfield and later in Stoneham. In 1850 he lived near his father, but moved to Stoneham by 1870.<sup>56</sup> Oliver was buried on his own property. In 1915, a notice of land sold at public auction in Stoneham stated, “Excepting and reserving two rods square near Amos Barker’s line where Oliver T. Adams was buried.”<sup>57</sup>

- iv MOSES HOWARD ADAMS, b. 15 Feb. 1820, d. 24 Oct. 1901, aged 81y 8m 4d, and bur. in Pine Grove Cemetery, Brownfield;<sup>58</sup> m. (int.) Hiram, 15 Aug. 1845, EVELINE M. LOWELL of Hiram,<sup>59</sup> b. [calc.] 22 May 1827, daughter of Jonathan K. and Mary (Howard) Lowell,<sup>60</sup> d. 28 Oct. 1880, aged 53y 5m 6d, and bur. beside her husband.<sup>61</sup> Moses was a farmer in Hiram from 1850 through 1880.<sup>62</sup> He later moved to Brownfield, into the household of his son Samuel Nelson Adams where he was counted in 1900.<sup>63</sup> A death notice in *The Bethel News* stated he died at the home of his son, “an aged and highly respected citizen of the village.”<sup>64</sup>
- v JAMES MADISON ADAMS, b. 29 Nov. 1823, d. Brownfield, 1 Dec. 1907, aged 86y 1d;<sup>65</sup> m. (1) (cert.) Brownfield, 26 Dec. 1848, MARY JANE MOOR,<sup>66</sup> b. Brownfield, 19 Jan. 1824, daughter of William and Hannah (Huntress) Moor,<sup>67</sup> d. 14 May 1882, aged 58y 3m 25d;<sup>68</sup> m. (2) Brownfield, 12 April 1883, FRANCENAH (SANDS) MOULTON,<sup>69</sup> b. Brownfield, [calc.] 15 March 1846, daughter of Peter and Parnell (Bean) Sands,<sup>70</sup> d. Brownfield, 28 Oct. 1929, age 83y 7m 13d.<sup>71</sup> She had m. (1)

<sup>54</sup> “Haseltine Papers” [note 2], 199; her parents m. (int.) Waterboro, 21 Dec. 1821 (Waterboro Vital Records [DGS #7596944, image 25]).

<sup>55</sup> Oxford Co. Deeds [Western District], 70:160. On this date Esther E. Adams quitclaimed a house and land mortgaged to Jere H. Winslow.

<sup>56</sup> Oliver Adams household, 1850–1880 U.S. Censuses, Brownfield, Oxford Co., Maine, pp. 76A (1850), 323 (1860), and Stoneham, Oxford Co., Maine, p. 391B (1870), E.D. 155, p. 4 (1880).

<sup>57</sup> *Oxford Democrat* (Paris, Maine), 30 Nov. 1915, p. 4.

<sup>58</sup> Maine Old Cemetery Association [MOCA], Gravestone Inscription Project, Series 2, Oxford Co. (typescript, Maine State Library), p. 168.

<sup>59</sup> Hiram Vital Records [DGS #7724787, image 83]).

<sup>60</sup> Delmar R. Lowell, *The Historical Genealogy of the Lowells of America from 1639 to 1899* (Rutland, Vt., 1899), 533.

<sup>61</sup> MOCA [note 58], Series 2, Oxford Co., p. 168.

<sup>62</sup> Moses Adams household, 1850–1880 U.S. Censuses, Hiram, Oxford Co., Maine, pp. 88A (1850), 906 (1860), 212A (1870), E.D. 130, p. 196B (1880).

<sup>63</sup> Samuel N. Adams household, 1900 U.S. Census, Brownfield, Oxford Co., Maine, E.D. 180, p. 13.

<sup>64</sup> *The Bethel News* (Maine), 30 Oct. 1901, p. 5.

<sup>65</sup> James M. Adams death record, 1907 (Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921, image, familysearch.org); gravestone photo, Pine Grove Cemetery, Brownfield, findagrave.com, #126475545.

<sup>66</sup> “Haseltine Papers” [note 2], 173.

<sup>67</sup> “Haseltine Papers” [note 2], 202.

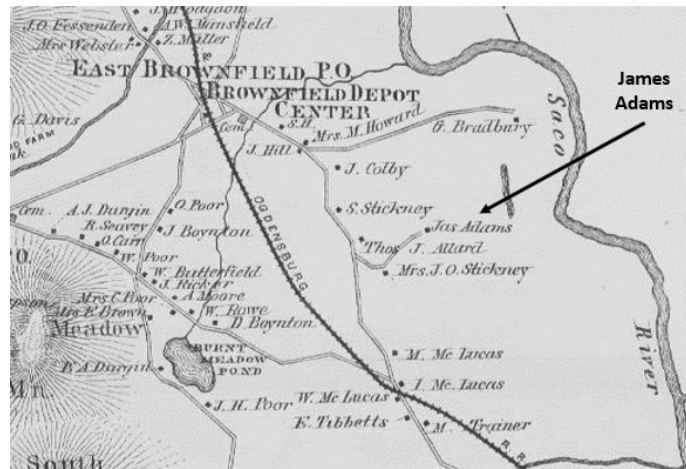
<sup>68</sup> Gravestone photo, Pine Grove Cemetery, Brownfield, findagrave.com #126475489.

<sup>69</sup> “Haseltine Papers” [note 2], 228.

<sup>70</sup> Francena Sands, aged 4, in Peter Sands Household, 1850 U.S. Census, Brownfield, Oxford Co., Maine, p. 72; her parents m. (int.) Brownfield, 5 Sept. 1833 (“Haseltine Papers” [note 2], 169, which gives Parnell’s name as “Penelope”; her parentage confirmed on her death record.

<sup>71</sup> Death record, Town of Brownfield; gravestone photo, Pine Grove Cemetery, “Francenah Sands, wife of Caleb B. Moulton,” findagrave.com, #131917916.

Brownfield, 4 Feb. 1866, Caleb B. Moulton,<sup>72</sup> who served as a private in Co. A, 8th Maine Infantry.<sup>73</sup> Caleb d. 7 Nov. 1879, aged 56y 4m.<sup>74</sup> James was a shoemaker and farmer in Brownfield, and remained there throughout his long life. In 1900 his household included Francenah's daughter Rebecca Warren and family.<sup>75</sup> After James's death, Francenah resumed collecting her widow's pension from the service of Caleb B. Moulton.



Detail above from the Oxford County Atlas of 1880 shows where James Adams lived in the eastern portion of Brownfield, the same location where his father lived for many years. (Image from Digital Maine.)

- vi JERE C. ADAMS, b. 23 May 1825, d. Stoneham, Oct. 1901;<sup>76</sup> m. (cert.) Brownfield, 10 Dec. 1851, SARAH JANE STUART,<sup>77</sup> b. [calc.] Oct. 1831, daughter of Stephen and Sally (Linscott) Stuart,<sup>78</sup> d. 26 June 1882, aged 50y 8m, and bur in Pine Grove Cemetery, Brownfield.<sup>79</sup> Jere (or Jeremiah) C. Adams, aged 35, and Sarah, aged 29, lived briefly in Tamworth, N.H., in 1860 before returning to Brownfield by 1870.<sup>80</sup> He and Sarah separated. In 1880, Jerry Adams lived in his son-in-law John Lucas's household in Albany, Maine.<sup>81</sup> His wife, Sarah, lived with their children Ida, 25, and

<sup>72</sup> "Haseltine Papers" [note 2], 224.

<sup>73</sup> Caleb B. Moulton, Francenah Adams, Civil War pension, appl. 376,990, cert. 310,937.

<sup>74</sup> Gravestone photo, Pine Grove Cemetery, findagrave.com, #80870534.

<sup>75</sup> James M. Adams household, 1850, 1870, 1880, and 1900 U.S. Censuses, Brownfield, Oxford Co., Maine, pp. 70A (1850), 55B (1870), E.D. 188, p. 46B (1880), E.D. 180, p. 6 (1900).

<sup>76</sup> *Oxford Democrat* (Paris, Maine), 22 Oct. 1901, p. 2.

<sup>77</sup> "Haseltine Papers" [note 2], 174.

<sup>78</sup> Sarah J., aged 21 [sic], in Stephen Stuart household, 1850 U.S. Census, Brownfield, Oxford Co., Maine, p. 68B; her parents m. 27 Nov 1816 (Robert L. Taylor, *Early Families of Cornish, Maine* [Rockport, Maine, 1993], 110).

<sup>79</sup> MOCA [note 58], Series 2, Oxford Co., p. 181.

<sup>80</sup> Jeremiah Adams household, 1860 U.S. Census, Tamworth, Carroll Co., N.H., p. 838; 1870 U.S. Census, Brownfield, Oxford Co., Maine, p. 55B.

<sup>81</sup> John Lucas household, 1880 U.S. Census, Albany, Oxford Co., Maine, E.D. 115, p. 6A.

Herbert, 19, in Cornish, Maine.<sup>82</sup> On 8 June 1882, Sarah Jane Adams of Brownfield made her will. Among her bequests, she left money for “a good set of gravestones at my grave . . . repairing and painting the fence around burying ground near John Stuart in Brownfield . . . to my niece Alvana Stuart, my sewing machine,” wearing apparel and household furniture to her sisters Susan A. Stuart and Angeline Lovis, with the residue of her estate going to her son Herbert L. Adams.<sup>83</sup>

Jerry Adams was counted as a town pauper in 1900, in the household of Austin McAlister who ran a sawmill in Albany, Maine.<sup>84</sup> Snippets from the *Oxford Democrat* in 1901 provide details of his last year: “Jerry Adams, an aged man that is boarding at Austin McAllister’s, went out to the wood pile and pulled a log to him in such a manner that it injured his hip so he had to be carried upstairs. He is better now.”<sup>85</sup> The paper noted that in March, Jere went “to board with Mr. Morey for the coming year.”<sup>86</sup> He died around 20 Oct. 1901, as the paper reported: “The remains of Mr. Jere C. Adams were brought [to Brownfield] from Stoneham for burial in the village cemetery this week.”<sup>87</sup>

- vii JANE STICKNEY ADAMS, b. 27 July 1830, d. aft. 20 July 1920;<sup>88</sup> m. (cert.) Brownfield, 20 June 1851, GEORGE HOWARD LOWELL,<sup>89</sup> b. Hiram, [calc.] 11 Sept. 1822, son of Jonathan K. and Mary (Howard) Lowell (and brother of Eveline who m. Jane’s brother Moses),<sup>90</sup> d. Hiram, 2 May 1874, age 51y 7m 21d.<sup>91</sup> George H. Lowell lived with his parents in 1850 and 1860.<sup>92</sup> He was a head of household in 1870.<sup>93</sup> Jane, from 1880 through 1910, lived in the household of her son-in-law Charles Lowell.<sup>94</sup> On 20 July 1920, the *Oxford Democrat* newspaper printed this item under Hiram News: “Mrs. Jane Lowell recently visited her nephew, Samuel N. Adams, at Brownfield. Mrs. Lowell is our oldest woman in Hiram, July 27th being her 90th birthday. We hope that her many friends will remember it.”<sup>95</sup>

*Michael F. Dwyer, a Contributing Editor of The Maine Genealogist, has published many genealogical articles in a variety of journals. He may be contacted by email at michaelftdwyer@comcast.net or 389 Orchard Hill, Pittsford, VT, 05763.*

<sup>82</sup> Sarah Adams household, 1880 U.S. Census, Cornish, York Co., Maine, E.D. 189, p. 220A.

<sup>83</sup> Sarah J. Adams, Oxford Co., Maine, Probate Estate Files, 1870–1882, File no A3 Abbott, Spencer–Austin, Mary [familysearch.org, image 233 of 859].

<sup>84</sup> Austin McAlister household, Albany, Oxford Co., Maine, E.D. 176, p. 4. Her marital status was widowed.

<sup>85</sup> *Oxford Democrat* (Paris, Maine), 12 Feb. 1901, p. 2.

<sup>86</sup> *Oxford Democrat* (Paris, Maine), 12 March 1901, p. 2.

<sup>87</sup> *Oxford Democrat* (Paris, Maine), 22 Oct. 1901, p. 2.

<sup>88</sup> *Oxford Democrat* (Paris, Maine), 20 July 1920, p. 2.

<sup>89</sup> “Haseltine Papers” [note 2], 174.

<sup>90</sup> *Genealogy of the Lowells* [note 60], 533.

<sup>91</sup> Gravestone photo, Spring Cemetery, Hiram, findagrave.com, #92263984.

<sup>92</sup> Jonathan Lowell household, 1850–1860 U.S. Censuses, Hiram, Oxford Co., Maine, pp. 51 (1850), 907 (1860).

<sup>93</sup> George Lowell household, 1870 U.S. Census, Hiram, Oxford Co., Maine, p. 212A.

<sup>94</sup> Charles Lowell household, 1880, 1900, and 1910 U.S. Censuses, Hiram, Oxford Co., Maine, E.D. 130, p. 196B (1880), E.D. 191, p. 5 (1900), E.D. 194, p. 9A (1910).

<sup>95</sup> *Oxford Democrat* (Paris, Maine), 20 July 1920, p. 2.

## TWO WRONGS MIGHT BE RIGHT

### Samuel Mosher of Knox, Maine, and the Benefits of Erroneous Family Histories

By *Kenneth Alton Clark*

In the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries, a large number of published family histories emerged in the United States. Some included documentation, while others simply put forth genealogies based on letters or telegrams received, hearsay, and conversations. Needless to say, errors abounded. Despite their shortcomings, century-old family histories may still supply critical clues to help unlock ancestral mysteries. The case of Samuel Mosher of Knox, Maine, may be one such example.

#### KNOWN FACTS ABOUT SAMUEL MOSHER

Information about Samuel Mosher of Knox, Maine, is scarce. According to two death records, he was born in Nova Scotia.<sup>1</sup> His only census appearance in Knox in 1840 puts his birth between 1810 and 1820.<sup>2</sup> On 29 May 1834, he married at Waldo, Maine, Sarah Ryan,<sup>3</sup> a daughter of Dennison W. and Hannah (—) Ryan of Waldo and later Knox.<sup>4</sup> Two probable children, a son and a daughter, were born before the taking of the 1840 census.<sup>5</sup> Both Samuel and Sarah tragically died of smallpox in 1849.<sup>6</sup> He was called a sea captain on one death record,<sup>7</sup> which perhaps might explain how smallpox was carried out to rural Knox, Maine, in 1849.

#### THE DILEMMA

The Mosher family has had a strong presence in Nova Scotia since 1760, when James Mosher, originally of Tiverton, Rhode Island, accepted Britain's offer of land recently vacated by expelled French Acadians.<sup>8</sup> In 1891 William Mosher compiled a useful, though completely undocumented, genealogy of the Moshers of Nova Scotia, *Chronological History of the Mosher Family*.<sup>9</sup> Regrettably, no one named Samuel Mosher fitting the description and timeframe of the one in Waldo County, Maine, appeared.

---

<sup>1</sup> Olive S. Hatch death record, 15 Nov. 1919 (Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921, image, family search.org); Sarah A. Penney death record, 7 Aug. 1931, Montville, Maine, town office.

<sup>2</sup> Samuel Mosher household, 1840 U.S. Census, Knox, Waldo Co., Maine, p. 192.

<sup>3</sup> Elizabeth M. Mosher and Isabel Morse Maresh, *Marriage Records of Waldo County, Maine, Prior to 1892* (Camden, Maine, 1990), 245, 300.

<sup>4</sup> Sarah A. Penney, Civil War Widow's Pension Application #1000908, certificate #758754.

<sup>5</sup> Samuel Mosher household, 1840 [note 2].

<sup>6</sup> Sarah A. Penney pension [note 4].

<sup>7</sup> Sarah A. Penney death record [note 1].

<sup>8</sup> Ray Greene Huling, *The Rhode Island Emigration to Nova Scotia* (Providence, RI, 1889), 17.

<sup>9</sup> William Mosher, *Chronical History of the Mosher Family from the Seventeenth Century to the Present Date* (Windsor, N.S., 1891).

## HOWEVER . . .

One entry in William Mosher's genealogy does sound tantalizingly close, and if examined with a critical eye seems to describe Samuel Mosher of Knox. It reads:<sup>10</sup>

**SIMON MOSHER, of Allen, married Sarah Lyons, of Belfast, Maine. Had—Allen, Esther, Olive, Lydia Jane, and Adeline Amelia. Simon and wife died of small-pox in Maine.**

The reasons why this entry may actually refer to *Samuel* Mosher can be summarized as follows:

1. The similarity of the names *Simon* and *Samuel*, and *Sarah Lyons* and *Sarah Ryan*.
2. The mention of Belfast, Maine, establishes a link between Nova Scotia and Waldo County, Maine. Sarah Ryan's father, Dennison Ryan, was living in Belfast in the 1810 census,<sup>11</sup> and later lived in Waldo, which adjoins Belfast.
3. The first child listed by William Mosher, Allen, provides the one male child needed to comport with the 1840 census.
4. One Olive Mosher married Knox, 8 March 1863, Henry Hatch.<sup>12</sup> Olive's death certificate clearly names her parents as Samuel Mosher and Sarah Jane Ryan, both of Knox, Maine.<sup>13</sup>
5. Adeline Amelia was almost certainly Addie E. Mosher, who married, 12 February 1870, Barzilla B. Bennett, then divorced him as a resident of Rockland, 9 October 1886.<sup>14</sup> In 1880 Addie E. Bennett, aged 31, called *sister-in-law*, was living in the Knox household of "Fitz H." Hatch and wife Olive S.<sup>15</sup> Fitz H. Hatch was undoubtedly Henry Hatch who married Olive Mosher. Addie E. Bennett was therefore Olive's sister, linking her to Samuel and Sarah Jane Mosher.
6. Addie E. Bennett's age of 31 in 1880 suggests she was born about 1849, close to when Samuel and Sarah Mosher died of smallpox. If she was their child, she was the youngest, agreeing with the order of the children listed by William Mosher.
7. While no Lydia Jane Mosher can be found, an additional daughter, Sarah A. (Mosher) Penney, plays a key role in the case.<sup>16</sup> Her 1931 death certificate names her parents as "Sea Captain" Samuel Mosher of Nova Scotia and Sarah Jane

<sup>10</sup> Mosher, *History of the Mosher Family* [note 9], 19

<sup>11</sup> Dennison Ryan household, 1810 U.S. Census, Belfast, Hancock Co, Maine, p. 588.

<sup>12</sup> Elizabeth M. Mosher, *Vital Records of Knox, Maine, Prior to 1892* (Camden, Maine, 1996), 100.

<sup>13</sup> Olive S. Hatch death record [note 1].

<sup>14</sup> Knox Co. Supreme Judicial Court, Sept. 1886 Term, 15:385.

<sup>15</sup> Fitz H. Hatch household, 1880 US Census, Knox, Waldo Co., Maine, p. 345B.

<sup>16</sup> Miss Sarah A. Mozier m. Knox, 1 Sept. 1865, Ralph Penney, both of Knox (Mosher, *Knox Vital Records* [note 12], 103).



Ryan.<sup>17</sup> In addition, in an affidavit she gave for a Civil War widow's pension, Sarah deposed that her parents were Samuel Mosher and Sarah Jane Ryan, and that they had died of smallpox in 1849 when she was four years old.<sup>18</sup> Needless to say, the smallpox connection adds considerable strength to the case.

#### AN ADDITIONAL ERRONEOUS FAMILY HISTORY ENTRY

Another inaccurate entry in a family history, J. W. Penney's *A Genealogical Record of the Descendants of Thomas Penney*, links truth and apparent error. It reads:<sup>19</sup>

**Ralph Penney,<sup>3</sup> son of Robert and Deborah (Hamblin) Penney,<sup>2</sup> son of Thomas Penney,<sup>1</sup> born in Knox, Maine, June 26, 1836, married, September 1, 1865, Sarah A. Mosher, born September 12, 1845, daughter of Simon Mosher.**

It is possible the same person supplied information for William Mosher's 1891 genealogy and J. W. Penney's 1897 book. It cannot be surmised that Simon was Samuel's real name, since all official documents, from the census to a sworn affidavit to death certificates all call him Samuel. Two seemingly flawed family histories, however, may be all researchers have left to build this case. If sufficiently supported, this suggests that Samuel Mosher of Knox, Maine, was born in Kempt, Hants County, Nova Scotia, to Allen and Esther (Wilcox) Mosher, and descended from the prominent Mosher family of early Rhode Island.

Sarah (Mosher) Penney's maiden name is inscribed on her gravestone in Montville's Halldale Cemetery. Perhaps her family too was hoping to keep alive the memory of parents she barely had a chance to know. Strangely enough, these curious family histories might do just that.

*Kenneth Alton Clark (6822 Sutherland Court, Mentor, OH 44060; email: KClar@hawken.edu), a long-time history teacher in Ohio, has been a contributor to The Maine Genealogist for twenty-five years.*

<sup>17</sup> Sarah A. Penney death record [note 1].

<sup>18</sup> Sarah A. Penney pension [note 4]. Sarah's affidavit shows what happened to some children who became orphans: "Immediately after [my parents'] death I went to the town of Knox and lived at the home of my grandfather, Dennis Ryan, for about one year; in 1850 I went from the home of my grandfather to the home of Harvey Sherman in the same town and lived there until I was thirteen years of age, then I went to Searsport to work for Captain Isaac Carver and worked for him for about one year, went from there to the home of Hugh Ross in the same town and worked for nine months; from there I went to Waldo to work in the family of Edward Gay and worked there for about three months; from there I went to work in the family of Asa West in Belfast, and worked there for one year; then went to Swanville and worked in the home of Samuel Harris for one year; then from there back to Waldo and worked in the family of Edward Gay for one year."

<sup>19</sup> J[ohn] W[itam] Penney, *A Genealogical Record of the Descendants of Thomas Penney of New Gloucester, Maine* (Portland, Maine, 1897), 46.

THE FAMILY OF ALVIN BRIDGHAM NASH AND  
HARRIET H. COLE OF HARRINGTON, MAINE

With an Account of Elverdo Norton of Milbridge and Lubec, Maine

By Carolyn J. Nash

The Bible of *Mrs. Alvin B. Nash*, passed down through her son Ellwyn Hammond Nash, is a thick leather-bound volume with four pages of family records between the Old and New Testaments.<sup>1</sup>

Mrs. Alvin B. Nash was born Harriet H. Cole, and the records start with her marriage in 1847 and include the births of their four children and the death of their young son Luther. Later entries, apparently made by her son Ellwyn Nash, include Harriet's death and the death of her son Ira Nash, as well as the births of Ellwyn's three children and the deaths of two of them. There are no entries after 1925, the year Ellwyn's son Roy Nash and brother Ira Nash died.

The entries, in the order they are given, are:

[*first page*] Family Record.

Marriages: Alvin B. Nash    Harriet H. Cole    July 1<sup>st</sup>, 1847

[*second page*] Births:

Emily I. Nash	May 1 <sup>st</sup> , 1848
Luther P. Nash	June 18 <sup>th</sup> , 1857
Ira W. Nash	Dec 8 <sup>th</sup> , 1858
Ellwyn H. Nash	Mar 16 <sup>th</sup> , 1866

[*third page*] Deaths:

Luther P. Nash	Feb. 24 <sup>th</sup> , 1859
Harriet H. Nash	Mar 16 <sup>th</sup> , 1895
Ira W. Nash	Dec 20 <sup>th</sup> , 1925
Flossie Nash	1893 – age 6 months
Roy Stanley Nash	May 10/25 – age 35.

[*fourth page*] Miscellaneous:

Children of E.H. Nash and Ethel B. Nash:

Roy S. Nash	born 2/6 – 1890    died May 10/25
Lena Harriet Nash	[born] 2/8 – 1891
Flossie [Nash]	[born] 3/18 – 1893    lived 6 months

---

<sup>1</sup> The Rev. Ingram Cobbin, M. A., *The Holy Bible, Containing the Old and New Testaments, According to The Authorized Version; with the Marginal References and the Usual Various Readings* (Hartford, 1860). It is embossed "Mrs. Alvin B. Nash" on the back in gold letters.

**ALVIN BRIDGHAM NASH** was born in Harrington, Maine, about October 1825, son of Uriah and Anna (Wass) Nash, and died in Machias, Maine, 20 June 1897.<sup>2</sup> He married in Harrington, 1 July 1847, HARRIET H. COLE.<sup>3</sup> Harriet was born in Levant, Maine, 9 February 1827, the tenth recorded child of Robert and Nancy (Thompson) Cole of Cornish, Maine,<sup>4</sup> and died 16 March 1895, aged 68.<sup>5</sup>

Census records track the Nash family over the decades living in Harrington and Columbia, Maine. Alvin was described as a millman, ship carpenter, and farmer.

The 1850 census for Harrington included:<sup>6</sup>

Alvin Nash	24	millman	\$100 in real estate
Harriet Nash	23		
Emely I. Nash	2		

In 1860, still in Harrington, the household was made up of:<sup>7</sup>

Alvin B. Nash	34	ship carpenter	\$2000 in real estate, \$200 in personal estate
Harriet H. "	33		
Emily I. "	12		
Elverdo "	8	[male]	
Ira W. "	1		

By 1870, they were in Columbia:<sup>8</sup>

Alvin Nash	44	farmer	\$983 in real estate, \$310 in personal estate
Harriet "	43	keeping house	
Ira "	11	at home	
Alvin Jr. "	4	"	

In June 1880, the Nashes were still in Columbia:<sup>9</sup>

Alvin B. Nash	54	[no occupation]	
---------------	----	-----------------	--

<sup>2</sup> Alvin B. Nash death record, Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921, image, familysearch.org: d. Machias, 20 June 1897, aged 71y 8m; cause: cerebral hemorrhage; burial: Harrington Maine; father: Uriah Nash b. Addison; mother: maiden name Anna Wass, b. Addison.

<sup>3</sup> Mrs. Alvin B. Nash Bible [note 1]. Also, Mrs. Hale B. Colton, transcr., "Harrington ME: Marriages and Intentions, 1800–1899," New England Historical Genealogical Society (NEHGS), Mss SL HAR 14: Alvin B. Nash to Harriet H. Cole of Lemont [Levant], marriage 1 July 1847.

<sup>4</sup> Robert Cole family record, Levant Town and Vital Records 1813–1917, 1:57, 116 [Family Search digital film (DGS) #7595735, images 42, 74]. The record states that Robert Cole was b. Cornish, 14 May 1783; wife Nancy, maiden name Thompson, b. Nov. 1790; Robert Cole moved to Levant 16 July 1823; the first 7 children born in Cornish, and the last 3 born in Levant. The family is also documented in Robert L. Taylor, *Early Families of Cornish Maine* (Danville Maine, 1987), 32.

<sup>5</sup> Gravestone photo, Forest Hill Cemetery, Harrington, findagrave.com #132026471.

<sup>6</sup> Alvin Nash household, 1850 U.S. Census, Harrington, Washington Co., Maine, p. 129.

<sup>7</sup> Alvin B. Nash household, 1860 U.S. Census, Harrington, Washington Co., Maine, p. 1074.

<sup>8</sup> Alvin Nash household, 1870 U.S. Census, Columbia, Washington Co., Maine, p. 143. Daughter Emily was living nearby that year with her husband, Everett White, and son Clifford (Everett White household, 1870 U.S. Census, Columbia, Washington Co., Maine, p. 144).

<sup>9</sup> Alvin B. Nash household, 1880 U.S. Census, Columbia, Washington Co., Maine, E.D. 190, p. 4.

Harriet H. "	53	wife	keeping house
Ira W. "	21	son	laborer
Elwin H. "	14	son	attend school

#### WHO WAS ELVERDO?

The presence of “Elverdo Nash,” age 8, in Alvin and Harriet Nash’s household in 1860 was puzzling. The comprehensive *Early Pleasant River Families* lists him as the son of Alvin and Harriet, born about 1852 and dying in the 1860s,<sup>10</sup> but this is incorrect. My father, Roy Nash Jr., and his older sister Verna grew up in Oakland, California, near their grandfather Ellwyn Nash, and knew him well. They had met Ira Nash, had a photo of Emily, and knew of Luther, who lived only from 1857 to 1859. They had never heard of an Elverdo Nash. They checked the family Bible, and Elverdo was not in it, although Luther, who died in 1859, was listed. There was no Elverdo Nash buried with Alvin and Harriet, although Luther was. No Elverdo Nash appeared in later censuses, with or separate from the Alvin Nash family. There are a few early birth records for Harrington and only a few pages of delayed birth records, but they do not include an Elverdo Nash.<sup>11</sup>

It seemed clear that Elverdo Nash was not a member of the Alvin and Harriet Nash family, but he did not appear with other Nash families either, either living or in a family grave. My father and I discussed it, and I did some research, but could not find an Elverdo Nash in any records except the 1860 Harrington census. So who was Elverdo?

I got past my blind spot when I stopped looking for Elverdo *Nash*. After that, it was fairly straightforward, because *Elverdo* is an uncommon name.<sup>12</sup> The 1870 Harrington census included Otis Norton, son of Elisha and Lucy (Wass) Norton, with his second wife, Elizabeth Ann (Jordan), whom he married in 1864, and four children: Alverdo, 19; Albion, 12; Marvin, 2; and Otis Jr., 1.<sup>13</sup> Alverdo “Norton,” aged 19 in 1870, was born about 1851. Elverdo “Nash” was aged 8 in 1860, so born about 1852. With the unusual name and the similar ages, could they be one and the same person?

In 1850 Otis Norton and his first wife, Ann (Robinson), were living in Harrington with six children: Leonard, 12; Garbell, 9; Byron, 8; Elizabeth, 5; Emeline, 4;

<sup>10</sup> Leonard F. Tibbetts and Darryl B. Lamson, *Early Pleasant River Families of Washington County, Maine* (Rockland Maine, 1997), 416–17. This error is repeated in Darryl B. Lamson and Leonard F. Tibbetts, *Early Narraguagus River Families of Washington County, Maine* (Rockport Maine, 2002), 688.

<sup>11</sup> Harrington, Maine, “Births and delayed births to 1898 with some births to 1940” [DGS #7595710, item 1]. This source includes only delayed birth records.

<sup>12</sup> A query on familysearch.org for the given name *\*lverd\**, b. Maine 1840–55, and resident in Washington Co., Maine, in the period 1850–80 produced twenty-two hits, including Alverdo Norton of Harrington in the 1870 census [note 13].

<sup>13</sup> Otis Norton household, 1870 U.S. Census, Harrington, Washington Co., Maine, p. 286; Tibbetts & Lamson, *Early Pleasant River Families* [note 10], 440.

and James, 10 months.<sup>14</sup> *Early Pleasant River Families* lists two additional children: Lorenzo B., born in 1854, and Albion, born in 1858.<sup>15</sup>

By 1860, the family had fallen on hard times. Otis S. Norton, 46, a pauper, was living in Harrington with the Abner and Mary Cole family in Harrington.<sup>16</sup> The children were scattered, with the younger ones living with other families in Harrington:

Emeline Norton, age 13, was in the Simeon and Harriet B. Coffin household.<sup>17</sup>

James Norton, age 11, was in the John W. and Miriam Perry household.<sup>18</sup>

Elverdo “Nash,” age 8, was in the Alvin B. and Harriet Nash household.<sup>19</sup>

Lorenzo Norton, age 5, pauper, was in the Edwin Boynton household.<sup>20</sup>

Albion Norton, age 4, pauper, was in the Wilmot and Fannie Wass household.<sup>21</sup>

Several of these families with whom the children were placed were relatives. While documentation of all of those relationships is outside the scope of the present study, it is noted that Alvin Nash (in whose household Elverdo was living in 1860) and Otis Norton (in whose household Alverdo was living in 1870) were first cousins. Alvin Nash’s mother was Anna Wass and Otis Norton’s mother was Lucy Wass, both Wass girls being daughters of Wilmot Wass Jr. of Addison, Maine.<sup>22</sup> Based on this kinship, the similarity between the unusual names *Elverdo* and *Alverdo*, their similar ages, and the lack any contrary evidence, there is little doubt that Elverdo and Alverdo was the same person—the son of Otis Norton, born about 1851.

The children of Alvin and Harriet Nash are listed below. The family of Elverdo Norton will be discussed later.

Children of Alvin B. and Harriet H. (Cole) Nash:

- i EMILY I. NASH, b. Harrington, 1 May 1848,<sup>23</sup> d. Machias in 1933;<sup>24</sup> m. Harrington, Oct. 1867, EVERETT I. WHITE,<sup>25</sup> b. Columbia, 19 March 1843, d. Machias, 14

<sup>14</sup> Otis Norton household, 1850 U.S. Census, Harrington, Washington Co., Maine, p. 128; Tibbetts & Lamson, *Early Pleasant River Families* [note 10], 440.

<sup>15</sup> Tibbetts & Lamson, *Early Pleasant River Families* [note 10], 440.

<sup>16</sup> Abner N. Cole household, 1860 U.S. Census, Harrington, Washington Co., Maine, p. 1062. Otis S. Norton, 46, pauper, was residing with the family.

<sup>17</sup> Simeon Coffin household, 1860 U.S. Census, Harrington, Washington Co., Maine, p. 1076. Simeon Coffin, 44, tavern keeper; Harriet B. Coffin, 43 (b. New Brunswick); Lenora A. Coffin, 6; Asro B. Coffin, 2; Emeline Norton, 13.

<sup>18</sup> John W. Perry household, 1860 U.S. Census, Harrington, Washington Co., Maine, p. 1066. John W. Perry, 29, sea captain; Miriam Perry, 40; Alphonzo Perry, 7; James Norton, 12.

<sup>19</sup> See note 7.

<sup>20</sup> Edwin D. Boynton household, 1860 U.S. Census, Harrington, Washington Co., Maine, p. 1068. Edwin D. Boynton, 20, ship carpenter; Mehitable C. Ludley, 45; Isaac H. Boynton, 16; Salena R. Boynton, 21, school teacher; Emily L. Boynton, 18; Lorenzo B. Norton, 5, pauper.

<sup>21</sup> Wilmot Wass household, 1860 U.S. Census, Harrington, Washington Co., Maine, p. 1058. Wilmot Wass, 48, “shoresman”; Fannie Wass, 48; Livona F. Wass, 7; Albion Norton, 4, pauper.

<sup>22</sup> Tibbetts & Lamson, *Early Pleasant River Families* [note 10], 579.

<sup>23</sup> Mrs. Alvin B. Nash Bible [note 1].

<sup>24</sup> Faylene Hutton Cemetery Collection, #5367 [image, familysearch.org]: Emily I. Nash, 1848–1933, wife of Everett I. White, bur. Court St. Cemetery, Machias, with Everett I. White.

Dec. 1921, son of Israel W. and Judith Ann (Nash) White.<sup>26</sup> According to a contemporary Machias history, Everett and Emily (Nash) White went to Calif. for a year, then to Shulee, N.S., before he started a lumbering business at Sand River, N.S. He kept this business when he moved to Machias in 1874, repairing ships, then moved to Harrington and finally back Machias, continuing in lumbering and ship building.<sup>27</sup> This history notwithstanding, they were in Columbia, Maine, in 1870 and 1880;<sup>28</sup> in Cumberland Co., N.S., in 1891,<sup>29</sup> and then in Machias by 1900; Emily was still there, a widow, in 1930.<sup>30</sup>

Children: 1. *Clifford Irving White*, b. Columbia, 22 April 1870,<sup>31</sup> d. 27 March 1958, likely in Belleville, Hastings Co., Ontario;<sup>32</sup> m. abt. 1892 (single with parents in 1891 N.S. census, son b. 2 March 1893), Nellie Irene Diamond,<sup>33</sup> b. Ontario, 12 June 1870, d. likely in Belleview, 10 July 1961, daughter of Irvine and Esther (Platt) Diamond.<sup>34</sup> 2. *Bertram Nash White*, b. Columbia, 17 Oct. 1880,<sup>35</sup> d. Machias, 12 April 1941;<sup>36</sup> m. Atkinson, Maine, 28 Dec. 1905, Jennie Belle Price, b. Atkinson, 5 Dec. 1880, daughter of Jacob W. and Joanna (McLeod) Price, d. Machias, 15 Feb. 1975.<sup>37</sup>

---

<sup>25</sup> George Washington Drisko, *Narrative of the Town of Machias, the Old and the New, the Early and the Late* (Machias, 1904), 574. Louis Clinton Hatch, *Maine, A History, Centennial Edition, Biographical*, 5 vols. (New York, 1919), 4:316, states they m. 8 Oct. 1867 in Harrington; Emily's parents are given as Alvin Bridgham Nash and Harriet Hodgdon Cole.

<sup>26</sup> Death record, Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921, image, familysearch.org, which gives his parents Isreal [*sic*] W. White and Judith A. Nash.

<sup>27</sup> Drisko, *Narrative of the Town of Machias* [note 25], 574.

<sup>28</sup> Everett [I.] White household, 1870 and 1880 U.S. Censuses, Columbia, Washington Co., Maine, p. 144 [1870]; E.D. 190, p. 396B [1880].

<sup>29</sup> 1891 Canada Census, Nova Scotia, Cumberland, River Hébert, Subdistrict 5-B, p. 16.

<sup>30</sup> Everett I. White household, 1900 U.S. Census, Machias, Washington Co., Maine, E.D. 213, sheet 4; 1930 U.S. Census, Machias, Washington Co., Maine, E.D. 15-44, sheet 2-B.

<sup>31</sup> Clifford "Wite" household, 1901 Canada Census, Nova Scotia, District 30 Cumberland, Subdistrict Shulee, p. 1. Clifford Wite [*sic*], b. 22 April 1870, U.S.; wife Nellie Wite, b. 12 June 1870, Ontario. Clifford White was 3m old in the 1870 Columbia, Maine, census, enumerated 19 July [see note 28].

<sup>32</sup> Ontario Cemetery Finding Aid, index at ocfca.islandnet.com: Clifford Irving White and Nellie I White, both in Mausoleum, Belleville Cemetery, Stirling Twp., Hastings Co., Ontario, ref: QU-H-1172; Clifford Irving White obituary, *Belleville [Ontario] Intelligencer*, 28 March 1961, online index, Belleview Public Library.

<sup>33</sup> Nellie's maiden name from delayed birth certificate of son, Guy Irvine White, b. Belleville, Ontario, 2 March 1893 [image, familysearch.org].

<sup>34</sup> Nellie Irene Diamond obituary, *Bellevue [Ontario] Intelligencer*, 11 July 1961, online index, Belleview Public Library. Daughter Nelly living in her parents' 1881 household (Irvin Diamond household, 1881 Canada Census, Belleview, Hastings West, Ontario, p. 56), her mother's maiden name given on her gravestone, photo at findagrave.com #53705996; Nellie's birth date from 1901 census [note 31].

<sup>35</sup> Birth location from marriage record; birth date from WWI Draft Registration Card [image, familysearch.org]; Bertram Nash White, res Machias, b. 17 Oct. 1880, reg. 12 Sept. 1918, Calais.

<sup>36</sup> Faylene Hutton Cemetery Collection, #5369 [image, familysearch.org]: Bertram N. White, 17 Oct. 1880–12 April 1941, son of Everett I. and Emily I. White, Court St. Cemetery, Machias.

<sup>37</sup> Her parents named on her marriage record, Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921 [image, familysearch.org]; her dates of birth and death from Social Security Death Index, 1935–2014.

- ii LUTHER P. NASH, b. Harrington, 18 June 1857, d. there 24 Feb. 1859, aged 1y 8m.<sup>38</sup>
- iii IRA WARREN NASH, a carpenter, b. Harrington, 8 Dec. 1859, d. Oakland, Calif., 20 Dec. 1925;<sup>39</sup> m. (1) Bar Harbor, Maine, 3 Dec. 1881 JULIA A. ALLEN,<sup>40</sup> b. Columbia about July 1859, d. 26 June 1886,<sup>41</sup> daughter of Robert and Althea (Doane) Allen.<sup>42</sup> She was bur. in Forest Hill Cemetery, Harrington, with Ira's parents and brother Luther. Ira m. (2) Harrington, 10 March 1888, KATIE A. (COFFIN) PREBLE,<sup>43</sup> b. Harrington, 7 June 1860, d. Biddeford, Maine, 25 May 1918, daughter of Uriah N. and Harriet E. (Cleaves) Coffin,<sup>44</sup> and widow of William A. Preble.<sup>45</sup> Katie divorced Ira Nash in Cumberland Co. in Oct. 1903 for cruel and abusive treatment.<sup>46</sup> She was buried as Katie A. Preble, wife of William Preble, in Forest Hill Cemetery with William Preble and her children Edith Preble and "Lutie" Nash.
- Ira Nash followed his brother Ellwyn to California. He m. (3) Berkeley, Calif., June 1904 (license 13 June), Mrs. IDA O. (PREBLE) SAUNDERS of Berkeley,<sup>47</sup> b. Machias, [calc.] 10 Feb. 1859, daughter of Haskel and Olive (Kingsley) Preble,<sup>48</sup> and widow of Henry E. Saunders of Machias,<sup>49</sup> d. Berkeley, 6 Dec. 1906, aged 47y 9m 24d.<sup>50</sup> Ira m. (4) Alameda Co., Calif., 15 April 1908, Mrs. JOHANNA MAGDA-

<sup>38</sup> Mrs. Alvin B. Nash Bible [note 1].

<sup>39</sup> Mrs. Alvin B. Nash Bible [note 1] gives birth and death dates. Obituary, *Oakland Tribune*, 22 Dec. 1925: "In Oakland, Ira Warren Nash, died 20 Dec 1925, beloved husband of Johanna Nash, father of William Nash and brother of Ellwyn H. Nash, of Oakland and Mrs. Emily I. White of Machias, Me. A native of Maine, aged 67 years. A member of Oakland Camp 7236 M. W. A. and A. F. & A. M. of Portland, Me."

<sup>40</sup> *Mount Desert Herald*, 17 Dec 1881: "Married. In Harrington, Dec. 3, by the Rev. W. E. Gaskin, Ira W. Nash, and Miss Julia A. Allen, both of Columbia."

<sup>41</sup> Gravestone, Forest Hill Cemetery, Harrington: Julia A. Nash, wife of Ira W. Nash, d. 26 June 1886, age 26y 11m.

<sup>42</sup> Tibbetts & Lamson, *Early Pleasant River Families* [note 10], 9, 10.

<sup>43</sup> Harrington Marriages and Intentions [note 3]; *Mount Desert Herald*, 23 March 1888: "Married. In Harrington, March 10, by the Rev. J. W. Dick, Ira Nash of Columbia and Mrs. Katie Preble of Harrington."

<sup>44</sup> Death record, Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921, image, familysearch.org, which gives her birth and death dates and places, names her parents, and mentions that she was divorced.

<sup>45</sup> Katie A. Coffin m. 23 Oct. 1977, William A. Preble (Harrington Marriages and Intentions [note 3]); J. Gary Nichols Cemetery Collection, Forest Hill Cemetery, Harrington: William A. Preble, d. 20 March 1887, age 35; Katie A. Preble, wife, d. 25 May 1918, age 57; Edith, daughter, d. 19 May 1887, age 4y; Lutie [Nash], son, d. 4 May 1882 [*sic*: 1892], age 1y 8m 2d.

<sup>46</sup> Cumberland Co. Supreme Judicial Court, 97:1170–72 [DGS #5669294, images 1145–47].

<sup>47</sup> *Berkeley Daily Gazette*, 14 June 1904: "Marriage licenses issued yesterday. Ira W. Nash, 45, and Ida O. Saunders, 45, both of Berkeley."

<sup>48</sup> Birth record, Machias Maine Town and Vital Records, 1772–1892 [DGS #11562, image 188]; her mother's death record gives her maiden name of Kingsley (Mass. Vital Records, 1905/92:1 [image, americanancestors.org]).

<sup>49</sup> Machias Maine Town and Vital Records, 1772–1892 [DGS #11562, image 236]: Marriage, Machias, 26 Oct. 1878, Henry E. Saunders to Ida O. Preble; Death record, Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921, image, familysearch.org: Machias, 20 Nov. 1903, Henry E. Saunders, b. Yarmouth, Nova Scotia, sail maker, married (wife not listed).

<sup>50</sup> *Berkeley Daily Gazette*, 3 Dec. 1906: "In Berkeley, Tuesday, Dec. 4, 1906, Mrs. Ida O. Nash, beloved wife of I. W. Nash of 1741 Bancroft Way, a native of Maine."

LENEHEN (PILTZ) SCHROEDER,<sup>51</sup> b. Holstein, Germany, 7 Aug. 1860, d. Alameda Co., 29 Dec. 1942.<sup>52</sup>

Children of Ira Warren Nash and his 2nd wife, Katie A. (Coffin) (Preble): 1. *William Azro Nash*, b. Harrington, 22 Sept. 1889,<sup>53</sup> d. Biddeford, 24 Dec. 1961, age 72y;<sup>54</sup> m. Biddeford, 20 Feb. 1918 Ruth Merrill Spofford, b. Biddeford, 23 Sept. 1893, daughter of Benjamin W. and Carrie M. (Nason) Spofford.<sup>55</sup> He was with his father in Berkeley in 1904,<sup>56</sup> but back in Maine by 1910.<sup>57</sup> 2. *Luther A. ("Lutie") Nash*, b. Harrington, [calc.] 23 Jan. 1891, d. there, of croup, 5 May 1892, aged 1y 3m 12d, and buried with his mother.<sup>58</sup>

- iv ELLWYN HAMMOND NASH, b. Harrington, 16 March 1866,<sup>59</sup> d. Oakland, Calif., 27 May 1931;<sup>60</sup> m. St. John, N.B., 9 Nov. 1887, ETHEL A. ("ETTA") BELYEA,<sup>61</sup> b. N.B., 8 Aug. 1866, d. Oakland, 22 Feb. 1937,<sup>62</sup> daughter of David N. and Leah Ann (Van Wart) Belyea.<sup>63</sup>

<sup>51</sup> Alameda Co., Calif., Recorder, Oakland, Book 42, #11.

<sup>52</sup> California, Death Index, 1940–1997, database, familysearch.org: Johanna Magdalenehen Nash, b. 7 Aug 1860, d. 29 Dec 1942; father's surname Plitz [*sic*]; mother's maiden surname Bauch. *Oakland Tribune*, 21 April 1922, obituary of Capt. Henry Piltz, naming his sister Mrs. Ira Nash, establishes the correct spelling of her maiden surname as *Piltz*. Birth in Holstein, Germany, from Ira W. Nash household, 1920 U.S. Census, Brooklyn Twp., Oakland, Alameda Co., Calif., S.D. 5, E.D. 11, sheet 11B.

<sup>53</sup> Birth record, Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921, image, familysearch.org, delayed birth return filed 27 Sept. 1941, affidavit by Winslow Ramsdell, uncle, and Frances White, aunt.

<sup>54</sup> Maine, Death Index, 1960–1997, database, familysearch.org, death certificate #6110548.

<sup>55</sup> Birth and Marriage record, Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921, image, familysearch.org.

<sup>56</sup> *Husted's Oakland, Alameda & Berkeley and Alameda County Directory for the Year 1905* (Oakland, 1904), 681. Ira W. Nash, carp[enter], and Wm. A. Nash, student, both resided at 2115-a Allston way, Berkeley.

<sup>57</sup> George F. Tarbox household, 1910 U.S. Census, Biddeford Ward 3, York Co., Maine, E.D. 230, S.D. 12, sheet 1A: George F. Tarbox, 53, carpenter; Katie A. Tarbox, 47, wife; William A. Nash, 20, son, machinist.

<sup>58</sup> Death record, Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921, image, familysearch.org.

<sup>59</sup> Mrs. Alvin B. Nash Bible [note 1]; also, Harrington delayed birth record [DGS #7595710, image 7]: 16 March 1866, Ellwyn Hammond Nash, son of Alvin Nash, carpenter, and Harriet Cole, living Harrington, attested by Mary M. Small (cousin).

<sup>60</sup> Death certificate, Alameda Co., Calif., local registered #1350, in possession of the author; *Oakland Tribune*, 28 May 1931, p. 50: "NASH—In Oakland, May 27, Ellwyn H. Nash, beloved husband of Ethel Belyea Nash, loving father of Harriet Lantis and the late Roy S. Nash and grandfather of Dorothy, Verna, and Stanley Nash; a native of Maine. A member of Oakland Lodge No. 118 I.O.O.F. Golden Rule Encampment and Modern Woodmen of America."

<sup>61</sup> Marriage certificate photocopy, in possession of Carolyn Nash: Ellwyn H. Nash of Columbia, Maine, Etta Belyea of St. John, N.B., m. by license by George O. Gates; 9 Nov. 1887, in presence of J. A. Belyea and C. L. Casten. James Austin Belyea was Etta's uncle.

<sup>62</sup> Birth and death dates from her death certificate, Alameda Co., Calif., local registered #722, in possession of the author; *Oakland Tribune*, 23 Feb 1937: Deaths, "NASH—In Oakland, Feb. 22, 1937, Ethel B. Nash, widow of the late Ellwyn H. Nash, and loving mother of Mrs. Harriet Lantis, and grandmother of Mrs. Dorothy Stevens, Mrs. Verna Watt and Roy S. Nash; a native of Canada."

<sup>63</sup> Frances G. Tisdale and Marjorie E. Rennie, *The Genealogy of the Boulier-Bulyea-Belyea Family, 1697-1969* (n.p., 1970), 176, 181; *St. John Religious Intelligencer*, 3 March 1865: "Marriage, David N. Belyea, Leah Ann second daughter of Abraham VANWART, all of Wickham."



Ellwyn and Etta Nash were in Sand River, N.S., a lumber town, by 1890 (birth of son). The 1891 River Hébert, Cumberland, N.S., census lists E.H. Nash, 25, bookkeeper in a general store, wife Etta, 24, and their children Roy Stanley, 1y 2m, and Lena May, 2m, both born in N.S.<sup>64</sup> In March 1893 *The (St John) Daily Sun* reported that “E. H. Nash, late bookkeeper for E. I. White [Emily Nash’s husband] of Sand River, has left for St. John to take up a position with W. H. Hayward & Co.” Their daughter Flossie was born in St. John in March 1893 and died there six months later. Ellwyn Nash was still bookkeeper for W. H. Hayward in March 1895, when he received a telegram informing him of his mother’s death in Maine.<sup>65</sup> In 1900, the family was back in Maine, living on Elm Street in Machias.<sup>66</sup>

By Feb. 1904, Ellwyn and Etta Nash and their two surviving children had moved to Oakland, Calif.<sup>67</sup> In 1910 Ellwyn Nash was the manager of Sunset Lumber in Oakland, and his son Roy was working in the lumber yard as an estimator.<sup>68</sup> *The Oakland Tribune*, 16 March 1910, reported that E. H. Nash, secretary and general manager of Sunset Lumber, was one of three testifying against an employee who had embezzled \$4,200 from the company to play the Chinese lotteries. The 1920 census listed his occupation as dealer in real estate,<sup>69</sup> and the 1920 Oakland city directory listed his insurance business E. H. Nash and Son.<sup>70</sup> He provided financial support to his son Roy’s family after Roy was disabled by a stroke in 1924 and died in 1925.<sup>71</sup> Etta’s mother, Leah Ann (Van Wart) Belyea, joined Ellwyn and Etta from N.B. after her 2nd husband died.

Children: 1. *Roy Stanley Nash*, b. Sand River, N.S., 6 Feb 1890, d. Oakland, Calif., 10 May 1925;<sup>72</sup> m. Oakland, 29 Oct. 1910, Janet Goss,<sup>73</sup> b. Nanaimo, B.C., 12 Aug. 1894, d. Oakland, 19 March 1977, daughter of Frederick and Alice (Williams)

<sup>64</sup> E. H. Nash household, Canada Census 1891, Nova Scotia, Cumberland, River Hébert, Sub-district 5B.

<sup>65</sup> [St. John, N.B.] *Daily Sun*, 18 March 1895: “Mr. Nash, bookkeeper for W. H. Hayward, received a telegram Saturday announcing the death of his mother at Harrington, Maine. She was an old lady and had been an invalid for years.”

<sup>66</sup> Ellwyn Nash household, 1900 U.S. Census, Machias, Washington Co., Maine, E.D. 213, S.D. 100, sheet 12.

<sup>67</sup> *The Berkeley Daily Gazette*, 2 Feb. 1904, carried an ad for E. H. Nash, representing R. A. Allen, offering estimates for construction projects; *Husted’s Directory for 1905* [note 56], 348, Oakland: E. H. Nash, b[oo]kk[ee]p[e]r Sunset Lumber Co, r[sides] 458 e 17th.

<sup>68</sup> Elwin H. Nash household, 1910 U.S. Census, Brooklyn Twp., Oakland, Alameda Co., Calif., E.D. 147, S.D. 3, sheet 10.

<sup>69</sup> Elwin Nash household, 1920 U.S. Census, Oakland, Alameda Co., Calif., E.D. 121, S.D. 5, sheet 7B.

<sup>70</sup> *Oakland–Berkeley–Alameda City Directory 1923* (Oakland, 1923), 1156: E. H. Nash & Son (E. H. and R. S. Nash), Insurance and Surety Bonds, 716 American Bank Building (Oakland).

<sup>71</sup> Information from Roy Nash Jr. and his sister Verna (Nash) (Watt) Baum, who were there.

<sup>72</sup> Death record, Roy S. Nash, Alameda Co. Recorder’s Office; *Oakland Tribune*, 12 May 1925, “Died, NASH—In Oakland, May 10, 1925. Roy S., beloved husband of Janet M. Nash, and loving father of Dorothy, Verna and Roy Stanley Nash Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Nash and brother of Mrs. Wesley Lantis of Seattle; a native of Nova Scotia, aged 35 years, 4 months and 4 days. (St. Johns, N. B. paper please copy.)”

<sup>73</sup> Marriage certificate, filed Alameda Co., Book 49, p. 84.

Goss.<sup>74</sup> 2. *Lena Harriet Nash*, b. Sand River, 8 Feb. 1891, d. Medford, Jackson Co., Ore., 5 Aug. 1967;<sup>75</sup> m. (1) Alameda Co., Calif., 14 Sept. 1915, Charles A. Foley,<sup>76</sup> m. (2) Los Angeles, Calif., 17 April 1924, Wesley Lantis, b. Jackson Co., Mich., 29 June 1892, d. Medford, Ore., 7 April 1985, a widower, son of Frederick and Eva (Wisner) Lantis.<sup>77</sup> 3. *Flossie Irene Nash*, b. St. John, N.B., 18 March 1893, d. there, 15 Sept. 1893 of “water on brain.”<sup>78</sup>

#### ELVERDO NORTON

Elverdo (or Alverdo) Norton appeared in the Milbridge and Lubec, Maine, records from the 1870s through the 1890s. He fathered at least ten children. His marriage records and his children’s marriage and death records call him *Elverdo* Norton, *Alverdo* Norton, or misspellings of the name; he is once listed as *Elverdo A.* Norton. For the purpose of this paper, he will be referred to as Elverdo, unless quoting a specific record. Authors Tibbetts and Lamson conflated him with his older brother James Norton, born in late 1849,<sup>79</sup> as a *James Alverdo* Norton, born in 1849.<sup>80</sup> This error and their inclusion of *Elverdo Nash* as a son of Alvin and Harriet Nash have been propagated in online genealogies. Unfortunately for the researcher, *James Norton* was not an uncommon name—there were many James Nortons born in Maine about 1849 and living later in Maine or further afield. It is unclear which, if any, might be Otis Norton’s son James.

**ELVERDO A. NORTON** was born Harrington about 1851,<sup>81</sup> son of Otis and Ann (Robinson) Norton.<sup>82</sup> He drowned in December 1899, aged 50 [*sic*], location unknown.<sup>83</sup> He married first in Milbridge, 13 October 1876, ELIZABETH E.

<sup>74</sup> British Columbia Archives (<http://search-collections.royalbcmuseum.bc.ca/Genealogy>), birth reg. index: 1894-09-050236, Janet Goss, 12 Aug. 1894; California, Death Index, 1940–1997, database, familysearch.org: Janet M. Nash, b. Canada, 12 Aug. 1894; d. Alameda Co., 19 March 1977.

<sup>75</sup> Birth from Mrs. Alvin B. Nash Bible [note 1]; Oregon State Archives and Records Center, Oregon Death Index, 1903–1998, Harriet H. Lantis, spouse Wesley.

<sup>76</sup> California State Archives, Alameda Co., Marriages 1854–1955, index to marriage licenses and certificates, No. 23, #1902, Book 72, No. 252, married by A. W. Palmer, Min.

<sup>77</sup> Birth from U.S., World War I Draft Registration Cards, 1917–1918, family search.org; death from Oregon State Archives and Records Center, Oregon Death Index, 1903–1998, cert. 85-07218; marriage from Los Angeles Co. Marriages, book 534, p. 60, No. 4493 [image, familysearch.org].

<sup>78</sup> Birth and death records, St. John, N.B., Archives.

<sup>79</sup> He was 10 months old in the Aug. 1850 census (Otis Norton household, 1850 U.S. Census, Harrington, Washington Co., Maine, p. 128).

<sup>80</sup> Tibbetts & Lamson, *Early Pleasant River Families* [note 10], 440 [Otis Smith Norton], 450–51 [James “Alverdo” Norton].

<sup>81</sup> As noted above, he was age 8 in 1860 and age 19 in 1870. He was aged 29 in 1880 (Elvardo Norton household, 1880 U.S. Census, Lubec, Washington Co., Maine, E.D. 178, p. 241C) and 42 at his Feb. 1893 marriage (see note 88).

<sup>82</sup> Otis Norton and Ann Robinson m. 22 Aug. 1837 (Marlene A. Groves, *Vital Records of Camden/Rockport, Maine* [Rockland, Maine, 2006] 276).

<sup>83</sup> Death record, Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921, image, familysearch.org. Stamped at top: “Received from U. S. Census Office.” Stamped at bottom: “WASH.” Handwritten note: “Cf: births of 1892 & 1893.” His death is not recorded in the Milbridge or Lubec town records.

(“LIZZIE”) GOODWIN.<sup>84</sup> She was born in East Sullivan, [calc.] 4 July 1856, daughter of Robert and Olive (Palmer) Goodwin, and died in Machiasport (as “Mrs. Lizzie Harmon”), 30 October 1905, age 49 years, 3 months, 26 days.<sup>85</sup>

Elizabeth E. Norton of Marshfield filed for divorce from Elverdo in the Washington County Supreme Judicial Court in November 1887, testifying that they married 13 October 1876 and lived together in Milbridge and East Machias as man and wife, but that he deserted her on 22 July 1879 and that she had not heard from him or received any support since. The court required her to advertise the divorce complaint and, when he did not respond, granted her a divorce effective 26 July 1888.<sup>86</sup>

Although he was still married to Elizabeth, the *Eastport Sentinel* of 26 June 1879 reported that Elverdo Norton of Harrington had married in Eastport, on 23 June 1879, Sarah “Spray” of Lubec.<sup>87</sup> His involvement with Sarah would seem to have been the reason for Elverdo’s abandonment of Elizabeth and their subsequent divorce. Sarah is SARAH ORENDA SPRAGUE of Milbridge, aged 37, whom Elverdo remarried in Milbridge, 23 February 1893, the marriage record stating they had married in 1879 “in good faith” but were remarrying because of concerns about the validity of the first marriage.<sup>88</sup> According to this latter marriage record, Sarah was born in Nova Scotia, a daughter of Benjamin and Jane (—) Sprague of Lubec. When she died in Milbridge, however, on 16 April 1916, at age 64 years, 4 months, 14 days, her place of birth was given as Cornwallis, Nova Scotia, and her parents as Benjamin Sprague and Mary Sprague McLellan.<sup>89</sup> On both her marriage and death records, the person named as Sarah’s mother was apparently her stepmother, Mary Jane (Scoville) (Sprague) McLellan.<sup>90</sup> Her birth mother was possibly the Margaret Sprague listed as Benjamin’s wife in the 1850 census.<sup>91</sup>

---

<sup>84</sup> The marriage date is given in the divorce record (see note 86). Their marriage intentions, dated 18 Sept. 1876, are recorded in Milbridge Marriages and Intentions, 1850–1891, p. 39 [DGS 7595759, image 95].

<sup>85</sup> Death record, Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921, image, familysearch.org. After divorcing Elverdo, she m. (2) St. Stephen, N.B., 13 Sept. 1893, Lorenzo D. Harmon, both of Machias (Kenneth L. Willey, ed., *Vital Records from the Eastport Sentinel of Eastport, Maine, 1818–1900* [Camden, Maine, 1996], 503, citing *Eastport Sentinel*, 20 Sept. 1893).

<sup>86</sup> Washington Co. Supreme Judicial Court Records, 28:189–90, docket #185 [DGS #4801158, images 213–14], Elizabeth E. Norton (formerly Goodwin) suit against Alverdo Norton.

<sup>87</sup> Willey, *Eastport Sentinel* [note 85], 326.

<sup>88</sup> Marriage record, Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921, image, familysearch.org. Written in the margin of the record is: “These parties were married in good faith in 1879 for being apprehensive of informality [sic] in that marriage they now desire to have the ceremony performed again.”

<sup>89</sup> Death record, Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921, image, familysearch.org.

<sup>90</sup> The [unnamed] wife of Benjamin Sprague d. 29 April 1856 (Patricia McCurdy Townsend, *Vital Records of Lubec, Maine, Prior to 1892* [Camden, Maine, 1996], 216). Benjamin Sprague and Jane Scoville m. Lubec, 14 Jan. 1857 (*ibid.*, 171). Benjamin Sprague, 80, husband of Jane, d. Lubec, 23 April 1874 (*ibid.*, 231). John O. McLellan m. (int.) Lubec, 27 June 1877, Mary J. Sprague of Portland (*ibid.*, 144).

<sup>91</sup> Benjamin Sprague household, 1850 U.S. Census, Lubec, Washington Co., Maine, p. 185.

Elverdo was a fisherman, mariner, sea captain, and trapper.<sup>92</sup> By 1880 his first wife, Lizzie, was living in her parents' household in East Machias with her daughter Jessie R. Norton, age 7 months.<sup>93</sup> Meanwhile, Elverdo Norton, aged 29, seaman, was living in Lubec with wife Sarah O. Norton, 28, "daughter" Rosamond, age 11, "son" Leland, age 3, and daughter Jane, age 1.<sup>94</sup> While Jane was Elverdo and Sarah's daughter Jennie, Rosamond was Sarah's half-sister Rosa Amaretto Sprague, born in Lubec, 29 November 1869, to Benjamin and Mary Jane Sprague.<sup>95</sup> The identity of Leland is unknown but, like Rosamond, he is not believed to be a child of Elverdo.<sup>96</sup>

In 1900, widow Sarah Norton, aged 49, washwoman, was living in Milbridge with six of her children: Mabel, born August 1878; Mamie, born March 1885; Katie, born February 1887; Daisy, born February 1889; Edith, born March 1891; and Wilfred, born August 1893.<sup>97</sup> Ten years later, Sarah was still in Milbridge, a 57 year-old washerwoman, now living with her daughter Daisy L., 21, and son Wilford C., 15. She was described as the mother of ten children, of whom seven were still living.<sup>98</sup>

Child of Elverdo Norton and his 1st wife, Elizabeth "Lizzie" (Goodwin):<sup>99</sup>

- i JESSIE R. NORTON, b. East Machias, 22 Dec. 1879, d. Machiasport, 29 Oct. 1918;<sup>100</sup> m. Machias, 10 May 1899, EVERETT L. MARSTON, b. Machias, ca. 1878, son of Frank and Louise (Davis) Marston of Machias.<sup>101</sup>

<sup>92</sup> *Bangor Daily Whig and Courier*, 27 Jan. 1891: "There is on display in Milbridge the largest otter skin ever seen in these parts. It measures 7½ feet in length and was purchased of Alverdo Norton, who trapped the otter on Mink Island last week." *Lewiston Journal*, 5 July 1896: "Elverdo Norton, Milbridge's famous trapper, explained how 'I can catch a fox easy as a rabbit.'"

<sup>93</sup> Robert Goodwin household, 1880 U.S. census, East Machias, Washington Co., Maine, E.D. 184, p. 301B. Lizzie was listed as "Elna E. Goodwin," age 23, and Jessie was listed as infant "Goodwin," 7 months, granddaughter. The census was taken in June 1880, so Jessie was b. about Dec. 1879.

<sup>94</sup> Elverdo Norton household, 1880 U.S. Census, Lubec, Washington Co., Maine, E.D. 178, p. 241C.

<sup>95</sup> Townsend, *Lubec VRs* [note 90], 87.

<sup>96</sup> No birth or death record was found for a Leland Norton or Leland Sprague born about 1877 in the Lubec or Milbridge records or the online Maine vital records. Tibbetts & Lamson, *Early Pleasant River Families* [note 10], 450, conflates Leland Norton in the 1880 census with Leonard Norton, who d. Milbridge in 1892, age 2, but they are clearly not the same person.

<sup>97</sup> Sarah Norton household, 1900 U.S. Census, Milbridge, Washington Co., Maine, E.D. 214, sheet 4.

<sup>98</sup> Sarah Norton household, 1910 U.S. Census, Milbridge, Washington Co., Maine, E.D. 297, sheet 10A.

<sup>99</sup> Tibbetts & Lamson, *Early Pleasant River Families* [note 11], 450–51, listed Jessie and Jennie Norton as twins, possibly because of their close birth dates, and suggested that Sarah Sprague was the mother of both, but the 1880 census and their marriage and death records clearly indicate they had different mothers.

<sup>100</sup> Death record, Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921, image, familysearch.org. The record gives her birth date as 22 Dec. 1880, but the 1880 census makes it clear that she was born in 1879. Her parents are given as "Alver" Norton and Lizzie Goodwin and her husband as Everett Marston.

<sup>101</sup> Marriage record, Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921, image, familysearch.org. He was 21, she was 19. Her parents are named on the record as "Alverd" Norton and Lizzie Goodwin.

Children of Elverdo Norton and his 2nd wife, Sarah Orenda (Sprague):<sup>102</sup>

- ii JENNIE MAY NORTON, b. Lubec, 15 May 1879,<sup>103</sup> d. in 1959 and bur. in Steuben Village Cemetery;<sup>104</sup> m. Milbridge, 3 July 1895, WILLIAM H. DOW, son of Charles and Melinda (Blanchard) Dow.<sup>105</sup>
- iii MABEL J. NORTON, b. Lubec, 4 May 1881, d. Sullivan, Maine, 11 May 1969;<sup>106</sup> m. Sullivan, 10 July 1898, ROLAND M. ORCUTT, son of Samuel G. and Rebecca (Martin) Orcutt.<sup>107</sup>
- iv HELEN L. NORTON, b. about Feb. 1883, d. Lubec, 28 Nov. 1883, aged 9m.<sup>108</sup>
- v MARY E. NORTON, b. Pennfield, N.B., March 1885,<sup>109</sup> d. in 1939 and bur. in Simpson Cemetery, Sullivan;<sup>110</sup> m. (1) Steuben, 30 Dec. 1901, JAMES E. WEST, son of Lucy West;<sup>111</sup> m. (2) Sullivan, 17 Feb. 1911, ALVA(H) P. GRIFFIN, son of Bradford L. and Mary H. (Bunker) Griffin.<sup>112</sup>
- vi KATHERINE J. (“KATE”) NORTON, b. Cutler, Maine, 18 Feb. 1887,<sup>113</sup> d. May 1972 in Hancock Co.;<sup>114</sup> m. Mt. Desert, Maine, 11 Aug. 1906, LEVERETT L. COUSINS, son of Eugene and Lucy (Jordan) Cousins.<sup>115</sup>
- vii DAISY LILLIAN NORTON, b. Milbridge, Feb. 1889,<sup>116</sup> d. Ellsworth, Maine, 5 July 1976;<sup>117</sup> m. Tremont, Maine, 25 Oct. 1911, REUBEN M. SMITH, son of Emery and Alwilda (Wiley) Smith.<sup>118</sup>

<sup>102</sup> In the 1910 census, Sarah was described as the mother of 10 children, 7 still living. If true, one of the children who had died is not identified in this list.

<sup>103</sup> Birth record, Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921, image, familysearch.org. Her birth record was filed 30 Oct. 1943 by John B. McLellan of Lubec as a delayed record. Jennie May is the daughter “Jane,” aged 1, listed with her parents in the 1880 Lubec census.

<sup>104</sup> Gravestone photo, findagrave.com #98001421.

<sup>105</sup> Marriage record, Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921, image, familysearch.org. Jennie’s parents, Elverdo Norton and Sarah Sprague, are given on the record.

<sup>106</sup> Her birth date from Social Security Death Index, 1935–2014; her date and place of death from Maine Death Index, 1960–1997, familysearch.org.

<sup>107</sup> Marriage record, Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921, image, familysearch.org.

<sup>108</sup> Townsend, Lubec VRs [note 94], 237.

<sup>109</sup> Place of birth from marriage record; date of birth from the 1900 U.S. Census (see note 97).

<sup>110</sup> Gravestone photo, findagrave.com #153944016.

<sup>111</sup> Marriage record, Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921, image, familysearch.org, her parents’ names and birthplace of Pennfield, N.B., given on the record.

<sup>112</sup> Marriage record, Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921, image, familysearch.org, her parents’ names and birthplace of Pennfield, N.S. [*sic*], given on the record.

<sup>113</sup> Her birth date of Feb. 1887 from the 1900 Census (see note 97); full birth date given on Social Security Death Index (see next note); her birthplace from her marriage record.

<sup>114</sup> Social Security Death Index, 1935–2014, Katherine Cousins, 18 Feb. 1887, Maine–May 1972, Hancock Co. Maine.

<sup>115</sup> Marriage record, Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921, image, familysearch.org, her parents’ names and birthplace of Cutler given on the record.

<sup>116</sup> Her birth date from the 1900 U.S. Census [note 97]. A delayed birth return, deposited in 1943 by Daisy’s sister Jennie M. Dow, reports Daisy’s birth date as 1 Feb. 1890 (Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921, image, familysearch.org). That date, however, is incompatible with the calculated birth date of 26 April 1890 for Daisy’s brother Leonard.

<sup>117</sup> Maine Death Index, 1960–1997, cert. 7605434, familysearch.org; Social Security Death Index, 1935–2014, last address Seal Cove, Hancock Co.

- viii LEONARD NORTON, b. Milbridge, [calc.] 26 April 1890, d. Milbridge, 31 May 1892, aged 2y 1m 5d.<sup>119</sup>
- ix EDITH B. NORTON, b. Milbridge, 14 March 1892,<sup>120</sup> d. Mt. Desert, 14 April 1908 of pneumonia, aged 17y [*sic*] 1m;<sup>121</sup> m. Mount Desert, 7 Nov. 1907, RALPH L. DRISCOLL, son of John and Lydia (Young) Driscoll.<sup>122</sup> He m. (2) Milbridge, 4 Aug. 1909, Mazie Sprague.<sup>123</sup>
- x WILFRED CAROL NORTON, b. Milbridge, 29 Aug. 1893,<sup>124</sup> living 19 Oct. 1918 when he was released from the Army. He was unmarried in June 1918 when he was a porter in Eastern General Hospital in Bangor.<sup>125</sup> “Wilford” Norton was buried with his parents in Milbridge.<sup>126</sup>

*Carolyn J. Nash* (cjngenealogy@gmail.com) is the great-great granddaughter of Alvin and Harriet (Cole) Nash and the current caretaker of Harriet (Cole) Nash’s Bible. She has published articles on New Amsterdam families in *The New York Genealogical and Biographical Record*.

---

<sup>118</sup> Marriage record, Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921, image, familysearch.org, her parents’ names given on the record.

<sup>119</sup> Death record, Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921, image, familysearch.org.

<sup>120</sup> Birth record, Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921, image, familysearch.org: unnamed female child Norton, b. 14 March 1892, 9th child of Alverdo Norton and Sarah Sprague.

<sup>121</sup> Death record, Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921, image, familysearch.org.

<sup>122</sup> Marriage record, Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921, image, familysearch.org. Her parents Alfred Norton [*sic*] and Sarah Norton named on the record.

<sup>123</sup> Marriage record, Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921, image, familysearch.org.

<sup>124</sup> Birth record, Maine Vital Records, 1670–1921, image, familysearch.org: unnamed male child Norton, b. 29 Aug. 1893, 12th [*sic*] child of Elverdo A. Norton and Sarah E. Sprague.

<sup>125</sup> World War I Draft Registration Cards, 1917–1918, image, familysearch.org. On this record his birth date is given as 28 Aug. 1892.

<sup>126</sup> Diana Bartlett, Alice Beal and Beverly Pinkham, *Cemeteries Inscriptions, Milbridge* (Camden, Maine, 2003). Evergreen Cemetery: Alverde Norton; Sara Sprague Norton, 1852–1916; Wilford Norton; Edith Barstow (Norton) (Driscoll); and 3 Dow children.

LINCOLN COUNTY, MAINE, WILL ABSTRACTS  
1800–1830

*(continued from Vol. 40, p. 208)*

**87. PHILIP THEOBALD of Dresden (LCP 14:13)**

Being in usual health of body

It is my earnest desire to have my body interred in a recluse cemetery, and if the town of Dresden should be then destitute of such a place, application shall be made to any of the neighboring towns where such a place is consecrated for that purpose, and my body be deposited there at least 2d aft my dec.

To my wife Sally, the full u & i of all my RE & PE dur her nat life for her support and education and maintenance of my chn hereafter mentioned, and aft her the sd Sally's death, it shall be eq div among all my chn, namely: Polly wife to George Houdlette, Philip Ernest, Lucy, Nancy, Charles, George, Sally, Lydia, Francis Reus and Martha Custis, provided every one of my daus are at that time for themselves and my sons have attained to ae 21y. Every one of my sd daus who shall be under age or not married at the dec of their mother shall have pd \$50 each out of the whole est and every one of my sons, then under age, i.e. not ae 21y, shall have a double share both in the RE and PE.

It is my will there shall be no dispute or quarrel in dividing the est. If any of my chn should commence a lawsuit about a division, shall be precluded from his or her eq share and shall be entitled to no more but \$1, and his or her portion shall be eq div among the remaining peaceable heirs.

Appt my wife Sally sole exec.

Dated: 1 Dec 1806

Signed with his signature ("Philip Theobald")

Witnesses: John Polereczky, Caleb Barker, Robert Bickford

In Probate: 3 Jan 1810

**88. EPHRAIM HALL of St. George, clerk (LCP 14:23)**

Being weak in body

To my wife Mary Hall, the u & i of all my RE & PE dur her nat life.

If my nephew Caleb Hall Jr. should outlive my wife, I will that he should have all of my RE & PE provided he will comply with the following injunction, this is to say at my dec he shall take my farm, stock and farming utensils and improve them to the best advantage and give to my wife yearly one half of the increase and profits that shall be raised from sd stock and place as also one half of all the lumber he may get for market and one half of the labor and use of team and utensils that may be hired to use and furnish my wife with firewood if she should wish to live by herself and if need should require any further support for her dur her nat life more than one half of sd income he shall furnish it and if sd Caleb should die bef my wife or neglect to comply with this injunction I will all my aforesd interest to my wife free and clear to her use and disposal.

Appt Hezekiah Prince Esq<sup>r</sup> exec and trustee for my wife and the sd Caleb.

Dated: 8 Aug 1809

Signed with his signature ("Ephraim Hall")

Witnesses: Isabella Prince, Hannah Hall, Hezekiah Prince

In Probate: 8 Jan 1810

**89. ISAAC BARTLETT of Milford, Hillsborough Co. NH, yeoman (LCP 14:26)**

Being sick and weak in body

To my wife Elizabeth, the full improvement of all my lands and bldgs (except so much as is hereinafter named to my son Abner Bartlett) together with all my stock of cattle, horses, sheep and husbandry tools, with my pew in the meeting house and chaise so long as she may remain my wid, then to be eq div among all my chn, except my son Abner. I also give to my wife Elizabeth all my notes of money and indoor movables to her sole disposal forever.

To my son Abner Bartlett, a certain tract or piece of meadow land laying in Milford on the E side of Wainwrights brook so called above the bridge near the house belonging to the sd Abner and bounded on the E by land of sd Abner, on the N by land of Jacob Flinn Jr., on the W by the sd brook to a point by the road near sd bridge, sd land formerly belonging to Rebecca Upton decd estimated at 1 acre.

Appt Jacob Flinn Esq<sup>r</sup> my sole exec.

Dated: 6 Sep 1806

Signed with his signature ("Isaac Bartlett")

Witnesses: Joshua Burnam, James Marvel, Thomas Burnham

In Probate: at Amherst, N.H., 21 Oct 1806

**90. JONATHAN SARGENT of Bath, yeoman (LCD 14:121)**

[No statement of health]

To my dau Susanah Dunnell, all that part of my RE that layeth on the E side of the town road that leadeth from sandy brook so called to the meeting house in Bath to her the sd Susannah and her heirs or assigns.

To my wife Susanah, one half of all the rest of my RE not bef bequeathed to my dau, to her the sd wife dur her nat life, and at her dec to my grson Jonathan Sargent Donnell, to him and his heirs and assigns forever; he the sd Jonathan S. Donnell paying the legacies hereafter bequeathed.

To my sd grson Jonathan Sargent Donnell, the remaining one half of my RE not bef bequeathed to him, his heirs and assigns forever.

To my grson William Donnell, \$10 a year commencing at the date of this will and for every year until he shall be ae 21y provided he shall continue to live and work with me on the farm, and when the sd William shall be ae 21y he is to have a pair of oxen to be given to him by my grson Jonathan.

I give one half of my PE to my wife Susanah.

I give one half of my PE to my grson Jonathan S. Donnell.

Appt my grson Jonathan S. Donnell exec.

Dated: 7 Aug 1800



Signed with his signature (“Jonathan Sargent”)  
Witnesses: Mary Sewall, Irene Sumner, Dum<sup>r</sup> Sewall  
In Probate: 3 Mar 1810

**91. GEORGE HEABNER of Waldoborough, yeoman (LCP 14:162)**

Being in good bodily health

To my son Charles, \$1, as I have heretofore given him a deed of part of my RE.

To my son Matthias, \$1, as I have heretofore given him a deed of part of my RE.

Whereas I have leased heretofore to my son Charles 1 yoke of oxen, 5 cows, 8 sheep, 1 yoke of 2y old steers, 1 3y old bull and 2 yearlings at the halves, which have increased and may increase, I give the whole of sd stock together with the increase that may be left according to the Customs of Farmers at my dec together with all my h/h furniture and farming utensils and all my PE of whatever name or nature to my 2 daus Mary Kinsel and Elizabeth Woltz one third part thereof.

Appt the sd Mary Kinsel and the sd Elizabeth Woltz execes.

Dated: 11 Sep 1797

Signed with his signature (“Joerg Hebner”)

Witnesses: John Adam Levenseller, Mary Hilt (signed with her mark), Mary Clous (signed with her mark), Jim Langdon

In Probate: 4 Jan 1810

**92. JOSEPH DUNTON of New Castle, yeoman (LCP 14:217)**

[No statement of health]

To my chn, viz William Dunton, Benjamin Dunton, Joseph Dunton Jr., Martha Tyler wife of Samuel Tyler, Olive Leeman wife of William Leeman, Lucy Alley, widow, Juda Kennedy, widow, Elizabeth Sherman wife of Roger Sherman, and Sarah Shearman wife of Joseph Shearman, \$1 each and no more, as I have already given them all that they or either of them ought to have out of my estate.

To my wife Abigail Dunton, all the rest of my goods, chattels, rights, credits and estate, which I now have or shall have at the time of my death.

Appt my wife Abigail Dunton exec.

Dated: 17 Jul 1809

Signed with his signature (“Joseph Dunton”)

Witnesses: Ralph Chaney Jr., William Alley (signed with his mark) Manasseh Smith

In Probate: 3 Mar 1810

**93. STEPHEN COOMBS of Bath, yeoman (LCP 14:222)**

[No statement of health]

To my wife Jemima, the u & i of my homestead farm and all my PE dur her nat life.

To my son Stephen, 1 sheep having heretofore given him by deed and stock what I consider a full share.

To the heirs of my son David, \$200 to be pd to his sons when they or either of them shall arrive at ae 21y; and if neither of them should live to that age, then to be pd to my dau Judith.

To my son Daniel, his heirs and assigns, a part of my homestead farm at the dec of my wife, bd as follows: beg on the S line of land belonging to Simeon Higgins on the height of the ledge on which Higgins' barn stands, from sd line extending to the S on the height of the ledge to the end of the same, then running to the brook where the old road crosses the brook, then crossing the brook W, then running to the S line of my farm, all my homestead farm to the E of the above described line and also 30r in width on the S side of my wood land.

To my dau Sarah, her heirs and assigns, a part of my wood land bd as follows: beg 30r running N by E half E from the ENE corner of my homestead continuing on the course N by E half E 30r and the width of 30r to the E end of my land.

To my dau Jemima, her heirs and assigns, a part of my wood land, beginning at what I have bequeathed to Sarah and continuing on the course of N by E half E 30r and carrying that width to the E end of my land.

To my son Nathaniel, all the demands I have on him, being principally money pd for him.

To my son Jonathan, his heirs and assigns, aft the dec of my wife, all my RE not heretofore disposed of, he allowing my dau Judith a decent support from the income of the farm dur her single and unm state, also to Jonathan at the dec of my wife all my farming utensils and all my cattle except 1 cow, also my clock and desk.

To my dau Judith when she shall marry, \$300 to be pd by my son Jonathan or so much of the homestead farm bequeathed to him as disinterested men shall say is worth that sum, 1 cow and at the dec of my wife all my h/h furniture except a clock and desk.

Appt my son Daniel exec.

Dated: 10 Oct 1808

Signed with his signature ("Stephen Combes")

Witnesses: Caleb Marsh, Jerome Loring, Levi H. Marsh

In Probate: 3 March 1810

#### **94. PATRICK PEPBLES of Warren, Esqr. (LCP 14:264)**

Being in good health

To my wife Betsey Pebbles, 1/2 of all my RE & PE.

To my dau Jane Pebbles, the other 1/2 of my RE & PE if she should live to be of age or to marry, but if she should die bef she comes of age or is married, then I give the whole of my est to my wife Betsey, and if I should have more chn born, then I will that my wife Betsey Pebbles have 1/2 of all my RE & PE and that the other 1/2 be eq div among my chn.

Appt my wife Betsey Pebbles sole exec.

[Will not dated]

Signed with his signature ("Patrick Pebbles")

Witnesses: Andrew Fuller, Moses Copeland, Peter Fuller

In Probate: 19 Jun 1810

*(to be continued)*

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

MEMBERSHIP: The membership year runs from 1 January through 31 December (renewal notices go out in November). All members receive annually four issues of *The Maine Genealogist* and four issues of the *Newsletter*. Members also receive discounts to purchase the Society's Special Publications books; free queries posted on the Society's website; and other benefits as determined by the Executive Committee.

DUES (to be sent to MGS, P.O. Box 2602, Waterville ME 04903):

*New membership* in the Society is \$25.00 for U.S. residents and organizations. Add \$5.00 for first-class mailing of Society publications. New membership is \$34.00 for Canadian residents and \$39.00 for residents outside the U.S. and Canada and also includes first-class mailing for Society publications.

*Renewing membership* cost is \$25.00. Add \$5.00 for first-class postage. Canadian residents must add \$9.00 and residents outside the U.S. and Canada must add \$14.00. Publications mailed outside the U.S. will be sent by first-class postage.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES FOR *The Maine Genealogist*: The editor will consider previously unpublished or source material pertaining to Maine families and genealogy. The material cannot be under consideration for publication elsewhere and must observe all copyright laws. Especially sought are well-documented family studies or instructional articles, both of which should emphasize problem-solving and research techniques. The editor reserves the right to edit any article submitted. Responsibility for the accuracy of printed information is with the submitter. Articles should not be reprinted without prior written permission from the author and the editor. Articles for consideration in *The Maine Genealogist* should be sent to the editor, Joseph C. Anderson II, at [jca2nd@gmail.com](mailto:jca2nd@gmail.com).

QUERIES AND BOOK REVIEWS: Genealogical queries with relevance to Maine families will be published on the blog at the Maine Genealogical Society website (<http://www.maineroots.org>). Please send them to [mainegenealogicalsociety@gmail.com](mailto:mainegenealogicalsociety@gmail.com) with the subject "Query for MaineRoots.org." Please send one query at a time. Book reviews are published in *The Maine Genealogist* at the discretion of the editor. Books to be considered for review must include price, postage & handling costs, and the address for ordering, and should be mailed to Joseph C. Anderson II, 5337 Del Roy Drive, Dallas TX 75229-3016. All books submitted for review become the property of the Maine Genealogical Society.

ADVERTISING: Although *The Maine Genealogist* accepts no outside advertising, it is accepted in the *Newsletter*. For rates contact Deborah Roberge at [deborah.e.roberge@gmail.com](mailto:deborah.e.roberge@gmail.com).

# The Maine Genealogist

Journal of the Maine Genealogical Society

P.O. Box 2602, Waterville ME 04903

Non Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage  
Paid  
Lewiston ME 04240  
Permit No. 82

FORWARDING SERVICE REQUESTED