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EDITORIAL

With all genealogical articles, the specter of the “P-words” (possibly, perhaps, probably) constantly hovers overhead. When can we say a connection or identification is definite? When do we have to use one of the “P-words”? And if so, which word?

As you read over the articles in this issue, see if you agree with the authors. Do you think the probable English origins of Thomas Betterley are definite? Do you think he had a first marriage? In the Rogers article, was the Jeremiah Rogers who married Mary Hemenway the son of Jeremiah and Dorcas (_____)? The authors say probable; you may say perhaps. For the Jordan-Silvester article, can you suggest a possible reason for saying which Silvester sister married John Jordan? The author is hoping a reader will find evidence favoring one sister over the other.

By reading good analytical articles like those in this and other issues of the Register, we expand our knowledge of genealogical methods and sources — and when and how to apply the “P-words.”

A letter written in 1653 by John Cogswell from London back to family in Ipswich, Massachusetts, included the words “My sister hath 2 children.” From this brief statement, Priscilla Greenlees and her co-researchers developed the Identification of the Unnamed Daughter of John and Elizabeth (Thomson) Cogswell Who Remained in England. She was Phyllis Cogswell who married John Broadhurst — and had two living children in 1653.

Thomas Betterley of Edenton, North Carolina, 1715–1729, married Elizabeth Alden at Boston in 1720. They had a son born in 1723 who married and left descendants. The Probable English Origins of Thomas Betterley, by Lawrence McGrath, Esther Whitney Mott, and Phylis Salisbury, lays out the probable English ancestry of Thomas Betterley, based on age, place, occupation, and the rareness of the surname. Comparison of signatures suggests Thomas had an earlier marriage in London prior to his emigration to North Carolina.

Identifying a wife named Mary _____ in seventeenth-century Massachusetts is not always impossible, as Michael Leclerc shows in Mary Hemenway, Wife of George Lawrence of Watertown, Massachusetts. Deeds from John and Mary Hemenway to their three sons-in-law show that their daughter Mary was the wife of George Lawrence.

We usually try to identify the parents of spouses to make articles useful, specifically to those readers who are not descended from the family treated but are descended from a sibling of a spouse. While working on the preceding article, we attempted to identify the parents of Jeremiah Rogers who married Elizabeth
Hemenway. Since there was little in print on this Rogers family, our efforts resulted in a companion article, *Jeremiah¹ Rogers of Dorchester and Lancaster, Massachusetts*, by Henry B. Hoff, Michael J. Leclerc, and Helen Schatvet Ullmann.

Cherry Fletcher Bamberg has done extensive research on Rhode Island families, digging into obscure original records to find valuable information. For *Dorcas (______) Lippitt of Providence, Rhode Island, and Her Descendants*, she searched voluminous bank ledgers and maritime records rarely examined by genealogists. From these and more conventional records, the author was able to identify all of Dorcas’s descendants and determine that the last one died in 1916. The research on this one woman shed light on the notable white family she served as well as on the African American and Native American families to whom she was allied.

In *Wolston¹ Brockway of Lyme, Connecticut, With Further Analysis of His Associations*, author Gale Ion Harris focuses on the life of Wolston Brockway, born say 1638, died 1718, who had three wives and ten children. Some of his associations were with Harrises, which piqued the interest of the author whose specialty has been Harris families, particularly in New England.

*A Jordan-Silvester Connection Revealed*, by Ernest Hyde Hellwell III, shows what careful review of records can achieve. By reading over the published town records of Milton, Massachusetts, the author found a single entry in 1707 in which two people were described as cousins. Exploring this clue led to the conclusion that Dinah² Silvester (Richard¹) had an illegitimate daughter who survived to old age, that Dinah later married, and that one of Dinah’s sisters was the wife of John¹ Jordan and the mother of all his children.

Once an incorrect maiden name gets into print, it never goes away. In *Joseph⁵ and Phoebe (Millington) Rounds of Clarendon and Monkton, Vermont*, authors John Bradley Arthaud and Marcia (Yannizze) Melnyk show that an 1875 death record showed Phoebe’s maiden name incorrectly and that this was perpetuated in print. Fortunately, two of Phoebe’s sons reported their mother’s maiden name as Millington on their marriage records. A compilation on Phoebe’s branch of the Millington family and analysis of various original records provide further support for Phoebe’s parentage.

The Genealogical Summary for *Ancestry of Bennet Eliot of Nazeing, Essex, Father of Seven Great Migration Immigrants to Massachusetts*, continues in this issue. William Wyman Fiske brings the Eliot family down to Bennet Eliot himself, but there are still several family groups to be presented in the April 2008 issue.

— Henry B. Hoff
IDENTIFICATION OF THE UNNAMED DAUGHTER
OF JOHN$^1$ AND ELIZABETH (THOMSON) COGSWELL
WHO REMAINED IN ENGLAND

Priscilla Colstad Greenlees*

John$^1$ Cogswell and Elizabeth Thomson were married 10 September 1615 at All Saints Church, Westbury, Wiltshire, [her father] Rev. William Thomson officiating. Between 1616 and 1633 they had ten children baptized at that church, beginning with Elizabeth.$^1$ When E. O. Jameson published his book, The Cogswells in America, in 1884, he gave a slightly different list of children, naming Elizabeth last, with the first child being unnamed and noted as “a daughter, who married and resided in London.”$^2$ Based on these statements, researchers assumed that the daughter who remained in England was the eldest unnamed daughter. Elizabeth was subsequently shown to have been the oldest child (and to have immigrated with her parents);$^3$ however, as will be seen, Jameson was correct in stating there was a Cogswell daughter who remained in England.

John$^1$ Cogswell and his family immigrated to New England aboard the Angel Gabriel, which left from Bristol, England, and arrived at Pemaquid, Maine, in August 1635 shortly before a hurricane struck and destroyed the vessel.$^4$ No passenger list has survived, but a partial passenger list has been reconstructed from the church and court records of Boston and Essex County, Massachusetts.$^5$ This partial list establishes that three Cogswell sons (William, John and Edward) and four Cogswell daughters (Elizabeth, Mary, Hannah, and Esther) made the journey with their parents. Those who are unaccounted for are Phyllis, Alice, and Ruth, baptized in 1624, 1631, and 1633, respectively.

In December 1652 John$^2$ Cogswell returned to England. His wife had died and he left three young children behind in Ipswich to be cared for by his sister, Hannah$^2$ (Cogswell) Waldo. While in London, he wrote a letter to his parents

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* The author wishes to acknowledge co-researchers Eva Beck Jenson and Steven R. Aberle for their continuing research and support. Special thanks go to David C. Dearborn, FASG, Jerome E. Anderson, Gary Boyd Roberts, Keith Harrington, and Emily Wilbur for their wise counsel and helpful direction.

$^1$ Original parish registers of All Saints, Westbury, Wiltshire, examined at the Wiltshire Record Office.

$^2$ E. O. Jameson, The Cogswells in America (Boston: A. Mudge & Son, 1884), 1.


$^4$ Ibid., 139.


Rev. William Thomson, father of Elizabeth (Thomson) Cogswell, left a nuncupative will, dated on or about 10 July 1623,[7] mentioning wife Elizabeth Thomson; son-in-law Mr. Hounsell; five daughters [unnamed]; sons William and Samuel Thomson; brother-in-law Mr. White; an unborn child; and various other beneficiaries. John White, Clerk, Nichols Phippe, and John Cogeswell, all called “special friends,” were to be executors.[8] Witnesses were Elizabeth Cogeswell, Mr. George Widley, and “divers other credible witnesses.” The will was proved at London in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury 5 March 1623/4.

“Brother-in-law Mr. White” presumably was the same man as “John White, Clerk,” mentioned in the will as a “special friend” to be one of the executors. Rev. John White, Vicar of Chirton [Churton], Wiltshire,[9] died 6 December 1671, leaving a will dated 1 February 1669/70, proved 6 February 1671/2.[10] Among the persons mentioned in his will were nephew and niece John Broadhurst and Phyllis “his nowe wife,” who were to be residuary legatees and executors. The will also mentioned their sons John and Edward as trinepotes [great-nephews] to be overseers of the will; great-nephews Charles and Samuel Broadhurst, both under 21; and “cousin Phyllis Broadhurst,” daughter of John Broadhurst.

John Broadhurst was married to Phyllis Cogswell 23 January 1643/4 at Chirton by the Rev. John White, and their children, all baptized at Chirton by him, were: John, baptized 1 October 1646, buried there 27 December 1646, Phyllis, baptized 1 September 1648; John, baptized 11 October 1651;[11] Edward, baptized 11 March 1653/4; William, baptized 24 November 1657; Charles, baptized 19 October 1661; and Samuel, baptized 19 October 1664.[12] Thus, all the Broadhurst children were named in John White’s will except William who must have died before the date of the will.

As mentioned above, John Cogswell’s letter of 30 March 1653 to his parents said his sister had two children. And the list of Phyllis (Cogswell) Broadhurst’s

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7 P.C.C. 26 Byrne. The surname is spelled both as Thomson and Thompson in the will.
8 The term “special friend” could imply a relationship by blood or by marriage, and indeed, this seems to be the case here.
12 Original parish registers of Chirton, Wiltshire, examined at the Wiltshire Record Office.
children shows that she had only two children, Phyllis and John, alive on that date.

Previous readings of the original parish register had interpreted Phyllis’s surname as Coggehill,[13] but a careful examination of the original parish register showed an interior long “s” and no “h,” suggesting the correct reading was “Coggeswell.”[14] The combination of John White’s will and the baptisms of the Broadhurst children confirm her identity. Thus, the unnamed daughter of John and Elizabeth (Thomson) Cogswell who remained in England was Phyllis Coggeswell, baptized at Westbury, Wiltshire, 2 July 1624,[15] subsequently the wife of John Broadhurst.

Research is continuing on the Cogswell, Thomson, and White families with further articles planned. The connection among them appears to be that the Rev. William Thomson’s first wife, Phyllis (buried at Westbury 19 July 1608),[16] mother of his older children, was the sister or half-sister of the Rev. John White.

Priscilla Colstad Greenlees (pcgreenlees@worldnet.att.net), a descendant of John2 Cogswell and William2 Cogswell, is a councilor of NEHGS.

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13 The IGI (International Genealogical Index) shows her as Coggehill, citing the microfilm of the original parish registers of Chirton/Churton [FHL 0,950,259] and a transcription of the parish registers from 1579 to 1682 [FHL microfiche 6,026,091]. In addition, the Nimrod Index [of Wiltshire Marriages] at the Wiltshire Record Office had shown her as Coggehill, but this has been corrected.
15 Original parish registers of All Saints, Westbury [note 1].
16 Ibid. “1608. Phillis, uxor Mr. William Thompson, vicar Sepult. July 19.”
THE PROBABLE ENGLISH ORIGINS OF THOMAS BETTERLEY

Lawrence McGrath, Esther Whitney Mott, and Phylicia Salisbury

Thomas Betterley first appeared in America in the summer of 1715, purchasing land in the newly laid out town soon to be known as Edenton in the Albemarle area of North Carolina. He was referred to variously as a felt-maker, haberdasher, and merchant and had many business dealings with people in Boston, Massachusetts.

On 26 July 1720 he married at Boston, Elizabeth Alden, daughter of Captain William and Mary (Drury) Alden, and great-granddaughter of John and Priscilla (Mullins) Alden. Their son, Thomas Betterley, was born at Boston 17 November 1723 and was baptized at King’s Chapel there 18 December 1723.

Thomas Betterley was appointed a Justice of the Peace for Chowan Precinct, Albemarle County, by Governor Charles Eden on 29 August 1719, and again on 1 October 1720. There are numerous surviving records of his buying and selling property in the region, serving on juries, receiving powers of attorney, witnessing deeds and wills, acting as administrator or executor and suing...
Thomas Betterley died in June 1729, presumably in North Carolina. The origins of Thomas were not known. However, recent research has uncovered a Betterley family in England among whom is a Thomas Betterley who probably is Thomas Betterley.

In 1637 a Thomas Betterley married Judith _____ at Preston Bissett, Buckinghamshire. The baptisms of their first two children, Martha and Thomas, were recorded at Hillesden, Buckinghamshire. The baptisms of the next four children were recorded at Marsh Gibbon, Buckinghamshire.

An apprenticeship record of the Longbowstringmakers Company of London, dated 4 September 1656, was for Thomas Betterley, son of Thomas Betterley, maltster, of Marsh Gibbon, Buckinghamshire. Thomas Betterley the son married twice. He married first Ann Daniell on 27 May 1670 at St. Thomas the Apostle, Southwark, Surrey. She was buried at St. Giles Cripplegate 22 June 1691, and he married second Mary Collins on 18 September 1692 at St. Pancras Old Church, London. As Thomas Betherly, “Citizen and Long Bowstring Maker of London,” he left a will dated 5 April 1699, proved 19 June 1699, mentioning his loving children, “John Betherly, William Betherly, James

References:

14 Cain, Higher-Court Minutes 1724–1730 [note 10], 204, 268, 313, 355; Price, Higher-Court Minutes 1709–1723 [note 13], 232, 316.
16 Parish registers of Preston Bissett, Buckinghamshire, 1630–1889 [FHL 0,919,245], with only the year of marriage given. The name of the bride is illegible, but is given as Judith in the baptismal records of their first two children (see below).
17 Parish registers of Hillesden, Buckinghamshire, 1594–1885 [FHL 1,042,384].
18 Parish registers of Marsh Gibbon, Buckinghamshire, 1576–1904 [FHL 919,239].
19 Cliff Webb, “London Apprenticeship Abstracts, 1442–1850,” published online in 2005 at originsnetwork.com, viewed 29 January 2006. Thomas Betterley described himself in his will (see below) and appeared in some St. Giles Cripplegate parish records as a longbowstringmaker, but more often he was referred to in those records as a wyredrawer. Although he was apprenticed to a longbowstringmaker, he evidently earned his living as a wiredrawer. The Wyredrawers’ Company was not chartered until 1693.
22 Parish registers of St. Pancras Old Church, London, 1660–1706 [FHL 0,597,801].
Betherly, Thomas Betherly, Mary Betherly, and Anne Betherly.” Baptisms of five of the six children mentioned in the will were found in the parish registers of St. Giles Cripplegate, London, along with the baptisms of four other children who died before 5 April 1699. The oldest son Daniel may have been living in 1699 although he was not mentioned in his father’s will.

The son Thomas named in the will was born 10 May 1688 and baptized 27 May 1688 at St. Giles Cripplegate. This would make him the right age to be Thomas
d Betterley who was an adult by 1715 and who married in 1720. Also, “Tho: Betterley Son of Tho: Betterley late of the Parish of St. Giles without Cripplegate London Wyredrawer,” was apprenticed as a feltmaker on 19 May 1701.[24] And Thomas
d Betterley was a feltmaker.

The likelihood of there having been two Thomas Betterleys born about the same time, both feltmakers, is significantly decreased by the rarity of the surname. Betterl(e)y was a very uncommon surname in seventeenth, eighteenth, and nineteenth century England. The International Genealogical Index (IGI) for England has only 141 entries for Betterl(e)y. In the 1841 census of England, there were only fifty-seven people with that surname. Even allowing for spelling errors and variations by including Betteley, Bitterley, Batterley, and Butterley, the total in the 1841 census is only 233.

On 24 April 1710, Thomas Betterley of St. Dunstans, Stepney, “age 21 years & upwards,” no occupation given, filed an intention to marry Ann Parsons of St. Olaves, Silverstreet, London.[25] They were married the next day in the Temple Church, London.[26] Also, there is a record in the parish registers of St. Margaret Lothbury, London, of a daughter, Ann, born to Thomas and Ann Betterley on 3 March 1711/2.[27] No relevant death or burial records have been found for them.

Fortunately, we have the signature of Thomas Betterley of London from his 1710 marriage intention — which we can compare to two signatures of Thomas
Betterley: one from a 1721 deed to his father-in-law William Alden, the other from his 1729 will.[28]

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24 Feltmakers Company Records, 1667–1908, Register of Apprentice Bindings, 1694–1858 [FHL 1,469,075], and Court Minute Books, 1676–1708 [FHL 1,469,072, Items 4–5]. The records of the Feltmakers Company of London are missing for the period 1709–1725.
25 Marriage License Allegations, Archbishop of Canterbury Faculty Office, 1701–1850, Lambeth Palace Library, London. The original allegation was viewed although these allegations are available on microfilm from the Family History Library.
27 Parish registers of St. Margaret Lothbury, London, 1558–1924 [FHL 0,374,471].
28 Chowan County Original Wills, 1694–1938, North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources, Office of Archives and History [CR 024.801.2].
Although there are similarities among all three signatures, the 1721 and 1729 signatures seem to have more in common with each other than either has with the 1710 signature.

So, either there were two Thomas Betterleys in London of about the same age in 1710, one of whom married Ann Parsons, in which case we are not concerned about the differences in the signatures — or there was only one Thomas Betterley, and wife Ann died prior to the marriage of Thomas Betterley and Elizabeth Alden in 1720, and the differences between the 1710 signature and the 1721 signature are due to the evolution of his signature between the ages of 21 and 33. The latter seems more likely, and in any case, the rarity of the surname Betterley and the distinctive occupation of feltmaker make it probable Thomas Betterley was the man born in 1688, son of Thomas and Ann (Daniell) Betterley.
Genealogical Summary

1. **THOMAS** B. BETTERLEY married at Preston Bissett, Buckinghamshire, England, in 1637, **JUDITH ____**. At the time of his daughter Martha’s baptism in 1639, he was living at Hillesden, Buckinghamshire, and his occupation was given as husbandman. By the time of his daughter’s baptism in 1646, he was living at Marsh Gibbon, Buckinghamshire. On the apprenticeship record of his son Thomas in 1656, he was described as a maltster. He was buried at Marsh Gibbon 23 September 1665.

Children of Thomas B and Judith (____) Betterley; i–ii baptized at Hillesden; iii–vi baptized at Marsh Gibbon (and vii–viii recorded there with no baptismal dates):

i. **MARTHA BETTERLEY**, bp. 3 Nov. 1639.

ii. **THOMAS BETTERLEY**, bp. 18 Oct. 1641; m. (1) **ANN DANIELL**; (2) **MARY COLLINS**.

iii. **DAUGHTER**, bp. 1646.[29]


vi. **JOHN BETTERLEY**, bp. Feb. 1651/2. On 7 Oct. 1667 John Betterly, son of Thomas Betterly of Marsh Gibbon, deceased, was apprenticed to Thomas Betterly of the Longbowstringmakers Company of London [i.e., his older brother].[30]

vii. **ELIZABETH BETTERLEY**, b. 21 April 1654; m. Marsh Gibbon 14 Feb. 1677/8 **JOHN HOWMAN**.

viii. **WILLIAM BETTERLEY**, b. 21 June 1656.

2. **THOMAS** A. BETTERLEY (Thomas B) was baptized 18 October 1641 at Hillesden, Buckinghamshire. On 4 September 1656, he was apprenticed to Josias Yeardly of the Longbowstringmakers Company of London, and on 7 October 1667 Thomas Betterley took his younger brother John as an apprentice. Thomas Betterley appeared on the tax rolls of the City of London for 1691, 1693,[31] and 1694,[32] living in Bullhead Court, Red Cross Street Precinct, Cripplegate Without Ward. He married first at St. Thomas the Apostle, Southwark, Surrey, on 27 May 1670, **ANN DANIELL** of St. Mary Magdalen, Bermondsey, Surrey. She was buried at St. Giles Cripplegate, London, on 22 June 1691. He married second at St. Pancras Old Church, London, on 18 September 1692, **MARY COLLINS**. She was buried at St. Giles Cripplegate on 8 February 1698/9. He was buried at St. Giles

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[29] The name of the second daughter and her date of baptism are illegible on microfilm. However, she is shown in the International Genealogical Index (IGI) as Rebecca, baptized 22 September 1646, daughter of Tho. Betterley, extracted from the parish registers of Marsh Gibbon.


[32] Derek Keene, Peter Earle, Craig Spence and Janet Barnes, Four Shillings In The Pound Aid 1693/4: The City of London, the City of Westminster, and Metropolitan Middlesex (1992), British History Online (british.history.ac.uk, viewed 22 January 2006).
Cripplegate on 16 April 1699. He left a will dated 5 April 1699, proved 19 June 1699, naming children John, William, James, Thomas, Mary, and Anne.

Children of Thomas A and Ann (Daniell) Betterley; all baptisms at St. Giles Cripplegate with dates of birth:

vi. (Rev.) **William Betterley**, b. 12 Oct. 1681, bp. 20 Oct. 1681; d. after 1768; Trinity College, Cambridge, B.A. 1705–06, ordained 1707, M.A., 1709; m. 13 Nov. 1707 **Elizabeth Peet**.


3. ix. **Thomas1 Betterley**, b. 10 May 1688, bp. 27 May 1688; perhaps m. (1) **Ann Parsons**; m. (2?) **Elizabeth Alden**.
x. **Mary Betterley**. As she was named in her father’s will before Anne, it is unclear whether she was the daughter of Ann Daniell or Mary Collins.

Child of Thomas A and Mary (Collins) Betterley:


3. **Thomas1 Betterley** (*Thomas A-B*), was born 10 May 1688 and baptized 27 May 1688 at St. Giles Cripplegate, London. He died in June 1729, presumably at Edenton, North Carolina. Between 1715 and 1729 he was a feltmaker residing at Edenton. He was appointed a Justice of the Peace for Chowan Precinct, Albemarle County, North Carolina, by Governor Charles Eden on 29 August 1719, and again on 1 October 1720.

Perhaps he was the Thomas Betterley who married at the Temple Church, London, 25 April 1710, **Ann Parsons** of St. Olaves, Silverstreet, London, and

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35 Betterley–Ansell Bible, in the Gail Borden Library, Elgin, Illinois. A partial transcription appeared in the *Elgin Genealogical Society Newsletter* 4:2 (March 1979). From the inscriptions in the Bible, it appears that a grandson of the Rev. William Betterley gave the Bible in 1799 to a friend, Anne Ansell, and that the Bible was sold at auction after 1803, carried to the United States, and finally presented to the Elgin Public Library in 1892.
36 Although the occupation, wyredrawer, and the wife’s name, Anne, are given, the surname was left blank on this record.
had a daughter Ann born 3 March 1711/2. This scenario would suggest both mother and daughter died in 1712 or at least prior to 1715 when Thomas Betterley was in North Carolina. Thomas Betterley married (second?) at Boston, Massachusetts, on 26 July 1720, **Elizabeth Alden**, born 10 March 1695/6, baptized at Old South Church, Boston, on 17 March 1695/6.[37] She died at Boston 13 February 1753,[38] and was buried on 17 February 1753 at King’s Chapel there, a widow, age 56.[39]

As Thomas Betterley of Edenton in the Province of North Carolina, feltmaker, he left a will dated 4 June 1729 (no probate date),[40] mentioning wife Elizabeth and son Thomas Betterley (to be joint executors, even though Thomas was under the age of 15), but leaving most of his property to John Lovick of Edenton in trust for wife Elizabeth and son Thomas.[41]

Child of Thomas Betterley and Elizabeth Alden: [42]


The authors, either Betterley descendants or spouses of Betterley descendants, continue to research Betterley, Carson, and related lines. Lawrence McGrath can be reached at LRMcG@aol.com, Esther Whitney Mott at emott6@comcast.net, and Phylicia Salisbury at dilettante2u@yahoo.com.

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[43] The Betterley Family Bible [note 38] says she was born on Wednesday, 22 March 1732, and 22 March fell on a Wednesday in 1731/2.

[44] *Mayflower Families* Vol. 16, Part 3 [note 6], 24, suggests that her parents were William and Jane Carson. This analysis has been greatly expanded and published, with documentation, by Loren Dahling at homepages.rootsweb.com/~dahling/carson.htm (viewed 10 December 2007), with acknowledgment of the contributions of the authors of this article.

MARY³ HEMENWAY, WIFE OF GEORGE² LAWRENCE OF
WATERTOWN, MASSACHUSETTS

Michael J. Leclerc

The identity of Mary, wife of George² Lawrence (George¹), of Watertown, Massachusetts, has remained elusive for many years. In attempting to verify previously published information on the first three generations of the family of Ralph¹ Hemenway, two documents revealed Mary³ Hemenway, daughter of John² and Mary (Trescott) Hemenway of Roxbury, as George’s wife.

When in their sixties, John² and Mary (Trescott) Hemenway chose to dispose of their estate while still living instead of creating wills. They evidently wanted to ensure that they would be taken care of by their three surviving children, daughters Thankful (wife of Jacob Parker), Mary (wife of George Lawrence), and Elizabeth (wife of Jeremiah Rogers).

On 20 November 1709, John and Mary of Roxbury, Massachusetts, gave several pieces of land in Roxbury to Jacob Parker, cordwainer of Woodstock:[1]

In Consideration of their Parental Love and Affection which they have and Do bear unto their well beloved Son Jacob Parker of Woodstock in the said County of Suffolk Cordwainer, as for the quiet and peaceable Settlement of their Estate to and among their Children after their Decease, and due provision for their Comfortable Support and maintenance while they live and Decent Interment after their Deaths, and having received Sufficient Obligation and Security as well from the said Jacob Parker as from the other children of said John and Mary Hemenway Vizt George Lawrence of Watertown in the County of Middlesex Husbandman and Jeremiah Rogers of Roxbury.[2]

The next day they gave several other pieces of land in Roxbury to Jeremiah Rogers with almost identical consideration:

[A]s well for and in Consideration of their Parental Love and Affection which they have and do bear unto their well beloved Son Jeremiah Rogers of Roxbury in the County of Suffolk aforesaid Marriner as for the quiet and peaceable Settlement of their Estate to and among their Children after their Decease and due provision for their Comfortable Support and Maintenance while they live and Decent Interment after their Deaths, and having received Obligation and Security as well from the said Jeremiah Rogers as from the other children of the said John and Mary Hemenway Vizt. Jacob Parker and George Lawrrence the former of Woodstock in the County of Suffolk Cordwainer and the latter of Watertown in the County of Middlesex Husbandman.[3]

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1 Woodstock (now in Windham County, Connecticut) was settled by inhabitants of Roxbury and so was initially considered part of Suffolk County, Massachusetts.
2 Suffolk County Deeds, 25:179.
3 Ibid., 26:18.
John and Mary (Trescott) Hemenway did not transfer property to George Lawrence, probably because he already owned large amounts of land in Watertown. Because of this, George Lawrence does not appear in the grantor or grantee indexes for Suffolk County, but he does appear in the index of persons mentioned incidentally in deeds.\[4\]

George Lawrence died at Watertown 9 March 1735\[/6\] in his 67th year and was buried in Grove Hill Cemetery in Waltham.\[5\] Administration of his estate was granted to sons George and John on 29 March 1736 after Mary declined administration on the same day, in favor of these two sons.\[6\] She died at Waltham 21 January 1740/1.\[7\]

1. John2 Hemenway (Ralph1) was born at Roxbury 27 April 1641.[8] He married at Dorchester, Massachusetts, 6 October 1665, Mary Trescott,[9] born there 23 April 1649, daughter of William and Elizabeth (Dyer) Trescott.[10] Mary was dismissed with Joanna Evans, wife of her brother-in-law Joshua Hemenway, from the First Church at Dorchester 25 July 1669 to the church at Roxbury, even though she was not yet in full communion with the Dorchester church.\[11\] Mary was admitted 1 August 1669 to the First Church in Roxbury.[12]

On 9 April 1692, John and his wife, in consideration of the marriage contract between their daughter Thankful and Jacob Parker (even though Thankful and Jacob were married in 1687), gave them an acre of John’s homestead lot.\[13\] On 19 March 1702/3, Peter Leavens sold a lot in Woodstock to Jacob Parker, in anticipation of Jacob and wife Thankful moving to Woodstock.\[14\] As described

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\[4\] “Names of Persons Other than Grantors & Grantees . . . 1639 to 1799” for Suffolk County Deeds.

\[5\] Henry Bond, Genealogies of the Families and Descendants of the Early Settlers of Watertown, Massachusetts, 2 vols. in 1, 2nd ed. (Boston: NEHGS, 1860), 331; Watertown Records Comprising the Third Book of Town Proceedings and the Second Book of Births, Marriages and Deaths to End of 1737 (Watertown, Mass.: Fred G. Barker, 1900), 105; Vital Records of Waltham, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850 (Boston: NEHGS, 1904), 276, from his gravestone (part of Watertown was set off as the town of Waltham in 1738).

\[6\] Middlesex County Probate, File 13,686 [FHL 0,416,789].

\[7\] Vital Records of Waltham [note 5], 276, from town records; probably buried with George.


\[10\] Ibid., 5; Anderson, Great Migration Begins [note 8], 1:605 (Dyer).

\[11\] Records of the First Church at Dorchester in New England 1636–1734 (Boston: George H. Ellis, 1891), 11.


\[13\] Suffolk County Deeds, 21:163.

\[14\] Ibid., 25:179.
above, seven years later John and Mary gave land to Jacob Parker and Jeremiah Rogers by separate deeds. John Hemenway died at Roxbury 4 October 1723.\(^{[15]}\)

The date of Mary’s death has not been found.

Children of John\(^2\) and Mary (Trescott) Hemenway, all born and most baptized at Roxbury:\(^{[16]}\)

i. **THANKFUL\(^3\) HEMENWAY**, b. 17 May 1668; bp. 8 Aug. 1669; m. Roxbury 3 May 1687 JACOB PARKER,\(^{[17]}\) probably the Jacob Parker bp. Roxbury 28 Oct. 1667 (with siblings), son of John\(^1\) (John\(^1\)) and Elizabeth (_____ ) Parker.\(^{[18]}\) He d. 21 April 1731 age 69, bur. Old Ashford Cemetery, Ashford, Conn.\(^{[19]}\)

ii. **MARY HEMENWAY**, b. 9 Nov. 1670; bp. 13 Nov. 1670; d. young.

iii. **MARY HEMENWAY**, b. 5 Sept. 1674; bp. 6 Sept. 1674; d. Waltham, Mass., 21 Jan. 1740/1; m. by 1698 GEORGE LAWRENCE, b. Watertown 4 June 1668, d. there 9 March 1735/[6], son of George\(^1\) and Elizabeth (Crispe) Lawrence.\(^{[20]}\)

iv. **ELIZABETH HEMENWAY**, b. 17 Aug. 1679; bp. 24 Aug. 1679; m. Roxbury 7 Jan. 1702/3 JEREMIAH ROGERS,\(^{[21]}\) bp. as an adult at Roxbury 26 June 1709,\(^{[22]}\) probably son of Jeremiah\(^2\) (Jeremiah\(^1\)) and Dorcas (_____ ) Rogers. See the following article for this Rogers family.

v. **JOHN HEMENWAY**, bur. Roxbury in Feb. 1687/8.\(^{[23]}\)

vi. **SARAH HEMENWAY**, b. 28 July 1687; bp. 24 July [sic] 1687; d. Roxbury 26 Feb. 1687/8.\(^{[24]}\)

vii. **JOHN HEMENWAY**, b. 11 Nov. 1690; no baptism found as Roxbury baptismal records end in 1688. He d. probably before 1709 as he was not mentioned in connection with the 1709 deeds described above.

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\(^{[15]}\) *Vital Records of Roxbury* [note 8], 2:551.


\(^{[17]}\) *Vital Records of Roxbury* [note 8], 2:201.


\(^{[19]}\) Charles R. Hale, “Charles R. Hale Collection [of Cemetery Inscriptions and Newspaper Notices of Marriages and Deaths],” (1933-34), at the Connecticut State Library, Ashford, 35, which says Jacob was “husband of Thankful Parker,” but there was no gravestone for her.

\(^{[20]}\) Bond, *Genealogies of Watertown* [note 5], 331; Anderson, *Great Migration Begins* [note 8], 1:493–95 (Crisp).

\(^{[21]}\) *Vital Records of Roxbury* [note 8], 2:201.

\(^{[22]}\) Dunkle and Lainhart, *Records of Churches of Boston* [note 12].


\(^{[24]}\) *Vital Records of Roxbury* [note 8], 2:551.
1. JEREMIAH¹ ROGERS. The family of Jeremiah¹ Rogers of Dorchester and Lancaster, Massachusetts, does not seem to have been treated in print, except for two incomplete accounts.¹ He married about 1650 ABIAH PIERCE, born at Dorchester 17 July 1633, daughter of John¹ and Parnell (_____) Pierce.² John Peirce’s will, dated 16 September 1661, named “my daughter the wife of Jeremiah Rog[e]rs” and “her three children.”³ These children appear to have been Jeremiah Rogers, born say 1651; Margaret Rogers, baptized at Dorchester 24 May 1653; and Ichabod Rogers, born at Lancaster 9 11th month 1659 [9 January 1659/60]. Two other children, Sarah and Mehitabel, died before 16 September 1661 (see below).

Based on the births of his children, Jeremiah Rogers and his family moved to Lancaster in 1658 or 1659. In 1665 Jeremiah Rogers served as administrator of the estate of Richard Linton of Lancaster in the interest of the widow.⁴ At the outbreak of King Philip’s War in 1675, Jeremiah Rogers and family returned to Dorchester where he died 26 September 1676.⁵ His widow died there 10 March 1678/9, and two of her daughters, Bathsheba and Abigail, died the same month.⁶ While an inventory of Jeremiah’s estate, dated 20 November 1676, was recorded in Middlesex County,⁷ his estate was not settled until 1710 when most, if not all, of the surviving heirs sold their interests in their father’s estate. On 26 April 1710, Ichabod Rogers of Lancaster, cordwainer, and on 12 May 1710, Jeremiah Rogers of Salem [Mass.], wheelwright, and Jehosaphat Rogers of Topsfield [Mass.],

² Robert Charles Anderson, The Great Migration Begins: Immigrants to New England, 1620–1633, 3 vols. (Boston: NEHGS, 1995), 3:1469–72 (Pierce). Unless Abiah was born 1629–30, she must be the daughter born 17 July 1633, whose name was recorded as Abigail. As a married woman, she appeared many times as Abiah but only once as Abigail.
³ Suffolk County Probate, 1:374.
⁵ Henry S. Nourse, The Birth, Marriage and Death Register, Church Records, and Epitaphs of Lancaster, Massachusetts, 1643–1850 (Lancaster, Mass.: W. J. Coulter, 1890), 19.
⁷ Middlesex County Probate, file 19457 and 5:447, which says he “dyed 26 Sept 76.” No further documents appear in either the files or the probate record books, searched through 1713.
tailor, all sons of Jeremiah Rogers of Lancaster, sold their interest in their father’s estate. And on 31 May 1710, Samuel and Margaret Trescott of Milton sold their interest in the estate as well as the interest of Abiah Warren of Boston, widow, which Samuel had bought; Margaret and Abiah were described as daughters of Jeremiah Rogers of Lancaster.  

Children of Jeremiah and Abiah (Pierce) Rogers:

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i. Jeremiah Rogers, b. say 1651; m. (1) Dorcas _____; (2) Abigail (Trescott) Weeks.

ii. Margaret Rogers, bp. Dorchester 24 May 1653; d. Milton 19 March 1742 age 89; m. ca. 1673 Samuel Trescott, b. Dorchester 4th mo. (Nov.) 1646, son of William and Elizabeth (Dyer) Trescott. He d. Milton 30 July 1730 in his 84th year.

iii. Sarah Rogers, bp. Dorchester 14 8th mo. [Oct.] 1655; d. there 21 7th mo. [Sept.] 1657.


v. Ichabod Rogers, b. Lancaster 9 11th mo. 1659 [9 Jan. 1659/60]; bp. Dorchester 27 3rd mo. [May] 1660; d. well before 1 Nov. 1724 when his widow’s second husband, Amos Singletary, died; m. Haverhill, Mass., 13 Jan. 1689/90 Sarah Currier, daughter of Samuel and Mary (Hardy) Currier.


9 Records of the First Church of Dorchester in New England 1636–1734 (Boston: George H. Ellis, 1891), 162.

10 Milton Records, Births, Marriages and Deaths, 1662–1843 (Boston: Alfred Mudge & Son, 1900), 248.

11 First child, “Dier,” born 28 April 1773 (Dorchester Births, Marriages, and Deaths [note 6], 15).

12 Ibid., 5; Hyde Park Historical Record 3 (1903):62–63; Anderson, Great Migration Begins [note 2], 1:603–06 (Dyer).

13 Milton Records [note 10], 248.

14 First Church of Dorchester [note 9], 167.

15 Dorchester Births, Marriages, and Deaths [note 6], 25.

16 Ibid., 6.

17 First Church of Dorchester [note 9], 169.

18 Nourse, Lancaster [note 5], 12.

19 Ibid., 10.

20 First Church of Dorchester [note 9], 170.


vi. MEHITABEL ROGERS, b. Lancaster 1 Oct. 1661 or 1662; d. Lancaster 7 Nov. 1662.  

vii. JEHOSEPHAT ROGERS, b. Lancaster 4 Oct. 1663; d. after 26 April 1737; m. 1691 SARAH READ, b. Salem 14 Oct. 1665, bp. First Church there 19 Aug. 1666, daughter of Thomas and Mary (_____) Read.  

viii. ABIAH ROGERS, b. Lancaster 6 July 1666; m. Boston 1 Nov. 1690 WILLIAM WARREN; d. by 10 July 1706.  

ix. BATHSHEBA ROGERS, b. Lancaster 6 Jan. 1667; d. Dorchester 10 March 1678.  

x. ISRAEL ROGERS, b. Lancaster 26 9th mo. [Nov.] 1671. He probably was identical with Israel Rogers of Rye, Westchester Co., N.Y., who m. by 11 Aug. 1701 MARY LOUNSBURY, daughter of Richard and Elizabeth (Pennoyer) Lounsbury.  

xi. SUSANNAH ROGERS, b. Lancaster 2 11th mo. 1673 [2 Jan. 1673/4].  

xii. ABIGAIL ROGERS, b. say 1675; d. Dorchester 6 March 1678.[9].  

2.  JEREMIAH2 ROGERS (Jeremiah1) was born say 1651, and died after 1 May 1717 when he deeded land at Salem to his son John. He married first at Lancaster 11 10th mo. [December] 1672 DORCAS _____. He married second

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24 Nourse, Lancaster [note 5], 12, recorded as “Hittabel” and said to be born in 1667, probably an error for 1662 as hers was the first of three births, listed together, before Jehosophat and “Abyah.”  
25 Ibid., 12, recorded as “Hittabel.”  
26 Ibid., 12.  
28 Nourse, Lancaster [note 5], 12.  
30 William Warren’s will, dated 11 June 1691, naming wife Abiel [sic] and mentioning the child “she now goes with,” was proved 10 July 1706 (Suffolk County Probate, file 2979; 12:165).  
31 Nourse, Lancaster [note 5], 12.  
32 Ibid., 13.  
35 Nourse, Lancaster [note 5], 14.  
36 Essex County Deeds, 32:8.  
37 Nourse, Lancaster [note 5], 14.
say 1692 \textbf{ABIGAIL (TRESPCOTT) WEEKS},\footnote{38} born at Dorchester 5 November 1656, daughter of William and Elizabeth (Dyer) Trescott,\footnote{39} widow of Ammiel Weeks,\footnote{40} and sister of Samuel Trescott who married Jeremiah’s sister Margaret.\footnote{41} Jeremiah was in Salem by 17 March 1678/9 when he was appointed a surveyor of fences.\footnote{42} He bought a house and land there from Benjamin Felton on 29 November 1681.\footnote{43}

The preceding article identifies the Jeremiah Rogers who married at Roxbury, Massachusetts, 7 January 1702/3, Elizabeth Hemenway, as probably the son of Jeremiah\footnote{2} and Dorcas (___) Rogers. The fact that Jeremiah and Elizabeth (Hemenway) Rogers named a daughter Dorcas\footnote{44} supports this identification. And the family connection through the Trescotts is evident. Jeremiah\footnote{2} Rogers married second Abigail Trescott and his sister Margaret married Abigail’s brother, Samuel Trescott. Thus, it would not be surprising to find another marriage between the two families, namely, that Abigail and Samuel’s niece, Elizabeth Hemenway (whose mother was their sister Mary Trescott), married a son of Jeremiah\footnote{2} Rogers. In addition, Elizabeth Hemenway’s husband was baptized as an adult at Roxbury 26 June 1709, and the other known children of Jeremiah and Dorcas (___) Rogers were also baptized as adults.

Children of Jeremiah\footnote{2} and Dorcas (___) Rogers, order uncertain:

i. (possible) \textbf{JUDAH3 ROGERS}, b. say 1673; d. by 5 Aug. 1702 when his widow remarried; m. Salem 3 May 1694 \textbf{HANNAH SKINNER}, who m. (2) Salem 5 Aug. 1702 \textbf{THOMAS FORTUNE}.\footnote{45}

ii. (probable) \textbf{JEREMIAH ROGERS}, b. say 1675; bp. as an adult Roxbury 26 June 1709; m. Roxbury 7 Jan. 1702/3 \textbf{ELIZABETH HEMENWAY}, b. Roxbury 17 Aug. 1679, daughter of John and Mary (Trescott) Hemenway. See the preceding article.

iii. \textbf{DANIEL ROGERS}, b. say 1678; bp. as an adult First Church of Salem 25 Feb. 1710/1;\footnote{46} d. by 9 Jan. 1726/7 when his widow remarried; m. with intentions at

\footnotetext{38}{Ammiel Weeke died apparently in 1690 (“Soldiers from Dorchester, Mass., in the Canada Expedition of 1690,” \textit{Register} 16 [1862]:148–51 at 148).}

\footnotetext{39}{\textit{Dorchester Births, Marriages, and Deaths} [note 6], 5. See note 12.}


\footnotetext{41}{See note 12.}

\footnotetext{42}{\textit{Town Records of Salem, Massachusetts}, 3 vols. (Salem, Mass.: Essex Institute, 1868–1934), 2:293.}

\footnotetext{43}{Robert Charles Anderson, George Freeman Sanborn Jr., and Melinde Lutz Sanborn, \textit{The Great Migration: Immigrants to New England, 1634–1635, Volume II C–F} (Boston: NEHGS, 2001), 514 (Felton).}

\footnotetext{44}{\textit{Vital Records of Roxbury, Massachusetts, to the End of the Year 1849}, 2 vols. (Salem, Mass.: Essex Institute, 1925–26), 1:298.}

\footnotetext{45}{\textit{Vital Records of Salem, Massachusetts, to the End of the Year 1849}, 6 vols. (Salem, Mass.: Essex Institute, 1916–1925), 4:265.}


Child of Jeremiah² and Abigail (Trescott) (Weeks) Rogers:


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When Providence merchant Sullivan Dorr, Jr., died in 1884, an extended and fond obituary by “M.” appeared in the *Providence Journal*. As often happened at that time, newspapers far from Rhode Island picked up the story but republished only a fragment as a filler. Dorr’s surviving sister, Candace (Dorr) Carrington, carefully cut out the tiny filler from an unidentified Baltimore newspaper, and pasted it rather than the long obituary into her diary. Dorr’s life had been genuinely interesting: he was a prominent man, the grandson of Ebenezer Dorr, a Roxbury, Massachusetts, merchant and patriot, and son of Sullivan Dorr who had come to Rhode Island from Massachusetts and made his fortune in the China trade in the early years of the nineteenth century. The house in which Sullivan Dorr, Jr., was born and died was the mansion his father had begun to build in 1809; the land on which it stands at the corner of Benefit and Bowen Streets had come to his mother, Lydia (Allen) Dorr, in the division of the estate of her father, Zachariah Allen. Sullivan Dorr, Jr., had been most notably the brother of Thomas W. Dorr who gave his name to Rhode Island’s Dorr War. The Dorr household had been at the very center of the turbulent and finally violent effort to extend voting rights to Rhode Island blacks and landless whites in the late 1830s and early 1840s. All those details, however, were not what interested the editors who ran only two sentences from the long obituary as a filler. They cared rather about the remarkable continuity of Dorr’s life and slightly paraphrased M.’s words:

The late Sullivan Dorr, of Providence, R.I., lived in the same house and died in the same room in which he was born. There, too, lived four generations of servants, one an old lady who was a servant in the family sixty years ago, and is there still now.

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2. Candace (Dorr) Carrington, Diary 1884–1890, Carrington Papers, Rhode Island Historical Society Library, Mss 333, Box 276.
3. A member of the Sons of Liberty, Ebenezer Dorr did not, however, ride with Paul Revere. For a refutation of this persistent nineteenth-century error, see David Hackett Fischer, *Paul Revere’s Ride* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1994).
Although nameless in the article, these faithful servants were a matriarchal line of Lippitts. They were usually described in censuses as black, although we shall see that there was some Indian ancestry in the family. The first servant in the succession was Dorcas Lippitt, then her granddaughter Patience Lippitt (the “old lady” of 1884), and finally Dorcas’s great-granddaughter Ann Celia Lippitt. If the obituary was correct about the number of generations, one of Dorcas’s sons or daughters-in-law may have served as well, although no proof has been found. The women in this family left plenty of records, and most are buried together in two adjoining plots they owned in Providence Historic Cemetery 1, North Burial Ground. The men are remarkably difficult to trace outside maritime papers and the records of their wives and children. Only one man has a gravestone in the family plot, one that he shares with his wife. This article is intended to supplement the meager information in vital records with evidence from many unusual sources and point out numerous unanswered questions.

The most intractable problem is posed by the inscription on Dorcas Lippitt’s marble gravestone: “In Memory of DORCAS LIPPITT. Wife of Caesar Lippitt. She died Nov. 17, 1845, aged 87 years.” The inscription should be good genealogical evidence, as the gravestone appears to have been roughly contemporary and was probably ordered by someone who knew Dorcas well. To date, however, no confirmation of Caesar Lippitt as Dorcas’s husband has been found. We know that Dorcas lived at Warwick, Rhode Island, about ten miles from Providence, in the early to mid-1780s since her three sons were born there. All of the black Lippitts of that generation in Rhode Island, related or not by blood, acquired their surname as slaves of the white Lippitt family, most of whom lived at Warwick before the Revolution. Thus, either her husband or possibly Dorcas (if she was in fact single) must have been connected to slaves or former slaves of this family. A reasonable working hypothesis is that Caesar, presumably a former slave of the Warwick Lippitts, moved with Dorcas from that town to Providence after being freed. That may yet be what happened, but proof is sorely lacking. The problem is finding any firm evidence of him in either town. The one documented

6. A photograph of her gravestone, as well as the inscriptions on nearby stones, can be seen in John E. Sterling’s book, North Burial Ground Providence, Rhode Island, Old Section 1700–1848 (Greenville, R.I.: Rhode Island Genealogical Society, 2000), 26–27. Her gravestone, cracked and lying on the ground in 2000, could not be found on many visits by the author in 2007.

7. The stone was signed by the carver “S. Tingley & sons.” Of 325 signed Tingley gravestones in Providence, 32 are signed “Tingley & sons” or “S. Tingley & sons.” Of these 32 gravestones not one is dated after 1848 at which time “Tingley Bros.” started to be used as a signature (John E. Sterling, email to the author, 27 September 2007). Dorcas’s gravestone may have been ordered by her granddaughter, Patience Lippitt, who bought the burial plot in 1847 (Deeds, North Burial Ground, Providence City Archives, Providence City Hall, 1:107).

8. In 1774 the white Lippitts as a group held more slaves than any other family in Warwick: 29 of the 189 blacks in the 1774 census of the town lived in the five Lippitt households (Cherry Fletcher Bamberg, “1774 Census of Rhode Island: Warwick,” Rhode Island Roots 30 [2004]:199–200). The few Lippitts in Providence during the Revolution were from Warwick. For three lines of black Lippitts, see Cherry Fletcher Bamberg, “Caesar, Murry, and William Lippitt of Warwick, Rhode Island,” Rhode Island Roots 33 (2007):57–89, 206–08.
Caesar Lippitt of the right generation at Warwick could not have been Dorcas’s husband. That man, in his youth a slave of Moses⁴ Lippitt (Moses², John¹) and then of his sons Abraham⁵ and Moses⁵ Lippitt, had married Sarah Daley in the 1770s, and the couple left a clear trail of deeds, tax records, probate, and gravestones at Warwick to the 1830s.⁹ If Dorcas and her husband were at Warwick for any length of time, one would expect to find evidence for two Caesar Lippitts there simultaneously. The 1777 Rhode Island military census and the 1790 and 1800 U.S. censuses all list only a single Caesar Lippitt — the other man — at Warwick. One census entry at Warwick that might be for Caesar and Dorcas was made in 1782 when a white “Cezer” Lippitt was counted as head of a Warwick household of three boys under 10, a young woman 16 to 22, and a man 22 to 50.¹⁰ It is also possible that Dorcas’s husband may have been the “C. Lippit B.M. [black man]” who was head of a household of four non-whites at Warwick in 1800.¹¹ Other candidates for “C Lippitt” (Collect Lippitt and Cuff Lippitt), however, are known to have lived in Warwick at the time. No Warwick deeds, probate, or council records appear to relate to a Caesar who married Dorcas.

The Providence evidence is no more substantial. Dorcas lived there as early as 1806, her sons lived there as adults, but of Caesar himself this author has found no certain trace. A Caesar Lippitt was counted there in the South District in 1810, head of a household of five blacks, but this man was probably Dorcas’s son of the same name who described himself as a resident of the town in his 1800 and 1817 seaman’s protection certificates. The notice of her death in the Providence Daily Journal calls her “Mrs. Dorcas Lippitt” but mentions only her employers, not any members of her family. The only undisputed sign of Caesar Lippitt in Providence is his name on Dorcas’s gravestone, not in itself proof of residency or paternity of her sons. Was Caesar Lippitt a polite fiction? It seems unlikely since Dorcas was praised in her death notice for her truthfulness.¹² Possible convoluted explanations spring to mind, such as Caesar having been sold to a Mr. Lippitt after 1777 so that he was not counted in the 1777 military census under the name Caesar Lippitt. However, none has been supported by a shred of evidence.

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¹⁰. 1782 Census of Rhode Island, Rhode Island Historical Society Library, Theodore Foster Papers, Mss 424, 234. There are obvious problems with this identification. The racial discrepancy appears to be a simple error. Dorcas was certainly older than 22 at that date, and at least one of her sons was born after 1782. The household profile, however, does not fit the other Caesar Lippitt who had been married only a short time in 1782 and whose known children were all daughters.
¹¹. 1800 U.S. Census, Warwick, Kent County, Rhode Island, roll 45, pp. 31, 35 [large number beside the pages].
Genealogical Summary

1. **DORCAS (______) LIPPITT** was born probably between 1755 and 1758, and died at Providence, Rhode Island, 17 November 1845 of “Old Age and disease of the Uterus.”[13] She was buried with family members, though apparently not her husband, in Providence Historic Cemetery 1, North Burial Ground.[14] According to her gravestone she was the wife of **CAESAR LIPPITT**, about whom nothing certain has been learned. One would expect a husband to be somewhat older than his wife, thus born probably by the early 1750s. Since Dorcas described herself as a widow in her will made in 1837, he had evidently died by then. If he was the father of Dorcas’s sons, the couple had married by the early 1780s.

Dorcas Lippitt’s year of birth can only be estimated from her age at death, something that was reported four different ways. Her gravestone says she was 87; the town death records give her age at death as 90; and her obituary in the *Providence Daily Journal* describes her as “almost 90.” Dorcas Lippitt was counted in the city census of Providence in 1845 on the list of residents over the age of 75 as “Dorcas Lippitt, colored, 88, in the family of Sullivan Dorr.”[15] It is only safe to conclude that she was an elderly woman when she died. Nothing has been discovered of her ancestry.

Precisely when and why Dorcas came to Providence remains unknown, but many free black women moved to that town in the early 1800s in search of domestic work. The first evidence of her residence there — indeed her very first appearance in Rhode Island records — comes from Providence Town Council records of the meeting 19 August 1806 at which her adult son Joseph Lippitt was reported to have broken out with smallpox while living in a house of Dr. Thomas Greene near Mill Bridge.[16] Dorcas Lippitt was the first name on the list of people exposed to the disease through him; it seems possible that she and the others were living in that house. The notice of her death in 1845 in a Providence newspaper mentions that she had served the same family for thirty-seven years, allowing us to estimate that she began her service to the Dorrs around 1808, when only the

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13. Returns of Interments of the Dead, Providence City Archives, 8:69. Her address was listed as Bowen Street, presumably the Dorr mansion at the corner of Bowen and Benefit Streets. These Providence death records predate the official records for the state that began only in 1853, but they contain many of the same elements, lacking only the names of parents. The date of death in those records is 16 November 1845. The notice of her death in the *Providence Daily Journal* [note 12] agrees with the date on her gravestone, the 17th.
15. City Census for 1845; for one half of the second ward, taken by Samuel Brown, Rhode Island Historical Society Library, 4.
first Dorr children had been born and the mansion was yet to be built.\[17\] All the evidence suggests continued service. In 1884 “M” asserted that the then “old lady” servant (Dorcas’s granddaughter Patience) had been at the house sixty years before, i.e., around 1824 when she was 13. In 1831 when Dorcas’s son Africa died, the Old Stone Bank released his account to Sullivan Dorr “Per Ord. his Heirs.”\[18\] In 1835 Sullivan Dorr’s household included eight white people and four “colored” people, the latter one man 18 to 50, two women 18 to 50, and one woman over 50, who was almost certainly Dorcas.\[19\] At that time Sullivan Dorr was “one of the most conspicuous figures in Westminster street . . . when taking his constitutional of an afternoon in his dress black coat – always without an overcoat even of the coldest day in winter.”\[20\] He played important roles in most of the major institutions of Providence as a trustee of Brown University, 1813–1858, president of the Providence–Washington Insurance Company 1838–1858, a director of the Blackstone Canal Company, one of the founders of the Narragansett Boat Club, and he had wide connections in textile manufacturing and the banking industry. Two portraits show him as a handsome and apparently genial gentleman with a high brow, long nose, and curly hair.\[21\]

Dorcas Lippitt’s will, signed with her mark 26 April 1837, provides much information about three generations of her descendants: the names of her three deceased sons (Caesar, Joseph, and Africa Lippitt), the names of two grandsons (Thomas and Jeremiah Lippitt) and a granddaughter (Patience Lippitt), even the names of a great-grandson (a second Africa Lippitt) and a great-granddaughter (Ann Celia Lippitt).\[22\] She made St. John’s Episcopal Church of Providence a residual beneficiary with instructions to invest her money and use the interest for poor members of the church, with preference to people of color. Although her obituary noted that she had been “long a member of St. John’s Church,” neither Dorcas nor any identified family member appears in church records known to the author.\[23\] Her employer Sullivan Dorr had been one of the first purchasers of a pew in the new church building in 1811.\[24\]

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17. Dorcas Lippitt death notice [note 12].
19. Census of the City of Providence taken in October & November A.D. 1835 by Joseph Jewett, Providence City Archives. This excellent but underused census has no page numbers and lists residents in rough alphabetical order within wards. Dorr was enumerated in Ward 2.
20. Sullivan Dorr obituary [note 1].
21. Rhode Island Historical Society has images of two portraits of Sullivan Dorr. The first, by Charles Loring Elliot, was said to hang in the now-defunct Providence Washington Insurance Company, and its present location is unknown to the author (RHi [x32] 15). The second, in the Society’s possession, is a small oval portrait painted ca. 1875 (RHi [x3] 565).
23. Black and white Lippitts from Warwick are found at St. John’s (formerly King’s Chapel) during and after the Revolution. The elegant register of baptisms, marriages, and burials is now in the Special Collections of the University of Rhode Island. Information on Lippitt burials was
Aside from the genealogical information, the will provides an extraordinary link to the great political events of the day. Two of the witnesses were sons of Sullivan Dorr: Thomas Wilson Dorr, leader of the suffrage movement in Rhode Island, and his brother Sullivan Dorr, Jr. These men were much younger than Dorcas, the generation of her grandchildren rather than her own. Thomas had been around 3 when Dorcas came to the family, Sullivan, Jr., not yet born. As a lawyer, Thomas W. Dorr very well may have drafted the rather complex will. He rarely appears in Providence probate records as a witness, however, and this may be the only instance in which he and his brother witnessed a will together. Between the making of the will in 1837 and its probate on 23 December 1845, the Dorr’s world had turned upside down. After various political stratagems for advancing suffrage rights had failed, Thomas W. Dorr and his followers — but not his family members — turned to violence, attempting to seize the State House and the State Arsenal on 19 May 1842, in what is known as the “Dorr War.” Captured after over a year of flight, Thomas was tried and convicted of treason on 27 January 1844. He served time at hard labor in the state prison, losing his health and finally perhaps his sanity. Thomas W. Dorr was released in July 1845, a few months before Dorcas died. Despite his disgrace, Rhode Island did establish voting rights for native-born black and white men, with no property requirement, in November 1842.[25]

The potential civil war had meant a terrible war within the Dorr household. In early May 1842 newspapers carried a dramatic little article about the conflict between father and son which described the elder Dorr, “a wealthy and highly respectable gentleman,” telling his son that “unless he desisted from his attempts to overturn the Government of the State, they might be brought into collision with each other.” He would, he went on, range himself “upon the side of the laws, and among the friends of order and good government.” Thomas W. Dorr is said to have replied that he would “not hesitate to march over your dead body provided I should carry my point no other way.”[26] Whether or not any of the specific details in the story are true, the article points to a very real conflict. The elderly Dorcas Lippitt and her granddaughter Patience must have been horrified to see people they knew so intimately threaten each others’ lives. Thomas W. Dorr’s father,

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26. The Daily Atlas [Boston], 6 May 1842. The italics are in the article.
Sullivan Dorr, and his brother, Sullivan Dorr, Jr., were among the defenders of the State Arsenal, as were his uncles Philip and Zachariah Allen and his brothers-in-law Samuel Ames and Moses B. Ives. “M.” described a moment on the muggy May night of the insurrection, the church bells ringing in alarm:

Henry Talbot and myself had been out reconnoitering Gov. Dorr’s forces. When we came in we found George Rivers and Sullivan Dorr sitting together. I remember I said to Sullivan, “It can’t be possible that your brother intends to fire on this building when he knows you, his father, and his uncles are all in it.” He looked up as calmly as I ever saw him, while he said, “Ned, I guess you aren’t acquainted with the breed.”

All but Thomas W. Dorr survived the political maelstrom with their reputations and wealth intact. Despite what Thomas had done or tried to do, his family forgave him. His grief-stricken parents, “greatly affected on taking leave of their son perhaps forever,” were waiting at the state prison in 1844 when the captured and convicted fugitive was brought by boat from Newport under cover of darkness. In the years following the insurrection Sullivan Dorr and Sullivan Dorr, Jr., defended Thomas and worked tirelessly and effectively for his release and the restoration of his civil rights. At the same time they continued with routine business. As one of the witnesses of Dorcas Lippitt’s will, Sullivan Dorr, Jr., appeared before the Providence Probate Court with Jonah Steere on 23 December 1845 and took an oath that they and Thomas W. Dorr had read the will aloud to her, that she understood it and made her mark. Sullivan Dorr, Jr., and his first cousin, Philip Allen, Jr., stood sureties for Dorcas’s granddaughter’s probate bond, and Philip Allen (father of Philip, Jr.) also served as appraisers of her estate.

Dorcas Lippitt’s estate was unusual for an elderly widow, either white or black. The items she wore and touched each day were nothing special: modest clothing (gowns, underclothes, caps, and a bonnet) and furniture (an old bureau, desk, a looking glass, armchair, bed, and blankets). Her financial affairs were another matter. Dorcas left $32.00 in cash, $491.30 in “cash deposited in Prov. Institution of Savings as p’s Book Jan’y 1846,” and sixty shares in the Blackstone Canal Bank at $25 per share ($1,500). With the interest accrued, her estate was

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28. Sullivan Dorr obituary [note 1]. After a disputed election Thomas W. Dorr styled himself “Governor” in defiance of Rhode Island courts. The Dorr War badly frightened Providence residents, including “M.” who said in Dorr’s obituary that it “stirred with anguish unutterable every mother’s heart in Providence.”
30. Providence Probate Proceedings, 11:180. Thomas W. Dorr, though free, could not testify presumably because he had lost his civil rights.
31. Providence Probate Proceedings, 11:206–07. The Dorrs were related to the Allens through their mother Lydia (Allen) Dorr, who was the sister of Philip Allen (Ralph S. Mohr, Governors for Three Hundred Years 1638-1954, Rhode Island and Providence Plantations [n.p.: State of Rhode Island Graves Registration Committee, 1954], 140–41, 150). Philip Allen was governor of Rhode Island 1851–1853.
valued at $2,077.80.\[32\] Her less tangible estate consisted of her reputation and the esteem of her employers, who included in her obituary the following: “Her truthfulness and fidelity in the family with whom she had lived for thirty-seven years secured their kind regard.”\[33\] She was buried from the house of Sullivan Dorr at 2 p.m. on the afternoon of 18 November 1845.\[34\]

Children of Dorcas (____) Lippitt, all born at Warwick in the 1780s:\[35\]

2. i. **CAESAR LIPPITT**.
3. ii. **JOSEPH LIPPITT**, m. CATHERINE HOLDEN.
4. iii. **AFRICA LIPPITT**, m. **HARRIET G. SPYWOOD**.

2. **CAESAR LIPPITT**, son of Dorcas (____) Lippitt, was born at Warwick, Rhode Island, between 1781 and 1784. He died after November 1817 but before 26 April 1837 when described as deceased in his mother’s will. Although he had a son, nothing has been learned of a marriage.

Aside from the mention in his mother’s will, most of what we know about Caesar Lippitt comes from maritime records: he applied for a number of seaman’s protection certificates at Providence between January 1800 when he was 18, and November 1817 when he was 33. On 2 January 1800 “Seazor Lippitt” was described as 18, black, 5 ft. 10 in. tall, and born at Warwick, and when he applied again, with his younger brother, on 30 May 1803 the description remained the same except for age.\[36\] When Caesar sailed on the ship Columbia from Providence to Amsterdam 12 July 1803, the captain described him as black, about 22, born at Warwick but resident at Providence, 5 ft. 8½ in. tall, with black, woolly hair, a large nose and mouth, and thick lips.\[37\] His younger brother Joseph sailed on the same voyage. Caesar also served as a seaman on the brigantine Mary.

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33. Dorcas Lippitt death notice [note 12].
34. Ibid.
35. Exact dates of birth are not known for these children. The order is taken from the order in which they were named in their mother’s will. Since these deceased sons are mentioned there only as they relate to beneficiaries, however, that may be weak evidence. Other evidence conflicts with that order and also with itself. There may have been others who died without issue before Dorcas made her will in 1837. It is not known whether Caesar Lippitt was the father of any or all of the children.
which sailed from Providence to Surinam 7 January 1804.\[38\] He was back in Providence in February 1805, applying for a new protection certificate and giving his oath in support of the application of Benjamin Limas of Newport.\[39\] He served one month, sixteen days, on the sloop *Rolla* under John Earle in the coasting trade in 1809–1810.\[40\] On 25 November 1817 he sailed on the brig *New Orleans* for Surinam; he was then 33, 5 ft. 9 in. tall.\[41\] His applications and entries on crew lists produce several possible years of birth.

Although his seaman’s protection certificates consistently describe his birthplace as Warwick, Caesar Lippitt does not appear in the records of that town. Providence records are slight and ambiguous. As has been previously mentioned, either he or his putative father may have been the black head of household in the Southern District of Providence in 1810.\[42\] He is not listed in other U.S. censuses by name. He is not shown in the 1822 Providence “list of colored heads of families and the owners of their residences,” a somewhat misleading title for a document that names all adults in the households. He does not appear by name in the 1825 census of Providence and was never listed in the section for “Colored People” in Providence directories from 1832 to the mid-1840s. Although there are other possible explanations, the most likely is that Caesar Lippitt died between 1817 and 1820.

Child of Caesar Lippitt and an unknown mother:

i. **THOMAS LIPPITT.** He is known only through Dorcas Lippitt’s will which mentions him as the father of Africa Lippitt. The will does not specify where he lived or whether he was alive in 1837.\[43\]

Child of Thomas Lippitt and an unknown mother:

1. **Africa Lippitt,** b. by 26 April 1837 when named in Dorcas Lippitt’s will. He d. 18 March 1873 according to bank records. The first beneficiary named in his great-grandmother’s will, Africa was to receive $25. There is nothing in the will to indicate his age or place of residence, but he
was apparently still a minor (born after 1825) in early 1846. Old Stone Bank records show a signature to the rules and regulations (necessary for opening an account) 3 Feb. 1846, noting “Deposit made by Patience Lippitt Adm’ to the Estate of Dorcas Lippitt by Sullivan Dorr.”

In subsequent depositors ledgers the heading “Africa Lippitt Legacy from Dorcas Lippitt – To remain until he is of age” was repeated until Africa’s death 18 March 1873. The repetition, more than 21 years after the opening of the account, may be a simple clerical error or an indication that he was somehow incapacitated. No activity is shown in bank records, aside from the steady growth of interest. Africa Lippitt does not appear in U.S. censuses, Providence directories, or Rhode Island death records.

3. **JOSEPH LIPPIJT**, son of Dorcas (____) Lippitt, was born at Warwick, Rhode Island, in the 1780s. He died probably by 1813 but certainly before March 1820 when his wife was reported to be a widow. He was married at Providence 25 October 1807, by Elder James Wilson of the Beneficent Congregational Church, to **CATHERINE HOLDEN**, who was born at Warwick, daughter of Margaret Holden. Catherine (Holden) Lippitt died after 20 March 1820 when she was last mentioned in the Providence Town Council records (see below).

Maritime records provide much conflicting information about Joseph Lippitt’s age. Joseph Lippitt, described as 14, black, born at Warwick, and 4 ft. 11 in. tall, got his first seaman’s protection certificate at Providence in November 1800. By 30 May 1803 when he and his older brother Caesar applied for the new certificates, Joseph was 18 and had grown to 5 ft. 5 in. Joseph Lippitt, black, 19, born at Warwick, resident at Providence, 5 ft. 5¼ in. tall, with woolly

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44. The signature was not Africa’s but in the teller’s hand (“Signature Books,” Old Stone Bank Records [note 18], Series 8, 1844–1849).
45. Old Stone Bank Records [note 18], Series 8, “Transfer Ledger,” 146; Ledger T:2:2043. Ledger R:92, cited as the continuation, is not in the collection in the Rhode Island Historical Society Library. The $124.32 that had accumulated was added to money in an account under the name of “Patience Lippitt Trustee” on the day of Africa’s death (ibid., BB:14). While it seems likely that the rest of the money in this account may have come from the account for the other heir Jeremiah Lippitt, son of Joseph, the other source of the money, identified in the ledger as “N. D Book”:545, has not yet been found. On Patience’s death, her daughter Ann Celia became trustee of this account, then worth $1,170.31 (ibid., OO:123).
46. Wilson’s record specified that the couple were “col.” (Providence Births, Marriages, and Deaths, Providence City Archives, 5:202). This volume contains transcripts of ministers’ records of events before civil registration began in 1853. Joseph’s wife was called Catherine at her marriage but appears in every other record as Catty, Catey, Kate, or Katey. In this article she will be called Catey except in direct quotes, as that was how she signed her own name.
47. Joseph Lippitt of Providence should not be confused with the younger man of the same name, Joseph Lippitt, son of Will and Patience (East) Lippitt of Warwick, who was also born at Warwick, ca. 1799, and also was a mariner (Bamberg, “Caesar, Murry, and William Lippitt of Warwick” [note 8], Rhode Island Roots 33:85).
48. Register of Seaman’s Protection Certificates [note 36], 2:11.
49. Ibid., 2:43.
hair and large nose and mouth, sailed with his older brother Caesar in the crew of the ship *Columbia* from Providence to Amsterdam 12 July 1803.\footnote{50} Joseph Lippitt, 19, then 5 ft. 7½ in. tall, served as a seaman in the crew of the ship *Patterson* to Batavia [Jakarta, Indonesia] 22 February 1805.\footnote{51} His seafaring activities were put to a temporary halt in August 1806 when he came down with smallpox and was ordered to a hospital in Providence.\footnote{52} The Town of Providence reimbursed Henry Bowen $1 for “Conducting Joseph Lippitt who had the Small pox to the Hospital” on 19 August 1806.\footnote{53} He recovered, married, and resumed his maritime career. He appeared in crew lists of the sloop *Phebe* to Cayenne [French Guiana] in May 1807 and the bark *George William* to Cadiz in April 1809.\footnote{54} He was probably the black Joseph Lippitt, head of a household of six, enumerated in the West District (downtown) of Providence, in the 1810 census.\footnote{55} He died probably before 1813 when his wife was in Providence on her own.\footnote{56}

Town records are critical to determining the identity of Joseph’s wife. The mulatto Catey Holden was examined by the Providence Town Council in February 1800.\footnote{57} She told the council that she was born in the family of Thomas Holden, Esq., of Warwick and that her mother was Margaret Holden who at that time lived in the family of Capt. B. Page at Providence.\footnote{58} Catey said that she had left the Holden family when very young and had gone with her mother to

\footnote{50. Providence Crew Lists and Shipping Articles [note 37], box 1, folder 2.}
\footnote{51. Ibid., Folder 16.}
\footnote{52. Providence Town Council Records, meeting of 19 August 1806, 9A:49. He had not arrived sick from his voyage on the *Patterson* as that voyage was long over by August. The *Providence Gazette* reported that “The ship *Patterson*, Shaw, of this port, from Batavia,” had arrived safely at Boston from Martha’s Vineyard (issue of 11 January 1806, p. 3).}
\footnote{53. Providence Town Papers, Rhode Island Historical Society Library, Vol. 62, p. 9, No. 009026.}
\footnote{54. Providence Crew Lists and Shipping Articles [note 37], box 2, folders 25 and 45. The sloop *Phebe*, under Capt. Anthony, had cleared customs for Cayenne by 23 May 1807 (*Providence Gazette* of that date, p. 3); newspapers reported her return 26 September 1807 (*Providence Gazette* of that date, p. 3). Joseph and Catherine were married less than a month later.}
\footnote{55. 1810 U.S. Census, Providence, Providence County, Rhode Island, roll 58, p. 72.}
\footnote{56. She was warned out without any mention of a husband that year (Providence Town Council Records, 9A:466). The only record of her employment comes from early 1812 when Catey Lippitt was paid $24.64 for boarding two sick mariners, Peter Cyrus and Isaac Cary, for different periods between January and March 1812 (U.S. Customs House Records, Providence, Rhode Island Historical Society Library, Mss 28, SG 1, Series 18, Marine Hospital Records, ss H [Hospital Reports of Sick Seamen], folder 2).}
\footnote{57. Providence Town Council Records, 7:432–33.}
\footnote{58. Catey’s statement about her mother’s residence contradicts the council records which indicate several times that Margaret Holden was the head of the household in the tenement (ibid.). Margaret Holden has not been identified with certainty. There was a “Negro woman Peg” in the Warwick household of Randall1 Holden (*Randall*\textsuperscript{2/3}) and then his widow Rose from the mid-1760s to the 1780s (Warwick Wills, 3:13; 4:191–93). Randall1 Holden, however, was not immediately related to General Thomas1 Holden (*John1*, Charles2, Randall1). See Eben Putnam, *The Holden Genealogy* (Boston: Murray Printing Co., 1923), 379–411, for much information on the descendants of Randall1 Holden. No daughter was mentioned in connection with Pegg in Warwick wills, inventories, or the 1779 estimates of rateable estate.}
Newport, where they had lived until July 1799, when they came to Providence. She was then living with Jacob Hull, a black man, in one of the tenements of Dr. Thomas Greene and had two children, Eliza in her fourth year and Amey about twenty months. Hull testified that they had been living together about four years. Hull was no youngster: he was old enough to have served as a seaman on the brig Susannah on a voyage to the coast of Africa in 1793. These details suggest that Catey was considerably older than Joseph Lippitt who was a 14-year-old boy, not yet five feet tall, in December 1800, according to his seaman’s protection certificate. She signed her name as “Catey Holden.” She was warned out, but the order was rescinded two weeks later at the request of Dr. Thomas Greene, her landlord, he agreeing to pay all costs. By the first of April 1800 Jacob Hull, who was living at Providence “to the disturbance of the peaceable Inhabitants thereof” and was in danger of becoming chargeable, was again warned out. On 12 November 1800 the council voted that to commit him to the Bridewell until he could be removed to the place of his legal settlement. None of these later orders concerning Jacob Hull mentions Catey or her children. It is not known whether Jacob was the father of Catey’s third daughter, Caroline, who was born in Providence ca. 1802.

Catey’s next appearance in council records links her, her future husband, and future mother-in-law in one of Dr. Greene’s Providence tenements. On 19 August 1806, at the meeting where Joseph Lippitt was ordered to hospital with smallpox, the Providence Town Council recorded the names of the people who had been exposed to his disease: Dorcas Lippitt, Sally Wood, Polly Brown, Sukey Greene, Pomp Greene, Betsey Hall, Polly Teel, “Katy Holden,” and Prudy Anderson. The doctors recommended that Catey be inoculated. Wary of unnecessary expense, the council ordered her the next day to return to Warwick with her child Caroline; no mention was made of Eliza or Amy. Henry Alexander was paid 59 Outward Rhode Island Foreign Manifests and Crew Lists, 1792–1801, viewed on microfilm at Rhode Island Historical Society Library, originals held by NARA. Jacob Hull testified at his examination that he had been born at Jamestown, brought up in South Kingstown as a slave of Edward Hull, and had never been manumitted.

61. Ibid., 8:1. The Bridewell was a small building behind the workhouse where particularly violent or disreputable people, including a disproportionate number of people of color were sent.
62. Caroline Holden, 18, testified before the Providence Town Council in 1820 that she had been born in Providence and was then living there with her mother Katy Lippitt (ibid., 10:375). No father was named.
63. Ibid., 9A:49. The absence of other family members from the list does not prove that they had already died since people who had already survived smallpox would have been immune. Pomp or Pompey Greene may have been the black mariner, born at Warwick ca. 1778, 5 ft. 4 in. tall, who got seaman’s protection certificates at Providence in 1805 and 1807 (Register of Seaman’s Protection Certificates [note 36], 3:14; 4:26).
64. Providence Town Council Records, 9A:50. By then Amey had been apprenticed by the Warwick Town Council to Joseph L. Martin [?] of Providence to the age of 18. Apprenticeship of poor children, even very young ones, was a common means of support in Rhode Island. When released from her indentures in 1816, Amey Holden went to live with her mother “Katy Lippitt” in
$1.31 for “Horse and chaise hire to Warwick to carry Kate Holden” on 21 August. The Warwick Town Council resolved to quarantine “Katy Holden and her infant Child Caroline,” paupers sent from Providence because they had been exposed to smallpox. Despite these efforts, Providence ended up paying for their care. Esek Eddy submitted a bill, dated only 1806, for the considerable sum of $36.61 for “Services and Expenses attending Kate Holden a slave of Thomas Holden Esq. of Warwick sick of the Small Pox in the Hospital the natural Way and also her Child who had the small Pox the same time by Inoculation.” This note about Thomas Holden proves conclusively that she is the same woman who was warned out in 1800. Once again in 1813 “Kate Lippitt” defied an order of the Providence Town Council to return to Warwick, and the Council resolved this time to commit her to the Bridewell. From a genealogical point of view, Catey’s final appearance in Providence Town Council records for the meeting of 20 March 1820 is critical. These records complete the circle, showing that she was definitely the one married to Joseph Lippitt: Caty Holden alias Lippitt who was heretofore examined and adjudged to belong to Warwick and who was removed to said Warwick by Warrant dated August 20th 1806 says that since her removal as aforesaid she has been married to Joseph Lippitt who belonged to said Warwick and who is since dead. It is Resolved that the said Caty be forthwith removed to Warwick as being her place of settlement. At the same meeting Catey’s daughter Caroline Holden, 18, was also examined and warned out, as she was again on 18 November 1824 and on 17 June 1828. With this appearance in 1820 Catey disappears from council records. It is possible, though unproved, that she was one of the two women 18–50 counted in the household of her daughter Caroline at Providence in 1825. Neither the 1813 or 1820 record mentions her son Jeremiah Lippitt as living with her.

Providence. She testified before the town council that she had been born in Newport, the daughter of Jacob Hull and “Katy Holden.” The council ordered her “back” to Warwick, the place of her mother’s legal settlement, but a town in which she had never lived (Providence Town Council Records, 9B:298–99).

66. The council ordered that the house of James Spywood be repaired for their use (Warwick Town Council Records, Warwick City Hall, meeting of 21 August 1806, 3:46).
68. At this appearance there is no mention of husband or children (Providence Town Council Records, 9A: 466).
69. Ibid., 10:374–75.
70. Ibid., 11:288; 12:178.
71. In 1825 Caroline Holden was head of a household of eight at Providence: three boys under 18, a man 18–50, two girls under 18, a woman 18–50, and a woman over 50 (1825 Census of Providence by Noah Smith, Rhode Island Historical Society Library, Mss 41).
Child of Joseph and Catherine (Holden) Lippitt:

i. JEREMIAH LIPPITT, b. probably 1807–13, d. probably after 3 Feb. 1846. In her 1837 will, Dorcas Lippitt forgave her grandson Jeremiah Lippitt a debt of $11 and left him an additional $14 to make his bequest equal with that of Africa Lippitt, son of Thomas.\[72\] His cousin Patience believed that Jeremiah was alive in 1846 as his legacy was deposited in the Old Stone Bank on 3 Feb. 1846, at the same time as that of his cousin Africa.\[73\] The final disposition of this money has not been discovered.

Several maritime records for a man of this name raise the possibility that he survived, although it is not proved that any apply to Dorcas’s grandson. A Jeremiah Lippitt, 19, 5 ft. 6 in. tall, a “yellow native,” born at Providence, got a seaman’s protection certificate there 13 Oct. 1827.\[74\] He may have been the same Jeremiah Lippitt, 35, 5 ft. 6½ in. tall, black, born in Providence, who got another certificate at Providence 9 Jan. 1845.\[75\] This man enlisted Stephen Gibbs to give an oath in support of his application.\[76\] Stephen Gibbs was involved with Patience Lippitt, Dorcas’s granddaughter, in real estate transactions that will be discussed in the conclusion to this article. Jeremiah Lippitt sailed on the brig Malaga to Havana 10 Jan. 1845, shown on the crew list as black, born and resident in Providence, 5 ft. 6½ in. tall, with curly hair.\[77\]

(to be continued)

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72. Providence Wills, 15:277.
73. Like his cousin Africa, Jeremiah was not present to sign the required book when Patience, through Sullivan Dorr, made the deposit (“Signature Books,” Old Stone Bank Records [note 18], Series 8, 1844–1849).
74. Register of Seaman’s Protection Certificates [note 36], 4:41. His supporting witness was Hannah Axum, the Narragansett wife of James ("Uncle Jimmie") Axum, who ran a boarding house for sailors on Transit Street (Proofs of Citizenship [note 39], box 2, folder 24). For more on the Axums, see Joseph W. Sullivan, “Reconstructing the Olney Lane Riot: Another Look at Race and Class in Jacksonian Rhode Island,” Rhode Island History 65 (2007):50.
75. Ibid., 5:49. The discrepancy in racial identification was not unusual.
76. Howe, “Black and Indian Mariners Born in Rhode Island” [note 36], Rhode Island Roots 33:35.
77. Providence Crew Lists and Shipping Articles [note 37], box 11, folder 186. The Malaga completed the voyage and was relicensed out of Beverly, Massachusetts, before 7 July 1845 (ibid., Folder 187).
WOLSTON¹ BROCKWAY OF LYME, CONNECTICUT
With Further Analysis of His Associations

Gale Ion Harris

Dean Crawford Smith and Melinde Lutz Sanborn have identified Wolston¹ Brockway’s parents and clarified his maternal ancestry. He was a son of William¹ and Bridget (Waller) Brockway of Norwich, Norfolk, who were married at Saint Giles Without Cripplegate in London on 28 January 1628/9. His mother was a sister of Matthew Waller of New London and William Waller of Lyme, Connecticut. Also, she was a niece of Gregory¹ Wolterton (1593–1674) of Wethersfield and Hartford, Connecticut, whose sister Sarah had married Thomas Waller.[¹] As noted by Smith and Sanborn, on 3 December 1657 John Winthrop Jr. at Hartford mentioned “Waller, the wido: 74 years old at G: Wooltertone she is his sister & is Math: Waller’s mother.”[²] Therefore, Wolston Brockway’s maternal grandparents were Thomas Waller and his wife Sarah Wolterton.[³] The absence of Wolston’s parents or any identified siblings in New England records suggests that he came to America with his grandmother Sarah (Wolterton) Waller and, as a child, probably lived with her at Hartford.

The objective of the present article is to further examine Wolston’s career in New England with particular attention to his marriages, immediate family, and associations. My interest in this Lyme settler was aroused many years ago by his conspicuous but still largely unexplained tendency to be associated in various ways with Harrises, whose relationships to each other generally remain difficult to pin down. For example, he had both a stepson John Harris and a son-in-law William Harris, and it is not known how they might have been related. The focus here, however, is on Wolston Brockway and readers are referred in the following pages to discussions elsewhere of the various Harris puzzles encountered.

Other work has confirmed that Hannah, the mother of all of Wolston’s children (born 1664–1685), was William Briggs’s daughter Hannah, born at Boston in 1642.[⁴] William Briggs came to Lyme and referred to Wolston in

² Medical Records of John Winthrop, MS., Massachusetts Historical Society, 63.
³ For a Matthew, William, Christopher, and Sarah Waller at Salem, Massachusetts, between 1637 and 1648, relationships to each other not stated, see Joseph B. Felt, Annals of Salem, 2nd ed., 2 vols. (Salem, Mass.: W. & S. B. Ives, 1845–49), 1:170, 175; and Smith and Sanborn, Ancestry of Emily Jane Angell [note 1], 515–16.
1680/1 as “my sonne.” Regarding this, in 1960 Donald Lines Jacobus mentioned some “doubts” communicated to him by Roderick Bissell Jones, which apparently were directed at Jacobus’s statement in 1957 that Hannah was the “widow of John Harris of Lyme.” She was indeed the widow of a John Harris when she married Wolston Brockway. Any error in Jacobus’s statement narrows to whether Hannah’s prior husband, John Harris, was ever “of Lyme.” That has not been confirmed; circumstances reviewed in the present article suggest that Hannah and Wolston were married in or near Glastonbury (then part of Wethersfield), probably where her husband John Harris had died, not in Lyme where early records of a John Harris refer instead to John Harris [son of John and Hannah], born at Boston in 1658. Some, but not all, of Brockway’s later Harris associations may be understood if, as shown elsewhere to be probable, his young first wife, Hannah, had stepsons Walter Harris and Thomas Harris from a prior, unrecorded marriage of her husband John Harris.

Wolston’s marriages are confusing. He had at least three wives, two of them from Boston and two named Hannah. By September 1664 (birth of first child) he had married Hannah (Briggs) Harris, born at Boston on 28 August 1642, daughter of William and Mary (____) Briggs who moved from Boston to Middletown, Connecticut, in 1665, then on to Lyme in 1670. Hannah died as “goodwife Brockway” at Lyme on 6 February 1687/8. Wolston apparently remained a widower for the better part of two decades, all the while staying in close contact with his deceased wife’s relatives. Surely he (not his son of the same name) was the “Wooliston Brockway” who married at Boston’s Old South Church on 29 November 1705, Sarah Briggs, the widow of his first wife’s brother, John Briggs of Lyme and Boston. A subsequent record, however, further tends to confuse. Twenty-eight months after marrying Sarah Briggs in Boston, Wolston
Brockway Sr. — citing his “present old age and infirmities” — and “my wife Hannah Brockway (y’ now is)” conveyed their homestead at Lyme on 12 March 1707/8 to his son Richard Brockway. It is clear the scrivener intended to write “Hannah,” not “Sarah.” Her mark, H, is indicated on the document as made by “hanah Brockway,” and Wolston and “Hanah his wife” acknowledged next day across the Connecticut River in Saybrook. This record shows that in his old age, Wolston married third, soon before 12 March 1707/8, another woman named Hannah, whose surname remains unknown. In May 1717 Wolston gave a feather bed and other items to his daughter Hannah Wade, but reserved it to “my now wife hanah” to use for life or until remarried. His wife Hannah — his second of that name — died perhaps soon afterward, as she is not mentioned in the probate of his estate at Lyme, where he died on 14 September 1718.

THE EARLIER CAREER OF WOLSTON BROCKWAY

Wolston testified on 10 July 1714 that he was aged “70 years or thereabouts,” and had dwelt in Lyme “for 50 years past.” He probably understated his age, for in December 1659 he was old enough to buy a house and land in Lyme (then part of Saybrook). Thus, an estimate of his birth date as “not far from 1638” (rather than about 1644) seems likely.

Before 1651 Wolston’s great-uncle Gregory Wolterton owned land in Hockanum (south end of modern East Hartford near the Glastonbury town line). By 1663 he owned other nearby property several rods south of land on Pewter Pott Brook owned later by Thomas Harris, a sawmiller and likely but unproven brother of John Harris, the prior husband of Wolston’s first wife Hannah. In 1665 Gregory, a tanner, bought a homestead in Wethersfield, which he sold to Samuel

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14 One may wonder whether the bride’s given name, Sarah, in the 1705 marriage record at Boston might be a mistake or a mistranscription of Hannah. Although this remains possible, the circumstances strongly indicate that she was the widow of John Briggs, whose name is otherwise known as Sarah.
15 The entry in Clarence Almon Torrey, New England Marriages Prior to 1700, CD-ROM (Boston: NEHGS, 2001), showing that Wolston had a second wife Hannah with surname Briggs, possibly results from some confusion with his first wife. The statement is not supported by the sources cited for Torrey’s entry or by any evidence found in the present work.
17 Date of death given in the inventory (New London District Probate Packets, 1718, no. 713 [FHL 1,025,005]).
18 Lyme Deeds, 2:391.
19 Lyme Deeds, 1:25.
20 D. Williams Patterson, The Brockway Family, Some Records of Wolston Brockway and His Descendants (Owego, N.Y.: Leon L. Brockway’s Power Print, 1890), 3.
Hale and moved back to Hartford.\[^{22}\] In 1668 Thwaite Strickland from Glastonbury and his family were living with Gregory in Hartford.\[^{23}\] Gregory’s close associations with these Glastonbury families seem to encompass the Harrises in that locality. His grantor Samuel Hale subsequently became the father-in-law of Walter Harris of Glastonbury (ca. 1652–1715), probable stepson of Wolston’s wife Hannah and boyhood companion of Thwaite Strickland’s son John.\[^{24}\]

Wolston presumably lived while young with his Waller or Wolterton relatives at Hartford, though he was called “of Seabrook” in December 1659 when he bought his first Lyme property from John Reynolds, who was to be paid in six months with “cattell and good merchandisabell corne.”\[^{25}\] Thus Wolston was present in Lyme while still single in December 1659, but he did not establish his home there until 1664 or possibly early 1665. For example, in July 1714 he stated that he had been an “inhabitant of Lyme for 50 years past” when he testified that Abraham Brunson had been in possession of lands there for over thirty years.\[^{26}\] His fifty-year estimate would be, if anything, rounded up since the length of his Lyme residence was a key credibility factor in support of his testimony. In May 1664, Matthew Griswold of Lyme successfully sued John Borden and Wolston Brockway for slander.\[^{27}\] The will of Tobiah Colles, dated 12 August 1664, lists bequests to several Lyme residents including Wolston’s uncle William Waller, and gives “my Cloth Suite & Drawers that be at Wolstone Brockwayes to John Borden.”\[^{28}\] In March 1664/5, Wolston failed to appear at court in Hartford to defend a minor debt action brought against him by Sgt. John Stedman of


\[^{24}\] Gale Ion Harris, “Walter Harris of Wethersfield, Connecticut,” *Register* 142 (1988):323–49, at 325. A tradition current among Wethersfield descendants in the late 1800s states that the first Harrises there “were two brothers, John and Thomas by name, who came up from New London in a boat, as far as Middletown and traded their boat for land in Wethersfield” (Stiles, *Ancient Wethersfield* [note 22], 2:412n, citing Miss Mary J. Harris of Wethersfield, born 1854, a descendant of Walter Harris). This story makes sense if the traditional John was Hannah’s husband John Harris, and the “brother” Thomas was the sawmiller Thomas Harris of (what became) East Hartford and Glastonbury. Unfortunately, Stiles’s own account of Walter’s descendants (ibid., 2:412–16) wrongly grafts them to unrelated Harrises of adjoining Middletown.

\[^{25}\] Lyme Deeds, 1:25. The section of Saybrook on the east side of the Connecticut River was not officially formed as the Town of Lyme until 1667.

\[^{26}\] Lyme Deeds, 2:391.


Wolston Brockway’s activities in the years just prior to his settlement in Lyme are of particular interest. He apparently lived at least part of that time in the area of Wethersfield-Middletown just south of Hartford while employed by traders active along the Connecticut River and Long Island Sound. About three months after Wolston bought the Lyme property in 1659, John Harris, probably the husband of his future wife Hannah, was sworn as a constable for Wethersfield, most likely for the Hockanum and Naubuc section of it on the east side of the river in (modern) Glastonbury. Three weeks later, on 22 March 1659/60, John Scott, Wilston Brockwel [sic], and John Witelstead [sic] were sued at Hartford by Humphrey Hues (Hughes) “for abuseing the said Hues in a violent manner and breaking the peace at Middle Town.” The jury found for the defendants. The case evidently grew out of a dispute between Scott and Hughes over a shipping venture. In a counter action by Scott, the court ordered Hughes to pay him damages of £30 and costs for “the whole voiage since they came to a triall,” and to forfeit a bond of £200.

The principal parties in this case, Humphrey Hughes and John Scott, were traders from Southampton, Long Island, across the Sound from Saybrook and Lyme. Brockway and John “Witelstead” apparently were Scott’s employees at the time of this action in 1660. Wolston’s companion can be identified as John Whitehead from New Haven, who married and settled in Branford, Connecticut, in 1661. While young boys in 1639, John and his brother Thomas Whitehead, sons of Elizabeth (Alcock) Whitehead of Leamington Priors, Warwickshire, were brought to New England by Francis Hall of New Haven at the request of their uncle George Alcock of Roxbury, Massachusetts. Uncle George died soon in 1640, however, and they were bound out as apprentices to Francis Hall and Mathias Hitchcock in New Haven. In October 1647, after an inquiry by their mother in England, the boys’ uncle Thomas Alcock of Boston, by attorney, asked for...
that they be sent to him.\[35\] After “a large debate,” the New Haven court refused the request and arranged for them to stay there until they had their own freedom.\[36\]

Simple explanations elude us here, as in other instances of Wolston Brockway’s associations, but his presence with John Whitehead in 1660 seems to have been rooted in something more than the local acquaintance of two young men. For example, John’s cousin Elizabeth Alcock, daughter of Thomas Alcock of Boston, had married there in May 1656 the mariner Joseph Soper.\[37\] In 1665, shortly after Wolston married Hannah, Joseph and Elizabeth Soper bought the Boston house of Hannah’s parents William and Mary Briggs when they moved to Middletown.\[38\] Moreover, Elizabeth’s possible brother Phillip Alcock, born about 1648, was in East Hampton, Long Island, by December 1670, when he witnessed a deed to the Rev. Thomas James and others for Indian land.\[39\] Thomas James’s daughter Ruth subsequently married the cooper Thomas Harris of East Hampton and Killingworth, Connecticut, probable stepson of Wolston’s wife Hannah.\[40\]

Phillip was “sometime of East Hampton now of Brookhaven” in 1672 when he sold East Hampton property,\[41\] but was in New Haven in December that year for his first marriage.\[42\] In April 1707 Phillip was recorded at New Haven as the owner of “Mr. James 1st purchas Right” in that town’s common lands.\[43\] By that time, however, Phillip was in Wethersfield where he had married Nathaniel Butler’s widow Sarah in 1699 and witnessed a deed there for Hannah’s other probable stepson, Walter Harris, in February 1711/2.\[44\]

Another John Whitehead cousin, Dr. John Alcock, schoolteacher at Hartford in 1646-47 but later of Roxbury, Massachusetts, son of George Alcock,\[45\] purchased Block Island, Rhode Island, in 1660 and soon “set about disposing of

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\[41\] Southampton Deeds, A:44, typescript copy, p. 2 [FHL 0,017,929].


\[44\] Wethersfield Deeds, 4:56.

the lands there to prospective settlers."[46] One of those settlers by 1664 was William Harris, whose son William married Wolston’s daughter Elizabeth Brockway at Block Island in 1697.[47]

As yet another indication of the associations involved, John and Thomas Whitehead’s mother had conveyed her concern about them in a letter to her brother Thomas Alcock of Boston, dated at Leamington Priors in 1647, stating that Richard Wright had visited but could give her no news of them.[48] In the mid-1660s, Richard Wright, then styled “Capt. Wright,” apparently was in the middle of a four-year lease of the farm called Twelve-Mile Island located on the east side of the Connecticut River by Wolston’s land and at the boundary between Saybrook and Thirty-Mile Island (soon to become the boundary between Lyme and East Haddam).[49] In September 1661, the Twelve-Mile-Island farm had passed from its original grantee, Capt. John Cullick, to Capt. John Leverett of Boston.[50] Lyme records show that Leverett, later Governor of Massachusetts, leased it to a succession of tenants, each for four-year terms.[51] In 1663 or 1664, midterm in Leverett’s lease to Captain Wright, John Harris’s apparent brother Thomas married Wright’s daughter Sarah. After the lease expired in 1666, Wright, with his daughter and her Harris husband in tow, moved to Podunk in the north part of (modern) East Hartford to run a sawmill.[52] Thomas Harris’s land at Podunk adjoined William Buckland, brother-in-law of William¹ Biggs/Briggs of Middletown, nephew of Hannah (Briggs) (Harris) Brockway.[53]

To summarize, while not temporarily employed elsewhere Wolston probably resided for several years before 1664 in Wethersfield, where his great-uncle Gregory Wolterton owned property, and near the place where his wife Hannah’s parents resided from 1665 to 1670. Hannah probably had preceded them to Wethersfield (the part of it that became Glastonbury) as early as March 1659/60 with her first husband, John Harris, their infant son John Harris born at Boston in August 1658,[54] and her stepsons Walter Harris and Thomas Harris. Her husband

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48 Aspinwall Notarial Records [note 35], 101–02.
51 For example, Lyme Deeds, 1:152; 2:79.
52 Harris, “Thomas Harris, Sawmiller” [note 21], National Genealogical Society Quarterly 78:184; “Captain Richard Wright” [note 49], The American Genealogist 67:33.
54 Boston Births, Baptisms, Marriages, and Deaths, 1630–1699 [note 37], 65.
John died soon, presumably at Wethersfield, where, as circumstances suggest, she probably married Wolston Brockway about 1663 and placed her two orphaned stepsons with other families in that locality.

Evidence in the Lyme town and land records shows that Hannah’s child John born at Boston in 1658 went on with her to Lyme. On 1 March 1680/1, John Harris declared to the townsmen “that hee had made choice of his Uncle John Briggs [Hannah’s brother] and Lt. Abram Brunson for his guardians.”[55] In June 1710 fourteen acres were laid out to Wolston Brockway Sr. “upon the account of his fourth division for his own right and John Haressons [sic] Right.”[56] In September 1716 Wolston, then styled “cooper,” conveyed to his son John Brockway properties including land “taken up by me upon the account of my son [i.e., stepson] John Harises head right in ye fourth division.”[57]

**Later Years in Lyme**

Wolston’s investment at Lyme in 1659 seems to have been that of a well-advised young man with some backing from his Waller grandparents. The next notice of him in that town’s land records is a decade later. On 13 March 1669[70], Richard Smith sold to Wolston Brockway “of Lyme” some meadow land adjoining John Lay, the Barke River, and Brockway’s own land on the north.[58] This deed and Brockway’s ten-year-old deed from Reynolds were recorded on the same date and page.

In June 1670 Wolston sold to Thomas Dunke of Saybrook twenty acres of upland and meadow at Black Point (now in East Lyme).[59] A witness to the deed was Joseph Hand, probably the same whose mother Alice had married, as her second husband, Capt. Edward Codner of Saybrook.[60] What happened next may be put with other small mysteries. Codner died, and in November 1670 his

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55 Jean Chandler Burr, comp. and ed., Lyme Records 1667–1730 [Stonington, Conn.: Pequot Press, 1968], 41. A bond of £20 given at the same time by Isaac Watrous to hold the town harmless in case John Harris should have any “sickness, lameness, or other inability” was marked “null and void” on 25 June 1686 (ibid., 42). Probably by that time John had left town, then showed up in Northampton, Massachusetts, before 1692 (Harris, “John” and Mehitable (Danks) Harris” [note 7], The American Genealogist 72:341–42).

56 Lyme Deeds, 2:346. It has been shown elsewhere that this name was intended for John Harris, not John Harrison (Gale Ion Harris, “John Harrison of New York, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey,” The New York Genealogical and Biographical Record 124 [1993]:65–74). The record is on the same page with a deed from Wolston to his son-in-law William Harris.

57 Lyme Deeds, 3:3.

58 Lyme Deeds, 1:25. Wolston Brockway (Sr.) appears often in the town records concerning routine matters between October 1672 and December 1714 (Burr, Lyme Records [note 55], pages as indexed).

59 Lyme Deeds, 1:107; also recorded in Saybrook Deeds, 1:72.

60 Alice, daughter of Henry and Alice (Harris) (Hatcher) Gransden of Tunbridge, Kent, was the widow of John Hand of East Hampton, Long Island (Genevieve Tylee Kiepura, “English Ancestry of Alice (Gransden) Hand and Frances (Gransden) Stanborough,” The American Genealogist 31 [1955]:1–15, at 12–15).
stepson Joseph Hand “of Lyme” was “Impowered by [his] Mother Allic Codner” to look after part of his estate. Concurrently, “Woollston Brockwaye was presented . . . in court for several misdemeanors and gave bond. But [he] has not attended his bond but instead broke into the house of Edward Codner and robbed it.” The court ordered Wolston’s “estate [be] attached to the value of 14 pounds.” Then, “for breaking into Edward Codner’s house of Saybrooke and stealing from a chest, Woollston Brockway [was judged] notoriously guilty and sentenced to be whipped on the naked body.” There is no indication in all this what Wolston took from Codner’s chest — or why — or that it had any lasting effect on his standing in the community.

Next year, in August 1671, Wolston’s name appears with those of fifteen Lyme inhabitants involved in the New London and Lyme “riot,” a controversy about a two-mile-wide strip between Bride Brook and Niantic River, including Black Point. Those named included his uncle, Lt. William Waller. Those on the other (New London) side included George Chappell of Wethersfield and New London. George’s son John, however, resided in Lyme and had been an owner of land adjoining property that Wolston conveyed in February 1679/80 to his “father William Briggs of Lyme.” John Chappell’s daughter Experience married Robert Harris at Wethersfield in 1700, son of the sawmiller Thomas Harris, probable brother-in-law of Wolston’s wife Hannah. Similar notice is taken of a grant to Brockway in 1687 of land near “12 mile Island Cove,” where Thomas probably had married Capt. Richard Wright’s daughter Sarah in about 1664.

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61 New London County Court Records, Trials, 3:15, 16, 20. I thank Norman W. Ingham, C.G., for calling my attention to this curious matter and for providing extracts taken “mostly from the original volumes & files” in 1992–93. The dates are in 1670, but Ingham points out that some specific dates of early sessions on this volume are hard to discern “due to its fragmentary condition.”

62 J. Hammond Trumbull, The Public Records of the Colony of Connecticut, 15 vols. (Hartford, Conn.: Case, Lockwood & Brainard, 1850–90), 2:558. Regarding this affair, Wolston deposed in March 1671/2: “This deponent witnesseth that as the constable of Lyme was apprehehendement Clement Minor at black point, Peter Stickling [Strickland] of New London as wee are informed hee is Called came amongst the company with his sithe, and being desired by Woolstan Brockway to Lay down his Sythe Least he should do some mischiefe with it: the said Stickling answered’s wounds [sic] I will run it in to your heart lifting up his sythe as if he would have cut him down: but Woolstan clapt in upon him and prevented him: who notwithstanding gather’d up his sythe close to Woolstan greatly endangering the cutting of his neck and body untill it was wrenched out of his hands.” (Connecticut Archives, Towns and Lands, I:114, as transcribed in Smith and Sanborn, Ancestry of Emily Jane Angell [note 1], 504.) See also Ullmann, Hartford County Court Minutes [note 27], 153.

63 Gale Ion Harris, “Robert Harris of Connecticut and Descendants in the Hudson Valley,” The New York Genealogical and Biographical Record 130 (1999):183–88. On 31 December 1677, John Chappell and Wolston Brockway were chosen as Lyme’s fence viewers “for the year ensuing” (Burr, Lyme Records [note 55], 29).

64 Lyme Deeds, 1:82; G:29; Harris, “Captain Richard Wright” [note 49], The American Genealogist 67:33.
On 14 January 1677/8, Wolston Brockway was listed as one of the thirty-six proprietors of Lyme. The schedule of taxes levied in Lyme in August 1688 includes Wolston’s household with “3 persons, house and lands,” and livestock, all valued at £103. In December 1699 Wolston was “chosen constable for the year ensuing, but refuses to serve as a constable.” About 1700 his household may have included his step-granddaughter Sarah Harris from Northampton or Westfield, Massachusetts.

Wolston’s son Richard Brockway, who gave bond with John Wade as his administrator on 5 November 1718, presented on 9 December 1718 an inventory valued at £25 15s. 5d. and an account of his payments from the estate totaling £24 1s. 9d. No distribution was filed, presumably because so little was left after debts were paid.

(to be continued)

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67 Burr, Lyme Records [note 55], 87.
68 Harris, “John2 and Mehitable (Danks) Harris” [note 7], The American Genealogist 72:342.
69 New London District Probate Packets, 1718, no. 713 [FHL 1,025,005]. The payments were made to Samuel Marvin, Rebecca Person, Josiah Smith, John Burrowes, Joseph Blake, Samuel Brockway, William Brockway, John Lay, Henry Champion Jr., Thomas Enes, Henry Champion, John Brockway, Richard Smith, the Reverend Mr. Moses Noyes, Joseph Peck, and Sarah Page, plus a charge “for digging the grave.”
The name of the first wife of John¹ Jordan of Milton, Massachusetts, has been considered to be unknown. No record has yet been found that even gives her first name. The intent of this article is to reveal her identity, and also to demonstrate the importance that town records played in its discovery.

In *New England Marriages Prior to 1700*,¹ Clarence Almon Torrey shows the first marriage of John¹ Jordan with no source as: *Jordan, John & _____ _____; by 1673; Milton.*

The assumption that John Jordan was married by 1673 must be based on the recorded death date of his daughter, Esther Jordan. The published Milton Vital Records give the children of John Jordan as follows²

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Birth Date</th>
<th>Death Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Esther</td>
<td>1673</td>
<td>died 27 September 1673</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Naomi</td>
<td>26 August</td>
<td>died 8 October 1675</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Esther</td>
<td>26 August</td>
<td>1676</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charity</td>
<td>3 March</td>
<td>1677/8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarah</td>
<td>29 November</td>
<td>1678</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Naomi</td>
<td>22 July</td>
<td>1679</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John</td>
<td>31 October</td>
<td>1680</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In *Genealogies of the Families of Braintree*,³ Waldo Chamberlain Sprague compresses the first three children into twins, Esther and Naomi, born 26 August 1675, with Esther dying 27 September 1675 and Naomi dying 8 October 1675. This arrangement, however, does not deal with the unduly brief gaps between the births of the remaining children.

John Jordan and his first wife had five more surviving children, as shown in the probate of his will dated 18 September 1723,⁴ where the executor’s account of 24 March 1728/9 shows legacies paid to Benjamin, Thomas, and Joseph Jordan, Elizabeth Niles, John Taylor, Jonathan Jordan, and Philip Liscum, in that order. The ages at death of Benjamin, Thomas, and Joseph indicate they were

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² *Milton Records: Births, Marriages and Deaths, 1662–1843* (Boston: A. Mudge & Son, 1900), 40, 231. An examination of Milton Births, Marriages and Deaths 1665–1809 [FHL 0,945,618], 53, 55, 57, 61, 67, 69, revealed an artificial mode of record entry, where all births, marriages, and deaths were presented in groups, in roughly alphabetical order, but arranged in order by first name! This method put twins on different pages. The process of making this arrangement certainly offered the opportunity for creating errors.
⁴ Suffolk County Probate, file 5602.
John Jordan’s will names wife Mary, sons (not named), and four daughters (not named). It seems certain that his wife was the Mary Frizell who married John Jordan at Boston 4 October 1699.[6]

Based on the span of years over which John Jordan’s children were born, from 1675 or earlier to probably at least 1690, his first wife would have been born between 1645 and 1660. One of the few references to her is found in the Rev. Peter Thacher’s journal, under the date 4 April 1684: “My dear went to see Goodwife Jordan & Goodwife Crane.”[7]

Despite the lack of more specific references to her identity, it is possible to discover who she was by indirect means. The pursuit of a clue in the Milton town records led to her identification, and other researchers may find similarly valuable leads in town records.[8]

While browsing through the published Milton town records for information on the families of John Jordan and his son-in-law, Philip Liscomb,[9] both of Milton and Stoughton, Massachusetts, the following was found (emphasis added).[10]

At the select mens melting [sic, meeting] upon the 12th day of December 1707 upon the earnest request and desire of Abigail the daughter of dina Tomson that she may goe with her cousin Philip Liscom he being about to remove to a new plantation within the plantation of punkapaug the said Liscom by this agreement

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5 The ages at death of Benjamin, Thomas, and Joseph are given in the records of the First Parish Church of Stoughton/Canton, held at the Canton Historical Society, Canton, Massachusetts, pp. 159, 161. A microfilm copy is at NEHGS: [Canton] Church Records, 1717–1957 (Cambridge, Mass.: M.I.T. Reproduction Services, 1957).

6 [Ninth] Report of the Record Commissioners: Boston Births, Baptisms, Marriages, and Deaths, 1630–1699 (Boston: Rockwell and Churchill, 1883), 251. Torrey [note 1] also lists this marriage, but provides no source. It is not clear whether or not he thought that the marriages referred to the same John Jordan.


8 See Ann Smith Lainhart, Digging for Genealogical Treasure in New England Town Records (Boston: NEHGS, 1996) for further illustrations of the valuable family data that New England town records may hold.

9 Only two couples are listed in Torrey [note 1] who were the right age to have been the parents of Philip Liscomb. The first was John and Hannah (Hazard) Liscomb of Boston; however, the will of Hannah’s second husband, John Fosket, shows that his stepsons were John and Eleazar [sic, Ebenezer] Liscomb (Leslie Mahler and Melinde Lutz Sanborn, “Mary Foxe, Wife of Lawrence Hazard and Samuel Johnson of Stepney, Middlesex, England, and Boston, Massachusetts,” Register 156 [2002]:213–21 at 218–19). The second couple was William and Susanna (______) Liscomb or Luscomb of Salem, Massachusetts, and Saco, Maine. Although no son Philip is shown for them in Sybil Noyes, Charles Thornton Libby, and Walter Goodwin Davis, Genealogical Dictionary of Maine and New Hampshire (Portland, Maine: Southworth-Anthoensen Press, 1928–39, repr. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1973), 436, there is no evidence the list of their children is complete.

10 Milton Town Records, 1662–1729 (Milton, Mass.: the town, 1930), 210. Punkapaug was the Southern District of Dorchester, which in 1726 became Stoughton. This record was noted by Winifred Lovering Holman in “Liscomb Notes,” typescript, 1945, in the D. Stanton Avery Special Collections Dept. of NEHGS, Mss A 5359 (courtesy of David Allen Lambert). However, Miss Holman did not attempt to determine what the cousin relationship might be.
remove her and to Keep and find her with all things necessary for her subsistence during the time of her life provided she do not out live them or Either of them and for the said Liscom and his wives Care coste and paines for and about her: we the present select men of Milton do Injage in be halfe of our sucssessors and the town that their shall be five shillings per weeke paid to the said Liscom: Except the said Abigail by amendment shall be Inabled to doe sum thing towards her one maintainance the resonall abeatment to be made out of the said five shillings per weeke

Philip liscum
Charity x Liscom
her mark

this 12th day abovesaid by order of the select men Thomas Vose town Clark

How were Philip Liscomb and Abigail, daughter of Dina Tomson, cousins? An attempt to answer this began with a page-by-page scanning of the published Milton town records, made necessary by the absence of an every-name index. This review revealed several other references to Dinah Tomson, her daughter Abigail, and Philip Liscomb. The earliest mention of this trio was at a Milton town meeting on 22 December 1703:[11]

Abigail the dafter of dinah Tomson was removed from farmer [Edward] Voses upon the 23 day of December 1703 to Philep Liscoms who hath agreed to find her with house room provistions medissons tendence and dressing of soors and wasing and firing and what Else is needful for her: Except there be ocation for the dockter to make Incissions: and the town is to pay to said Liscom for their Cost and care and pains six shilling a weeke.

There were additional references to Abigail’s care by Philip and Charity Liscomb in the years 1705 and 1722.[12] The final mention in the published town records was at a town meeting on Monday, 27 March 1727,[13] at which:

it was voted the Town of Milton Will indemnifie the Town of Stoughton from being Chargeable with Abigail Daughter of Dinah Tompson now at nurse at the house of Phillip Liscom of said Stoughton.

Examination of the subsequent Milton town records on microfilm revealed that Philip and Charity Liscomb cared for Abigail for the rest of their lives.[14] The final Liscomb entry was in 1742, as follows:[15]

At A Publick Town Meeting Leagley Warned and Held in Milton on ye Seventeenth Day of May 1742 . . . it Was Put to Vote Whether they would Confirm the Bargain Made by ye Select Men and Philip Liscom for his Keeping Abigail and it past in ye Afirmitive.

12 Ibid., 190, 276.
13 Ibid., 357.
14 Milton Town Meeting Proceedings, 1729–1775 [FHL 0,945,616], 231, 241.
15 Ibid., 242.
This entry was seven weeks after Charity Liscomb had died — and Philip Liscomb died one year later. Some time after Philip’s death, custody of Abigail passed to Charity’s nephew, Samuel Jordan, son of Joseph and Abigail (Pitcher) Jordan. Samuel Jordan was also one of the heirs of Philip Liscomb’s estate, as he had married 3 March 1742/3 Grace Keny, granddaughter of Philip and Charity (Jordan) Liscomb, and thus his first cousin once removed. On 15 May 1749 Samuel Jordan made a financial arrangement with the Milton selectmen, whereby he agreed to care for Abigail and to discharge fully the town from any further obligations concerning her. No record of death has been found for Abigail.

A search of the Milton church records revealed the earliest mention there of Dinah Tomson and Abigail. On Sunday, 9 April 1699, “Abigail ye Daughter of Dina Tomson was by a Chh. vote admitted to baptismme and to ye watch and discipline of ye Chh. of Milton.” And on the following Sunday, 16 April 1699, “Abigail, dau. of Dinah Tompson, [was] taken under ye watch and discipline of ye Chh. and baptized.”

The “watch and discipline” reference suggests that by 1699 Abigail was no longer a young child. Such attention was often given to people who might be new to the requirements of church membership, and therefore might need guidance in their lives as practicing Christians. It might also indicate some deficiency in parental guidance. No record of church membership for Dinah Tomson was found, and it is possible she was no longer living in 1699. In none of the examined records was “Dinah Tomson” ever explicitly referred to as living, and,

16 Records of the First Church of Stoughton/Canton [note 5], 157, says “Old Mrs. Liscum” died March 28, 1742, and “Old Mr. Liscum” died June 27, 1743, shortly after marrying at Braintree 6 April 1743, Elizabeth Neal. Philip Liscomb’s probate mentioned the widow’s thirds and, in another place, mother-in-law [i.e., stepmother] Elizabeth. In an account dividing the personal estate, presented 25 August 1747, the widow Elizabeth Liscum was paid £80 in lieu of her dower (Suffolk County Probate, file 7922, courtesy of David Allen Lambert). Sprague, Braintree Families [note 3], record 3046, mistakenly attributes this marriage to Philip Liscomb, Jr.

17 Frederic Endicott, ed., The Record of the Births, Marriages and Deaths and Intentions of Marriage, in the Town of Stoughton from 1727 to 1800, and in the Town of Canton from 1797 to 1845, Preceeded by the Records of the South Precinct of Dorchester from 1715 to 1727 (Canton, Mass.: W. Bense Publishers, 1896), 1 (birth); [Twenty-first] Report of the Record Commissioners of the City of Boston Containing Dorchester Births, Marriages, and Deaths to the End of 1825 (Boston: Rockwell & Churchill, 1890), 107 (parents’ marriage).

18 Endicott, Births, Marriages and Deaths in Stoughton [note 17], 33.

19 Sprague, Braintree Families [note 3], records 2889 and 3046 (including the will and probate of Philip Liscomb, citing Suffolk County Probate, file 7922); Dorchester Births, Marriages, and Deaths [note 17], 33 (Grace’s birth). Florance L. K. Robertson, “Keeney, Keny Family of Milton, Mass., and Nova Scotia, Canada,” Register 108 (1954):113–20 et seq., at 115–16, erroneously shows Jonathan Keny’s second wife as Grace’s mother.

20 Milton Town Meeting Proceedings, 1729–1775 [note 14], 253. No further reference to Abigail has been found in these records.


22 Ibid., Register 23:14.
in fact, it was only in reference to her daughter, Abigail, that the name Dinah Tomson was found.

Several conclusions can be drawn from all these records. The consistent description of Abigail as the daughter of Dinah Tomson is strong evidence that Abigail was illegitimate. It also appears that Abigail was a charge to the town of Milton for most of her life. That she was not warned out of Milton by the selectmen implies that she was born there.

The fact that Philip and Charity Liscomb offered and provided the care Abigail needed from 1703 for the rest of their lives, some forty years, is good evidence for their being related to her, especially in light of the 1707 record stating Philip was Abigail’s cousin. That the Liscombs did so with the financial support of the town of Milton, even after their move to Stoughton, suggests that the Milton selectmen were sympathetic to Abigail’s plight and trusted the Liscombs.

However, the identity of Dinah Tomson and her daughter’s relationship to Philip and Charity Liscomb remained open questions until the following revealing reference from the published Milton Town records was found (emphasis added):[23]

At a towne meeteing in milto* the 8th of Decemf 1673 Dinah silvester was whiped with 20 strips (Being appwinted therto By the county Court) in the prsents of the select men and prsently aftar Edward vose, constabel Did Dlvr her and her Child to the select men to Bee provided for . . . the town did . . . apwint william Blake and Robert Tucker to sue The Reputed father [not named] of Dinah Sivester’s Child in ther name for discharg of the sayd towne of the foresayd child.

Here is another account, thirty years before that of 1703, of an unwed Dinah and her child being provided for by the Milton selectmen. Could the Dinah Silvester and her child of 1673 be the same persons referred to from 1699 to 1749 as Dinah Tomson and daughter Abigail? Evidence to support this conclusion was found in two definitive treatments of the children of Richard Silvester of Weymouth and Marshfield, Massachusetts, a 1931 Register article and The Great Migration Begins.[24]

The names of six of Dinah Silvester’s brothers and sisters (ignoring the name John as coming from John Jordan himself) are also to be found in John Jordan’s family, namely, Esther/Hester, Naomi, Charity, Joseph, Elizabeth, and Benjamin. Of these names, four are continued in the Philip Liscomb family: Charity, Naomi,

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23 Milton Town Records, 1662–1729 [note 10], 17. Also in Records of the Suffolk County Court, 1671–1680 (Boston: Colonial Society of Massachusetts, 1933), 332. In the latter record, Dinah charged Jonathan Badcock with being the father of her child, and he admitted having “had fellowship with her” only once, in October 1672. Nevertheless, the Milton Selectmen did not try to collect money from him for the child’s support.

Elizabeth, and Benjamin. In addition, the name Dinah was somewhat rare in colonial New England, and in this case, the agreement of name, location, and circumstances seem too strong to be explained as mere coincidence. Dinah Silvester had been in Plymouth Court on charges of fornication as early as 1667, and she was again in court in 1669 as an unwed mother. Since only one child was referred to in 1673, it is likely that the child born in 1669 had died. The change in Dinah’s surname was probably due to an unrecorded marriage between 1673 and 1699 of Dinah Silvester to a man named Tomson. However, Abigail was never referred to as Abigail Tomson.

As noted above, “her cousin Philip Liscomb” was to take charge of Abigail in 1707. Assuming Philip or his wife was Abigail’s first cousin, then one of Richard Silvester’s daughters must have married John Jordan — whose daughter Charity was Philip Liscomb’s wife.

Richard Silvester certainly knew John Jordan in Milton as Richard and his sister Dinah were living there in 1672. On 20 June 1672, Richard Silvester and John Jordan witnessed a deed in Milton. On 31 December 1675, John Jordan was listed as paying the Milton ministerial rates. Richard Silvester was paying the town rates in Milton on 28 December 1676, and both men served from Milton that year in King Philip’s War.

In The Great Migration Begins, Dinah Silvester is shown to have had three younger sisters, Charity, Naomi, and Hester (or Esther), none of whom is shown to have married. Apparently Charity Silvester married at Boston by 1673 John Ricks (William), and had ten children.

The choice for John Jordan’s wife is then between Naomi and Esther Silvester. Naomi was baptized 14 April 1650, and was living 31 October 1666. Esther was baptized 26 March 1654, and was living 29 October 1670 when she chose her brother-in-law, John Lovell, Sr., of Rehoboth (husband of her sister Elizabeth) to be her guardian. John Jordan had granddaughters named Naomi.

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26 There was an Edward Tomson living in Milton and recorded on the tax lists between 30 December 1674 and 23 February 1684/5 (Milton Town Records, 1662–1729 [note 10], 71–72, 343. His connection, if any, to Dinah and her child is not known.
30 That Charity, wife of John Ricks, was Charity Silvester, was suggested by Torrey [note 1], but he must have omitted one or more sources as no support appears in the two sources he does cite: Guy S. Rix, History and Genealogy of the Rix Family of America . . . (New York: Grafton Press, 1906), 2, and [Seventh] Report of the Record Commissioners Containing Boston Records from 1660 to 1701 (Boston: Rockwell and Churchill, 1881), 128. John Ricks was one of the sureties giving bond for the court appearance in Boston of Richard Silvester, brother of Charity Silvester, on 29 July 1673 (Records of the Suffolk County Court 1671–1680 [note 23], 304–05).
32 Anderson, Great Migration Begins [note 24], 3:1680.
and Esther, but not frequently enough to favor one name over the other. As a result, either Naomi or Esther Silvester might have been John Jordan’s wife. To summarize briefly:

Richard$^1$ Silvester m. Naomi _____

Dinah m. _____  Esther or Naomi m. John$^1$ Silvester Tomson Silvester Jordan

Abigail (illeg.) b. 1673  Charity m. Philip Jordan Liscomb

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JOSEPH 5 AND PHOEBE (MILLINGTON) ROUNDS OF
CLARENDON AND MONKTON, VERMONT

John Bradley Arthaud and Marcia (Yannizze) Melnyk*

The identification of the parents of a woman who married in the late eighteenth century in Vermont or New York is frequently a vexing genealogical problem. If her descendants differ on her maiden name, the search becomes more complicated. Approaching the problem from the woman’s natal family appears to have solved this problem in one troubling situation.

“Phoebe who married _____ Rounds” was the eleventh of the twelve children of John 4 and Eunice (Doolittle) Millington, according to a Millington manuscript compiled in the late 1860s by Jacob Merritt Howard, a great-nephew of John 4 Millington. The manuscript shows Phoebe as the last of four children born during a twelve-year interval after a child on 6 February 1775 and before the last child born on 5 February 1787. [1] Full names and locations are indicated for some of the spouses, which suggest that Phoebe (Millington) Rounds did not live her adult life in the same communities as the majority of her siblings. Jacob Merritt Howard (1805–1871), a prominent founding member of the Republican Party and co-author of the Fourteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution as a senator from Michigan, attributed much of the data to his mother’s brother, Rufus 5 Millington (Solomon 4, David 3, John 2-1). [2] Senator Howard’s manuscript is believed to be reliable based on his education, his stated sources, and the fact that his notes varied in detail, i.e., he did not embellish when he lacked information. No serious inaccuracies of the fifth generation have been found in his work.

There is no entry for the surname Millington in the index of the highly regarded 1983 genealogy of the Round[s] family. [3] However, a review of this work for males the right age with a wife Phoebe/Phebe revealed only one candidate: Joseph Rounds, born in 1775. [4]

* The authors gratefully acknowledge the frequent assistance of Alan Lathrop, 83 North Street, Bristol, Vermont, a descendant of James and Urania (Cole) Rounds, who provided many records and photographs. The surname has usually been standardized to Rounds, the spelling in Joseph’s will.

1 Jacob M. Howard, “Record of the Millingtons,” in “Millington Notes” in the Robert Wilson Tirrell Papers, R. Stanton Avery Special Collections Dept. NEHGS, Mss. 320. The manuscript shows no birth dates for any of the children but they appear to be listed in chronological order. The two birth dates given in the text are from a forthcoming study of these twelve children and their younger half-siblings which has been accepted by The Genealogist (John Bradley Arthaud, “John 4 Millington of Bennington County, Vermont, and Herkimer County, New York”).


4 Ibid., 220.
Joseph Rounds was born at Clarendon, Vermont, on 8 August 1775, son of James and Urania (Cole) Rounds,[5] who were married at Scituate, Rhode Island, on 27 February 1763.[6] Joseph died at Monkton, Vermont, in May or June of 1831.[7] His wife’s name was always recorded as Phoebe, with minor variations in spelling. If, as we believe, one woman was the mother of all his children (born ca. 1799–1826), then she was born about 1782.

While a record of their marriage has not been found, Joseph and Phoebe were married probably about 1798 in upstate New York, where records are even less complete than in Vermont. The Vermont vital records for the second marriage of their son Byron in 1878 (at age 50), and of their son Joseph in 1896 (at age 74) both say the groom’s mother was Phoebe Millington. Obviously, these two men were the informants for their mother’s maiden name.

No statewide Vermont vital record for the birth or death of a child of Joseph and Phoebe Rounds has been found that shows Renslow for Phoebe’s maiden name. However, the Starksboro town record of the death of their eldest son, Linus Rounds, on 24 September 1875 lists her as Phebe Renslow Rounds and his father as Joseph Rounds.[8]

Joseph and Phoebe’s eldest child, Linus, born about 1799, was the only child in the family in the 1800 census when Joseph Round was listed right after [his brother] William Round in Herkimer County, New York.[9] Joseph’s wife, shown as age 16–26 in 1800, would have been born between 1775 and 1784. In 1800 two of Phoebe Millington’s brothers were enumerated in the same town as Joseph Rounds,[10] and her father was in the same county.[11]

Joseph Rounds returned to Vermont where he was in the 1810 and 1820 censuses for Monkton, with the oldest female in his household shown as age 26–45 both years (and thus born between 1775 and 1784).[12] Annoyingly, all the age categories for Joseph Rounds’ household in 1830 are blank.[13]

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5 Ibid., 219–20.
7 Addison County Probate, File No. 2101, 2:308 (order of notice, will, appointment of executors), 2:336 (appointment of appraisers and their inventory), and 2:546 (order of notice).
8 Starksboro, Vermont, Vital Records, 2:238. It is remotely possible that Linus’s mother had married second a Mr. Renslow; however, she was still called Phoebe Rounds in 1856 in St. Lawrence County, New York (see below), and the indexed 1860 censuses of New York and Vermont on Ancestry.com do not show her under either surname (or variants).
9 1800 U.S. Census, Warren, Herkimer County, New York, roll 21, p. 512; Rounds, *John Round Family* [note 3], 219. It is possible the child in the 1800 census died young and Linus was born in 1800 or 1801; however, it does not affect the reasoning here.
10 1800 U.S. Census, Warren, roll 21, pp. 509 (Jacob Millington), 510 (John Millington, Jr.).
12 1810 U.S. Census, Monkton, Addison County, Vermont, roll 64, p. 44; 1820 U.S. Census, Monkton, roll 126, p. 58B.
13 1830 U.S. Census, Monkton, roll 184, p. 236. Joseph Rounds, with all age categories blank, was listed right after Lorenzo Rounds, in whose household was a male 40–50, the right age to be
Phoebe Rounds, age 50–60 (and thus born 1780–1790), was head of a household at Monkton in 1840. In 1850, Phoebe Rounds, age 61 [sic], born New York [sic], was living in a hotel in Monkton with three young children of her son Joseph.

Thus Joseph Rounds had a wife Phoebe who was the right age to be Phoebe Millington, and her family was living in the same upstate New York town as Joseph Rounds shortly after their marriage. The names of their children do not provide any indication of her family except that their second daughter was named Eunice, the name of Phoebe Millington’s mother.

As mentioned above, an apparently reliable manuscript, compiled in the late 1860s, based on data provided by Phoebe Millington’s first cousin, Rufus Millington, shows that she married a Mr. Rounds. And two sons of Joseph Rounds stated that their mother’s maiden name was Phoebe Millington. In contrast, the maiden name Renslow for Joseph Rounds’s wife did not appear until an 1875 Vermont death certificate. Unfortunately, Renslow appeared again in 1905 in a four-page typescript by Theron Woodward of Chicago (descended from a sister of Joseph Rounds) who apparently had no first-hand knowledge of Joseph Rounds and his wife and children but corresponded with relatives in Vermont.

Genealogical Summary

1. **JOSEPH⁵ ROUNDS** (James⁴-³, George², John¹) was born at Clarendon, Vermont, 8 August 1775, son of James and Urania (Cole) Rounds. He died at Monkton, Vermont, between 28 May 1831 (date of will) and 22 June 1831 (date will presented). He married, probably in upstate New York about 1798, **PHOEBE MILLINGTON**, born about 1782, probably in Bennington County, Vermont, daughter of John and Eunice (Doolittle) Millington.

As noted above, Joseph and Phoebe moved from Herkimer County, New York, back to Monkton, Vermont, between 1800 and 1810. Joseph’s will, dated 28 May 1831, proved 14 July 1831, reads as follows:

I will to my beloved wife Phebe Rounds & my three youngest sons, John Wesley, Joseph, and Byron Clark Rounds all my real estate to be divided equally as to quantity and quality between them. Item I will to my son Linus Rounds fifty dollars

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Joseph. Perhaps Joseph and Lorenzo represent a single household. As will be seen below, Lorenzo was Joseph’s son (and no other Lorenzo is found in Rounds, John Round Family [note 3]).

15 1850 U.S. Census, Monkton, roll 920, p. 270. The entries for the numerous hotel residents begin on p. 269R.
17 Her parents were in Shaftsbury, Bennington County, in the years around 1782 (Arthaud, “John and Sarah (Smith) Millington” [note 2], The American Genealogist 80:51–52.
to be paid within two years after my decease in stock. Item I will to my Daughter
Aurilla Rounds seventy dollars making together With her advancement at marriage
one hundred dollars to be paid in four years after my decease in stock. Item I will to
my Daughter Elathice Rounds one cow worth sixteen dollars to be delivered at my
decease and eighty four dollars to be paid in six years after my decease in stock. Item
I will to my Daughter Mary Rounds one cow worth sixteen dollars to be delivered
when she arrives at age, and eighty four dollars to be paid in eight years from my
decease in stock – Item I will to my Daughter Eunice Rounds one cow worth sixteen
dollars to be delivered when she arrives at age, and eighty four dollars to be paid in
ten years after my decease in stock. To my son Lorenzo I will nothing he having
received his share. [Executors were to be wife Phebe, son Lorenzo, and John Smith
of Monkton].

The reason for the staggered monetary payments at two-year intervals to one son
and the four daughters has not been determined. The time intervals do not equate
to the children becoming of age. Perhaps it was to allow the executors time to
raise the stock necessary to make the payments.

On 7 July 1856, Phoebe Rounds, resident of Oswegatchie, St. Lawrence
County, New York, for $850 sold “ALL that certain piece or parcel of land
situated & being in the town of Monkton & county of Addison State of Vermont
bequeathed by a certain Will made by Joseph Round deceased the husband of the
Party first above mentioned” to Joseph Rounds of Monkton. At least two of her
grandchildren, Horace Rounds and Frederick Rounds, sons of her son Linus,
settled in St. Lawrence County (see below).

Children of Joseph and Phoebe (Millington) Rounds, with some uncertainty as to the
order of the two oldest daughters:

2 i. LINUS Rounds, b. ca. 1799; m. HANNAH WESCOTT.
   ii. ELATHICE Rounds, b. say 1803; d. after 28 May 1831, presumably the daughter
       “Ellen” named by Woodward.
   iii. EUNICE Rounds, b. say 1805; d. after 28 May 1831, possibly named for her
       maternal grandmother.
   iv. LORENZO D. Rounds, b. ca. 1808; d. between the 1870 and 1880 censuses; m.
       Monkton, Vt., 27 Nov. 1846 ALZINA VERNAL SPOONER, b. Vt. Nov.
       1825, d. after the 1910 census. Lorenzo, a surety for his father’s estate

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18 Monkton Deeds, 14:73.
19 Rounds, John Round Family [note 3], 220, lists only six children for Joseph Rounds; see
   note 16.
20 See the discussion of his age in census records below (and see note 9).
21 Woodward, “Rounds Genealogy” [note 16], 3; Rounds, John Round Family [note 3], 220.
22 WorldConnect at Rootsweb.com says he was born 14 June 1808 and that his wife was
   Abzina Vernal Spooner, born at Monkton 26 November 1825, daughter of Ruggles and Anna
   (Curtis) Spooner.
23 Vermont Vital Records. There are many variant spellings of her first name. Her middle
   name is from the preceding note.
24 1900 U.S. Census, Whitewater, 1st Ward, Walworth County, Wisconsin, roll 1821, E.D.
   101, p. 337B.
25 1910 U.S. Census, Whitewater, 1st Ward, roll 1740, E.D. 154, sheet 8B.
administration, had already received his portion by the spring of 1831. He and his father were consecutively enumerated in 1830. Given that he was almost twenty years older than his only known wife, it is possible that he and an earlier wife were the male and female 20–30 living with his mother in 1840. He and his wife were enumerated in Wisconsin in 1850 (consecutively with his brother John) and in 1860. They moved to Iowa by 1865 where daughter Emily was born. Lorenzo’s last known record was the 1870 census of Wisconsin when he was recorded as age 62 [sic]. In 1880 A. V. Rounds, 54, widow, was listed in Whitewater, Wisc., with no children.

Children of Lorenzo and Alzina Vernal (Spooner) Rounds:
1. Ella A. Rounds, b. 28 Sept. 1848, d. before the 1850 census.
2. Anna Armina Rounds, b. 13 Feb. 1852, d. before the 1860 census.
3. Lucia Abzina Rounds, b. Wisc. 16 June 1858, d. after the 1870 census.
4. Emily Rounds, b. Iowa ca. 1865, d. after the 1870 census.

v. Aurelia/Orilla Rounds, b. Monkton ca. 20 Nov. 1809 (calculated from age at death); d. Hinesburg, Vt., 18 May 1874, age 64 years, 6 months, 28 days; m. after 28 May 1831 (date of her father’s will) Daniel Ray, b. Clarendon ca. 25 Jan. 1808 (calculated from age at death); d. Hinesburg 19 April 1875, age 67 years, 2 months, 25 days, son of William and Abigail (Wyman) Ray. They are buried in the Village Cemetery, Hinesburg.

Children of Daniel and Aurelia (Rounds) Ray, all born Vermont. Children 1 (and wife), 2, 3, and 5 are buried with their parents.

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26 1830 U.S. Census, Monkton, Addison County, Vermont, roll 184, p. 236.
28 1870 U. S. Census, Deerfield Township, Chickasaw County, Iowa, roll 381, p. 531.
30 1860 and 1870 censuses (see above). In 1900 Alzina stated that she had had four children, all deceased (see note 24). WorldConnect at Rootsweb.com has exact names and dates of birth for the first three children.
31 Vermont Vital Records, called daughter of Joseph and Phoebe Rounds.
32 Her father’s will calls her “Aurilla Rounds.” Woodward, “Rounds Genealogy” [note 16], 3, says she m. “_____ Ray.”
33 Vermont Vital Records.
34 Their ages at death are on their gravestones; data graciously provided by Jean Miner of Hinesburg from her manuscript “Hinesburg Burial Lists.”
36 Vermont Vital Records, the place and calculated date from his death record.
37 1900 U.S. census, Monkton, Addison County, Vermont, roll 1689, E.D. 14, sheet 6A.
38 Vermont Vital Records, with parents’ names as D. and Sylvia [sic] (Rounds) Ray.
Caroline “Carrie” Victory Ferguson,[39] b. Starksboro, Vt., 2 March 1840, d. Bristol, Vt., 5 Oct. 1931, daughter of Andrew and Mary (Mead) Ferguson.[40]

2. Armina Ray, b. 1835, d. 1911; probably the 15-year-old “Alniona” in the 1850 census.


4. Mary Ray, b. probably Oct. 1839, d. after 1900,[41] m. Hinesburg 5 Nov. 1864 Andrew Somers,[42] b. Vt. ca. 1842, d. between the 1890 census[43] and 16 Nov. 1899, when Mary applied for a pension based on his service during the Civil War in Co. I, Fifteenth Vermont Infantry.[44]

5. Hester Ray, b. ca. April 1841, d. 8 March 1849, age 7 years, 11 months.


8. Martha Ray, b. ca. 1849, m. (1) Hinesburg 27 Sept. 1870 Emerson R. Place,[52] divorced 29 April 1874,[53] She m. (2) Hinesburg 7 Feb. 1876 Jacob C. Mansur.[54]

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39 Vermont Vital Records; her full middle name from the birth record of son Daniel Ray 5 April 1871 (ibid.)

40 Henry Perry Smith, ed., History of Addison County, Vermont, (Syracuse, N. Y.: D. Mason & Co., 1886), xli (brief personals), for Byron Ray’s family and names of his parents; Vermont Vital Records, her death record with her date and place of birth and parents’ names as Andrew and Mary (Mead) Ferguson.

41 1880 U.S. Census, Hinesburg, Chittenden Co., Vermont, roll 1343, E.D. 76, p. 233B; 1900 U.S. Census, Hinesburg, roll 1691, E.D. 79, sheet 12A (Mary born October 1840 [sic]).

42 Vermont Vital Records.

43 1890 U.S. Veterans Census, Hinesburg, Chittenden County, Vermont, roll 105, E.D. 79, p. 1, recorded as “Summers.”

44 Civil War pension file, invalid application #168560, certificate #116851; widow’s application #698390, 16 Nov. 1899; certificate #495484 (index card viewed at Ancestry.com).

45 Vermont Vital Records, his death record, which names his parents.

46 1870 U.S. Census, Hinesburg, Chittenden County, Vermont, roll 1618, p. 581.

47 Vermont Vital Records, with parents’ names as Daniel and Orrilla.

48 Vermont Vital Records, with parents’ names for both bride and groom.

49 Vermont Vital Records, her death record with date and place of birth.


51 Civil War pension file, invalid application #660994, 25 Aug. 1890; certificate #723815 and 11 May 1908 widow’s application #896064; certificate #665208 (index card viewed at Ancestry.com).

52 Vermont Vital Records, Martha age 22.
vi. MARY ROUNDS, b. Vt. ca. 1814; d. after the 1870 census;\textsuperscript{[55]} m. by 1834 (birth of first known child) her first cousin Rev. NATHAN ROUNDS PECK;\textsuperscript{[56]} b. Vt. 23 March 1813, son of Rev. John and Sabra (Rounds) Peck;\textsuperscript{[57]} d. after the 1870 census. Nathan was a Methodist Episcopal clergyman in the 1850 census, his birthplace Vt. The remainder of the family had blanks for their birthplaces.\textsuperscript{[58]}

Known children of Rev. Nathan Rounds and Mary (Rounds) Peck:\textsuperscript{[59]}

1. Marilla G. Peck, b. 7 Jan. 1834; d. India Nov. 1862; m. Rev. Ralph Pierce.\textsuperscript{[60]}

2. Maria L. Peck, b. 26 Sept. 1838; m. Rev. J. H. Maddox.\textsuperscript{[61]}

3. William E. Peck, b. N.Y. ca. 1846; d. after the 1880 census; m. by 1877 (birth of first child) Mary (White?), b. Ill. ca. 1857.\textsuperscript{[62]}

4. Carrie Peck, b. Calif. ca. 1857; d. after the 1860 census.\textsuperscript{[63]}

vii. JOHN WESLEY ROUNDS, b. Vt. ca. 1820; murdered in St. Louis, Mo., in 1883;\textsuperscript{[64]} m. (1) 25 Feb. 1842 ABBY TRACY,\textsuperscript{[65]} b. Monkton, Vt., 5 Feb. 1823, daughter of William and Abigail (Walworth) Tracy, and sister of his brother Joseph’s wife Sylvia Tracy. She d. after the 1850 census, and he m. (2) ____. John and his first wife lived in New York in the late 1840s and moved to Wisconsin by 1850 when he was enumerated consecutively with his brother Lorenzo in the 1850 census there.\textsuperscript{[67]} John W. Rounds, who married a second unidentified wife, was a prosperous painter and decorator in St. Louis and planned to use his accumulated wealth to buy land in Nebraska.\textsuperscript{[68]} Neither he nor either wife has been found in the 1860–1880 censuses, nor has any record been found of his death in 1883.
Children of John Wesley Rounds, order uncertain, the first three, at least, with Abby Tracy:[69]


2. **Lorenzo Rounds**, b. N.Y. July 1845 [sic], d. between the 1920 census and 25 Jan. 1922,[74] m. ca. 1867 (1) **Emily Emma _____**, b. Ohio Sept. 1841,[75] d. between the 1900 and 1910 censuses; m. before 1920 (2) **Mary J. _____**, b. Pa. ca. 1859,[76] d. after 25 Jan. 1922. As an adult Lorenzo gave three different states as his birthplace: Conn., N. J., and Vt., none of which is consistent with N.Y., shown as his birthplace as a boy in 1850. Lorenzo showed his father’s birthplace as N.Y. twice and Pa. once. Lorenzo served in Co. B, 19th U.S. Infantry, according to the 1890 veterans schedule[77] and his pension application card.

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[69] Three children were listed in the 1850 census: Lorenzo, 5, Loren, 3, and Joseph, 2, all born New York. Presumably the first two names were reversed as Loren/Lorin always appears slightly older than Lorenzo in their adult censuses, below. We place these children according to birth dates in the 1900 census. *History of Southeastern Nebraska* [note 64], 1:61, states that Lorin was one of five sons, two of whom died young, and one daughter (none named), and all four adult children married.

[70] Loren gave his birthplace as New York and his father’s birthplace as Pennsylvania in the 1900 U.S. Census, Bedford Precinct, Nemaha County, Nebraska, roll 935, E.D. 87, sheet 9A, and the 1910 U.S. Census, Bedford Precinct, Nemaha County, Nebraska, roll 852, E.D. 110, sheet 6A.

[71] Civil War pensions, invalid pension application filed 24 June 1880; application #391860; certificate #983855, widow's pension application filed by Annettie A. Rounds in Nebraska on 19 February 1920; application #1152870; certificate #910665 (index card at Ancestry.com).

[72] *History of Southeastern Nebraska* [note 64], 1:62–63, has the exact marriage date, her parents’ names and those of her first husband, all of which are supported by censuses (1880 U.S. Census, Bedford, Monroe County, Michigan, roll 595, ED173, p. 293C, the Stump and McLean families consecutively enumerated). The Stumps are shown as parents-in-law in Loren’s household in the 1900 census (see note 70), and the two couples were consecutively enumerated in the 1910 census (see note 70).

[73] *History of Southeastern Nebraska* [note 64], 1:62; 1890 Veterans Census, Bedford Precinct, Nemaha County, Nebraska, roll 38, E.D. 239, p. 3.

[74] Civil War pensions, invalid pension application filed 8 August 1890; #907328, certificate #1137482, widow’s pension filed 25 Jan.1922; application #1184075 (index card on Ancestry.com).

[75] She always appeared three to four years older than Lorenzo (1870 U.S. Census, Vesta Precinct, Johnson County, Nebraska, roll 830, p. 5/90; 1880 U.S. Census, Table Rock Precinct, Pawnee County, Nebraska, roll 753, E.D. 25, p. 13B/26, doctor; 1900 U.S. Census, Turkey Creek Precinct, Pawnee County, Nebraska, roll 935, E.D. 134, p. 1B, physician; 1910 U.S. Census, Steinauer Precinct, Pawnee County, Nebraska, roll 852, E.D. 157, sheet 5B, widowed physician.


[77] 1890 Veterans Census, Bedford Precinct, Nemaha Co., Nebraska, roll 38, E.D. 239, p. 3.
3. Joseph Rounds, b. N.Y. ca. 1848; m. _____ _____.
4. Daughter, m. _____ _____.
5. Son, d. young.
6. Son, d. young.

viii. JOSEPH ROUNDS, b. Monkton, Vt., ca. 17 Jan. 1822 (calculated from age at
death); d. Starksboro, Vt., 30 Oct. 1898, age 76 years, 9 months, 13 days;\[78\] m.
after the 1870 census;\[81\] daughter of William and Abigail (Walworth) Tracy,
and sister of his brother John Wesley’s wife Abby Tracy;\[82\] m. (2) Hinesburg,
Vt., 7 Feb. 1896 MARY (DRINKWATER) SHELDON,\[83\] b. England ca. 1835; d.
Hinesburg 18 Feb. 1896,\[84\] daughter of Thomas Drinkwater, and widow of
William Sheldon.\[85\]

Joseph and Sylvia Rounds were enumerated at Monkton in 1850 with one
child (Ellen) and in 1860 there with six children.\[86\] The names of their
children in the 1860 census support the conclusion that Phoebe Rounds, 61,
enumerated at Monkton in 1850 with three Rounds children under five (Alice
Rounds, 4, Rufus Rounds, 2, and Edna Rounds, 1), was his mother.\[87\] Alice
and Rufus were enumerated in 1860 with Joseph and Sylvia Rounds. Joseph
Rounds, 40, credited to Monkton, enlisted as a private 8 Sept. 1862 in Co. G,
14th Vermont Volunteer Infantry.\[88\]

Children of Joseph and Sylvia (Tracy) Rounds:
1936, age 91 years, 8 months, 13 days;\[89\] m. Hinesburg 29 Aug. 1865
Henry W. Scott.\[90\]
2. Alice Rounds, b. ca. 1846, enumerated with her paternal grandmother in
the 1850 census; possibly the Alice Jones, 24, seamstress, in the
household of Joseph Rounds in 1870.\[91\] An appropriate marriage record
has not been found.

\[78\] Vermont Vital Records.
\[79\] Vermont Vital Records.
\[80\] Arthaud, "Tracy Family" [note 66], Vermont Genealogy 12:97.
\[81\] 1870 U.S. Census, Hinesburg, Chittenden County, Vermont, roll 1618, p. 8/580R.
\[82\] Arthaud, "Tracy Family," [note 66], Vermont Genealogy 12:97.
\[83\] Vermont Vital Records, groom age 74, born Monkton, son of Joseph and Phoebe
(Millington) Rounds; bride age 61, born England, daughter of Thomas Drinkwater (no mother
named), second marriage for both.
\[84\] Vermont Vital Records, age 60 [sic].
\[85\] Vermont Vital Records, for her first marriage to William Sheldon at Hinesburg 8 April
1838. The name of Mary’s mother is unclear.
\[86\] 1850 U.S. Census, Monkton, Addison County, Vermont, roll 920, p. 280R; 1860 U.S.
Census, Monkton, Addison County, Vermont, roll 1315, p. 294–95/344R–45.
\[87\] 1850 U.S. Census, Monkton, Addison County, Vermont, roll 920, p. 270.
\[88\] http://www.vermontcivilwar.org/index/namesearch.php.
\[89\] Vermont Vital Records, with date and place of birth and parents’ names.
\[90\] Vermont Vital Records, as Ellen J. Rounds.
\[91\] 1870 U.S. Census, Hinesburg, Chittenden County, Vermont, roll 1618, p. 8/580R. There
was an Alice M. Jones, 32, divorced, dress maker, with 6-year-old Eula Jones in the household of
Collins H. Stevens and wife Mary, Alice described as niece and Eula as great-niece (1880 U.S.
3. **Rufus Rounds**, b. ca. 1848, enumerated with his paternal grandmother in the 1850 census; d. after the 1860 census. Probably the same as Watson Rounds who follows.


5. **Edna Rounds**, b. ca. 1849, enumerated with her paternal grandmother in the 1850 census, d. 11 Sept. 185– (date incomplete but must be 1859), age 11 years, 5 months. [99]


7. **Emma/Emily L. Rounds**, b. ca. 1853, d. Hinesburg 10 April 1869 age 16. [103]


ix. **BYRON CLARK ROUNDS**, b. Monkton [105] ca. 26 Oct. 1826 (calculated from age at death); d. New Haven, Vt., 14 April 1898, age 71 years, 5 months, 19 days; [106] m. (1) by 1854 (birth of only known child) MARY/MAHALA CARPENTER, [107] b. 1900 U.S. Census, Starksboro, Addison County, Vermont, roll 1689, E.D. 21, sheet 4A.

90 1910 U.S. Census, Richford, Franklin County, Vermont, roll 1614, E.D. 111, p. 10B.

94 He was called a widower in the 1900 census.

95 Vermont Vital Records, groom age 53, second marriage; bride age 45 [sic]; complete names of all four parents given.

96 She and her siblings were all shown as born New York in the 1860 U.S. Census, Canton, St. Lawrence County, New York, roll 852, p. 104. However, the 1910 census says she was born Vermont (see note 93).

97 Vermont Vital Records, wife of Watson Rounds but no parents named.

98 1870 U.S. Census, Georgetown, Clear Creek County, Colorado, roll 94, p. 10/128R.

99 Vermont Vital Records, with parents’ first names, buried Ridge Cemetery, Monkton.

100 Vermont Vital Records, with his date and place of birth as 12 November 1849 at Monkton, son of Joseph Rounds.

101 Vermont Vital Records, bride age 18, born Ireland, daughter of Patrick and Kate (Shean) Collins.

102 Vermont Vital Records, born Kilcorman, Ireland, 3 May 1862, daughter of Patrick and Cathrine Collins.

103 Vermont Vital Records, buried McEwin Cemetery, Hinesburg.


105 Vermont Vital Records, place of birth from the record of his second marriage.

106 Vermont Vital Records, son of John [sic] and Pheba _____ (no surname).

107 Byron Rounds’s wife was Mary, age 30, in the 1860 census, but was Mahala, age 48, in the 1870 census. Nevertheless, she appears to have been the same woman. His marriage to Ursula was stated to be his second marriage. Mary’s age in the 1850 census fits with the date of birth of Mary,
Huntington, Vt., 7 May 1821, [108] d. Monkton 28 Sept. 1876, age 53 years, 4 months, 12 days [sic],[109] daughter of John and Drusilla (Nichols) Carpenter,[110] Bryon m. (2) Monkton 22 Dec. 1878, Ursula (Freeman) Rivers,[111] b. Vt. ca. 1836, d. after the 1920 census,[112] daughter of Louis and Mary (Finney) Freeman,[113] and widow of Antoine Rivers.[114] In 1850 Byron appeared as head of a household, consecutively after Phoebe Rounds, but the census probably assigned household numbers erroneously, and he was probably living in the hotel with his mother.[115] In 1860 he was enumerated as Byron Rounds, 35, with Mary, 30,[116] but in 1870 he was 45 with Mahala, 48;[117] this inconsistency is discussed in note 107. He served in Co. F, 13th Vermont Volunteers Infantry from 10 Sept. 1862 to 21 July 1863.[118]

Known child of Byron Clark and Mary/Mahala (Carpenter) Rounds:

1. Annette Rounds, b. ca. 12 April 1854 (calculated from age at death), d. 23 March 1859, age 4 years, 11 months, 11 days, bur. Huntington Center Cemetery, Huntington.[119]

(to be continued)

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daughter of John and Druzilla (Nichols) Carpenter, and when Byron's wife Mahala died in 1876, her death record says born Huntington, daughter of John Carpenter. See below for all records.

108 Huntington, Vermont, town records, 1772–1853, 24; Mahala Carpenter born 7 May 1821, daughter of John and Druzilla Carpenter.

109 Monkton, Vermont, town records, 1:50, Mahala Rounds, born Huntington, daughter of John Carpenter.

110 Drusilla, wife of John Carpenter, was named as a daughter in Stephen Nichols’s probate papers in 1840 (Rutland District Probate File #89; Margaret R. Jenkins and Danielle L. Roberts, Rutland County, Vermont, Probate Extracts. Rutland District, Part 4, Vols. 17–19, 1838–1844 [n.p.: the authors, 2007], 370, 373).

111 Vermont Vital Records, groom’s parents Joseph and Phebe (Millington) Rounds.

112 1920 U.S. Census, Panton Township, Addison County, Vermont, roll 1870, E.D. 16, p. 1A, Ursula Rounds was an 84-year-old widow in the household of her son, Lewis N. Rivers.

113 Parents’ names from the record of her second marriage.

114 1860 U.S. Census, Monkton, Addison County, Vermont, roll 1315, p. 288; 1870 U.S. Census, Monkton, Addison County, Vermont, roll 1614, p. 18/179R.

115 1850 U.S. Census, Monkton, Addison County, Vermont, roll 920, p. 270.


117 1870 U.S. Census, Monkton, Addison County, Vermont, roll 1614, p. 9/175.

118 1890 Veterans Census, New Haven, Addison County, Vermont, roll 105, E.D. 13, p. 2.

119 Photograph of tombstone, “daughter of B. C. & M. P. / Rounds.”
5. ROBERT ELIOT (William D). He was born say 1488, and was buried at Hunsdon, Hertfordshire, 10 March 1551/2. He married ELIZABETH ____. Elizabeth Elliot, “sometyme wife of Roberte Elliot,” was buried at Hunsdon 11 May 1568. It is unknown whether she or an earlier wife was the mother of his children. Robert was of Hunsdon on 12 January 1548/9 at the original writing of the will of his brother George Eliot of Bishops Stortford. No probate for Robert has been found. The court rolls for the Honour of Hunsdon show him listed among the tenants as early as 3 April [23 Henry VIII] 1532. At the court held Easter Week 24 Henry VIII [1533], Robert Elyott surrendered into the hands of the lady Queen Anne two acres of land lying in Grove feld and a half acre of land in Brodlye for the use of Thomas Bereman. The former property possibly appears, described as two acres called Groves Bushes in Hunsdon, in the 1588 will of John Eliot of Hunsdon, fuller [see 5.iii below], who married Thomas Bereman’s daughter Bridget. At the 1533 court it was also determined that Robert Elyott and Henry Rendall were to remain in the office of ale taster. Two years later Robert was elected constable (with Thomas Warde) at the court held Easter week 26 King Henry VIII [1535]. Robert Eliot paid two pence for lands in the 1545 Subsidy Roll; he was the only Eliot paying the tax in Hunsdon that year. In 1547, at the court [of the Honour of Hunsdon and Eastwick] held the first of June 38 Henry VIII, Robert Eliot was among the head pledges of Hunsdon. Thomas Eliot, relationship not stated, was the only other Eliot named; he was excused from attendance at court.

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130 Parish registers of Hunsdon, Hertfordshire [FHL 0,991,316 Items 6–13].
131 Waters, Genealogical Gleanings in England [note 4], 2:894–95; see Part 1 of this article at p. 85.
132 Court Rolls of Hunsdon with Eastwick [Herts] Honour, The National Archives SC2/177/44, membrane 1, translated from the Latin by Duncan Harrington, F.S.A., L.H.G. The Court Rolls have been translated from 3 April 23 Henry VIII [1532] through 4 April 28 Henry VIII [1537] and for 1 June 37 Henry VIII [1546]. Inquiries should be directed to the author at bllfiske@comcast.net.
133 Court Rolls [note 132], membrane 2.
134 Court Rolls [note 132], membrane 4.
135 Brigg, Herts Genealogist and Antiquary [note 15], 2:274.
136 Court Rolls [note 132], membrane 10.
Children of Robert Eliot:[137]

i. ROBERT ELIOT, of Hunsdon, tailor, b. say 1520; bur. Hunsdon 26 Jan. 1572/3. The name of his first wife is unknown. He m. (2) Hunsdon 19 Oct. 1567 JOAN HAMPTON. This was clearly a later marriage, as Robert made daughter Alice, with Philip Mills (no relation stated), executors of his estate less than six years later. The will of Robert Eliot of Hunsdon, tailor, dated 27 Jan. 15 Elizabeth [1572/3], proved 17 Feb. 1572/3,[138] has been incompletely abstracted elsewhere.[139] Robert named wife Johane; sons Robert, Matthe, Richard, George, and William; and daughter Alice. “Phillippe Mels” and daughter Alice were appointed executors with George Haines and William Parnell to be overseers. Robert Woode, John Cakebrede, and William Hampton were witnesses.

ii. THOMAS ELIOT, “of Blackcrofte,” weaver, b. say 1522; bur. Hunsdon 13 May 1588. He m. AGNES _____. At the court of the Honour of Hunsdon and Eastwick, held 21 June 38 Henry VIII [1546], Thomas Eliot was excused from attendance at court.[140] His brief will, dated June 29 Elizabeth [1587], proved 21 June 1588,[141] names only wife Agnis and daughter Katheryn. John Ellyott and George Eliott were witnesses. His widow, “Annas Eliot of Blackroste,” was bur. Hunsdon 24 Nov. 1594. Agnes’s will, dated 4 Nov. 36 Elizabeth [1594], proved 12 Dec. 1594,[142] names son George, daughter Margery Callop, daughter Katherine Kefford [sic, Kepharde]. Robert Baynes, George Eliot, and Steven Adams were witnesses.


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[137] The fact that property held by Robert Eliot in 1533 was among properties later held by John Eliot of Hunsdon, fuller (5.iii), is evidence he was a son of Robert Eliot (5). His presumed brothers, Robert Eliot (5.i) and Thomas Eliot (5.ii), both of Hunsdon, were of the right generation and were also in occupations relating to clothing trade (Robert was a tailor, Thomas was a weaver). They do not appear to have been of the other Eliot branch of Hunsdon, namely, that of John Eliot of Olives (7).

[138] Essex Record Office, Archdeaconry of Middlesex, D/AMR 3/172. The date of the will was one day after the date of the testator’s burial; evidently one of the dates was incorrectly recorded. G. Andrews Moriarty believed this testator to be the brother Robert named in the 1549 will of George Eliot of Bishops Stortford (Moriarty, “Eliot of Bishops Stortford” [note 5], Register 107:113–17); however, the brother Robert named in the 1549 will was buried at Hunsdon 10 March 1551/2 (see 5 above).

[139] Brigg, Herts Genealogist and Antiquary [note 15], 1:370. Robert Eliot’s son Robert, named in his will, was omitted from Brigg’s abstract.

[140] Court Rolls [note 132], membrane 10.


[142] Ibid., D/ABW 13/158.

[143] The 1606 will of John’s son, John Eliot of Hunsdon (see 5.iii.1 below), published in Waters, Genealogical Gleanings in England [note 4], 2:902–03, identifies “one house where my grandmother Katherine Bearman dwelleth” as well as a tenement called Little Winstowe in Hunsdon. The former is possibly related to the house called Wynslowlagat that appears in the 1565 will of Thomas Bearman of Hunsdon (abstracted in Brigg, Herts Genealogist and Antiquary [note 15], 1:74); the same property is named in the 1585 will of John Eliot of Olives (7 below) in
1584. He m. (2) MARGARET _____. The will of John Eliot of Hunsdon, fuller, was dated 8 May 1588 and proved 16 Oct. 1588. He named wife Margaret; sons John and Christopher; daughters Margaret, Elizabeth, and Bridget. To Elizabeth he left three and a half acres of free land by the name of Sammels in Hunsdon. To Bridget he left two acres in Hunsdon called Grove Bushes [possibly the two acres of land lying in Groveland surrendered to her maternal grandfather, Thomas Bereman, by Robert Elyott in April 1533, as above]. To Margaret he left two acres called Brookes. Richard Warde of Sabrbridgeworth and Phillip Elliot of Hunsdon[145] were to provide for the upbringing of his children and discharge of debts out of the profits from two acres called Copthall in Hunsdon. John Eliot made wife Margaret executor and appointed Phillip Elyot and Thomas Tuke overseers. John How the elder, Phillip Elyot, and Thomas Tuke were witnesses.

Children of John and Bridget (Bearman) Eliot; all baptisms, marriages, and burials at Hunsdon:
1. **John Eliot**, b. say 1573, m. Cicely Ireland. The will of John Eliot of Hunsdon, dated 6 Nov. 1606, proved 3 Feb. 1606/7, has been published elsewhere.[146] He named eldest son Michael, not yet 21, to whom he left “one house where my grandmother Katherine Bearman dwelleth” and six acres in Parke Croftes [Hunsdon]; youngest son John, to whom he left a tenement called little Winslowe as well as one half acre of meadow in Hunsdon meade between the river and the meadows of Sir Thomas Foster; daughter Elizabeth; sister Bridget Harrison; and father-in-law Michael Ireland. The arms of Michael Eliot, apothecary of London, appear in the Visitation of London for 1633–34, which also identifies his parents as John Eliot and Cicely Ireland, daughter of Michael Ireland.[147] As discussed previously,[148] the visitation contains the arms of Argent, a fesse gules between cottise wavy azure, seen in other arms attributed to other Eliot lines, as well as the Eliot family of Pembrokeshire, Wales. A martlet appears in the fesse for difference.
2. **Bridget Eliot**, b. say 1575, bur. 7 Aug. 1608, m. 18 Sept. 1598 Thomas Harrison.
3. **Margaret Eliot**, bp. 8 Sept. 1577.
4. **Elizabeth Eliot**, bp. 5 March 1580/1.
5. **Christopher Eliot**, bp. 19 Nov. 1587.

which he describes a “tenement called Winslowes Legates at Smithes greene in hunsdon” which he leaves to son Ferdinando (see 7.viii below as well as Part 1 of this article at p. 87). Thomas Bearman’s will names, among others, mother Alice Bearman, sister Johane Bearman, wife Katherine, son John, daughter Bridget [presumed to have married John Eliot of Hunsdon], and brother-in-law Robert Wood of Hunsdon.

[144] Essex Record Office, Commissary Court, Essex and Herts Jurisdiction, D/ABW 13/134.
[148] See Part 2 of this article at pp. 190, 195.
6. THOMAS ELIOT (ThomasC, WilliamD), of Widford, Hertfordshire, born say 1515. He died between 17 March 1557/[8?] (date of will) and 20 November 1558 (date of widow’s remarriage). He married MARGERY ____. He left a will dated 17 March 1557/[8?],[149] mentioning wife Margery, brother Simon, and children George, Thomas, Blyth, and Winifred. Executors were to be John Eliot of Olives and brother Simon Eliot.[150] His widow married second at Widford 20 November 1558 JOHN COLUBELL. As Margret Colubyne, she married third at Widford 30 October 1570, CLEMENT DAWES.[151]

Children of Thomas and Margery (______) Eliot:

i. GEORGE ELIOT, b. say 1545,[152] bur. Widford 26 Sept. 1565 as George Eliot “sonne of Thomas Eliot.” This would be consistent with his brother Thomas [6.ii below] being in possession of properties at Widford and Ware ten years later which would otherwise have passed to the eldest male heir George named in their father’s will and which were first described in the will of their grandfather ThomasC Eliot.[153]

ii. THOMAS ELIOT, b. say 1548; d. after 31 Oct 1586 when he responded to the Chancery suit abstracted in note 151. He was described as haberdasher of London when he transferred properties at Widford and Ware in Feb. 1574.[154] Children of Thomas Eliot; all baptisms at St. Mildred Poultry, London.[155]

2. Thomas Eliot, bp. 4 Aug. 1576.

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149 For this will see Part 1 of this article at pp. 87–89.
150 John Eliot of Olives was also the testator’s brother.
151 For Margery’s last two marriages see Part 1 of this article at p. 89. Francis Collumbell of Fange, Essex, yeoman, and sole executor of the will of Clement Dawes late of Fange, brought suit in Chancery Court against Thomas Eliot in or before 1586 (The National Archives, C2/ELIZ/C2/39; spelling in this abstract has been modernized): Thomas Eliott in the lifetime of the said Clement had an interest in lands in Ware, Herts in which Margery wife of the said Clement Dawes and mother of Thomas Elliott had an interest by jointure and dower. Thomas Elliott in need of money was unable to sell the lands for the best price unless his mother released her interest. Coerced her into releasing her interest and that of Clement Dawes in return for annuity of £10 a year for the life of Margery and became bound to them in £100 for the payment thereof. Did not pay for ten years and also persuaded mother to hand over the bond. Clement Dawes often requested payment. Also about eight years ago bargained and sold Thomas Eliott thirty quarters of wheat and bound himself for delivery thereof in the sum of £40. Thomas having removed all the deeds and evidences pursues the executor for £40. The answer of Thomas Eliot, sworn the last day of October 1586, makes no mention of his brother George having survived childhood, but includes mention of two sisters: Thomas Eliott late of Wydforde in co Herts yeoman was seized in his demesne of lands in Wydforde and Ware and married Margery and had issue this defendant and two daughters. Upon his death Margery married Clement Dawes.
152 The will of Thomas Eliot allowed wife Margery the use of certain lands for nine years, after which their eldest son George probably would have reached his majority.
153 See Part 1 of this article at p. 89 n. 19.
154 Ibid.
155 Parish registers of St. Mildred Poultry, London [FHL 0,374,989].
iii. Winifred Eliot, b. say 1552; m. (1) Henry Edgeott by license dated 11 Feb. 1576/7 between Henry Edgott and Winifred Elliott, spinster, at St. Mildred-in-the-Poultry, London. Henry Edgeott was bur. at Great Holland, Essex, 1 Nov. 1590. She m. (2) there 6 April 1592 William Beane. She d. probably before 24 Oct. 1603 when, as William Beane of Goldhanger, Essex, yeoman, he made a will not naming a wife but naming (among others) sons-in-law William Edgyott of Gravesend, Kent, and Stephen Edgiott of London, as well as daughter-in-law Sara Edgyott, not yet 22.

Children of Henry and Winifred (Eliot) Edgeott; both baptisms at Great Holland, Essex:
1. William Edgeott.

iv. Blyth Eliot, b. say 1555; m. possibly John Mills of Widford whose will dated 12 June 1597, proved 5 July 1597, names wife Blyth (to be executor); sons John and William; and daughters Joan and Alice. “Mr Elliot” and John Adam were to be overseers, and Bennet Eliot was one of the witnesses.

7. John Eliot (Thomas, William), of Olives, Hunsdon, Hertfordshire, was born say 1517. He was buried at Hunsdon 13 May 1585. He may have been married twice, and his second wife was probably ______ Underwood. The will of John Eliot of Olives, dated 22 April 1585, proved May 1585, and transcribed above, named children William (eldest son, with children), Jeffrey, Ferdinando (not yet 28), Henry (not yet 24), and Margery. John named son Philip as sole executor, with James Campe and George Underwood of Roydon to act as

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156 Chester and Armytage, Allegations for Marriage Licences, 1520–1610 [note 114], 74.
157 Parish registers of Great Holland, Essex [FHL 1,565,719 Item 29]. On 23 December 1590, a commission was granted to John James “next of kin to Henry Edgeott late of Great Holland in the county of Essex deceased,” but on 3 July 1591 this was annulled with administration granted to Winifred Edgeott, relict of Henry Edgeott (Prerogative Court of Canterbury, Administrations, 1590, The National Archives, PROB 6/4 folios 160 and 182).
158 Essex Record Office, Commissary Court, Essex and Herts Jurisdiction, D/ABW 6/193 [FHL 0,094,346]. The will was proved 12 March 1604/5.
159 Essex Record Office, Archdeaconry of Middlesex, D/AMR 5A/72.
160 As shown below, John Eliot named James Camp and George Underwood overseers. Presumably these men were George Underwood who married at Hunsdon 17 June 1555 Ales Cramphorn, and James Campe who married there 8 August 1564 Katheryne Elliot. John Eliot’s connection to James Camp was obviously through his daughter, Katherine (Eliot) Camp. George Underwood was probably Eliot’s brother-in-law, son of George Underwood of Gilston, Hertfordshire, whose will dated 15 March 6 Edward VI [1551/2] named the following and their legacies: sons John [26s. 8d.], George [26s. 8d.], Denis [20s.], Christopher [20s.], and Robert [20s.]; daughter Joan [20s.]; and the following women, all of whom received the same lesser sum of 6s. 8d. and who are presumed to be granddaughters (since their legacies total 26s. 8d.): Alis Elyott, Margaret Throwgood, Alis Malden, and Joan Pirry. George Underwood named wife Alice and John Eliott, no relation stated, to be executors with Christopher Pyrry as overseer (Essex Record Office, Commissary Court, Essex and Herts Jurisdiction, D/ABW 38/170).
161 See Part 1 of this article at pp. 86–87.
overseers. In addition to the lease of his farm Olives, where he “now dwelled” (which ultimately passed to Philip), John left his rights “in a tenement called Winslowes Legates at Smithes greene in hunsdon” to son Ferdinando.\footnote{162}

Children of John Eliot (if his second wife was _____ Underwood, she was probably the mother of all the children except Katherine who was not mentioned in the will of George Underwood, dated 15 March 1551/2; see note 160):

i. **KATHERINE ELIOT**, b. say 1541. She was not named in her father’s will probably because she had received her portion at marriage. She m. Hunsdon 8 Aug. 1564 **JAMES CAMPE** who was named as an overseer in her father’s 1585 will.\footnote{163}

ii. ?**ALICE ELIOT**, b. say 1545; named in the will of George Underwood, dated 15 March 1551/2.

iii. **WILLIAM ELIOT**, b. say 1547; bur. Hunsdon 23 March 1618/9. William Eliot of Hunsdon, husbandman, left a will dated 21 March 1613/4, proved 6 May 1619\footnote{164} mentioning sons Henry and Edward (and Edward’s daughters Judith, Mary and Martha), and daughters Margaret and Elizabeth (both unmarried). As executor he named son Edward and as overseer James Eliot “parsonne of Raylye in Essex” (relation not stated, but presumably his nephew, son of his brother Philip; see 7.v.4 below). William Collum, William Peake, and Edward Eliot were witnesses.

iv. **JEFFREY ELIOT**, bp. Hunsdon 25 Oct. 1549. The will of Jeffrey Eliotte of Hunsdon, husbandman, was dated 4 April 1591, proved in 1597\footnote{165} naming (among others) George Rove the younger; sister Easter wife of brother Ferdinando; Frances Bushe; godson Henry Eliotte (less than 21); two of brother William’s youngest daughters now living (less than 21); and sister Margery Foster. Jeffrey named brother Ferdinando as executor and John Blacks of Epping as supervisor. The identification of sister Margery Foster confirms that she was the Margery Eliot who m. Andrew Foster (see 7.vi below).

v. **PHILIP ELIOT** of Olives, bp. Hunsdon 20 Dec. 1551; bur. there 19 Feb. 1591/2. He m. Hunsdon 28 Nov. 1580 **KATHERINE WOOD**. The will of Philip Eliot, dated 9 Feb. 1591, proved 6 March 1591[/2], has been published elsewhere.\footnote{166} He named, among others, sister Margery; brethren Ferdinando and Henry; brothers William Eliot and Jeffrey Eliot; daughters Epha, Lidia, Hester, and Mary Eliot, all less than 18 and unmarried; and sons James and Daniel, both less than 18. He named his wife Katherine as sole executrix, with brother Ferdinando Eliot to act as overseer with Thomas Wood and William Wood “my wife’s brethren.” Following Philip’s death, Katherine (Wood) Eliot m. (2) Hunsdon 7 Feb 1593/4 **John Millet**, bur. Hunsdon 3 Aug. 1603. His will, dated 22 July 1603, proved 28 April 1604, has been published elsewhere.\footnote{167} In his

\footnote{162 This is almost certainly the same property named in the 1565 will of Thomas Bearman, father-in-law of John’s first cousin John Eliot (5.iii).}

\footnote{163 Essex Record Office, Commissary Court, Essex and Herts Jurisdiction: D/ABW 13/258.}

\footnote{164 Probate Records of the Commissary Court of the Diocese of London, Registered Will, vol. 18, folio 388 [FHL 0,094,101].}

\footnote{165 Waters, *Genealogical Gleanings in England* [note 4], 2:911–12.}

\footnote{166 Ibid., 2:900.}
will John Millet gave details regarding an indenture he made with Thomas Woode of Harlow, Essex, shoemaker, William Woode of Epping, Essex, shoemaker, and “Farnando Elliott” of Epping, innholder, to pay to James Eliot, “my now wife Katherine’s eldest son,” £40, with identical sums to his brother Daniel Eliot at 21 and to his sisters Elpha, Lidia, Hester, and Mary Eliot, at 21 or at marriage, plus “such legacies, gifts or bequests” his wife Katherine might be charged with as executrix of the will of Philip Eliot, her former husband.

Children of Philip and Katherine (Wood) Eliot; all baptisms, marriages and burials at Hunsdon:

2. Effa Eliot (twin), bp. 1 March 1582/3, m. 21 Nov. 1602 Edward Hellam.
3. Lydia Eliot (twin), bp. 1 March 1582/3, m. 19 Nov. 1604 William Shellie.
4. James Eliot, bp. 28 Dec. 1584. Graduated from King’s College, Cambridge (B.A. 1601–02, M.A. 1606; ordained Deacon 1 March 1606/7 and Priest 25 Sept. 1609) and served as rector of Rayleigh, Essex. [167] The will of James Eliot of Rayleigh, Essex, clerk, published elsewhere, [168] dated 19 May 1623, and proved 14 July 1623, mentioned many properties, including his “lease called Olives in Hunsdon” which he left to his son Phillip Eliot.
6. Hester Eliot, bp. 1 Sept. 1588.

vi. Margery Eliot, bp. Hunsdon 17 March 1554/5; d. after 4 April 1591 when she was mentioned in the will of her brother Jeffrey (7.iv). She m. Hunsdon 17 May 1584 Andrew Foster. [169]


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[167] See Part 1 of this article at p. 86, n. 11.
[169] Margery Eliot’s husband may have been the Andrew Foster who was buried at Gilston, Hertfordshire, 13 November 1621 (parish registers of Gilston [FHL 0,991,374]), presumably identical with Andrew Foster of Gilston, yeoman, who left an undated nuncupative will, proved in 1622, which names Samuel and Elizabeth Petchey to receive the remainder of his estate following the decease of his wife, unnamed. No children are identified. Joseph and John Foster, sons of his brother Michael, are mentioned (Essex Record Office, Commissary Court, Essex and Herts Jurisdiction, D/ABW 13/258). While it is tempting to think that Andrew and Margery (Eliot) Foster might be the parents of Andrew [1] Foster of Andover, Massachusetts, the author has not found any documentation to support the possibility that the couple had any surviving male heirs.

[170] Parish registers of Epping, Essex [FHL 1,472,222], which also contain entries for a William Eliot, whose relationship (if any) to the family treated in this article is unknown. These entries begin with the marriage of William Eliot and Agnes Hare 29 April 1544, followed by baptisms of three children (no parents given): Clement Eliot on 28 February 1544/5, Joane Eliot on 12 January 1549/50, and Hewghe Eliot on 7 September 1563, and ending with the burial of William Eliot on 1 April 1566.

[171] Parish registers of Waltham Holy Cross, Essex [FHL 1,526,972].
ix.  HENRY ELIOT, bp. Hunsdon 18 Oct 1563; d. after 22 April 1585, the date of his father’s will.

8. SIMONB ELIOT (ThomasC, WilliamD) was born say 1520. He died before 9 April 1562, when his widow Jane was granted rights to property for the term of her life by the court of the Manor of Much Hadham.[172] He married first KATHERINE HAYNES, daughter of John Haynes of Much Hadham.[173] He married second JANE ______. In his 1572 will, Bennet Averell of Sawbridgeworth, Hertfordshire, made a bequest of 20s. to godson Bennet Aylet. If this “Bennet Aylet” was Simon Eliot’s son, Bennet Eliot, it raises the possibility that either Simon or Jane (_____ ) Eliot was related to the family of Bennet Averell, which has been summarized elsewhere.[174] Bennet Averell’s granddaughter, Elizabeth Sibthorpe, married Philip1 Eliot (BenettA).[175]

Following Simon’s death, Jane (_____ ) Eliot married second by 3 May 1580, John Adams.[176] Quite possibly she was the “ux Adams” who appeared as a witness to the baptism of Martha Sibthorpe, sister of Elizabeth (Sibthorpe) Eliot, at Thorley, Hertfordshire, on 15 July 1593.[177] The 1597 will of John Mills, witnessed by Bennet Eliot, named John Adam to be an overseer; presumably he was either Bennet Eliot’s stepfather or a stepbrother.[178]

Child of Simon and Jane (_____ ) Eliot:

12  i.  BENNET ELIOT, m. LETTICE ALGER.

(to be continued)

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172 See Part 1 of this article at pp. 89–90.
173 See Part 1 of this article at p. 90 n. 21.
175 See Part 1 of this article at p. 90.
177 See 6.iv above.
Review of Books and CD-ROMs*


Original records of the Boston Overseers of the Poor for 1733–1925 are at the Massachusetts Historical Society and have been microfilmed. None of these records have been previously published, and this volume has been long-awaited by genealogists and historians alike. The Foreword describes the few pre-1800 records that were omitted from the volume, principally the warnings out (for 1745–1773 and 1791–1792) because they would require a separate volume of equal length.

This volume contains the following records:

• Almshouse census and inventory, 1756;
• Almshouse admissions, 1758–1800;
• Almshouse birth and deaths, 1756–1771;
• Children bound out, 1756–1790; and
• Three sets of financial records, 1738–1800.

As can be seen, the bulk of the records published concern the Almshouse which once stood on the Boston Common opposite the present-day State House. Here were housed the sick, the “undeserving poor,” the mentally ill, and those unable to care for themselves, including aged slaves. The Overseers recorded place of birth of each resident and attempted to bill those places for their natives now in the Almshouse, in accordance with English custom and law. Unfortunately, the book contains no index of places (or of African Americans or Indians).

Transcription for publication was by Robert J. Dunkle whose careful work is well known to NEHGS members as he has produced numerous, books, CD-ROMs, and databases for the Society. This book will be an important source for research in the second half of the eighteenth century for Boston and environs — and spur the use of the unpublished original records, for which there is a Guide to the Microfilm Edition on the website of the Massachusetts Historical Society.


* Unsigned reviews are by the editor.

For years the late Roberta Stokes Smith worked on the family of Thomas¹ Clemence. This culminated in her article in the April 2001 Register on the first few generations of his descendants, co-authored with Gordon L. Remington. Before Mrs. Smith died in 2002, she arranged with Jane Fletcher Fiske, a leading Rhode Island expert, to continue the work on the family. This book is the result — and what a fine result it is.

As can be seen from the two-page chart in the introductory pages, Thomas Clemence did not leave a large number of male-line descendants (only six great-great-grandsons), so this family was of a manageable size, even to trace to the present. Descendants of daughters have been continued to their grandchildren, when known. Mrs. Fiske’s encyclopedic knowledge of Rhode Island families is evident, particularly at pages 51, 90–92, where she shows that it is likely Elizabeth, wife of Thomas³ Clemence, was Elizabeth Olney.

This book is a fitting tribute to Roberta Stokes Smith who, with her husband, the late Dean Crawford Smith, were passionate genealogists and major benefactors of NEHGS.


With each new volume in the Great Migration series, we have an increasingly better chance of finding an authoritative account of the first two generations of a family of interest as well as commentary on the quality of genealogies of descendants, if any exist. So, for example, the author describes the 1911 Pendleton genealogy as having “exceptional documentation for the time.” Sorting out colonists with the same surname is particularly useful for researchers. This volume has no shortage of examples (Marshall, Martin, Morse, Newman, Norton, Parker, Pell, and Potter), and even has two sets of entries for three men with the same first and last names (William Paine and John Palmer). As with previous volumes, there are entries for people who cannot be satisfactorily identified or who embarked from England but who left no records in New England.

As usual, the Index of First Names yields some new delights, like Discovered Olney, Opportunity Hoppin, Pandora Sparrow, Suretrust Starr, and Takeheed Munnings.

Ancestor tables rarely make enjoyable reading but this book is an exception. As many Americans know, the Princess of Wales had an American great-grandmother, Frances Eleanor Work, later Lady Fermoy. Her ancestry has already been presented in print. The other seven great-grandparents had mostly British Isles ancestry (English, Scottish, and Irish), ranging from illegitimate children of seventeenth-century English monarchs to nobility to gentry to middle-class Scots. But there is European ancestry, too, notably Dutch, German, French, and Danish; these lines are highlighted in the Preface.

Documentation for each couple is given in Notes in a 122-page section that includes commentary on identification problems and mentions American colonists descended from the couple. Colonists to Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Virginia are listed in an article by Gary Boyd Roberts in the Holiday 2007 issue of New England Ancestors at page 57. Colonists elsewhere include Gov. Samuel Ogle of Maryland (as noted by the author) and Caleb Heathcote of New York, brother of Sir Gilbert Heathcote in the tenth generation (new). No doubt there were hundreds, even thousands of immigrants to America during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries who have ancestors in common with the Princess of Wales for twelve generations.

The book is punctuated by biographical sketches of major historical figures mentioned, as well as an eight-page insert of illustrations in color. The author and the genealogists thanked in the Acknowledgments are to be congratulated for producing this major work.


This book includes fifty-seven meticulously transcribed tax lists, each list and its location carefully identified. While there may be several for some years, there are gaps. Some lists are valuation bills showing the rateable estates and some are rate bills listing the calculated taxes on polls and estates. Estates included not just land and buildings, but also livestock, slaves, money, silver, bills of credit, vessels, and cargoes. Debts could be deducted from the value of the estate.

One of the most valuable uses of these lists is to distinguish between two taxpayers with the same name. Many males paid poll tax although they owned no taxable property, and the lists include many who are not in any of the several eighteenth-century Rhode Island censuses.

– Helen Schatvet Ullmann

In the mid-eighteenth century a group of Connecticut men organized the Susquehanna Company to purchase lands in the Wyoming Valley in northeastern Pennsylvania from Native Americans and settle there, with blithe disregard for Pennsylvania’s claim to the territory. And in 1770 the Connecticut Assembly recognized the settled area as part of Litchfield County, Connecticut, even though it was hundreds of miles away! In 1778 the Wyoming Valley was the scene of Loyalist raids, but many settlers later returned. Under the Articles of Confederation in 1782 Connecticut was denied any rights to lands in Pennsylvania, and as a result, settlers had to file claims with Pennsylvania to obtain clear title.

As explained by the author in an article in the Holiday 2007 issue of New England Ancestors, she entered data from the account books of the Susquehanna Company and other sources, and then sorted it three different ways to produce the three books: by proprietor (someone who bought from the company or from a proprietor), by settler (someone who actually was there), and by claimant (someone who filed a claim with Pennsylvania after 1782 to acquire clear title).

For someone interested in this area, these three books are an essential new resource.


An increasingly popular type of book involves placing one’s ancestors in the context of American history. And when done as thoughtfully and skillfully as the authors of this book have done, the results can be very worthwhile and interesting to read. Researchers considering this type of book for themselves or for clients should look at this book as a potential model, especially when the families in question lived in various parts of the United States at various times. A longer genealogical appendix, better arranged and with documentation, would have been welcome.

To produce North American Wills Registered in London, 1611–1857, Peter Wilson Coldham has expanded his 1992 work, American Wills Proved in London, 1611–1775, in four ways. First, he has listed (and sometimes abstracted) wills newly found using the online index to Prerogative Court of Canterbury wills on the website of The National Archives (formerly the Public Record Office). Second, he has extended the years covered up to 1857. Third, he has included Canada. And fourth, he has included wills proved in the Commissary Court and Archdeaconry Court of London.

The result is a very valuable book with much new information, correcting errors in the online index, providing access to variant spellings of surnames, and including exact citations to the wills. With a work of this complexity, there are bound to be errors, as other reviewers have pointed out. A good example is finding the will of a Loyalist ancestor, Daniel Van Mater of Freehold, New Jersey, supposedly proved 9 August 1778 (cited as PROB 11/1169), with the detail about his children shown under the will of Harry Munro of Charleston, South Carolina, Captain of the 71st Regiment of Foot (cited as PROB 11/1167). The online index shows Van Mater’s will was proved 9 August 1788 (which conforms to probate in New Jersey), and presumably the registered copies of the two wills didn’t transpose the heirs.

Coldham’s earlier works on American wills and administrations in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury are still valuable because they contain abstracts of the act books (i.e., the probate), not of the registered copies of wills. And, of course, the information on administrations is not to be found elsewhere.


This useful book is based on a multipart article in the Register in 1988–89, “Seventeenth-Century Hull, Massachusetts, and Her People,” by Ethel Farrington Smith. Up to the time of her death, Mrs. Smith was working on a history of early Hull and on updating her accounts of its families. This book is the culmination of her research, with several other genealogists making important contributions, notably Richard H. Benson. Not surprisingly, the book is very useful for early settlers of other nearby towns when those settlers had some connection to Hull. Most accounts give three or four generations of the family.

This little volume is not only entertaining, it is enlightening. Some twenty-five well-written stories from New England court records provide a lively picture of the various shenanigans that went on in the “olden days.” From “The Witch at the Top of the Stairs,” and “A Woman of ‘Enthusiastical Power,’” through “Selling Silvanus Warro,” and “The Purloined Pigs,” to “Captain Barefoot Goes to Court,” these excerpts portray a whole range of miscreants, including Lydia Wardell, who protested the persecution of Quakers by disrobing in the Newbury, Massachusetts, church in April 1663. Detailed endnotes and often amusing illustrations round out the picture.

– Helen Schatvet Ullmann

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