

Genealogy of a Part of the Wodell Family, From 1640 to 1880

With Notices of Some Other Families, and
a Condensed Biography of the Author As
Written by Himself



ELI WODELL





GENEALOGY

OF A PART OF THE

WODELL FAMILY

FROM 1640 TO 1880,

WITH NOTICES OF SOME OTHER FAMILIES, COPIES OF ANCIENT
INTERESTING DOCUMENTS; AND A CONDENSED

BIOGRAPHY

OF THE AUTHOR AS WRITTEN BY HIMSELF

ELI WODELL

1880

Every *matured* man, should make a mark ; a bright one if possible, a dark one in preference to none.—Author.

To all of the present and future descendants of
the illustrious and honorable William and Mary
WODELL, who cherish their memory and own their
proper names, repudiating such corruptions as illiter-
acy, indifference, and carelessness, may have intro-
duced; this little book, with the well wishes of the
author, is dedicated.

CS
71
023

1880 The Ten Generations in brief.

First Geh. William Wodell or Wm. and Mary of Warwick, and later of Portsmouth, R. I. William 1st. p 36.

2d Gen. The children of Wm. and Mary; Mary *W* who was born 1640, the earliest known birth of a Wodell in America md Daniel Grinnell; Gershom *W*, Gershom first md Mary Tripp (afterwards Mary Gechel) born 1642; Sarah *W* md Samuel Sanford; Frances *W* md John Anthony; Alice *W* md Abram Anthony.

3d Gen. The four brothers sons of Gershom 1st viz Wm *W*; *Gershom W* Gershom 2d whose wife was Sarah, and who made the will p 20; Richard *W*; Return *W*; also Ruth *W* who md Stephen Manchester; and Mary *W* who md George Lawton.

4th Gen. The two brothers Wm 3d who md Elizabeth Borden and *Gershom* 3d md Mary Gage sons of Gershom 2d also his five daughters as named in his will p 20. Innocent, one of the daughters md Peleg Sherman.

5th Gen. The children of the two brothers being William Innocent, Ruth, Borden, Gershom 4th, and Patience; also Gershom 5th, *Phineas*, Thomas, Silas, Susanna, Mary, Constant and Lavina Wodell; those whose families are more minutely described on pages 40 to 61 inclusive. Phineas being my grandfather.

6th Gen. My father Benjamin *W* and his class, being too many to be named here see Margins p 40 to 61.

7th Gen. Myself Eli *W* and my class see the first name in each sub-lateral p 40 to 60.

8th Gen. My children and their class, each name preceded in the sub-laterals by this figure.

9th Gen. My grandchildren and their class each name preceded by the parallel lines thus =

10th Gen. My great-grandchildren if I have any and their class. Each name preceded by a single dash thus —

Preface.

It is much to be regretted, that people do not take some pains, to keep alive some knowledge, of their relations ; to transmit to posterity whatever they may know of their ancestry ; and to know and to hand down facts, and relationships. If one quarter of men and women, would exercise a little interest in such matters ; and one out of every hundred take some pains to collect and write them, our present ignorance of these matters would not exist.

Most of people have a desire to know something of their relatives and ancestry ; and yet there is many a man even in New England, and even in this boasted day of schools and books, who can scarcely tell the names, and places of residence, of his four grand-parents ; such ignorance is inexcusable, showing, among other things, that we have little or no veneration for our ancestry ; at least not enough to induce us to exercise a little care in handing it down. The heathen and wild savage, is, in many cases ahead of us, in this respect, and should put our boasted cultivation to blush.

To know who were my fore-fathers, from what part of Europe, they came, where they first settled &c, has been with me an object of solicitude for sixty years past. I would sacrifice much, to get a good view of writings of a member of our family, whose views and tastes were similar to mine ; and who wrote on that subject 100, or 150 years ago. How often have I reflected on the gratification which I might find, in searching such a work, whether in print, or in manuscript.

I have made many inquiries of aged people ; I have searched town records ; I have travelled considerably ; I have met with some success ; more would be desirable ; I am satisfied that my

name was among the early settlers of Rhode Island, I find them as early as 1640. I cannot doubt that some of them bore arms against the celebrated, and for a time dreaded Indian King Philip. I have proved that one of them, then an old man, was called on to assist in devising means to resist him and it is not unlikely that his son and sons-in-law were soldiers in that very sanguinary contest. But I have never yet, and perhaps never shall, ascertain what part of Europe they came from.

I will however note one fact which *may* throw a faint light on the subject. In 1865 I was in Dublin, the capital of Ireland, near which city I saw "Wardwell" in the sign of a large mercantile establishment (on the mutilation of names hereafter) It may be that this Irish merchant is one of my 20th cousins.

Some sixty years ago, I began to collect and record statists and facts, as I happened to meet with them, revising and enlarging my collection, at different periods, and as I am now 75, *this*, most likely will be my last effort in that line.

I have wished to get a few copies printed. First, to keep alive the names and memories of my venerable and respectable ancestors ; Second to give my posterity a chance, to know something of their relatives, I still have such a desire and hope to be able to gratify it during the present year. I have taken liberties with the characters of a few of the persons named. I have told the truth, whether it be to praise, or to blame and execrate, such individuals.

On the mutilation of names: Our proper name is WODELL our ancestors all wrote it so ; others wrote it differently, not knowing any better ; none of *us* ever wrote it differently till some time in the present century. Now the most of them write it *Wor-dell* some of my own children undutifully and in defiance of my known wishes, write *Wardell*, it has been written and printed about a dozen different ways, and this fact renders it difficult to know in some cases, whether the individual is or is not, of our race. During the war of the Rebellion, one of the rebel cruisers was commanded by *Waddell*, this pirate was probably one of our degenerate cousins ; there was not long ago a member of Congress from North Carolina with a similar name. Ethan Allen, the hero of Ticonderoga, in his narrative of his sufferings as a prisoner of war ; at and after the battle of Long Island (August 1776) in-

stances the case of General Odell or Woodhull who was hacked to pieces with cutlasses when alive, Allen, evidently did not know the proper orthography of the name ; he must have heard it spoken, and adapted an orthography of his own ; the best that he knew. This is evident from his trying twice. In all probability this General, whatever his true name, was a second or third cousin of my grand-father Phineas. In fact I find a great many such mutilations and corruptions.

Another piece of folly, which has given me much trouble, is that of giving to each child three or four names, instead of one besides the fathers name. Until the last 60 years very few persons had more than two names each. In all of my researches I think I never met with a person of three names, previous to that of P. T. Wodell my uncle, who died June 1878. It is not only folly, but is mischievous, and may make trouble, more especially as it is quite common to use in every day use other than the first name, a person may be known as John Smith whose real name as he writes it is Thomas J. Smith ; some again with several names, have a happy faculty of using sometimes one sometimes another, as fancy or caprice may lead. This is wrong, as it gives the person a chance to be roguish if so disposed. The child should take the fathers name as legitimate children generally do, that exact name, and never add a letter or a syllable (This is due to our ancestors in order to keep up their true name) ; or erase one. The mother, or somebody else should give it another name, and let that suffice ; but if a child must have more than two names, it should always be called in general usage by its first one. It should leave, nearly out of sight, the middle name.

I object to another thing in this connection, certain names very dissimilar from each other, are said to mean the same person. Elizabeth may be called Bet, or Betsy, or Eliza, or Lizzie ; and Mary may be called Polly, or Molly, with full propriety ; if she chooses, I do not know what authority or right there is for this. If my children may call themselves *Wardell* why may not the next generation call itself *Bardell* another *Bumzell* then *Bumshell &c.* : who knows where it would end if unrestricted I do not wish to be the ancestor of Bumshells, or Bumtails.

William and Gershom have been pet names in our family for at least two centuries past. It seems as if each generation was

ambitious of retaining both of these names; in this case there may have been some propriety in adding a middle *letter* if they would keep that letter still, and unobtrusive. I have occasion to record William 6th Gershom 7th &c. Now when I find Gershom A Wordell, and generally known as Bial Wordell, I do not give him the post of Gershom 8th for which he was probably designed; nor shall I admit *Willie* who writes his name so, to be William the 8th or anything of the kind. *Willie* is not *William*, *Gershom* *Abiel* is not *Gershom*.

I am not pretending by any means, that I have collected and accounted for even one twentieth part of the descendants of Wm. 1st or William and Mary. I have only named such as I could find. It must be borne in mind that many of our early people migrated West. It is probably that his descendants now live in every state of the Union; and perhaps more than half of the *counties* in the United States have in each of them, a Wardell, Wardwell, Waddell, Woodwell, Wudall, Woodwill, Woodhill, *Wordell*, Odell, Ordell, or some other corruption. Besides many names connected with ours by marriage which has taken birth from illiteracy, who are descendants of the illustrious William and Mary. *Hodel* was the Prussian who a year or two ago shot at his king and lost his head by it, April 9, 1880.

Verbatim extracts from old deeds. Copied partly to preserve the antique modes of expression, April 1880.

To all persons to whom these presents shall come or may concern I William Wodell of Pocasset in the county of Bristol within his majesty, territory or Dominion of New England in America send greeting Know ye that I the said William Wodell for and in consideration of the just and full sum of fourscore pound in money to me in hand already paid by my Grandfather William Wodell of Portsmouth on Rhode Island in the county of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations in New England aforesaid have given granted bargained and sold unto the said William Wodell my said Grandfather his heirs and assigns forever one whole share or thirtieth part of all that tract of land at Pocasset and places adjacent in the county of Bristol aforesaid being bounded as followeth viz Northward and Westward by the freemans lot near the Fall River and westward by the bay or sound that runneth between the said land and Rhode Island Southward partly by a line that is set at a great rock on which is a cedar bush marked near the way that leadeth to Punkatest Eastward to a pond at Dartmouth town bounds and westward to Sapponset creek mouth and partly by Dartmouth bounds and Northward up into the woods to Middlebury town bounds and quinquisset pond * * * * * * * * * * The present deed doth evidence that I the said William Wodell have sold the same with all my right title and interest therein unto my said Grandfather the said William Wodell his heirs and assigns forever for him the said William Wodell the elder his heirs and assigns * * * * * * * * * * * *

In witness whereof I the said William the younger have hereunto set my hand and seal as also Ruth Wodell the wife of me the said William * * * * * * * * the thirteenth day of the month called February in the year of the Lord one thousand six hundred eighty-eight 168⁸

William Wodell junior L S
Ruth Wodell L S

* * * * * * * * * * * * * Know ye that I the said Jacob Mott for and in consideration of the just and full sum of forty pounds in money or moneys worth * * * * * by William Wodell Junior of Portsmouth aforesaid * * * * * do fully clearly and absolutely give grant bargain sell alien enfeoff and confirm unto the said William Wodell his heirs and assigns forever the one half or moiety of one whole share or thirtieth part of all that tract of land in Pocasset and places adjacent in the collony new plymouth in the said New England being bounded as follows viz northward and westward by the freemans lot near the Fall River and westward by the bay or sound that runneth between the said land and Rhode Island Southward partly by a line that is set at a great rock on which is a cedar bush marked near the way that leadeth to Punkatest Eastward to a pond at Dartmouth town bounds and westward to Sapponet creeks mouth and partly by Dartmouth bounds and northward up into the woods to middlebury town bounds and quinquisset pond * * * * * * * * the twenty eighth day of November in the six and thirtieth year of the reign of his majesty Charles the second of England Scotland France and Ireland &c King and in the year of the Lord one thousand six hundred Eighty four.

* * * * * * * * * I Edward Gray of Little Compton in the county of Bristol in New England in America * * *

For and in consideration of the just and full sum of twenty pounds in money to me in hand already paid before the ensealing and delivery of these presents by William Wodell of Portsmouth on in the county of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations in New England aforesaid * * * * * * *

In witness whereof I the said Edward Gray have hereunto set my hand and seal the sixth day of the twelfth month called February in the fifth year of the reign of his majesty James the second of England Scotland France and Ireland &c King and in the year of the Lord one thousand six hundred Eighty Eight 1688

February the twelfth month. This will be understood when it is remembered that in those times the year was supposed to commence in March the 25th of month. It is perhaps more for this reason than any other, that I have copied or extracted this fragment Eli W. See p 19.

A Protest

Our true name is WODELL and we have no moral right, whatever the law, to repudiate it ; our ancestors for the first 150 years in this country, all wrote it so, and *nearly all* did for the first 200 years, and to repudiate the name is committing rank injustice towards them, and I here reiterate my protest against it.

Our ancestors here were certainly worthy and respectable people in their day ; we should love them not simply because they were our ancestors, though that is something ; but, because they planted us in this country. Look at the starving peasantry in Ireland, (England not much better) at the present time ; then if you can realize that but for these worthies, *we* might now have been a portion of that starving peasantry, can you resist a feeling of respect, love, and veneration, for those who encountering many perils and difficulties, crossed a boisterous Atlantic, not, mind ye, a week or a ten days passage in a spacious and comfortable steamer, but a two or three months passage in a filthy and crowded sailing vessel ; conquered the savage, hewed down the forests, and made the country such as we now see it ; can you I say fail to cherish their memories and own the name which they have bequeathed to you ? Let me my cousins of every grade implore you to turn to your duty, resume the proper name, and frown, as I do, on such as despise it.

Let me also ask as a favor of such as have occasion to *print* our name, that they print the right name, and not its corruptions. I ask it of you not only as a favor, but as a matter of justice. You are not to be blamed for past mistakes in this matter, you print it as many of us write it, but may I not plead successfully with you, to take the initiative, in endeavoring to restore to our defrauded ancestry their just rights ?

Explanation of Certain Dates.

In many ancient documents, old gravestones &c may be found dates of this character, 168 $\frac{1}{2}$ 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ &c and some of these, I have had occasion to copy into this work ; *some* at this day may be unable to understand them ; I propose to explain. Formerly it was customary to begin the calendar year, with the 25th of March. In 1751, the British parliament passed an act, making the year thenceforward, begin with January 1st, which is the present rule in all British, and most other Christian countries, Jan. 1st, begins a new year.

But many people of that day could not readily be induced to adopt the change. It is hard for most persons to abandon long established customs, and this was such. Hence it sometimes became necessary to insert two dates ; one to meet the law, the other to satisfy old custom. Take for instance Gershoms Will p 20 to 22 dated January one thousand seven hundred ten, eleven, by the old rule it was 1710 by the new 1711 both dates must be expressed, and this was the way to do it. 17 $\frac{1}{2}$.

This will also explain the seeming incongruity of Edward Gray p 17, where he says "the twelfth month called February." If March was the *first* month, February of course was the twelfth. I now meet with the objection that the dates here criticized are anterior to 1751. In Catholic countries the new rule had long been in practice. England had repudiated Catholicism as a government ; but it lingered with individuals, who felt obligated by their religion to adopt the new rule in some sense. Hence two dates one to meet the law, the other to gratify Catholicism.

Copied from a collection of Ancient Documents in April 1880.

The Last Will and Testament of Gershom Wodell of Tiverton in the county of Bristol in New England is as followeth all persons whom these presents may concern Know ye that I the said Gershom Wodell Through the Mercy of God being perfect in mind and of a sound Memory but very Ill of Body for the preventing further Trouble Amongst my Children do make this my last* and Testament as followeth

Imp Ennis I do give and bequeath unto my Eldest Son and heir William Wodell my Land and House on which my now Dwelling House Stands to him the Said William Wodell and to his Male heir Lawfully begotten of his own Body one Shear being Six Score Acres or thereabouts being the first Division to Come into possession of the aforesaid premises at the Age one and Twenty Years Item I do give unto my youngest son Gershom Wodell one half shear of the first Division unto him the sd Gershom Wodell and to his Male heir Lawfully begotten of his own body to Come into possession at the Age of one and Twenty If either of my above sd sons die without a male heir Lawfully Begotten of his Body then the survivor if no other Brother Living shall be full possession of Both Parcells But if the above sd William Wodell dies then shall the land be equally divided amongst the succeeding Brothers But if the above sd Gershom Wodell Dies and any other Surviving Besides William Wodell then shall he

*Probably the word will.

have the above sd Gershom Wodells half shear aforementioned to him and his male heirs Lawfully begotten of h's own Body The Lands which I the said Gershom Wodell have given to William Wodell my eldest son and Gershom Wodell my youngest or any other Brother Surviving to them and their male heirs Lawfully begotten of their own Body as it is given above sd but if there Survive but one son then do I the said Gershom Wodell bequeath and give to him and his male heir Lawfully begotten of his Body forever all the above sd Lands but if there is no son survives then shall my Lands be equally divided amongst my Daughters their heirs and assigns forever Item I do bequeath and give to Sarah Wodell my Dear and Loving Wife the use of all the above sd Lands until my sons come to the age of one and Twenty years as is before specified but if the above sd Lands fall to the Daughters my mind and will is that they shall not Enter into Possession till after the Dowage of their Mother all my Lands Except what is bequeathed to my sons I give unto Sarah Wodell my Wife Except ten Acres of Land more or Less laid out in the room of the Pond belonging to the half shear above sd

Whatsoever I have given unto my Wife is to pay my Just debts Legaties Hereafter mentioned Elizabeth Wodell Ruth Wodell Patience Wodell Eals Wodell Innocent Wodell and any other daughters or sons hereafter surviving I give and three pounds each in or as Money to the above sd Daughters to be paid at Eighteen years of age I also give and bequeath unto my Dear and Loving wife all my movables within doors and without to pay all my Just Débts and Legacies and Constitute and appoint my Loving wife my whole and sole Executrix and all the Lands above mentioned given to her is to her heirs and assigns to see this my last will and Testament performed fulfilled and kept according to the true intent and meaning of the Law And I do hereby desire nominate and appoint my Loving Neighbors and friends my Uncle James Tripp and Henry Head to be the overseer of this my Last will and Testament Desiring them to counsel and advise my Executrix as far as they can in the due performance of ye same and also my Executrix to see me Decently Buried and I give my Body to the Earth my Soul to GOD hoping to rise again at the Resurrection of the last Day In the* of I the

sd Gershom Wodell have hereunto set my hand and seal the five
and Twentieth Day of January in the year of the Lord one thou-
sand seven hundred and Ten Eleven 17¹¹

I Eli Wodell have imitated as
well as I could, the writing, the
lack of punctuation, and the pro-
fusion of capitals.

April 8, 1880.

This Gershom Wodell was the
grandfather of my grandfather
Phineas W.

Please observe that "Wodell" is spelled many times Wordell
never.

Gershom Wodell

Witnesses

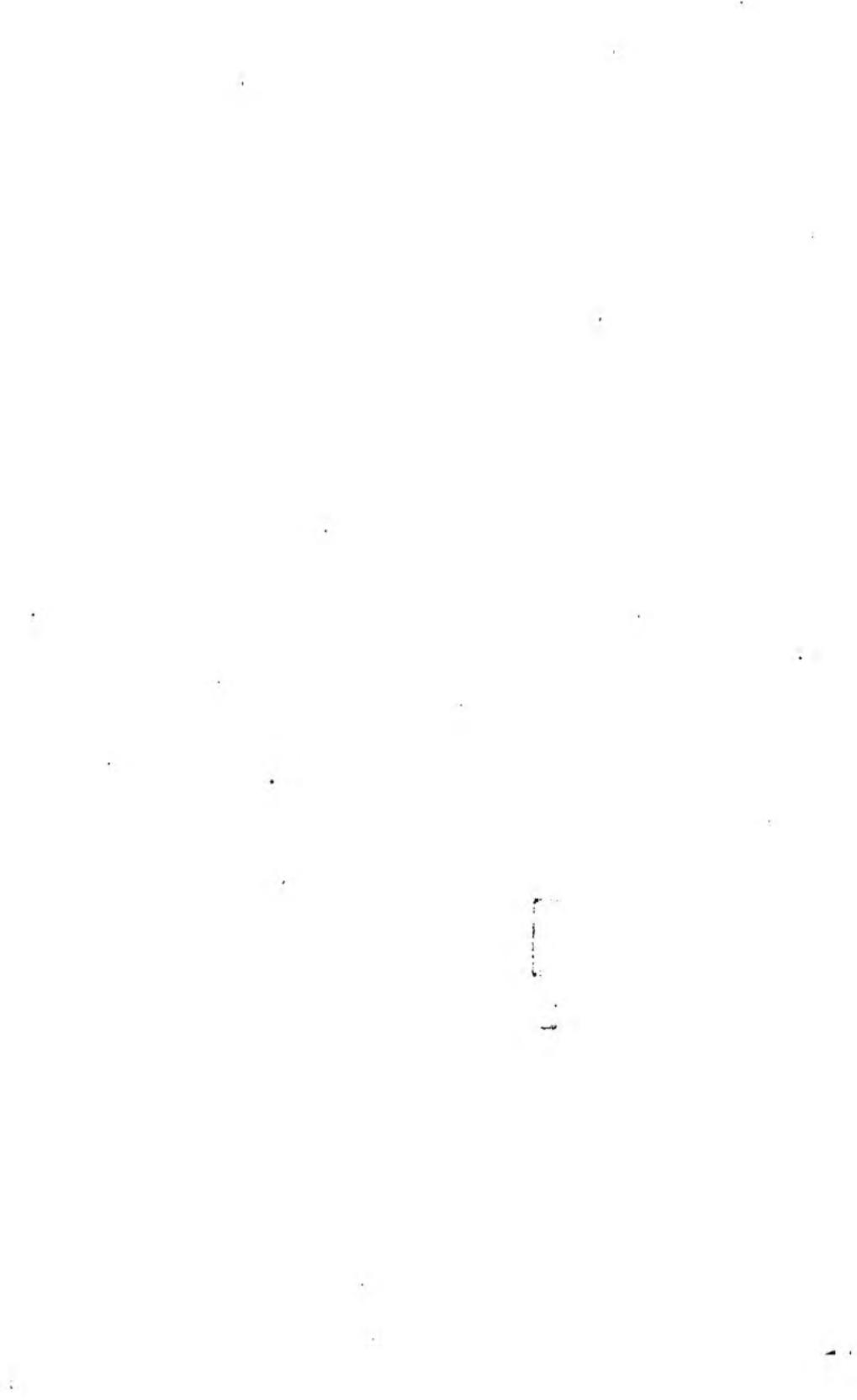
Return ~~H~~^{his} Hounvy
mark

David Bowen
Thomas Elsington

To all people to whom these presents shall come I Robert
Lawton of Portsmouth on Rhode Island and Providence Planta-
tions in New England in America send greeting Know ye that I
the said Robert Lawton for and in consideration of the sum of
fifteene pounds in moneys worth to me in hand already paid by
my brother in law Gershom Wodell of Tiverton in the County of
Bristol in New England aforesaid * * * * * acres of
land be it more or less lying to the Eastward of the Watuppa
pond * * * * * and the other lot thereof containing by
estimation five and twenty acres of land be it more or less lying
to the Westward of the Watuppa * * * * * hand and
seal ye thirtieth of the seventh month called September in the
year of the Lord one thousand Seven hundred 1700

This Gershom Wodell must have been *the* Gershom who made
the will aforesaid in 1710 or 11. I have no *proof* that Robert
Lawton was his brother-in-law. *George* Lawtons wife was Ger-
shoms sister and *Sarah*, (see appendix N) wife of Gershom,
might have been a sister of Robert, I have no proof on this point.

The particular interest in this extract is that the land sold, is
that which in my early days was owned by my grandfather Phineas
and his brothers Gershom and Thomas. That west of the Wa-
tuppa is that which in her day, was owned by Diana Jaseph, that
on which Youngs ice-houses now stand. I regret that the original
was so obscure that I was unable to understand the number of
acres East of the Watuppa. Eli.



The following I copied from Savages Genealogical Dictionary,
abbreviations included, March 1880

Waddell or Wodel. Gershom of Portsmouth R I only son of William of the same m. a. d. of John Tripp of the same, had William, Richard, Return and Gershom, besides Sarah Mary and Innocent but no dates of the birth of either or of his death can be found.* William Warwick one of the comp of Gorton tak Nov. 16 1648 and imprisoned at Watertown by the governor of Mass After liberat he went to Portsmouth R I and there most of the residu of his days resid and fill important offices down to 1690. By w Mary he had Mary b Nov 1640 Gershom 14 July 1642 Sarah Oct. 1644 Alice 10 Feb 1650 Francis 16 July 1652 and his w died 23 Mar 1676 His will of 7 Oct 1692 prov 2 May following makes date of his death. Mary m Daniel Grinnell Sarah m 1667 John Sanford Alice m 26 Dec. 1671 Abram Anthony and Francis m 23 Nov 1669 John Anthony* William Portsmouth R I s probably of Gershom yet perhaps of the preceding m 10 Feb 1681 Ruth dr of George Lawton the first and d Jan 6 1699 aged 36 as says the Portsmouth rec no d

I have taken considerable pains to copy this as I find it, a little punctuation here, would be useful. Some of the statements conflict with my former notions but none I think, which are wholly irreconcilable.

This discovery was to me very gratifying. I had long been in doubt as to who was the father of the four brothers William Gershom Richard, and Return ; this extract clears it all up satisfactorily. I have now an unbroken chain of my descent from Wm. and Mary *It stands thus :*

- 1 William and Mary
- 2 Gershom 1st and Mary Tripp
- 3 Gershom 2d and Sarah * * *
- 4 Gershom 3d and Mary Gage
- 5 Phineas and Rhoda Rider
- 6 Benjamin and Elizabeth Soule
- 7 Eli and Lydia Tripp

Beside the several Marys in my *paternal* ancestry I think also that Mary was the wife of George Soule my *maternal* ancestor.

See * p 27 and Plymouth extracts p 31. If I had a score of daughters they should all be Mary, such is my veneration for the name. If all could not consistently be Mary, they should marry.

Deed from Miantonomi to Randall Holden, John Greene and others of Shawomet, now known as Warwick, January, 12, 1642.

Know all men: that I, Myantonomy, Cheefe Sachem of the Nanheygansett, have sold vnto the persons heare named, one parsell of land with all the rights and privileges whatscever, lyinge upon the west syde of that part of the sea called Sahomes Bay, from Copassanatuxett, over against a little Iland in the sayd Bay, being the North bounds, and the outmost point of that neck of land culled Shawhomett; beinge the South bounds ffrom the sea shoare of each boundary uppon a straight lyne westward twentie miles. I say I have truly sold this parsell of land above sayde, the proportion whereof is according to the mapp under written or drawne, being the forme of it vnto Randall Houlden, John Greene, John Wickes, ffirancis Weston John Warner, Richard Carder, Sampson Shotten, Richard Potter, William Wuddall, ffor one hundredth and fortie foure fathom of wampumpeage. I say I have sold it, and possession given of it given unto the men above sayed, with the ffree and joyn特 consent of the present inhabitants, being natives, as it appeares by their hereunto annexed.

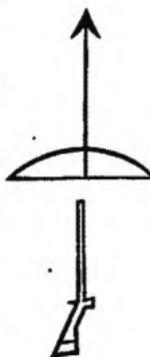
Dated ye twelfth day of January, 1642. Beinge enacted vpon the above sayed parsell of land in the presence off

Pum Ham
Jano

 his marke
John Greene Junr

MIANTINOMI

TOTANOMANS
his marke



The within written is entred
and in the publick records of his
Majesties Collony of Rhode Is-
land and Providence Plantations
on the (158) page of the booke
of land evidences.

John Sanford.

Copied in the Town Clerks
office of Warwick March 1880
by Eli Wodell.

In my researches, I met with this item "Uzael Wardwell inkeeper Mount Hope" see Plymouth extracts. Mount Hope meant Bristol R I. Not long since I was in Providence R I and by mere accident fell in with Wm A Wardwell a carpenter and evidently intelligent. On waiting on him I learned that he was a descendent of Uzal (or Uzzael) Wardwell, he even showed me a very respectable genealogical account of his family from which I extract,

"Uzal Wardwell was the first Wardwell who settled in Bristol "R I his wifes name was Grace they removed from Ipswich Mass, "the Uzal Wardwell here mentioned must have removed from "Ipswich to Bristol some years previous to 1700 and his twin "children Wm and Rebecca, birth are in the Bristol records also "his son Benjamin.

"His oldest son may have been born at Ipswich.

"The children of this Uzal Wardwell were

"Joseph

"William }

"Rebecca } twins born May 13 1698

"James

"Benjamin born April 9 1688

"Grace

"Mary

"Joseph Wardwell son of Uzal and Grace married Martha Giddings of Ipswich Dec 1709 had several children."

Stephen, was one of Josephs children his first wife was Mehitable Howland dr of Samuel Howland.

Stephen son of Stephen and Mehitable born in Bristol 1754, married Mary Snow, they have one son and four daughters So much of Uzal Wardwell and his descendants ; this may in the hand of future genealogists, lead to the identification of relationship between Uzal Wardwell of Bristol formerly of Ipswich and William Wodell of Portsmouth, formerly of Warwick, they were cotemporaries as one died an old man 1692 or 3 ; the other had children born both before and after 1698 ; The most of their lives too was spent within a few miles of each other, the town in which both were prominent and leading men, being but few miles apart. Bristol ferry being between them. They even might have been acquainted, one kept a public house, at Bristol where the other might often have business.

It is possible, but not likely, that they were brothers, and more I cannot offer in regard to Uzal Wardwell. Their spelling their names widely different offers no obstacle to this supposition, as my own children do the same. Williams first known child, born 1640, and that of Uzal, 1688, will go far to prove that they were not brothers.

On Veneration for our Ancestors.

I do not agree with those who declare that a *cousin* is no more to them than any other person. Such talk is fashionable in some circles and these persons would say that a *mother* is no more than any other woman, if fashion approved such undutiful utterances.

So far as we know, the brute animals have this sentiment it is not supposed that the cow or horse ever knows its brother or father or even its mother when a year or two old, but with humanity it is, or should be different, whatever fashion may say; or rather I should say that such fashion should not be encouraged.

For one, I feel and declare that all who are known, or supposed to have descended from the same ancestor that I did, are nearer, dearer, to me, than those who have none of my blood in their veins, not only is a brother, *who behaves as a brother should*, but cousins and nephews in any degree even to the tenth generation if any such are known, nearer to me than others because they acknowledge or should do so, and venerate the same patriarchial ancestor, that I do.

To me William and Mary of Warwick, and George Soul of Plymouth with his wife, whose name I know not,* are greater men and women than President Hayes or President Washington, with their wives. I feel more respect and veneration for these persons, than I do for any President or Governor that I ever heard of. And as I love them, why not love, in some degree, their descendants of every generation? excepting such of them as may have abused me. Such are my feelings, and this has been a very active element with me, in writing this work.

Eli W of the seventh generation from Wm. & Mary.

*But think that it was Mary. See Plymouth extracts p 31.

Portsmouth Extracts.

- 1682 William Wodell of Portsmouth bought land in Dartmouth
of Thomas Cornell.
- 1690 to 94 William Wodell Junr of Pocasset buys land of Christopher Almy, Seth Arnold, Joseph Anthony, John Cole, Ephraim Cole, John Cook, Thomas Durfee, Benjamin Church, Samuel Little and Gershom Mott.
- 1659 William Wodell bought land of John Albro.
- 1660 " " " John Briggs.
- 1662 " " " George Lawton.
- 1667 and at other dates William Wodell was one of the leading men of Portsmouth holding various important offices &c
- 1661 Samuel Sanford married Sarah Wodell dr. of William and Mary.
- 1680 Dec. 5 Sarah aforesaid died.
- 1669 Nov. John Anthony md Francis dr of William Wodell.
- 1691 8th mo 12 Francis aforesaid died.
- 1691 10th mo Abram Anthony md Alice dr of Wm. Wodell.
- 1684 Sept Stephen Manchester md Ruth dr of Gershom Wodell.
- 1680 Feb George Lawton md Mary dr of Gershom Wodell.
- 1781 11th mo 14th Mary aforesaid died.
- 1680 Feb 10 William Wodell md Ruth Lawton.
- 1688 January 6 William Wodell aforesaid died in his 87th year.
- 1712 John Buth and Susannah Wodell both of Tiverton were md.
- 171 $\frac{1}{2}$ Susanna died.
- 1727 Oct John Butts and Alice Wodell both of Tiverton were md.
- 1780 Sept 10 Peleg Sherman of Tiverton and Innocent Wodell daughter of Gershom were married.
- 1692 7th mo 3d day William Wodell of Pocasset bequeaths as follows as his grandsons John Joseph and William Anthony son of his daughter Francis.
Grandsons William W. Richard W. Return W. and Gershom W.
Grandson in law Robert Lawton 2 books

Note there is little or no punctuation in these extracts because there is none in the original.

Portsmouth Extracts Continued.

- 1692 Daughter Mary wife of Daniel Grinnel.
 Granddaughter Sarah Wodell
 Priscilla and Issabella Getchell
 Grandson Richard Grinnell
 Grandsons William and Samuel Sanford
- 1724 Ruth Wodell relict of William Wodell makes a bequest to her brother Robert Lawton
- 1697 William Wodell of Pocasset bequeaths to his wife Ruth Wodell
 Brothers Richard W. Return W. and Gershom W.
 Mother Mary Getchell
 Sister Mary wife of Robert Lawton
 Sister Sarah wife of John * * * *
 Sisters Priscilla and Isabel Getchell
 End of Portsmouth extracts

The inquirer is desired to notice two things in connection with these extracts, First that our family name is written many times and invariably spelled "Wodell" Second that no person named in them has more than two names.

In some of my investigations, I met with this item, "Mary *Wordell*, her marriage with Daniel Wilcox was declared illegal." She was probably the first *Wordell* ever invented and I would congratulate those of the present day, who are so fond of that corruption, on the character of their namesake Mary *Wordell*, of equivocal marriage.

Tiverton Extracts.

William Wodell and Elizabeth

Borden were married 1732

William Wodell and Phebe Fox
married 1761Sampson Sherman and Inno-
cent Wodell married 1763Gershom Wodell and Avis Booth
1769Nathaniel Sowle son of Wm.
Sowle, and Rebecca Gifford
married 1773**Children of Richard Wodell and**
Mary his wife

Mary Wodell born Oct 1691

Sarah & Susan twins born * 169*

Children of Gershom Wodell
and Mary his wife

Susannah Wodell born Oct 1743

Gershom Wodell " Jan 1745

Mary Wodell " Aug 1747

Sarah Wodell " April 1749

Elizabeth Wodell " Aug 1750

Note I have much reason to think, I almost know, that my grandfather Phineas was one of this family and the reason why he and the younger ones are not named in it, is, that the family moved out of Tiverton before he and they were born; Those born in Dartmouth, now Westport, were Phineas, Silas, Thomas Lovina, and Constant, p 59, 60, and 61

Eli W

Children of William and
Elizabeth Wodell.

Ruth Wodell born April 1732

William Wodell Dec. 1734

Innocent Wodell Nov. 1736

Ruth Wodell July 1738

Gershom Wodell May 1740

Sarah Wodell June 1742

Borden Wodell May 1744

Patience Wodell Aug. 1746

John Wodell Feb. 1748

Joseph Wodell May 1751

Lydia Wodell Sept. 1753

Children of William Wodell and
Phebe his wife

Christo'er Wodell born Jan 1763

Huldah Wodell Nov 1764

John Wodell Nov 1766

Caleb Wodell March 1770

Pardon Wodell April 1772

Isaac Wodeil March 1776

Phebe Wodell Nov 1779

William Wodell son of Gershom
and Sarah was born
June 13, 1702.

Recompence Gifford died
Feb. 1826*

End of Tiverton Extracts.

*Recompence Gifford was my great-grandfather on my mothers side.

Plymouth Extracts

- Between 1664 and 1674 George Soul deeds land to his son George S
- 1662 George Soule of Duxboro, apprentices his daughter Mary Soule
- 1674 to 1681 I find notices of Geo. Soule and Mary his wife
- 1676 John Soule buys land dates uncertain : George Soule a deputy from Duxboro ; John Soule fined for attending quaker meeting ; Zachariah Soule, admitted a freeman. Elizabeth Soule, punished for fornication. Nathaniel Soule, punished for various offences. James Soule, an impressed soldier. John Soule, guardian to miners.
- 1668 Elizabeth Soule plaintiff Nathaniel Church defendant
- 1670 Nathaniel Soule, Giles Slocum of Dartmouth
- 1671 Nathaniel Soule of Duxbury and George of Dartmouth against Giles Slocum of Dartmouth.
- 1686 George Soule of Duxbury against John Peterson of Duxbury
- 1674 George Soule defendant— Nathaniel Thomas
- No date William Gifford and his wife fined for fornication. Philips Woodell a bankrupt.
- Uzzael Wardell Innkeeper Mount Hope
- End of Plymouth extracts.

Dartmouth Notes.

Intentions of marriage

- January 1768 Sampson Sherman of Dartmouth and Innocent Woodell of Tiverton
-
- Oct. 12 1776 William Rider Junr and Martha Cummins
-
- January 5 1783 Phineas Wodel and Rhoda Wider both of Dartmouth
-
- August 1786 Samuel C Sherman and Constant Wodel
- End of Dartmouth.

Westport Records

- Children of Phineas Wodel and Rhoda his wife
- Benjamin W born June 1783
- Elizabeth W " Dec 1784
- Ruth W " Feb 1787
- Jonathan W " Oct 1790
- John W " Jan 1795
- Peleg T W " April 1797
- Bradford W " Jan 1801
- Jan 8 1805 Benjamin Wodel and Elizabeth Soule intend marriage and were married Feb 3 1805
- Dartmouth incorporated 1664
- Westport incorporated 1789
- End of Westport.

RHODA RIDER

My paternal
Grandmother

Married Phineas Wodell 1788 Dd 1819 p 58

William Rider married Abigail Kirby

Died in Dartmouth 1796 his children below

| | |
|----------|---|
| Rachel | md Adam Mott among whose children were
Ruth the 2d wife of Gershom 5th p 51
also Abigail md Hathaway and Rebecca md Pearce
Thomas, John and Sarah. |
| Abigail | md Gideon Gifford |
| Benjamin | md Freelove Hix |
| Jonathan | md Zilph Kirby |
| Rebecca | Deaf mute |
| Rhoda | My Grandmother as aforesaid |
| William | md Martha Cummings his speech was defective
among his children are or were Rowland Rider who
md Elizabeth Chace. <i>Hannah</i> md John Chace p 33.
John and Hannah children were four viz.
Mary, Jacob, Susan and John, for whose posterity
see next page. Each <i>grandchild</i> of John and Han-
nahs name will be <i>preceded</i> by this <input type="checkbox"/> character each
<i>great grandchild</i> by this — great-great gr ch by a
single dash — To understand my work, and the
generation to which the individual belongs the in-
quirer must pay <i>close</i> attention to these characters. |

Mary dr of John and Hannah Chace md Israel Chace; Obed Chace md; Clarissa Chace dd; Emily Chace md * * * * Gifford and * * * * Porter; Harvey Chace; son died ..

Jacob son of John and Hannah Chace, md Roby Martini from whom I gathered these notices; James Chace md Mercy Haskell — Frederick md * * * * Borden — Bertha — a son — Benjamin — Anna; Noble Martin Chace, md Mercy Bowman and Mary Rider ch by Mercy — William Chace, — Thomas Chace dd, — Ruth Chace — Thomas Chace — Anna Chace; Abigail Chace md Washington Tripp — Henry Tripp md. * * Clark — Richmond Tripp — Julia Tripp — John Tripp.

John Chace md Julia A Mosher, — Clifton J Chace — Ida R Chace; Benjamin M Chace md Alice Gerard — Charles Chace dd — Arthur Chace; Jacob Chace md Elizabeth B King — Sarah Chace — Edward Chace — Albert Chace — Henry Chace — Rose Chace; Edward Chace md Mary Reynolds — Everett M. Chace — Hattie Chacé.

Susan dr of John and Hannah Chace md Joseph Chace (brother of Israel, husband of her sister Mary) Frederic Chace md * * * West — 1 child name and sex unknown Jefferson Chace md Adaline Billings — Addie Elenora Chace (quite a good girl) lives near Hemlock gutter North Westport; Malvina Chace md Leander Freelove no living child; Mary Chace md * * * Wooley; Lydia Chace md * * * Percy; George Chace md * * * — 2 children; Joseph Chace md * * * Fish no ch.

John son of John and Hannah md Sarah Jones; David Chace md Cynthia Rogers — Charles Chace md Janes and Rogers — Charles Chace — John F Chace — Emily Chace — Hannah Chace — Sarah Chace — Abby Chace; William Chace md Sarah I Wodell a daughter of Philip Wodell p 61

No more do I know of the Rider family

MARY WODELL Daughter of Wm 1st or Wm and Mary

Born Nov 1640 The earliest birth of a Wodell, of which I have any account, md Daniel Grinnell about 1667. Had three children, Daniel born 1668; Jonathan 1670; and *Richard* born 1675 and died July 1725

Richard Grinnell md Patience Almy 1704. Their ch George Grinnell, William Grinnell, Rebecca Grinnell, Elizabeth Grinnell, Patience Grinnell, Richard Grinnell 2d.

Richard 2d born 1717 dd 1789, the grandson of Mary Wodell he md a widow Comfort Bailey, formerly a Miss or Mrs Billings, by whom he had sons *Billings*, Benjamin, Richard 3d, Royal and probably others.

Billings Grinnell (a great grandson of Mary Wodell) md Comfort Wood, their sons Walter G. Richard G. 4th, *Benjamin* G. Valentine G. I have been somewhat acquainted with these two sons.

Benjamin lived and died in Little Compton R I he left two sons Billings and Thomas. Billings md a Miss Church. Thomas md a Miss Simmons, a great g. dr of Jacob Sowle my grandfather (Nathaniel S.) brother p 60.

Mary aforesaid, is the only one, of the *daughters* of Wm and Mary, which I have been able to follow down to the present time. Eli W.

The records found on this page, I had chiefly from Mr. Abram Pearce a Little Compton Genealogist.



Introduction.

William Wodell or William 1st was one of a company that in 1642 bought land of the Indians now the town of Warwick state of Rhode Island. This is the earliest account in my possession of any Wodell ; I know nothing of his age place of birth or parentage ; these must be left to future genealogists. As he had a child born in 1640 I conclude that he was older than the settlement at Plymouth (1620) and that therefore he was not born in America. His wife was Mary. I therefore may sometimes refer to them as Wm and Mary, or the first generation.

In 1648, I find him settled in Portsmouth on the Island Rhode Island where passed most of his mature life was a leading man in public affairs, held important offices &c and in the time of King Philips war, the most distressing and sanguinary war ever known in New England, the population considered, the Legislative assembly voted that in these *troublous* times and straits of the colony the Assembly desiring to have the advice and concurrence of the most judicious inhabitants &c. William Wodell was one of the selected ones.

On page 26-27, I have discussed the point of the yea or nay of his being a relative of Uzzael Wardwell without any satisfactory conclusion. Wm dd about 1698 his w. died 1676. He had one son and several daughters who married and raised families and these will constitute the

SECOND GENERATION.

These were Gershom (Gershom 1st) who married Mary Tripp; Sarah who married Samuel Sanford (one account says John Sanford, possibly both); others married John Anthony; Abram Anthony; and Daniel Grinnell; most of them raised families. These families are the

THIRD GENERATION.

There were four brothers sons of Gershom 1st; they were William 2d, who married Ruth Lawton, no children; Gershom 2d, who made a will in 1710-11 of which I have a copy see p 20, and who was the grandfather of my grandfather; Richard who had three daughters, two of them twins and of which nothing more is known; the daughters of his daughter married George Lawton and perhaps Robert Lawton; one married Stephen Manchester. It is conjectured that after Gershom 1st died, his widow married * * * Getchel, as we have accounts to reconcile which will make this conclusion necessary; we know little more of this generation than what is above stated. Of Return, the last of the four brothers, we have no further returns or accounts.

THE FOURTH GENERATION

Are the children of the Third I know nothing of them except of Gershom. He made a will as aforesaid in which two sons William the elder (William 8d) and Gershom the younger (Gershom 8d) and my great-grand-father and five daughters see the will p 20 William 8d married Elizabeth Borden had no less than eleven children their names are given p 80 Gershom 8d married Mary Gage and raised a large family one of which was my grandfather Phineas W. Gershom and Mary family p 80. The families of these two brothers I shall describe more minutely in the following pages.

Innocent, one of the five daughters married Peleg Sherman, of the other daughters I knew nothing but their names which were Elizabeth W. Ruth W. Patience W. Eals probably Alice W. Gershom of the will (Gershom 2d) his wife was Sarah * * * *

These who would understand the Genealogical part of my work are desired to pay close attention to the following Rules, Abbreviations and Suggestions. It will be seen that each Genealogical page is thus divided: On the top is a name in large capitals,

with dates, name of wives, husbands &c. The person who bore this name was one of the 5th generation from Wm and Mary, a grand-child of *their* grandchild ; these, are my grandfather, with his brothers, sisters and cousins : Remember this.

Next you may notice a left margin, divided from the body of the page, by a perpendicular line ; the names in this column or margin, are children of those on the top ; they are the 6th generation ; are my father and his class, with accompanying dates and remarks.

Now the body of the page is left, and is divided by lateral lines, double lines, the spaces thus formed, I call the laterals, some of them are continued on the next page, one individual, Gershom 6th occupies 4 pages so large is his family and so well have I been able to fish them out ; others are very narrow, a number on one page, so small their families or so little known, that such is the disparity in the space required to describe them. But whether wide or narrow, whether embracing four pages or but a single line, one whole lateral is given to each individual name of the 6th generation ; the double lines which divide the laterals, are extended through the margin, as well as through the body of the page. The persons named in the laterals are children grandchildren &c of those named in the margin.

Many of the laterals are sub-divided by a single line and this does *not* cross the margin. The space thus formed I call sub-laterals. Each sub-lateral describes *one* of the children with his family, of the marginal opposite. The *first person named* or described in *each* sub-lateral, is a child, of the marginal (the person described in the margin) and a grand-child of him or her at the top ; is of the 7th generation ; is myself or of my class.

After the name of the 7th and accompanying description, comes *his* children, each preceded by this figure □ denoting that he or she is of the 8th generation, such are my children and *their* class ; the children of the 8th, are each preceded by parallel lines thus — and *their* children I have found but few such, by a single dash thus —. The □ are children of the first name in the sub-lateral ; the parallels — are children of the □ ; the dashes — are few and are children of the parallels —. The dashes — represent the 10th generation from Wm. and Mary.

My abbreviations are as follows

| | | |
|---------------------|--------------|--|
| md | married | When a person has one or
died more fancy names, what I call |
| dd | | Wodell <i>folly</i> names, and one of them |
| <i>W</i> underlined | | Fall River <u>underlined</u> * let it be understood |
| F R | | New Bedford that the name thus distinguished |
| N B | | William is the one by which the individ- |
| Wm | | children <u>ual</u> is most generally known. |
| ch | | |
| dr | daughter | *Or printed in italics. |
| * * * * | We dont know | |
| Gen | Generation | |

WILLIAM

4th son of Wm. 3d.
Born 1784 md Phebe Fox* 1761.

| | | |
|----------------|--|--|
| 5th Gen. | Christopher <i>W</i>
whose wife
was Abigail
Borden. | Christopher <i>W</i> born about 1805 dd in youth.
Diana <i>W</i> born 1804. md John <i>W</i> died in New Bedford. Nov 1877. (Johns ch see p 60) md Benjamin Jaseph <input type="checkbox"/> Elizabeth Jaseph, md Charles Cargill; <input type="checkbox"/> John W. Jaseph, Drowned; <input type="checkbox"/> George F. Jaseph, md Rebecca Gray; The elder Jaseph now living in Providence R I, in enjoyment of a government pension for services in the war of 1812. |
| | Caleb <i>W</i>
md
Olive Davis
both dd
about 1810. | William 5th dd a young man.
David <i>W</i> md * * * * Sherman settled in S. Dartmouth. <input type="checkbox"/> Olive D <i>W</i> , <input type="checkbox"/> Gideon H. <i>W</i> <input type="checkbox"/> George F. <i>W</i> . |
| | | Delana <i>W</i> dd 1889. md Peleg <i>W</i> ch p 60. |
| | Pardon
<i>W</i>
lived and dd
in F R
village his
wife was
Patience
Borden. | Pardon <i>W</i> md Eunice Currey, <input type="checkbox"/> Henry <i>W</i> md Hannah Bessee = Eunice <i>W</i> = Rebecca <i>W</i> Lucy <i>W</i> ; <input type="checkbox"/> Rufus <i>W</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Thomas <i>W</i> ; <input type="checkbox"/> Hannah <i>W</i> .
Arnold <i>W</i> md Ruth Devero, lives at Olneyville. |
| 6th Generation | | Alden <i>W</i> md Elizabeth Coggshall dd. <input type="checkbox"/> Susan B <i>W</i> <input type="checkbox"/> James A <i>W</i> dd; <input type="checkbox"/> Phebe A <i>W</i> md Wm Durfee; <input type="checkbox"/> Patience E <i>W</i> ; <input type="checkbox"/> James A <i>W</i> ; <input type="checkbox"/> Mary E <i>W</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Lydia J <i>W</i> ; <input type="checkbox"/> Arnold B <i>W</i> ; <input type="checkbox"/> Theodore <i>W</i> .
Hannah <i>W</i> md Edward Westgate dd.
Phebe <i>W</i> 2d wife of Edward Westgate lives at Acushnet.
Lydia <i>W</i> md Benjn Allen, and Wm Burt, no ch.
Eliza <i>W</i> md Joseph Randall, lives at Mattaposett. |

*Phebe Fox and also Hulda Fox wife of Gershom 5th p 51 were daughters of Christopher Fox; their mother was Hannah Edminster, a daughter of James Edminster, whose wife was Ann Makepeace, daughter of Wm Makepeace, and wife; Ann Johnson who md in 1661. Wm Makepeace was drowned in Taunton river August 1681. Pearce.

5th Gen

INNOCENT dr of Wm 3d

Born 1736. md Sampson Sherman 1763.

| | |
|---|---|
| Job
Sherman
his wife was
* * Crapo
they moved
into S Dart-
mouth. | Job Sherman.
Abner Sherman.
Lydia Sherman.
Betsy Sherman.
Charles Sherman.
Jonathan Sherman.
Jireh Sherman. Scalded to death. |
|---|---|

| | |
|---|---|
| Abner
Sherman
md and
divorced
Celia Crapo
md Hannah
Mosher;
formerly
H Spooner. | Anthony Sherman now living in N B age 77 md Susan Chace and Ruth Ann Thurston p 57, ch by Susan <input type="checkbox"/> Asenath Sherman md Leonard Chace; <input type="checkbox"/> Betsy Sherman, md * * * * Swain = 4 ch names unknown <input type="checkbox"/> Jireh Sherman, md Mary Pearce, lives in N B — Anna Sherman — Harvey Sherman — Rosetta Sherman; <input type="checkbox"/> Abner Sherman drowned, Jan or Feb 1880. |
| 6th Generation from Wm & Mary | Caleb Sherman dd md Clarinda Lancaster; <input type="checkbox"/> Clarinda md Preserved Little nō ch. |

| | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| 6th Generation from Wm & Mary | Kempton Sherman md Rosina Chace sister of Anthony, wife Susan, they are a worthy couple live in North Westport. <input type="checkbox"/> Abby Susan Sherman 2d wife of Benjamin Borden dd <input type="checkbox"/> Alonzo M Sherman md Sophronia F Records — Hannah M Sherman.
<input type="checkbox"/> Sarah B Sherman md Albert H Harrison, — Anna E Harrison — Evelyn C Harrison — Albert A Harrison — John B Harrison; <input type="checkbox"/> Rosina Sherman md Augustus C Lawton, — Mary N Lawton — Edwin D Lawton — Clarence Lawton — dr not named; <input type="checkbox"/> Lucy A Sherman md Allen Damon a preacher — Mary E Damon — Lucien J Damon — Bertha E Damon — Irville Damon; <input type="checkbox"/> Hannah Sherman md Wm Alty dd — Frederick K Alty; <input type="checkbox"/> Hattie Sherman 2d wife of Wm Alty, — Willie A Alty — Archibald Alty — Effie A Alty; <input type="checkbox"/> Flora Sherman. |
|-------------------------------|---|

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| Elizabeth,
dr of Inno-
cent md | Prudence Sherman dd a young woman. |
| Job Sher-
man. | Cyntha Sherman md Henry Macomber, now living near 80 |
| 5 | Sampson Sherman now living I think with his family in New Bedford. |

5th Gen

RUTH daughter of Wm 3d

2d wife of Sampson Sherman. Died about 1812.

| | |
|---|--|
| Susan Sherman was the 2d wife of George Gifford* dd about 1815. | William Gifford, md Deborah Freelove, both dd <i>about</i> 1865. <input type="checkbox"/> Susan Gifford dd a child 1822; <input type="checkbox"/> Ruth Gifford, md Jacob Hix (sub appendix) = Charles Hix md and divorced Catharine Paine — Andrew Hix — Mary Hix md Gershom <i>Abiel W</i> , dd about 1872, —Sylva M <i>W</i> dd 1874 age 16; — John Hix md Ella Gifford dr of Weston A G. both dd and also their child. — <i>Peleg Peckham Hix</i> (ill bred) <input type="checkbox"/> Wm Henry Gifford md Louisa Brownell, she and the child dd years ago: <i>he</i> lives a life of celibacy and being rich and respectable is much courted by the maidens of the neighborhood, though old enough to have been their father. |
|---|--|

6th Gen.

Charles Gifford, died about 1822 a sailor.

Stephen B. Gifford, born 1811, dd 1873, hair lipped, had three wives and several sons, his last wife now widow, was Lucinda Lake.

| | |
|---|--|
| Mercey Sherman md Richard Crapo and Gardner Briggs. | John Crapo, who md Mary <i>W</i> p 57 and Ruth <i>W</i> my aunt p 59 and a third wife. |
|---|--|

| | |
|--|---------------------------------|
| Prudence Sherman md John Briggs went up country. | Of her children I know nothing. |
|--|---------------------------------|

*George Gifford was married four times and barely escaped two other such calamities. He was to marry Miss Andrews who died bride expectant. He did marry Elizabeth *W* p 44 and Susan Sherman see above, afterward, Ruth Cottle who bore a dr Caroline Gifford, md Jacob Crapo; then Nancy Bullock and after her death contracted with a widow Randall, when *his* sudden death prevented it.

He married Elizabeth *W*, Susan Sherman, Ruth Cottle and Nancy Bullock and escaped Miss Andrews and Mrs Randall. However much he was duped, he was a good and sensible man and had considerable literary talent.

RUTH Continued

5th Gen.

Sampson Sherman Jr md Rachel
Innocent Sherman born 1805, md Henry Crocker
and Barnabas Blossom, she dd about 1865 or 66 ;
Blossom now lives age 91.

Brownell and a widow
Barney *Hillman* Blossom ; Abram Blossom ;
 Rachel Blossom dd Nov. 1876 ; Delight Blossom. None of the ch md. All worthy people.

Davis, dd 1836,
a very worthy man Ruth Sherman now widow of Charles *W* son of George, p 48, she is supposed to be mentally disordered Sampson *W*; Wilson and Charles *W* twins. Of their families I can say but little. Wilson md my cousin Sarah Gifford grand-child of my uncle John *W* p 59.

6th Generation Wilson Sherman md Mary Davis p 56 dr of Jonathan and Rachel Davis, she dd 1873 ; Jonathan dd ; Albert md Mary Russell — son dd 1875 Abiel Sherman dd ; Mary Louisa Sherman md Isaac Pool — two sons Rachel Sherman unmarried though a very amiable girl.

Thomas Sherman supposed a lunatic md Louisa Davis (sister of Mary above) Abby Snow Sherman md Wm Albert Young no children *living* Thomas Edwin Sherman, md Mary Macomber lost their two only ch by canker rash : Lorenzo Sherman Maria Jane Sherman md Arthur *W* p 54 Nov 1876 — Wm Nelson *W*.

Sarah Sherman md Peleg Sanford. Daniel Sanford md Patience Lawton — two ch ; Barnabas Sanford dd 1875 md — three ch ; Peleg Sanford md These by his first wife Rachel Brownell.

Sampson Rachel (a woman with a mans name). by his second wife * * * * * Davis md George Henry Chace George A Chace md Mercy Davis p 46 Henry and Sampson Rachel Chace probably has other ch.

End of Sampson, and of Ruth family,
and of the Shermans.

5th Gen

GERSHOM 4th son of Wm 3d

Being a very tall man, was distinguished as *Long Gershom*.
 Born 1740 md Avis Booth 1769, Sarah Handy later, dd 1816.

| | |
|------------------|---|
| Richard <i>W</i> | Taber <i>W</i> md Betsy Lucas and a widow Hathaway |
| md Susan- | dd March 1870. Children of Taber and Betsy <input type="checkbox"/> |
| nah Sowle a | Susan <i>W</i> now the second wife of Philip Simmons — |
| sister of my | Emeline Simmons md Albert Wilcox; — Dianthe |
| mother | Simmons; <input type="checkbox"/> Richard <i>W</i> md Mary Adams, dd Feb |
| p 51 | 1879 no ch; <input type="checkbox"/> Hope <i>W</i> dd 1861; Rebecca <i>W</i> md |
| dd about | Robert Auld, dd May 1868, Auld was killed by fall- |
| 1810. | ing from aloft in New Bedford harbor, Nov 1876 — |
| | Alphonso Auld md — Elvira Auld; <input type="checkbox"/> Elvira <i>W</i> dd |
| | Oct 1878; <input type="checkbox"/> Jireh <i>W</i> idiot dd. |

Rebecca *W* dd unmarried the mother of Nancy
W idiot p 59 A good girl though seduced.

| |
|---|
| Hope or Hopy <i>W</i> md Capt Peleg Cornell dd <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Thomas Cornell dd in infancy <input type="checkbox"/> Nancy Cornell md |
| * * * * * Paris a preacher <input type="checkbox"/> Fidelia Paris md |
| George Gifford — two ch <input type="checkbox"/> Thomas Cornell md. |

| | |
|-------------|--|
| Elizabeth | Elizabeth or Lizzie md Samuel Thurston and moved |
| 1st married | away little known of their posterity. |
| wife of | |
| George Gif- | |
| ford p 42. | |

| | |
|--------------|-----------|
| Mary | |
| dd March | Unmarried |
| 1875 age 90. | |

| | |
|--------------|--|
| Hannah md | This blank or <i>lateral</i> and others in like cases should |
| Isaac | be filled, and would if I knew them be filled, with |
| Babcock, | the names of the children <input type="checkbox"/> , grand-children —, and |
| dd March | great-grand ch —, of the persons named in the mar- |
| 1879 age 90. | gin opposite said blanks. See rule p 36. |

Long Gershom or
GERSHOM 4th Continued

5th Gen
 Avis W
 md Levi
 Macomber

Barbara W Clarissa Reynolds is the only one of these ch of
 md Calvin which I know anything.
 Reynolds.

Phebe W 2d
 wife of Ezra
 Winslow

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| Eliza | Nancy Ashley dd never md. |
| 2d wife
of Deacon | Betsy Ashley md Benjamin Tripp. |
| Taber
Ashley | Jarvis T Ashley, md Mary West. <input type="checkbox"/> Arthur Ashley
md Alice Ashley; Martin B Ashley; <input type="checkbox"/> Anna Ash-
ley; <input type="checkbox"/> Lizzie Ashley; <input type="checkbox"/> Belle (perhaps Isabel)
Ashley dd. |
| | Caroline Ashley dd. |
| | Albert Ashley md Elizabeth Philips. <input type="checkbox"/> Alice Ash-
ley md Arthur Ashley her cousin son of Jarvis. |
| 6th Gen | Fanny Ashley md Isaac Terry. <input type="checkbox"/> several ch |
| | Irene Ashley dd, the wife of Durfee Delano; <input type="checkbox"/> one
son. |
| | Allen G Ashley md Bell (perhaps Isabel) Crapo.
<input type="checkbox"/> several children. End of Gershom 4th. |

Note I have recorded as children of Gershom 4th two of the same name, (as some maintain that Elizabeth and Eliza, are one and the same name) I can account for this seeming incongruity, only by supposing that the first Elizabeth died before the other was born. The first was married, (to George Gifford note p 42) but died young and as the father had two wives, Eliza might consistently have been born of the younger wife. Eli.

BORDEN

Son of Wm 3d

5th Gen

Married Eunice Davis, dd 1816, Posteriority large.

| | |
|----------------|---|
| Elijah W
md | Pardon W a deacon, md Elizabeth Reed, and a widow Cornell, dd at Copicut, Fall River 1871. Ch by Reed. <input type="checkbox"/> Leonard W md * * * * Rogers, — Andrew W — Mary E W — Amey G W — William W (William 8th) — John W; <input type="checkbox"/> Elijah W md * * Reynolds — Rebecca Jane W, — Mary Elizabeth W; <input type="checkbox"/> Warren W md Betsey Tripp — Elenora G W — John P W; <input type="checkbox"/> Howard W md Phebe Peckham — Susan W dd; <input type="checkbox"/> Emma W md * * * * Gifford; <input type="checkbox"/> Susan W md Henry Reed.
Note of this and some other families I have no later account. |
|----------------|---|

| | |
|---|--|
| Both were
good honest
hard-work-
ing people. | Joseph W md Ann Jones, both dd <input type="checkbox"/> Ruby W md Abiel Jones dd; <input type="checkbox"/> Merrick W md Maria Canfield; <input type="checkbox"/> * * * W md Catharine Manning; <input type="checkbox"/> Ephraim W <input type="checkbox"/> Almy W md Noel Allen and Charles Sisson; <input type="checkbox"/> Almeda W; <input type="checkbox"/> * * * W. |
|---|--|

| | |
|------------|--|
| 6th Gen or | Sarah or Sally W md William Gifford; <input type="checkbox"/> Angeline Gifford md Gideon Peckham — one child; <input type="checkbox"/> Stephen Gifford md * * * * Manchester; <input type="checkbox"/> Italy Gifford; <input type="checkbox"/> Joseph Gifford; <input type="checkbox"/> Hiram Gifford dd; <input type="checkbox"/> Sarah Gifford dd. |
|------------|--|

| |
|--|
| Azuba W md Gideon Rogers, she dd 1864 he 1871. <input type="checkbox"/> Phebe Rogers dd age 16; <input type="checkbox"/> Charles Rogers dd 1866 age 40; <input type="checkbox"/> Sarah Rogers md John Jinks, — Amey Jinks md Lindsey Pool — Phebe Pool — Andrew F Pool; <input type="checkbox"/> Betsy Rogers md William Davis — Wm Davis Jr md Mersba King; — Mercy Davis md George A Chace (son of George H and Sampson Rachel Chace p 48) — Frank Chace — John Chace — * * * Chace — Betsy Emma Davis md Moses Snell Dec. 1879, — Susan Davis; — John Davis; <input type="checkbox"/> Rhoda Rogers md Gardner Kinsley, — Mattie Kinsley, — Charles Kinsley; <input type="checkbox"/> Mary Rogers second wife of Luther Chace. |
|--|

| |
|---|
| Holder W md Rachel W p 52 <input type="checkbox"/> Ardelia W; <input type="checkbox"/> Emeline W; <input type="checkbox"/> Hopy W; <input type="checkbox"/> Minerva W; <input type="checkbox"/> Allen W md * * * Macomber; <input type="checkbox"/> Perry W md Carrie Ida W dr of B R W = one son Harvey Franklin W |
|---|

| |
|---|
| Henrietta W md Wilbur Reed. <input type="checkbox"/> Elizabeth W Reed; <input type="checkbox"/> Mary J Reed; <input type="checkbox"/> Abram S Reed; <input type="checkbox"/> John F Reed; <input type="checkbox"/> Clarinda Reed. |
|---|

5th Gen

BORDEN ContinuedElijah
Continued
6th Gen

Charles W Lovisa md W my sister p 58 They have lived in unusual harmony 55 years Hiram W md Adaline Brown live in New Bedford; Eli W W — son by Ann Manchester md Alice Place and * * * * Mussulman, lives at New Boston F R; Diana W md Pardon Francis and Alexander Palmer Francis drowned in the Watuppa about 1858 — Jane Francis md Charles Whittum, Henry Drew and Rodolphus W — Lizzie Whittum — Charles Whittum; — Thomas Francis md Elizabeth Peckham = Pardon Francis md Prudence Terrey — one child dd; = Joseph Francis md Emma Crapo — one son, = Frederick Palmer = Frank Palmer = Willie Palmer Jane W md John Perry dd Oct 1873 = John Arnold Perry md Mary Ellis — Emma Jane Perry — Mary Elizabeth Perry — * * * James Perry; = Charles Perry md Fanny Sampson Nov 1877 — Flora May Perry; = Flora Perry dd — Ella Perry dd — Anna or Ann Eliza Perry; — Carrie Perry, = Ella Jane Perry, = Sarah Haughton Perry — one or more died unnamed. Rhoda W md Blake Perry both dd = one son; Charles Henry W md Mary Jane Pratt he perished on the Watuppa at the same time with P Francis, his brother-in-law — Eli W W md Nancy E Downing; Betsy Elizabeth W md Wm H Cook = Lovina Cook md Jason Durfee Nov 1878 = Anna Cook = Mary A Cook = Lydia A Cook — Henry W and Charles N Cook twins = Hiram G Cook; Malvina W md Thomas Freelove Jr lives at New Boston F R — Hiram Freelove = Phebe Ann Freelove; Josephine W md Theodore Cornell, divorced = Emma Cornell dd md Philip Macomber = Charles Gardner Macomber = Philip Macomber

Eunice W md Bradford W my uncle p 59

Deborah W md Philip W p 61

Clarinda W first wife of Edmund W p 51 Edmund W idiot.

Hiram W dd 9 years old in consequence of getting hurt with a team. End of Elijah and Betsy

Let me here remark that I wish to record the different families in the order of primogeniture, viz in the order of their births; but I meet with an obstacle. I wish to place a family of the 7th generation all on one page and it sometimes happens that when I have half or less of a page in blank, the family which in primogeniture should come next, is large and fills nearly a whole page, such is the case with Charles p 47 and others this compels me sometimes to deviate from the primogeniture, Holder and Henrietta p 46 for instance are younger than Charles p 47.

5th Gen

BORDEN Continued

| | |
|---|--|
| George W
md Hulda
dr of
Gershom
5th p 55. | Isaac W a sailor; dd about 1820, by falling into the hole.

Sylva W md Jonathan W son of Phineas p 59. |
| | Alfred W md Lydia Brightman, lives in N B age near 80 a very worthy man. <input type="checkbox"/> Guloa W md Alfred Allen dd, = Lydia B W Allen — Anna R Allen; <input type="checkbox"/> Alfred W Junr dd young; <input type="checkbox"/> Alfred W md Ruth A Ashley no ch; <input type="checkbox"/> Humphrey B W; <input type="checkbox"/> Sarah W dd young; Sarah 2d amiable; <input type="checkbox"/> Edward M W dd August 1879. |
| | Charles W md Ruth Sherman p 48, he dd she mentally disordered. <input type="checkbox"/> Isaac W dd young; <input type="checkbox"/> Sampson W; <input type="checkbox"/> Charles and Wilson W twins; Wilson md Sarah Gifford a daughter of my cousin Hannah W p 59 |
| 6th Gen | Hulda W md John Castino, both dd. <input type="checkbox"/> Pardon Castino; <input type="checkbox"/> John Castino; <input type="checkbox"/> Noah Castino md * * * * Wilber. |
| | Clarissa W md Grandison Davis, both dd had several ch one was <input type="checkbox"/> George Davis. |
| | Allen W md Ruth Wilson <input type="checkbox"/> son dd a soldier all dd |

| | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Patience W
md Jacob
Benson | They went up country. |
| Amey md
Abram Allen | Nothing known of the family beyond the fact that there was a family. |

Four Davis brothers md W girls, Aaron D md Sally W; Noah D md Hannah W; Abram D md Abby W, and Grandison D md Clarissa W as above.

And I may add that five of Elijah W family md into their own name and relationship, see Elijah p 46 and 7 Charles md Louisa W; Eunice md Bradford W; Deborah md Philip W; Holder md Rachel W; Clarinda md Edward W.

BORDEN

Continued

5th Gen

| | |
|--|---|
| Perry W
md | David <i>W</i> md Mary <i>W</i> dr of Joshua p 52 dd <input type="checkbox"/> Amelia md David Whalon and Frank Carr — 1 or 2 ch. |
| Rebecca <i>W</i> ,
a sister of
Hulda wife
of George
p 55 | Hannah <i>W</i> now the widow of Noah Davis <input type="checkbox"/> several ch Alden lives in N B has a family I think.
Mager or Major <i>W</i> little known. |
| | Ruth <i>W</i> md Marvel or Marble, lives in Lawrence Mass
Nancy <i>W</i> is a widow Dean, lives in F R. |
| | Rebecca <i>W</i> md * * * * Anthony. |

| | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Stephen <i>W</i>
md | Cyntha <i>W</i> md Abram Ormsby both dd. <input type="checkbox"/> Abram Ormsby had several ch; <input type="checkbox"/> Lydia <i>W</i> md Bosworth; <input type="checkbox"/> Betsy Ormsby; <input type="checkbox"/> Harriet Ormsby; <input type="checkbox"/> Chace Ormsby; <input type="checkbox"/> Maria Ormsby; and others. |
| * * Russell
& a widow
Baker. | Mariah <i>W</i> md Michael Hathaway lived near Assonet both died <input type="checkbox"/> Anthony D Hathaway md Caroline F Simmons — Andrew Hathaway — George Hathaway, — Carrie Hathaway <input type="checkbox"/> Rachel Hathaway md Bailey H Borden, lives in F R — Emma C H Borden; <input type="checkbox"/> Sarah R Hathaway, md John L Grant lives in California. — Ardelia Grant; <input type="checkbox"/> Aaron D Hathaway md Dora * * * * lives in California no ch. <input type="checkbox"/> Job T Hathaway lives in California <input type="checkbox"/> several of Mariah's children dd in infancy. |

6th Gen

| | |
|--|--|
| Clarissa <i>W</i> widow of George Coxon | <input type="checkbox"/> Helen Coxon md Henry Gough <input type="checkbox"/> George H Coxon killed by a fall from aloft; <input type="checkbox"/> Edward Coxon, scalded to death in a man-of-war; <input type="checkbox"/> Anna Coxon md Clark Allen — Henry Allen; <input type="checkbox"/> Josiah Coxon md Clara Hopkins; <input type="checkbox"/> Elizabeth Coxon md John Thompson <input type="checkbox"/> Clara or Clarissa Coxon, md James Morisson — Frederick Morisson — Charles Morisson — Richard Morisson <input type="checkbox"/> Charles Coxon md Rebecca Hutchins — 1 child. |
| Rebecca <i>W</i> md George Taber and John B Chace. | <input type="checkbox"/> Caroline F Taber md Saml Kennison — Henrietta L Kennison — Georgianna Kennison dd — Lena Kennison <input type="checkbox"/> Maria Isabel Taber dd young <input type="checkbox"/> Abby L Taber md Benjamin Fuller; <input type="checkbox"/> Charles H Taber md Emma Bennett — Stella Bennett — Mabel Bennett; <input type="checkbox"/> George F Taber dd young; Rebecca has no ch by 2d husband Chace |
| Stephens 2d wife had Luthern who md Anna Mears and Barbara who md Andrew Reed. | |

Charles *W* dd a young man of injuries received in a scuffle.Nathan *W* A sailor never md.Mahala *W* Idiot.

End of Borden.

5 Gen **PATIENCE** Daughter of Wm 3
Married Wm Briggs and raised a family of which I know but little. Wm Briggs junr md Deborah Crapo. Freelove Briggs I think never md.

Having told all that I know of the family of Wm 8d, I shall proceed with that of his brother Gershon 8d, who was my great grandfather. Let it be remembered that these two brothers are William the elder, and Gershon the younger, named in the will of Gershon 2d page 20. Gershon 2d being one of the four brothers, William *Gershon* Richard and Return, grandsons of Wm and Mary.

GERSHOM

Son of
5th Gen Gershon 3d

| | |
|---|--|
| 5th Gen
Gershon 6
<i>He died 1832. His wife Peace Borden who died about 1812, and Susanna widow of Richard W p 44. she was a sister of my mother p 58. a direct descendant of George Soul of the Mayflower company 1620, and died 1869 age 95 or 96.</i> | <p>Abram W md Hannah Thurston she died 1868 he preceding <input type="checkbox"/> Peace W, is the widow of James Richmond. — Mercy B Richmond; — Welcome H Richmond, md Elizabeth Duyer — Lauretta Richmond md Richard Madison lives in Pawtucket; — James Edward Richmond; <input type="checkbox"/> Abram W md Naomi Taylor lives in California — Jane W <input type="checkbox"/> Edmund W drowned near Steep brook 1878 md Clarinda W p 47 and Janet Davol — son by Clarinda Edmund idiotic — by Janet Clara (perhaps Clarinda); <input type="checkbox"/> Abby W md Abram Davis, lives near the head of the North Watuppa pond; — Aaron C Davis md Mary R Davis — Anna Davis md John Joshua Young; — Jesse Davis md Ruth W Crapo — John Davis — Lydia Davis — Abram L Davis; <input type="checkbox"/> Hannah W md Henry Chace — son — dr md Solomon Briggs — Walter Briggs <input type="checkbox"/> Mary Ann W md Wm Haskell, lives near Assonet — George F Haskell — Franklin Haskell <input type="checkbox"/> Mary Jane Haskell — Ferdinand Haskell; <input type="checkbox"/> Gershom T W (the T prevents his being ranked as Gershom 8th) md Mary Ann Chace and Rachel Ashley — by Mary Ann Ella W <input type="checkbox"/> Gardner W md Olive King; Joseph W md Abby Sowle — Rosalie W md George Thyng who died July 1875 under strong suspicions of foul play — 3 ch; — Rodolphus md Jane Drew* a great-grand-child of my mother p 47 = Abby Jane md * * * Briggs — Leander; <input type="checkbox"/> Jane W md Joseph Peckham.</p> |
|---|--|

*Jane Drew now W is a daughter of Diana Palmer, who is a dr of my sister Lovisa, Jane is therefore a great grandchild of my mother Elizabeth, and as she, Jane, has by her first husband (Rodolphus being her 3d) a daughter Lizzie Whittim, in her 16th year smart and bright, there is probability, that this girl may be a mother, before the demise of my mother, in which case my mother may see her 6th generation, Lizzie Whittim being one of her 5th. Very few persons ever see their descendants in the 5th generation.

5th Gen

GERSHOM 5 Continued.

Gershom 6th Contiuned

Joshua *W* md Anna Cowin, and a widow Crapo. He was strong, resolute, persevering, and every way worthy ; a deacon in the church and sometimes a member of the State Legislature. dd Feb 1874. Mary *W* md David *W* p 49 and is the present wife of Leander P Wilber — 1 dr by David p 49 ; Christiana *W* md Isaac Anthony and dd by cutting her own throat, June 1865 — George Anthony md Lucy Ellsbree 1867 ; — *Lillie* Josephine Anthony ; ==, Susan Anthony md Gardner Thurston — 2 ch ; Patience *W* md Ellbridge Barney lives in F R — Francis Barney — Julia Barney — Eveline Barney ; Joshua *Nelson* *W* md Hannah *W* dr of Gershom 7th she being his first cousin, no ch ; he was about the only *W* who in the day of my distress see biography, dared to countenance me long thanks to him ; Humphrey Howland *W* see sub appendix, md Cynthia *W* another dr of Gershom 7th — Mary *W* md * * *. Hambly — David *W* a well behaved young man, note p 60 — Joshua H *W* — Edwin D *W* — 1 or 2 more ; Sylva Ann *W* md Frederick Collins He and 2 of his ch dd of canker-rash 1868 — 8 ch living.

6th Gen

Patience *W* md Samuel Chace she dd 1879 he previously ; settled in Pittstown state of New York. Abby Chace md Wm Allen ; Betsy P Chace md Merton Dyer ; Charles Chace md Sarah Williams ; Gardner Chace ; Peace Chace ; Edmund P Chace ; Emily J Chace ; John Chace.

Elkana *W* died in infancy born or dd about 1805

Rachel *W* md Holder *W* p 46 where her family.

Edmund *W* md Lucinda Tripp dd 1878. A good man Fanny *W* md Thomas J Petty — Frank Steele Petty — Mary Lucinda Petty — Edmund Petty — Anetta Petty* — Rufus Petty Patience *W* md John Collins is insane has several ch Mary *W* migrated west with Rev Perry Lawton Almeria Augusta *W* md Angles Snell Rufus Edmund *W* md Elizabeth D Gifford — Alice Gifford *W* — Edith *W*

*A good girl and quite pretty.

5th Gen

GERSHOM 5th Continued

Gershon 6th Continued Sarah or Sally W md Weston Gifford, Dec. 1819. He dd 1876
she previously. □ Leonard Gifford md Lovina Freelove, — Edmund Gifford p 54 md Mary A W dr of Gershom 7th and widow of Stephen Wood, Edmund is one of our best men, — Peace Gifford — Frank Gifford — Maria Gifford md George Terry — several ch, — John Gifford md Amanda Wilcox; — Charles Gifford md Elizabeth Chace — son living — Melissa Gifford — dr dd 1879 — Melissa Gifford md Frederick Brightman dd Nov 1877 — one dr; — Lizzie Gifford; — Andrew Gifford; — Everett Gifford. □ Weston Avery Gifford md Clara Russell = Ella Gifford md John Hix p 42 both dd and the child also; — Mary Ida Gifford md Charles Record — 1 or 2 ch; — Arthur Gifford □ Sarah Jane Gifford md Richmond Freelove (sub appendix) — Abby Susan Freelove md Joseph Alty 1870 — Reuben Alty — Hannah Jane Alty — Albert Alty. — Mary Ida Freelove md Alfred Bridges 1874; — Frank Freelove rather better than most of the Freeloves; — Hattie or Harriet Freelove md Charles Macomber 1874. — Cora Macomber — Willie Freelove — Frederick R Freelove.

6th Gen. Note the rule of primogeniture see bottom p 47 would assign this place to Gershom 7th but his family is too large for this blank.

Elkanah born 1811 md Judith Gifford dd 1863 she 1871 □ Jonathan W md Hannah Palmer He was drowned in a snow squall Oct 1868 — Rachel W — Mary F W; □ Sarah G W md F Smith — son dd; □ Peace B W md Charles Russell — Frank P Russel — George W Russell; □ Mary Ann W md Robert A Lawton town clerk of Westport — George E Lawton; □ Joseph K W md Sarah M Sampson; — Frederick S W = Ellen M W □ Joshua N W md Harriet W dr of his cousin Gideon W p 54; □ Lester L W; □ Sarah * * W.

5 Gen

GERSHOM 5th Continued

Gershon 6 Continued

Gershom 7th now living age 77, md Sylva Mosher who dd Oct 1868 is one of our solid men Jethro W md Nancy Terry — Albert W md Hannah Healy 1876 — Willie W = Henry W; Gideon W md Sarah Grinnell, lives in Little Compton — Harriet W md Joshua N W p 53 — 1 son; Rodney D W; Gideon F W; Gershom W (Gershom 8th as I do not hear of his having a *folly* name) = James M W — Charles W — Nelson W; Sarah Ann W md Philip Sanford, lives in F R = Clarence Sanford, — Adriane Sanford, md Charles Marble — Roana — Hannah Sanford = 1 son; Gershom Abiel W md Mary Hix p 42 and Mary Grinnell his dr Sylva p 42 dd Cyntha W md Humprey W her cousin p 52 where are her childrens record; Elizabeth W md Robert H Cottle, made herself prominent among my persecutors — Annie E Cottle = Sylva M Cottle = Melvin M Cottle; Hannah W md Nelson or Joshua N W p 52; Mary A W md Stephen Wood and Edmund Gifford p 53; Ruth Jane W md Charles Cummins, a twist in her neck — Stephen W Cummins = Willie A Cummins = 2 or 8 others Arthur W md Mariah Jane Sherman Nov 1876 p 43 — Wm Nelson W.

6th Gen

Note the foregoing are children of Gershom 6th by first wife Peace. The following are by 2d wife Susanna.

Richmond W md Susanna Hoyle and Almira Harridon. He was born 1814. Both wives dd Almira dd 1878, children by Susanna Berthia was one of the escaped ones at the time of the sad conflagration of the Granite mill Sept 1874 when more than 20 persons perished. Rebecca W married Manuel Diaz = 1 or more ch; Richard and Abby W twins, Abby md.

End of Gershom 6

GERSHOM 5th Continued.

5 Gen

Abram *W*
md Zilph
Stafford,
lived and dd
in Tiverton.
Zilph md Radick or Roderick Rounds Patience
Rounds dd the wife of Stephen Coggshall — Joseph
Coggshall md Ruby Manchester dr of my cousin Mary
Dennis and her husband Jeremiah Manchester.
Zilph aforesaid left other children.

Hulda *W* md * * * Gifford no ch.

Alice *W* md Charles Albert lives in Tiverton
Zilph Albert and probably others.

Sarah *W*
md Mathew
Boomer.
And moved to Ohio.

Hannah *W* Settled in Pompey N York.
md * Cook

Hulda Md George *W* p 48.

Elkana md Jefferson *W* md * * * Smith dd August 1871.
Sarah Blossom, both
dd young. Sarah or Sally *W* md Aaron Davis lives in N B
children probably.

Note The foregoing by the first wife Hulda Fox

Rebecca *W* md Perry *W* p 49, where her family

Job *W* md Kezia Sampson both dd 1816 no ch

Adam *W* Ruth *W* md Russel Borden ch 2 or more.

md Deborah Allen
and another Alice *W* md Warren Wilson.

Gilbert *W* md Rachel *W* dr of David *W* and * * *
* * * Harry or Henry *W* md Amanda Snell ;
 Frank *W* dd in youth.

5th Gen

GERSHOM 5th Continued

Rachel . Perry Davis md Ruth Macomber both dd Maria Davis md James Brownell = Ruth Brownell md * * * Pearce — 2 ch, — James Frederic Brownell, — John Brownell ; Mary Jane Davis md Abner Wing, — Edward Wing ; Rachel M Davis md Wm Trafford who dd Feb 1880 = Allen White Trafford — Lester Trafford — Perry Trafford — name unknown ; Sophia Davis md Abner Borden = Susan Borden = 1 son ; Andrew Davis, md Sylva Lincoln ; Jonathan Davis, md Hannah Macomber = Leroy Davis = Charles Davis = Jonathan called Jonny junr — — twin boys.

A very worthy woman, in her 87th year.
Now the widow of Capt. Jonathan Davis
Abiel Davis md Rhoda Borden, His death in 1865 was caused by a rope running rapidly through his hand. Phebe Davis md Loam Faunce = Charles Faunce = Birney Faunce, dont know the exact name ; Amanda Davis md Willard Petty a much better man than most of his name — James Irwin Petty = Willard Petty junior ; Ruth Barker Davis, widow of Albert Sanford, who dd in 1874 = Lester Sanford — Thomas Edwin Sanford = Albert Abiel Sanford ; Abiel Frank Davis md Anna Barker.

6th Gen
Mary Davis md Wilson Sherman p 43.

Lovisa Davis md Thomas S brother of Wilson p 43.

Rachel Collins Davis, md Richard Ashley, lives in Dartmouth, Charles G. Ashley ; Hannah A. Ashley, Addie (perhaps Adaline) Ashley md * * Chace = 2 or more ch. End of Rachel.

David W dd 1868 md 2 sisters, Deborah and Innocent Brayton.

| | |
|--|---|
| Thomas W Idiotic. | |
| Brayton W lives in New Bedford. | |
| Innocent W md Rodney Durfee. | <input type="checkbox"/> Innocent Durfee md |
| David W md Rosilla Handy dd <input type="checkbox"/> dr md * * * Grinnell <input type="checkbox"/> Thomas W <input type="checkbox"/> Alexander W <input type="checkbox"/> James W; | |
| Rachel W md Gilbert W son of Adam p 55. | |
| Job W md * * * * Gray, lives in Tiverton. | |
| Borden W md * * * * Peckham lived at last account in Little Compton. End of David. | |

GERSHOM 5th Continued.

5th Gen.

| | |
|--|---|
| Mary dd
1816 1st
wife of John
Crapo | Squire G Crapo md Hannah Davol and * * * * *
* * * All I know of his children is that one of
them as Capt Crapo in 1878 performed the daring
feat of crossing the Atlantic in a small boat, with no
company but his wife. As Mary dd young Squire
was her only child. |
| John
md Rebecca
Smith who
dd Ap. 1880 | Eliza W md <input type="checkbox"/> 1 child name and sex unknown.
Lucy Ann W.
John W. |
| Ruth W

The youngest child of Gershon 5th born 1805, dd md James Thurston whose house near Indiantown F R was burned June 1869 and he perished in the flames | Adam Thurston md Lucy Harvey. <input type="checkbox"/> Emma A Thurston dd ; <input type="checkbox"/> Lucy J Thurston ; <input type="checkbox"/> Adam Warren Thurston ; <input type="checkbox"/> George Thurston.

Rachel Thurston, md Weston Gifford lives at Hemlock Gutter North Westport. <input type="checkbox"/> Elizabeth E Gifford md Oliver Cornell = Robert H Cornell, — Carrie L Cornell = Albert H Cornell, = Edith E Cornell, — Rachel Augusta Cornell = Ferdinand Gifford Cornell ; <input type="checkbox"/> Ruth Ellen Gifford md Stephen R Potter = Wm Stephen Potter = Mary Hannah Potter ; <input type="checkbox"/> Adam Gifford md Anna Gray = Adam Weston Gifford = Frank or Franklin Jefferson Gifford ; <input type="checkbox"/> Lysander Clarence Gifford md Deborah Smith no ch ; <input type="checkbox"/> Hannah Maria Gifford md Robert Wallace Thompson = Edith Augusta Thompson. |
| 6th Gen | Lovina Davis Thurston. md Wm Pool <input type="checkbox"/> Jacob L Pool, md * * * * * <input type="checkbox"/> Ruth Pool md Job Boomer no ch ; <input type="checkbox"/> Elizabeth Pool ; <input type="checkbox"/> Walter Pool. |
| | Ruth Ann Thurston 2d wife of Anthony Sherman p 41. |
| | Hannah Thurston dd md Benjamin Jenks. <input type="checkbox"/> Hannah Jenks md Henry Wilcox. |
| | Elizabeth Ann Thurston md Joseph Lawton, no ch ; |
| | James H Thurston, md Caroline Briggs. <input type="checkbox"/> James T Thurston ; <input type="checkbox"/> Robert Elias Thurston ; lives near Indiantown F R |
| | Almira W Thurston md Godfrey Westgate. <input type="checkbox"/> Ruth Westgate ; <input type="checkbox"/> Ernest Westgate. |
| | Sylva Thurston, 2d wife of Benjamin Jenks and also md Thomas Kane. <input type="checkbox"/> James Kane. |
| | Benjamin Thurston md Sarah Wilcox no ch. Both Benjamin and his brother James are noticed as practising the somewhat rare virtue of attending to their own business. |
| | End of Ruth and of Gershon 5th or tavern keeper Gershon |

PHINEAS Son of Gershom 3d.

5th Gen

Born about 1755 md Rhoda Rider, p 32, 1788; killed by falling from his horse Feb 1821, she dd 1819, they were my grandparents

| | |
|---|--|
| Benjamin
W
Born 1783 His character see my Biography, md Elizabeth Soule a sister of Susanna S
wife of Richard W p 44 and Gershom 6 p 51. He dd Jan 1850, she (Elizabeth) now lives in her 94th
year loved and respected by all that know her and fully deserving such respect.

6 Gen | <p>ELI W the author of this work, md Lydia Tripp 1838 and Lucy A Pearce otherwise Amanda Brightman 1868 Lydia dd 1861, Amanda hanged herself Apl 1875 <input type="checkbox"/> Webster W dd 1862 a soldier of the Rebellion; <input type="checkbox"/> Uriah Wardell md Mercey Shurtleff = 2 ch living and one dd lives in Taunton Mass <input type="checkbox"/> Seth W a wild worthless fellow little known; <input type="checkbox"/> Weston W md Mary Jackson lives in New Jersey = Lydia Martha W — George Weston W Eli Wardell md Emma * * * * = 8 or 4 ch lives in Taunton Mass; <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Wm and Mary (William 7th) twins, born and dd Jan 1845; Edgar W a wild worthless boy, in pity to him I suppress a very undutiful and wicked speech of his in the day of my distress 1875; <input type="checkbox"/> Phineas W my best and worthiest son md the equally amiable Lillian Wilbur 1875 lives in Greenland N H</p> |
|---|--|

Lovisa W md Charles W p 47*

Almira W dd 1822 in her 14th yr.

Diana W dd 1827 in her 16th yr.

Rhoda W md Bradford Brightman dd 1841 Henry Brightman a crabbed curse, dd by suicide; 1878 Lydia Tripp Brightman, dd about the same hour with her mother; Thomas Richmond Brightman md Lizzie or Elizabeth Russell 1 or more ch; twin boys, one died in infancy the other James Bradford Brightman now lives.

Samuel Egbert Henry W dd a bachelor 1870.

Benjamin Rider W md Elizabeth Thurston lives in Dartmouth, cold shoulder, Oscar Herbert W; Carrie Ida W md Perry W p 46 — Harry Franklin W Benjamin Franklin W a worthy young man.

Ruth W noted mischief maker md Thomas Snell. Louisa Snell md Charles Andrews.

*Lovisa is an uncommonly good woman, much like her and my mother, Elizabeth and much unlike myself.

5th Gen.

PHINEAS

Continued

Elizabeth md Joseph Reed & Wm Boomer. Isaac and Benjamin Reed are all that I ever knew of her family as they went up country in early life.

Ruth 2d wife of John Crapo dd about 1857. Phineas W Crapo sub appendix md Sarah Ann Pool
 Susan Adaline Crapo; Ruth W Crapo md Jesse Davis Phineas Irvin Crapo.

6 Gen Mary Crapo md Benjamin Collins, and George Macomber, lives in Dartmouth, now a widow
 Benjamin Collins md; Ruth Ann md * * * * Philips.

Peleg Taber W* md Lake. dd 1875 she dd 1880 John W md Mary Ann Turner she dd Sept 1878
 James W; Everett W; John W; Philip W.
 Andrew W dd. Jonathan W supposed to be dd. Philip Hathaway W supposed to be dd.
 Ann Maria and two Sarah Anns, dd. Charlotte W md Samuel Durfee 1 or more ch.
 Durfee see sub appendix Mary Susan W little known.

Philip W died young.

Jonathan W p 48 Jonathan and Sylva had one son Phineas who md Sylva W dd a child and both the parents dd early.

John W md Sarah Brownell Hannah W md Alfred Gifford Sarah Gifford md Wilson W son of Charles and Ruth p 48.

Bradford W md Eunice W p 47 He dd 1878 she now living Daniel W md * * * * Reynolds and Mary Jane Brown dd Jan 1875. Evelyn W; Everett W; Clarinda W.

Bradford R W md Emily Mosher. Emily W; Charles R W; Alice M W; Anna M W, Rachel M W; John H W; infant son.

Mercy Ann W. two good girls Adaline W. End of Phineas

*Peleg Taber W was the only one of the 6th Generation, which I have met with, and none of previous generations; who were incumbered with more than two names. And two are enough.

5th Gen.

THOMAS

Son of Gershom 3d.

Married Phebe Borden, lived in Westport, dd 1834, she 1850

| | |
|---------|--------------------------|
| Silas W | Died about 1812 or 1813. |
|---------|--------------------------|

| | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Peleg W
md Delana
W p 40. | Silas W lives in N B. has a family I think.*

Abel W md Ardelia Handy lives in F R. <input type="checkbox"/> Delana
A W md Had a child burnt to death 1866; <input type="checkbox"/> Marcus M W; Francis A W; Albert H W; <input type="checkbox"/> Anna J W; <input type="checkbox"/> Charlotte H W; <input type="checkbox"/> one other son.

Isaac W lives in N B of his wives Maria Brownell
and Adaline Russell are their names. |
| | William W (Wm 6th) md Rebecca Luther lives in F R. <input type="checkbox"/> Harriet E W md Joseph Macfarlane = Walter Macfarlane <input type="checkbox"/> Isaac W <input type="checkbox"/> Lottie W. |
| | Olive W dd 1873 wife of Amenzar Durfee. |
| | Caleb W Not known to be living, been away many years. |

| | |
|--------|--|
| Anna W | Second wife of Pearce Philips; <input type="checkbox"/> Susan Philips. |
|--------|--|

| | |
|---------|---|
| Susan W | 1st wife of P Philips. <input type="checkbox"/> Isaac Philips; <input type="checkbox"/> Thomas Philips. |
|---------|---|

| | |
|----------|-------------------------------------|
| Thomas W | Drowned in the great gale Sept 1815 |
|----------|-------------------------------------|

| | |
|----------|---|
| Samuel W | dd in Westport asylum, fathered Freelo Brigs, illegitimate. |
|----------|---|

| | |
|-----------|--------------------------|
| John W md | Christopher W died 1874. |
|-----------|--------------------------|

| | |
|-----------------|-----------|
| Diana W
p 40 | Bailey W. |
|-----------------|-----------|

| | |
|--|---|
| | Ann Maria W md Thomas Ashbrook and Nathaniel Booth; <input type="checkbox"/> Mary Ashbrook. |
|--|---|

| | |
|--|-----------------------------|
| | Phebe W md James W Sanders. |
|--|-----------------------------|

| | |
|--|-----------------------------|
| | Rhoda W md George W Gilman. |
|--|-----------------------------|

End of Thomas.

*Some years ago, I was travelling in the road, much snow was present, walking very laborious; in short I was very much tired and lame. I met a horse and sleigh, the driver saw that he was about to meet a poor old lame man. I knew him not nor did he know me, and this man, this gentleman turned aside and gave me the road. This was Silas W as I learned soon after. He was coming from his fathers funeral. David W son of Humprey p 52, behaved to me in a similar manner in 1874.

I can tell but little more of the family of Gershom 3d some of their names may be found on p 30 (Children of Gershom and Mary) that little I propose to tell on this page, not strictly following the rules of the foregoing pages

SILAS youngest son of Gershom 3d md * * * * Borden and * * * * Herrick, settled in Dutchess county N York. Had two sons and two daughters Joseph md Henrietta Wheeler and reared a family one of *his* sons was a few years ago a practising lawyer in Pokepsie I do not know that any other of the family ever married. Walter *W* was another son.

The old gentleman was wealthy and held in high esteem and held important town and county offices, I was at his house and kindly treated in 1827

SUSANA md Wm Ellsbree 1768 and went up country N York

MOLLY or MARY married a Taber and probably went up country

CONSTANT md Samuel Sherman 1768, she dd young leaving one son who took her name, and went with the father up country.

LOVINA Though unmarried had one son Nathaniel *W* who md Rhoda Reed. Nathaniel and his wife disagreed he left her, was gone 47½ years and came home as he said to die and did die a few years ago.

Nathaniel had one son Philip *W* and two daughters Rebecca and Deborah of these drs I can say nothing further. Philip md Deborah *W* p 47. and a Julia A Roberson. Ph dd some years ago Philip and Deborah children.

Albert *W* lost at sea.

Henry *W* dd a soldier.

Marietta *W* dd.

Caroline *W* md Herrin 2 ch.

Charles *W* md

Ann Maria *W* md Gardner 2 ch.

Sarah J *W* md Wm Chace p 33.

George *W* dd a soldier.

Lovina was a worthy old woman notwithstanding her misfortune, she was generally the standing nurse in her brothers families as near as I can remember she officiated in that character at the date of my infancy.

A few closing remarks at the end of the Genealogical part of my work may be not inappropriate.

It is not to be supposed that a work of this character, is certain to be free of errors and mistakes. Families and persons looking over it will be likely to detect them. I can only say that I have taken considerable pains in the matter, and wherever I may have made a wrong record, I hope not to be severely criticized.

I do not expect any pecuniary returns from the work, it is not my intention to sell any of the books ; but to leave them among my children and friends in the hope that those who may come into possession of them will take good care of them, to the end that they may be kept a long time. To whoever may have the duty of settling my estate I make this request that they lend or give the books to such persons and such only, as will be likely to preserve them unmutilated.

One thousand dollars, (no trifling sum to one in my circumstances) would scarcely be a full compensation, for the many miles which I have travelled, the many hours expended in writing, the considerable sum which I pay to the printer, and the various petty vexations which I have encountered in pursuit of the facts which I now present ; surely those who may be in any way gratified and benefitted by them, can afford to exercise some care in their preservation.

One hope which I entertain in getting up the work, is that others will be induced to follow my track and write as I have done either in reference to our family or any other ; and to foster the spirit of Genealogical research.

My thanks are due and freely tendered, to many persons of both sexes, who have assisted and encouraged me in my researches, by entertaining me at their houses, and imparting such information in my line as they were able to do. In reference to such persons I hope that they and their posterities may in some way, and at some time, be benefitted by information which they may find here.

Although people in general have shown a willingness to assist me whenever desired ; I regret that I have met with individuals (only three) of a somewhat less accommodating temper.

The first of these is a woman living in New Bedford, a distant relative and an acquaintance of my childhood ; who would tell me nothing, when I told her my name she pretended to know of no such person, she even pretended not to know whose widow she was. The next was a lady keeping a large and fashionable boarding house in Fall River, she could not afford time to assist me, her domestic occupations were so pressing ; but she was perfectly civil, which is more than I can say of her sister whom I called on the same day, with whom I was well acquainted in my youthful days, and to whom as she is a professing Christian for she "got religion" about the same time I did ; I would recommend Matthew 5 chap 41 and 42 verses. She had no such excuse of pressing occupation as her sister did. Her obtuseness is the most prominent reason of my inability to give more than a meagre account of *that* family.

Those who may chance to peruse my work with due attention, will be likely to make two discoveries, First, that I am not an *amiable* man ; Second, that I am not a fool. For the first, I am not wholly accountable ; as I have told in my biography, what kind of a father I had, I refer to the words of him who is accredited with saying that "a bad tree cannot bring forth good fruit." For whatever of sense and talent I may possess, I may thank my mother for she, though not an educated woman, and never conspicuous in literature, did really possess that which with educational advantages would have made her a shining light. To my father I owe my bad temper and that constitutional infirmity, which has caused me many a groan ; to mother whatever I possess of literary taste and scientific acquirement.

My Maternal Relatives.

In the pursuit of this subject the rules and divisions the margins, laterals, sub-laterals &c. as used in reference to my *paternals* p 38 and 39 will not be wholly applicable. For instance I cannot afford a whole page to *each* of those who are of the class and plane of my grandfather ; with some of them I know so little that I could not fill even half of the page, wherefore some of these rules will be abandoned in this part of my work.

My great grandfathers, and mothers, with their grade, will be distinguished by large capitals such as

WILLIAM SOWLE.

My grandparents and their class, plain large capitals, as
NATHANIEL SOWLE.

My parents, with *their* class, or grade, small plain capitals as
ELIZABETH SOWLE

My own grade, and class, in italics as *Eli W*

My children are as p 38-39, preceded by ; grand ch by =
great g ch by —.

I shall use the same abbreviations as formerly.

There can be no doubt that William Sowle, was a direct descendent of George *Soul* one of the Mayflowers company of Pilgrims who settled at Plymouth Mass in 1620. I have no such proof of the matter as would render it absolutely certain ; but I have such collaterals, as place it beyond a reasonable doubt, and I assume that it is a fact. William was probably a great-grandson of George the Pilgrim.

WILLIAM SOWLE ^{md} **KEZIA**
GIFFORD

William Sowle
 See note p 64

And these were my
 great grand parents

She was his second wife, his first was * * * Slade she had two brothers Benjamin Gifford and Recompence Gifford and two sisters. Abigail Gifford and Mary Gifford of whom I shall speak by and by. The children of William and Kezia were PEACE Sowle ; JOB Sowle ; JACOB Sowle ; NATHANIEL Sowle. also Samuel Sowle, Joseph Sowle, and Recompence Sowle, of whose posterity I can give no account.

I begin with PEACE who md GIDEON BORDEN their children were MARY Borden who md Elisha Francis. *George Sowle* a whaling captain dd 1877 md Sylva Tripp and Lydia Tripp drs of Elihu Tripp Mary Ann Sowle md Samuel Smith = Elias Smith md Ida Borden 1875. Permilla Sowle dd at age 18 ; Pheodora Sowle md John Bly. = Frank Bly md Ella Sabins = Delora *Etta* Bly ; = Emma Bly md Charles Thomas Bantan Young — Charles Wm Young — Susie Young dd Jan 1880 = John Bly junr Abby Jane Sowle md Joseph *W* p 51. The foregoing are ch of Sylva, the following are ch of Lydia ; Christiana Sowle md Frederick Tripp ; Sylva Sowle md Wm Ball ; George Sowle jr md Nancy Simmons ; Laura Ann Sowle md Wilber Tripp ; Frederick P Sowle md Ellen Gray and Mary Cornell ; Frank R Sowle md Ellen Sampson ; Ferdinand Sowle md Ella Dodge ; Cornelius Sowle md Alice Sparks. *Mercy Francis* md Ellery Macomber. George Macomber md * * * Little = Carrie M = Etta M = 2 sons Richmond Macomber md Sarah Tripp = Charles Macomber md Hattie Freelove p 53 — Cora Macomber ; — Herbert Macomber md ; Pardon Macomber md ; Horace Macomber md lives in California John Macomber md ; Sarah Macomber md James Gillfeather ; Sylva Macomber md ; Ruth Macomber md.

PEACE Borden continued

MARY FRANCIS continued *Cook Francis* lived and dd in Little Compton had a family one of his daughters Julie I think md Wright Pearce a converted horse thief. *Hiram Francis* a whaling captain family unknown; *Ruby Francis* md. LIZZIE Borden dr of Peace was the wife of John T Gifford p. JOB Borden son of Peace md Rachel Mosher *Anna Borden, Ruth Borden*; STEPHEN Borden son of Peace md Phebe H Davol *Job Borden* md * * * Harris *Miranda Borden* md Levi A Tripp; *Peace Borden* 2d wife of Charles Borden. ELIHU Borden son of Peace md Deborah Sowle; *Thomas Borden*; *Peleg Borden* md Cynthia King; *George Borden* dd.

End of Peace and Gideon and of Mary

JOB son of William and Kezia dd in Westport about 1846. His 2d wife was Katy or Catharine Sanford, widow of Philip Sanford. I know but little of his children there was a GEORGE Sowle and LEMUEL Sowle he had one daughter who md * * * Brightman.

JACOB son of Wm and Kezia one of his children was REBECCA wife of Wm Simmons lived and dd in Little Compton. They were very unfortunate in their children one of whom rum crazy shot and killed his brother and died insane another brother hung himself. One of their drs was the wife of George Wood and the mother of Phebe *Minerva* Wood wife of Wm *Tillinghast* Davol. One of Rebeccas grand ch was Wm T Simmons another is or was the wife of Thomas Grinnell &c

NATHANIEL son of Wm and Kezia was my grandfather, the father of my mother ELIZABETH His first wife md 1773 was REBECCA Gifford dr of Recompence Gifford after she dd about 1794 He md a widow Simms and settled in Saratoga county N Y and raised a second family and where I visited him in 1827, the only time that we ever saw each other. His Massachusetts ch were

SUSANNA Sowle md Richard *W p 44* and Gershom *W p 51*

MERCY dd a child

LILLIS 2d wife of Samuel Sabins no ch

WILLIAM md Alice Perry and a widow Kirby no ch.

KEZIA md Levi Scofield and emigrated West

ROBY md John Dennis lived and dd in Tiverton *Joseph Dennis* went up country and I think md there; *Daniel Dennis* md Bashy (prcbably Bathsheba) * * *; *Mercy Dennis* md Ichabod Potter raised a family she dd in N B; *Mary Dennis* md Jeremiah Manchester and Rodick Rounds p 55; *William Dennis* md Hannah King — 1 dr; *Holder Dennis* md Betsy Manchester and another; *Ruth Dennis* md Nathaniel Manchester lives in N B no ch; *Bradford Dennis* not married that I know of

ELIZABETH My mother now living in her 94th year md Benjamin *W p 58* and as her family is described there it need not be repeated. End of Rebecca and children

Nathaniels New York children, my half uncles and aunts are
PHEBE Sowle md John Murry.

REBECCA Sowle at last accounts wife of Daniel Butler

NANCY Sowle md John M Queen lived in Onondaga county.

JOB
STEPHEN
DAVID } All married

RECOMPENCE GIFFORD

Was a brother of Kezia my great grand-mother p 65 and he was my great grandfather. My grandfather Nathaniel Sowle see p 67 married Rebecca dr of Recompence I am thence so allied to the Gifford family that I will take some pains to describe it This Gifford family had at least five children, two sons and three daughters Their names are here given

BENJAMIN, RECOMPENCE, ABICAIL, MARY, KEZIA,*

These five I now intend to describe separately in their order.

BENJAMIN died in Westport Mass about 1817 His children what little I know of them follow.

NATHANIEL Gifford carried on his business of blacksmithing in North Westport, of his ch I know nothing certainly

JAMES Gifford I know about as much of him as of Nathaniel

STEPHEN Gifford. Had one son **JOHN** Gifford who md **LIZZIE** Borden dr of Peace p 66. Amanda Gifford md David Sanford dd ; = Abby Sanford md Azariah Tripp = Andrew Sanford dd in Florida 1873 or 1874; Elihu Gifford md Clarissa Petty = George Gifford md Fidelia Parris (who is a granddaughter of my cousin Hope Cornell p 44) — 2 ch ; = David Gifford.

Annanias Gifford was either the father or a brother (I know not which) of Benjamin and Recompence; with the sisters Kezia, Abigail and Mary
He had a son William, who was the father of Daniel, David, Samuel, Royal and Stephen; and daughters as Sarah who md * * * * Nottage; Lucy md George Crocker * * * * md John Crossman; one George Booth * * * * Sherman; Sisson; Phillips. Of their descendants I know but little.

JOHN lived and dd near Indian Town F R sons LEVI Gifford ; PELEG Gifford ; WARREN Gifford ; ISAAC Gifford ; LUTHER Gifford ; BENJAMIN Gifford ; WESTON Gifford and two or three daughters. One of the sons was the father of *Weston Gifford* who md Rachel Thurston p 57 ; WESTON son of John md Sarah W p 53 and dd March 1876. One daughter of John was the mother of *Phebe* now widow of Wm Brawley and the mother of Ann Maria Reed = Phebe Reed. Another daughter was the wife of John Manchester and mother of *Isaac* and *Lydia* Manchester *Lydia* widow of Silas Lake is the mother of = Lucinda now widow of Stephen B Gifford p 42

No more of John son of Benjamin

GEORGE son of Benjamin Gifford md Susan dr of Sampson Sherman she being of the *W* family, her and his family with his matrimonial adventures p 42

RUTH daughter of Benjamin was the first wife of Philip Sanford and the parent of a host of Sanfords as ABRAM S ; DAVID S ; STEPHEN S ; THOMAS S and their many descendants. This Philip Sanford was killed by falling from his horse after his death his widow Catharine md Job Sowle p 66. DAVID was the grandfather of Adoniram Wrightington p 59

End of Benjamins family

RECOMPENCE Gifford my g grandfather His wife was Susanna Taber. He died 1826. She somewhere about 1800. Had two sons and two daughters as follow,
JOHN Gifford son of Recompence md Isabel Milk Their children

SYLVA 2d wife of Abner Davol, preacher dd Jan 1868

PEACE md Brice Mosher

PATIENCE md Rufus Tripp, dd 1875 aged 90 or more *Almira Tripp* md John Cornell, lives in Springfield Mass *Almeda Tripp* md Wm French, both dd, *Lydia Tripp* md *Godfrey King* □ Rufus King □ Gardner King □ Mary King. *Job W Tripp* md Mary Cassidy dd in Illinois 1874 left eleven children; *Lucinda Tripp* widow of Edmund W p 52; *David C Tripp* md Mahala Wideman, drowned in the Hudson river; *Robert C Tripp* md Cynthia Crapo dd in Pokepsie about 1872; *Miranda Tripp* md Adoniram Bennett both dd; *Augusta Tripp* widow of David Kirby lives in Lowell

NANCY md John Snell and Job Gifford dd 1867

ALMY md Job White

REBECCA md C Cornell and John Underwood.

ZACCHEUS md C Crapo

SQUIRE md * * * Macomber

ALDEN

WILLIAM Gifford son of Recompence md Mehitable Wilkey dd 1836 in Ohio their children were JEDIAH Gifford; JOHN Gifford; WILLIAM Gifford; DANIEL Gifford; HIX Gifford; MOSES Gifford; SARAH Gifford; ARTESIA Gifford

RUTH Gifford dr of Recompence never md

REBECCA Gifford daughter of Recompence md Nathaniel Sowle and they were the parents of my mother ELIZABETH Their family p 67

This ends the family of Recompence Gifford

ABIGAIL Gifford sister of Benjamin and Recompence md George Crocker **GEORGE** Crocker ; **ROBERT** Crocker ; **STEPHEN** Crocker ; **ELIZABETH** Crocker ; **CANAAN** Crocker. By rule p 64 these names should have been in large, instead of small capitals ; Elizabeth md Stephen Peckham and was the mother of Philip, Paul and Perry Peckham some of whose descendants are among us at the present day. End of Abigail.

MARY Gifford, sister of Benjamin and Recompence md Nathan Petty. I find it difficult here to follow the Rule p 64 and shall not attempt to do so, and as in Abigail so shall I do here. Mary ch were **JOSHUA** Petty ; **DANIEL** Petty ; **ISAAC** Petty. Joshua md Rosamon Potter He was a good old man and had *one* good son and one grandson who is an insufferable snake-in-the-grass. Among Daniels ch was Margaret wife of Thurston Davol and Nathan who md a dr of Capt Beriah Allen. Isaac was the father of Elias Petty who md Delilah Tripp an aunt of my first wife. Elias and Delilah were the grandparents of Willard Petty who md Amanda Davis p 56 and of Albert Sanford who md Ruth sister of Amanda Davis.

End of Mary

KEZIA Gifford sister of Benjamin and Recompence was the 2d wife of William Sowle, in consequence of which her posterity are found on p 65 66 and 67.

Here closes what I have to say of the Giffords.

BIOGRAPHY.

As I am intending to revise my Genealogy and get a few copies printed, First, to keep alive some knowledge of my worthy ancestors ; Second, that my posterity may have a chance to know who their relatives are ; and third to let future comers know who and what I am ; I think it advisable to append a brief biography of myself my life and actions ; so here goes.

I, Eli Wodell, was born July 12th 1805 in Westport Bristol county Massachusetts and within a mile of the bounds of Troy (now Fall River city) in said state and county

My father was a very bad man. He had courted my mother a poor servant girl, seduced her under a promise of marriage, and by my making my *appearance* before I was desired, he was compelled, though unwilling, to marry her and hated and abused her as long as he lived, and me till I was big enough to run away and go to sea. He was a sad miserable drunkard, and in his carousals would gamble neglect and waste his property, then get sober, feel despondent, wish he had no such incumbrance as a family and abuse her and me for being the cause of it. She endured him 45 years. I till I was 18 years old. I cannot adequately describe the many floggings, and other abuses, which I suffered on this principle. Suffice it to say they were such, being in the tender years of my life, as to beat all manhood out of me, to make in short a *coward* of me, which is the chief reason why I have never had better success among that class of men in which my lot has been cast.

I am sorry that this account may be construed into a reflection on my mothers character ; those who have escaped the snare which she fell into, may blame her, but reflecting and sensible

persons will do no such thing ; she was and is a good woman (now living in her 94th year) she did no more than thousands do in like cases, and are never in after life thought to be the worse for it. Let those who never did anything wrong, cast the first stone.

I maintain that no wrong was committed in the *act* of getting a child, the wrong was with the one who was unwilling to do his duty by it, after it was begotten ; *my mother* was *not* this one she was emphatically a *good* mother and is now, so far as her age and consequent imbecility permits, and consequently that *she* did no wrong in the matter.

At the age of 16 I *got religion* such was the expression I had learned the popular theory on the subject, that in consequence of the transgression of the first man and woman, all mankind are doomed to eternal damnation and misery. That Jesus Christ was the son of God, (some hold that he was God himself) that the father and son agreed that the latter should take on himself humanity and suffer, and thus the offended father would be appeased, and would pardon such of the offenders as would submit to his dictation, would declare themselves his adherents, and submit to his rules, as taught in the bible and explained by his servants (the ministers). These were to escape damnation and instead thereof should enjoy an eternity of indescribable bliss and happiness.

Such is the outline of the theory as I understood it and as a child I believed it, and at 16 submitted to it. I was a convert so called, but as I grew older and was able to think for myself as I reflected on the absurdity of the various points of the theory ; and particularly as I noticed the conduct of most of those who in accordance with one of the requirements of the contract, that the converts or believers should be, not only honest and just to all, but much more than that, kind, amiable good, *good goop*, I say when I saw how little there was of real goodness, in these people, the *great* majority of them, I was led to reflect, I was skeptical, for another 16 years I wandered in the fogs, vacillating from one belief to another earnestly wishing and seeking the right whatever it might be, and by the time I was 30 or a little more, I found myself to be an unbeliever or *Infidel*.

I have never advocated the theory that there is no God. I only doubt it. I say I do not *know* of any such being, I have never met with satisfactory proof of his existence.

On this ground I have stood more than 40 years, and have felt no anxiety in reference to a future life, in all that time. I believe that I could now die, and shall die with greater calmness and less of mental agony, than I could have done at any time between the ages of 5 and 30, or perhaps I should say between ten and thirty for I do not think that Hellfire &c. afflicted me much before I was ten. Thus I dismiss this part of my story.

Drunkenness prevailed to a considerable extent in the early part of this century. I early saw the mischief it was making not only with my father but with many others. Temperance societies and prohibition laws had not been thought of; I would not be a drunkard to avoid the possibility of it I would drink none at all. Unadvised I quit entirely except in one or two cases, when I was ill and it was forced on me, the last time I drank rum voluntarily, was in July 1816 at the age of eleven.

Sailors have hated and persecuted me for this non-adhesion to their habits, and for not using tobacco, and they soon find out that there is no dog, no fight, in my composition, and also that I am economical in my dress and general expenditures, which they are apt to denominate *miserly*, for these several reasons while I have generally been in favor with captains and officers of vessels I have been held in a different light by the common sailors.

I first went to sea in 1823 in a whaler from New Bedford I followed it pretty steady for 9 years made four voyages in the time came home in 1832, made 2 or 3 coasting trips one to Richmond Va one to Albany &c and in the winter 1832-3 taught school with credit and success in Tiverton R I It was the winter of the E K. Avery, and S. M. Cornell affair very similar to the more recent case in Connecticut Rev * * * Hayden and Mary Stannard. I regret that my limits do not allow me to describe these and other things as I would like to do.

It was between the second and third of these four voyages that I made a visit to Grandfather Sowle, my mothers father in Saratoga co N Y, it was the only time (1827) that we ever saw each other.

The last of those voyages, was in ship Ann Alexander of New Bedford and was the longest I ever made about 48 months. I went out as a boatsteerer a man between the mates and the men whose most prominent duty it is to *strike* or give the first blow to the whale, viz to throw in the harpoon and *fasten* to him, I failed

to do this successfully ; little favor was shown me, I was disrated or broke, came home as a foremasthand.

I cannot stop to discuss the reasons of my failure, want of courage was probably the most prominent one, many a careless worthless uneducated fellow makes a good whalekiller and some of them get to be masters ; it is not skill which is particularly requisite, but a sort of *don't-care-a-dam-ish-ness* that is most successful in this business. A man who is an expert hog-killer, and delights in the business, will make a good whale-killer if brought up to it, and such will often get the command of a ship. Avast.

After the school closed 1833 I married one of the girls Miss Lydia Tripp. Her parents were worthy and respectable but her sisters were different and made trouble between us. I bought a farm in Troy (now Fall River) less than a mile from where I now live and took her to it. Her folks of course must visit her, to this I could have no objection, but she was a good way from her relatives, and was a little homesick, this was natural, her sisters cherished the feeling, made her think that she was ill used, urged her not to comply with my plans to live sparingly for a few years till able to live in better style, they and she induced me to buy a farm in Little Compton, to which I removed in March 1840 and soon after I sold my Fall River farm, on which my two first children Webster and Uriah were born, it is now owned and occupied by T J Petty.

I do not pretend to be a *good* man according to the popular understanding of the term, I do not love my enemies, and bless them that curse me, I do not *pretend* to do this, if a person injures me I will retaliate if I can with safety to myself, even if it is my brother or father, and this leads me to again introduce the man who got me, who so abused me that I am a coward and have suffered under it all my days, and am now a poor man pecuniarily, and what aggravates this condition is, that I am sensitively awake to the fact. I must relate one incident of my fathers treatment ; he was coming out of one of his carousals, probably, felt sick and despondent, and must relieve his own suffering by making me suffer, we were out on the farm together, he must find or make an excuse, he spoke to me, what he said I do not now remember, but as I was answering him, my foot in motion, I turned over a stone as big perhaps as a mans fist, that was all he sought, "What" says he "have you turned that stone over for?

it has killed one spot of grass and you have placed it in position to kill another spot." What a crime! he took a bush and thrashed me, went a little further and repeated it, again the third time, all within 10 minutes, and this was not a solitary case. I could relate many such. In short such was my dread of him, the terrors I suffered, that I have many times during mature manhood, dreamed of him. I have done so within a month past, though I am 75 years old and he has been dead 80 years and these dreams always present him as tyrannizing and punishing me. Let no one blame me for speaking ill of my *father*. He showed his spite to the last by cutting me off in his will.

I cannot, or will not, forbear to state one little item of my fathers conduct, simply for the joke it embodies. If anything annoyed or disturbed him, when I was with him he would always find some way to construe it to be my fault, and on such occasions would always call me a dam-son-of-a-bitch, or a damned Indian, these two *paternal* expressions were ever at hand, and sometimes he would get them mixed into one, on one of these occasions he actually told me that I was *the son of a damned Indian* I felt no inclination to dispute the assertion, but if I had dared I might have impertinently? asked him whether it was his fault or mine.

And this is the *father* for whom, after he had in his will disinherited me, an attempt was made to erect a monument, in part at my expense; which attempt by the *mischief-maker* has caused an estrangement between me and my brother.

And his conduct to his wife, was not less abominable; though different in form. If he dared not thump and kick her he would drive her out doors in all weathers, and if she left the house her children must suffer, he would *spank* a sucking baby, for no reason but to aggravate her, I have seen my little sister less than a year old creep up to mother, hold up her little arms imploring the mothers protection, and a brutal father drag her away, to repeat his mode of discipline. Many a mother in such a case would have seized the first axe within her reach and split his head open, and where is the judge or jury that would have condemned her?

I must now speak of my constitutional infirmity, for it is no less; I mean my uncontrollable *desire* for sexual embraces. Observing people cannot but know, that this like other conditions of

all animals including humanity, are given to different individuals, in different degrees of strength or force ; that while a few seem to care little for it, many are of happy medium strength, and others of overpowering strength of desire. Many are blamed, execrated, and punished for this, which they are unable to prevent, for it is not an acquired or cultivated principle, but something which is implanted in their natures. I am one of the unfortunates of this class. I could give several proofs of it, but must hasten on with my story, after stating one fact in support of my case. My wife at eight accouchements, only eight, gave birth to eight boys, a boy in every case, one pair of twins, and boy and a girl. And they were strong healthy children excepting a miscarriage caused by her walking several miles when snow was abundant, walking laborious, during her pregnancy.

When I bought the farm in Troy, Fall River, it was my intention to live on it, improve its fertility, live sparingly for awhile, and gain a home to which in future years my children would not be ashamed to bring their wives and families. I should have succeeded if my wife would have seconded my endeavors, and she would have done so, but for her sisters and their persuasions, my character then was good, I was semi-religious, I suppressed my fondness for women, my literary abilities were beginning to be appreciated, I was in request as a clerk at auctions, as a writer of deeds &c. I was proposed as a justice of the peace, my farm was growing more valuable in locality, when I sold it it brought near double what I bought it for. A city was rising under my feet, Fall River village then with 1500 or 2000 inhabitants is now a city of 40 to 50 thousand. My moving to Little Compton proved a very unfortunate affair, for I moved away from the above named prospects, away from my friends, where if my children had been born and *brought up*, they would have learned that they were a part of *my* family and not as they did learn that they were exclusively of their mothers. They would not have united with my foes as my further narrative will show that they did most of them.

I bought an interest in the whaling ship Gold Hunter of Fall River and made a voyage in her 1833 to 1835 I went out as a boatsteerer but my old difficulty stood in the way, I could not strike a whale successfully. I tried hard to overcome it, when in the ship I would resolve and determine what I would do at the next opportunity but all in vain I could not do it. I saw that I was

hurting the voyage. I was not ill used here as in the Ann Alexander the Capt. tried to encourage me, but I voluntarily resigned my position, went no more in the boat but did the same duty and occupied the same apartment in the ship to the end. Arrived home I sold my interest in the ship. I now took my wife to my home in Troy, lived there awhile. Congress passed an act providing for a naval exploring expedition and discovery, voyages of discovery had an attraction for me. I finally enlisted for the voyage not to last over three years. There was considerable vacillation and alteration in getting the squadron ready, getting a suitable commander a crew &c. and it was two years from beginning preparations before the squadron sailed, the men who had been a year or two enlisted, could not lawfully be made to go without re-enlistment, I among others would not do this, and was discharged paid off and came home. I was 20 months with this squadron sailing, sailed from Boston to Norfolk Va and to other places along the coast and so lingered away the 20 months. It was during this period that Amanda, was born who at thirty-one afterwards became my second wife. While I was in the service and lying at Brooklyn two steamers came to N York from England said to be the first (with one exception) steamers that ever crossed the Atlantic, I came home this time in 1838. My second son Uriah was born in July 1839 and in March 1840 I moved to Little Compton as aforesaid. A year or two after this I sold my Fall River farm I was now 85 years old, had found that I could not succeed as a sailor. I wished to stay ashore and earn my living by farming and such other means as I had at command.

My farm was not so productive as I had expected it to be. My wife under the instructions of her sisters was less manageable, less willing to comply with my mode of living ; I taught school for several winter seasons, but was about to lose that occupation, as grammar was rising on the horizon of my prospects. The State made appropriation for schools but also enacted that the teachers should be grammarians, which I was not. My wife determined to have things "little like other folks" which means "things in good style" I saw to my grief that I must go to sea again, I had no other way to keep out of debt, and debt has always been to me an abomination.

In one of my schools I committed my greatest blunder. *I took improper liberties with two or three of the girls.*

No girls were injured, none worse for what was done, that was not done, which many supposed was, still enough was done to raise a great uproar, as I was their teacher, a trusted man and had betrayed confidence, I have never justified my conduct further than to plead my strong disposition toward sexuality. I have grieved over it many an hour, and I owe Mr. and Mrs. King the two injured ones many thanks and much respect that they did not prosecute me as they might have done. The brothers of these girls when in later life I have met with them, have always treated me with respect.

My school-teaching career was now closed, for a spell at least, though I was called on to teach, and did teach, in a place where my former failure was well known, several years afterward. I took precious good care and successfully resisted the temptation, before which I fell in the former instance. I might still have taught if I were a grammarian; my qualifications in other respects were tolerable and approved. This was the only instance of my going before a committee to be examined and this committee gave me a certificate of qualification, partly I think, in view of the fact that I was then one of the committee, and clerk of the committee, and superintendent of schools, in my own town. It should be remembered that my teaching was done in Tiverton.

I had reached the age of nearly forty, an age when men who have toiled all their life, may reasonably hope to retire to more comfortable conditions and circumstances. But I found that there was but little rest for me as yet, family increasing, wife must have things "a *little* like other folks" there was nothing for me but again to expose myself to the hardships and perils of a sailors life. I was unfit for a position of profit. I had not a faculty which would enable me to command my fellow men, I have told the reason of this in the beginning of my story. Perhaps I might be a cooper in a whaler they have from $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 times the pay of the common men. I went to Nantucket and served a few months in a cooper shop just to learn, then got on board the Magnolia whaler as cooper and shipkeeper which latter position gave me the management and command of the ship when all higher officers were out in the pursuit of whales; in different ships I made

four voyages in these two capacities. Sometimes however I would make a short voyage or trip in a coaster or other craft.

When I made my black mark, among my school girls, as aforesaid, my wife heard and believed all the reports which were circulated to my disadvantage. The church owed me a spite because a year or two previous I had taught the school which they wanted their minister to teach, the pious sisters now got round my wife out of revenge told her some falsehoods and got her to join them in full membership. This distressed me, I could not bear that she should belong to an organization which I could not. They of course would not accept me unless I would *say* that I believed their doctrines. I could not say so without playing hypocrit; I tried to be convinced that their Hell fire theories were true. I have not time to describe my attempts in this line, I was something like the animal who when his female is captured and caged, will voluntarily enter her prison and share captivity with her in preference to separation. I never found the proofs which I sought consequently did not join.

The close of the Mexican war gave our country possession of California with its gold mines, the rush to the gold mines commenced in 1848, I went there in 1849, came home in 1851, I was pecuniarily successful to the amount of some \$1500, more than I ever made in a whaling voyage. It was after this that I made my fourth and last whaling voyage as a cooper, my ninth *whaling* in all capacities. But I made many coasting voyages in schooners and other vessels.

I also served about one year in the U. S. Receiving Ship North Carolina lying at Brooklyn navy yard. This was in 1856 I think It must not be supposed, that with my strong sexual feelings; that with the company I was in; that with the fact before me that my wife had driven me from her bed, in order that she might have "things a little like other folks." It must not I say be supposed that I lived the life of an anchorite, or of perfect celibacy. But I claim it as creditable to me, that with the life which I have led, the company I have been in &c, I never had a venereal disorder *but barely once* few have been about the world as I have been, who can in truth say this, should I tell this in a company of old sailors, I should be despised for it, as I have been for not using tobacco and strong drinks. I have heard a sailor brag of having had such a disorder ten times on one voyage; his story

probably was not true, but it goes far to show that the practice is among them considered to be respectable, somewhat as the scars which a soldier may have received in battle are respectable. There is a common remark among sailors that a man cannot be a gentleman, unless he has had it at least seven times.

My wife Lydia died in Feb 1861 I am obliged to pass lightly over the circumstances connected with her death, in deference to the feelings and wishes of such of my children as are kind to me. So far as my own credit is involved I do not fear to investigate it thoroughly. Indeed I have done so in a book in which I wrote my biography at considerable length and many other things and I came near having it published a few months ago and was only prevented by the earnest remonstrances of my best children. The work aforesaid is likely to remain in manuscript.

No sooner was my wife dead than that some of her relatives wished to get possession of my two youngest children, Edgar and Phineas, age 9 and 7, and of course my property with them Weston Tripp her brother was openly the leader in this affair though I have great reason to think that his sisters put him up to the act. Women are the world over the greatest hands in *contriving* mischief, and when they have an husband or a brother or perhaps a paramour, whom they can control, they do a great deal of it. I have a sister of this description, very religious, who manages her husband and one brother, to her hearts delight. My said sister was in this scrape and gave them whatever assistance she could and the gap has never been made up between me and her; I could say a good deal more of her, of the influence which she has exercised over my rebellious children &c but brevity bids me hasten on.

It was my intention to sell my property in L C and move back to my native place. I had long desired to be the master of a small vessel, my property would sell and I could purchase a small vessel or part of one, and be a captain, I then had two sons who were sailors and others likely to be so. I advertised my property at auction, the day came, weather fair, prospects favorable for a good sale, when in the morning I was thunderstruck at receiving a notice that I was supposed to be *insane* and a movement was on foot to put me under a guardian. This put a stop to my auction. I was *legally* incapable of selling or of making a con-

tract of any kind, a day was appointed when I was to be examined in the matter, I might attend "if I see fit."

A petition had been signed by about a dozen men, the first of whom was Right Pearce a *penitentiary* graduate, the last was Mackenzie the minister, stating that I was incapable &c by reason of insanity, to give strength to the conspiracy, by enlisting my fellow townsmen on their side a report had been industriously, and maliciously circulated, that I was intending to sell my property and move out of the state, leaving my two youngest children for the town to support.

This was a cunning manouvre on the part of the conspirators and when I heard of it (for I had many friends who took care to keep me posted) I called together the leading men of the town-council, and proposed to them that if I were released from my fetters and permitted to manage my business, I would give a mortgage on my farm to the amount of 800 dollars so that the town could reach it before those two boys should be needing it, this turned the tide in my favor, from that day the town was with me, some went so far as to notify the council (an elective body) that if they condemned me, they would not be re-elected.

Tears rose to my eyes, and my heart throbbed tumultuously as I wrote the foregoing, at the memory of it, of the kindness of those townsmen, who thus protected me in the day of my distress. I have washed my face and shall try to proceed.

The President of the council was, and probably is now, no less a person than General Nathaniel Church, a direct descendent of Col Benjamin Church the celebrated Indian warrior of King Philips time, 1676 or thereabout; I do not think that he had the least notion, or wish, to put me under guardianship, or that he thought me insane. The day of trial arrived there was a full house present, great excitement, my proposition was laid before the house, all seemed to be satisfied, except W Tripp, he wanted some one appointed to take care of those two little boys, that "some one" of course to be himself.

Before these proceedings began, or at least before I heard anything of them I had labored in mind considerably, as to the future of those two boys, and had come to the conclusion, that I woud offer them to him Weston Tripp, their uncle, with an ample sum to provide for their wants. This was exactly what he was striv-

ing for, and exactly what I had intended, but I would not be forced into it, I would not now submit to it. The trial must proceed a day was appointed when it should come off without further delay.

My wife had a *little* property legally hers, her father 25 years before had given her some 50 dollars worth of furniture, this could not *now* be worth much, but was probably enough to authorize her to make a will, which she was persuaded to do, devising "her property" without stating what it consisted in, and appointing W Tripp aforesaid, her executor. Under cover of this will, and while my hands were tied figuratively, by the insanity dodge, Tripp sold at auction a considerable part of my property. It was entirely unlawful and he knew it, but for me to prosecute, which I thought a good deal about, would have been expensive and worrying. One of the resorts of a man with a bad case is to put off and prolong a trial as long as he can, and so worry his antagonist out of his rights if possible. Tripp himself told me that this would be his policy, which showed that he knew that he was in the wrong.

My sister aforesaid showed her hand in the making of this will, her truculent husband being one of the witnesses to it, which as my brother-in-law he should not have done, but the poor fellow is obliged to do about what his wife commands.

The trial came on, the whole town was aroused, such a stir had not been known there for many years. Each party had a lawyer from Fall River, witnesses were called up. My three oldest sons, my once beloved children stood up against me, Webster, Uriah and Seth, what they ought to have proved if they could was that I was *wasting* my property, not a single thing was elicited of the kind, their chief anxiety seemed to be to make me as *bad* a man as possible, Seth told several right down lies and could have been indicted for perjury. Webster told at least one such. Uriah was pretty cautious "had seen me go along the road bareheaded." Mackenzie attempted to tell a story which another minister had told him near 20 years before he was snubbed and told to tell what he knew, not what he had heard. Blaisdell is now a judge and as I may fall into his hands some day, I dare not say much; Doct White spoke of three kinds of insanity, I was not a fool, I was not of the melancholy cast, he called me furious. Albert M

told a turkey story and made himself ridiculous in doing so. I have not space to describe or analyze it.

I must however notice Right Pearce, I call him Wrong and he was called on and was told that his testimony could not be heard as he was a convicted horse thief, he backed out sneakingly. Of my witnesses I have but little to say; they told the truth and nothing but the truth which was just what I wanted of them.

The trial closed, the verdict was emphatic as follows "the council are *unanimously* of the opinion that the testimony produced does not sustain the charge of insanity or incapacity against Eli Wodell." Thus closed the affair, I was free. Several of those conspirators have since told me that they were induced to take the part they did as they were told, that I was intending to leave those two little boys to the care of the town. Nothing could be further from my intention than such an act as this Mackenzie the minister has told me that such was his reason, and added, "If I knew as much about it as I now know, I would have gone *with* you instead of *against* you. Uriah has also told me that he acted on that principle and that is the nearest he has ever come to making a concession. It was no concession at all it was simply justifying the act of that and his subsequent persecutions, such for instance as getting possession of the corpse of one of my deceased sons and burying it, without consulting my wishes as to where and how it should be done, and afterwards putting the hounds of the law on my track with a claim for \$200 as funeral expences of said son.

He has also done a good deal in the way of seducing my younger children from the allegiance which all children owe to a *good* parent. Consequently he and I are still enemies, and likely to die so. Webster died a soldier in the war of the Rebellion in 1862 of Seth, I lately heard a flying report, that he was lost in a vessel not long ago, I do not know, nor do I much care, as to the truth of it. He was a bad boy and the only one of mine who ever put a violent hand on me. Eli Jr is one of those whom Uriah has seduced. He lives in Taunton, has changed his name from Wodell, my name, to "Wardell" Uriah has also changed his name to Wardell. Weston was at sea when the insanity abortion was played, he deserted me to please Uriah, he has since shown some kind of a wish for reconciliation, I think that the mischief maker of whom I have spoken, has damaged him, I hold him to be, next to Phineas, my best boy.

The war of the Rebellion broke out during the time of the events last described. Great and bloody were the battles fought, men were called for in hundreds of thousands, conscription was resorted to, but I was not liable to that, being near 60. I thought however that I ought to do something. Too old to be a soldier as I never was one I yet might be useful as a sailor. I entered the navy in January 1863, and served to the end of the war in 1865. I was at the bombardment of Galveston Aug 1863 but I cannot stop to describe it nor our encounter with the Rappahannock, the Stonewall or the sinking of the Alabama in June 1864, the war ended in April 1865 and I came home in August of that year.

The following January I again advertised and this time *sold* my farm. No Tripp or other scoundrel, saw fit to oppose it. In March 1866 I moved to Fall River, lived a few months with my mother in her house, made one coasting voyage to Philadelphia and in the summer built the house named the Quadrilateral in which I now live and am now (April 1880) writing. In Fall River, but not in the city proper. I am located East of the North Watuppa pond (I will not as some affect to do, call it a lake) less than a mile north of Golgotha where I was born, and to which I have given that lugubrious name because it is an extensive slaughtering establishment; and less than a mile south of the first house and land which I ever owned. I am between the two.

My mothers house was very old and poor, the most of it has since fallen down from sheer decay, my brother and I agreed to build a new house, she to have a life lease of one half, this lease she now holds, he gave me a spot of land, barely enough for house and yard and *obligated* himself to pay me a certain sum annually as long as she lives. I. to have all the care and cost of building the house, these agreements have been fully carried out till within a year or two, in which time he has turned his face from me, and omitted payments. Here again I see the hand of the mischief maker of which I have previously spoken. It is not easy to describe the trouble which may be caused by a woman, of tolerable intelligence, viciously inclined, and covering her deviltry under the sanction of religion.

I now thought myself to be in comfortable circumstances I had several thousands invested in government bonds, and paying good interest, besides this wages were good I could earn two dollars a day much of the time, or 30 dollars per month at coasting.

My brother Henry died in March 1870 and I inherited from his estate several hundred in fact I was laying up money every year till I met with the *bonds* of Northern Pacific Rail Road. I changed my Govt bonds for these. In 1873 came the great panic in money affairs ; many rich men were bankrupt, as was the company of the Northern Pacific road. I had two special reasons for thus changing my investments. First that the bonds were to be called in soon and I must invest somewhere ; Second the cry of *repudiation* was popular, a great portion of the Democratic party so called, was shouting for repudiation, viz the not paying of the National debt, in which case my governments, would be worthless. Thus I got interested in the Northern Pacific as aforesaid when in 1873 all payments of interest stopped and none has been paid since.

The mortgage held by the bondholders was foreclosed, the property which had cost 36 millions was sold at auction for 100000 dollars, but it was purchased by the bondholders and those of them who would surrender their bonds became stockholders in the new company of which I was one.

The new company so far as I can learn is pushing on the road to its completion, it is making a good deal of money yearly, but that money is expended in extending the road hoping ultimately to get it through from Lake Superior to the Pacific Ocean ; which if ever accomplished must make it good paying property. I have made an arrangement with one of my sons, through which he expects to become the owner of my stock, and is now paying me yearly or oftener ; a stipulated sum, which is my present means of support.

My mother lived with me in the Quadrilateral 10 or 12 years till she became so feeble through extreme age, that she needed a womans care and attention, she now lives with her other children going from one to another as her fancy dictates, sometimes with me for a few weeks, she is in her 94th year and sees grandchil-drens grandchildren, and as one of these is a maid in her 16th yr smart and bright, it is hoped that the old lady may yet see the 6th generation.

I now go back a dozen years to relate an event which produced the most startling, (thus far) consequences of my life. I mean my second marriage.

I have said that I was in comfortable circumstances, my mother was all that I needed as a housekeeper as company, *in the day-time* but she was 80, and could not be expected to tarry long, I should be lonesome, thought that I had better marry.

I got acquainted with Amanda Brightman, so called, whose legal name was Lucy A Pearce, she was a poor and feeble girl rather good looking, 31 years old I was 68 finally after a few months courting, and explaining to her my views, requirements, and expectations, to all of which she fully acceded; for she was proud of her conquest, and so was her mother and friends; I married her in October 1868.

But she soon forgot her promises; the miserable old house I took her from, the Abomination of Desolation as it is called from its dilapidated appearance, the courting room, the best in the house, in going to see her one rainy evening I saw not less than seven tubs, buckets &c set to catch rainwater coming from above. She soon forgot these and similar surroundings, she wished to have things "a little like other folks" which she never had and which (in her interpretation) I could not afford. She could have the comforts, but not the elegancies of life, she could not have a horse and carriage to ride out every day, she was dissatisfied with her position her mother and some others encouraged her uneasiness after living with me six months she left me, and went back with her mother, and staid upwards of two years. When three years married she had not staid in my house more than 6 or 7 months altogether; but she came back in 1871, made excuses and promises, and I took her in; and she then behaved satisfactorily for three years.

Then it was that, my bonds not paying interest, and little prospect of their ever doing so, I felt myself poor, and took care to let her know all about it I made a will however devising to her nearly all my property which I yet possessed, and explained that to her. Still she would be poor and unprovided for if she lived to be a widow in short her wish was for a separation.

She had no grounds of complaint for ill usage, nor so far as I know did she ever so complain until about the last year of her life when she began to talk among her friends and acquaintances of *expecting to be murdered* she talked of poison, of my preparing a place on which to chop her head off, of hearing my mother and me contriving poisons &c., all of which was absolutely false and

groundless. Of all this I knew nothing at the time, but I heard enough of it after she was dead. The first I knew of this wild conduct, was in December 1874. It was very rainy, roads very muddy, she was missing. I had never known her before to leave the house when I was at home, even for 10 minutes, without apprizing me of her intention, she was gone two or three hours. I was uneasy. I looked into the well and elsewhere, and at length started up the road, where I met her and she came home with me making some little excuse for her absence, which satisfied me until next day, when I learned what her business was ; no less than to induce some one to carry her to the city to see the authorities, *as she had discovered that my mother and I were contriving to kill her.*

This was the first time that I heard anything of the kind, though it afterwards appeared that she had been telling it for months. She had told her story at three different houses that day.

After a little remonstrance, and refusing to sleep with her some half dozen nights, we made it up and she was tolerably quiet through the winter she spoke occasionally of separation, she thought that she had friends who would take her in ; would I let her have her things, if she could find a place to live ? I gave her no encouragement in this matter, the truth is I did not want her to leave me, if she could be induced to behave properly I was unwilling to part with her. So passed away the winter.

March 23d 1875 she said she was going down the road and went, I expected her back that night as a matter of course, but she did not come and subsequent events proved or nearly so, that she did not intend ever to come back, she went to Wm H. Giffords and staid there that night, and the next morning deliberately asked him to marry her and persisted till she got an answer.

I could not when I heard it, scarcely avoid the conclusion that she was insane ; how else could she think that a man of his position, and circumstances, such as have turned the heads of half the maidens in the neighborhood, and he slight them all, would think of marrying her, then my wife, it was strange, she went to her cousin in the city he sent her back on the stage ; she came to Giffords, again, with intent to stay there she was refused, went to another house the proprietor of which sent her home to me, I never slept with her after March 23.

She was tolerably peaceable and quiet, I still had hopes of her amendment, but they were vain hopes, April 20 she came down stairs as usual, got breakfast as usual, made up her beds, washed the dishes swept the floor and *hanged herself*.

I found her hanging about 8 A M it did not take me long (for at that moment I felt very strong) to put one arm around her and with the other hand whip my knife out of my pocket (I never could tell how I got it open) cut the rope and lay her down, and raise the neighbors. A crowd soon collected, word was sent to the city, the marshal came, also the coroner, asked whatever questions they saw fit, and told me I could proceed and bury her, which I did two days after. Four days after the funeral I was told that a cloud was rising, that I was suspected of having murdered her. The next day the Coroner and half a dozen others, called on me made examinations asked questions &c and requested me to show them the grave, which I did, the body was disinterred, stomach taken out and sent to Boston for analysis, my foes hoping to find poison, which hope completely failed.

It appears that suspicions and mutterings began the very hour of her being found. Her former declarations of expecting to be murdered were brought up, some could not see how she could tie that knot in the rope, which was a common bed-cord, when all knew that she was in the daily habit of dressing herself and tying her shoes, and the knot was of no complex or unusual form, other things equally absurd were proposed each new speaker being ambitious of joining in the general cry of murder.

Each following Sunday for a time, the matter was discussed at the meeting house, by those who went there to worship God and do good to their fellow creatures.

"I dont see how she could tie that knot" "I dont believe that she did tie it" "I *hope* that she haint been murdered" "I declare it looks dark" "I dont believe but she was murdered" "I *know* that she didnt kill herself" "Ninety-nine out of an hundred thinks that she was murdered" Thus they would work themselves up to the highest pitch, each one striving to put it a little stronger than his predecessor, and poor I was to be hanged. The jury held their meetings by adjournment for six weeks examined many witnesses, me with the rest, but would not allow the testimonies to be reported or published, and finally verdicted,

that they could not tell whether she was murdered or not. The Asses, *the asses*. Had I been a rich mans son they would readily have declared that there was no evidence and no reason to suspect murder.

The report of the Boston chemist who analyzed the stomach was this "careful chemical and microscopical examination have been made for vegetable and mineral poisons and particularly for arsenic, but no poison of any kind was found to be present

"The stomach was received in excellent condition presenting no obstacle to the detection of poison had any been present"

Among the most influential and valuable of my friends on this trying occasion, was Wm H Gifford, a man whose worth and probity is well known, who minds his own business, and whose opinion carries great weight.

Among the most malignant of my foes is P * *, is a complete snake-in-the-grass who while he was urging on the persecution declaring that I was a dangerous man not fit to be at large, &c, went before the jury and said that "Wodell has ever been considered to be a man of truth and veracity, thus while he was urging it on, was seeking to make people believe that he was friendly to me, such is P * * is

Among my special friends I shall not soon forget Joshua N Wodell, Wilson Sherman, Albert Sherman and his wife Mary and Rachel Davis. I was in conversation with one of the jury sometime after, when I took occasion to complain that the testimonies of the different witnesses had not been published, he answered that "there was nothing worth publishing" says he "at home they would pretend that they knew all about it and when they came before the jury, knew nothing but what they had heard from somebody else"

The meanest and most superlative piece of scoundrelism, introduced into the proceeding, was the attempt to forestall the minds or warp the testimonies, of the witnesses, by procuring the publication, *damnably* false, of poison being found in the stomach. Witnesses, unfriendly to me, were already prepared to lie to any extent consistent with safety, in view of the fact that they might be called to account for their statements ; but if poison *was* found, I should be imprisoned and hung, and lying to any extent would be safe. Meantime those who were disposed to befriend me,

would on hearing this report, withdraw their countenance, and leave me to my fate. Such was evidently the design of this piece of diabolism and it came near costing me at least a summers residence in jail. My "education in a ships forecastle," (see P * * is) or in a man-of-war, does not furnish me with language sufficiently expressive of my abhorrence, of such conduct. May eternal curses rest on the head that invented the plot ; and the hands that carried it out, not exempting the wretch who exultingly exhibited the *Boston paper*, among the witnesses in the ante-room of the inquest.

One woman who was friendly to me, has since told me that when she heard that report she wavered in regard to my innocence and that I looked *awful* to her and that if she had then been called to testify, she should scarcely have said a word in my favor. This was doubtless the end aimed at and partly gained.

I am told however that Gifford said that he should not abandon me yet, for if poison was found, she might have taken it voluntarily ; so long as breath is in me, I shall not forget Wm H Gifford. It has been my aim to condense my story all that it would bear, the outline only of my life, would I describe. Yet I have drawn this part of it out at considerable length. Still I must touch on one other subject. Not that I am anxious to defend my own reputation, for I do not believe that one in ten of those who know me, suppose me guilty, and if they do I care but little since I know that I am not.

Was my wife insane ? After studying the matter over and over for the five years past I have come to the conclusion that to some extent she was.

First I speak of the fact that her mother and grandmother were known to be so and *she* had a *constitutional right* to be so.

Second the Moon is supposed to exert influence on lunatics hence their name from Luna the Moon in Latin, that influence would naturally be greatest at her full, and it was within five hours of the full when she hanged, this part of the theory is strengthened by the fact that the weekly paper of that week, reported no less than nine cases of suicide, within the limits of New England and New York.

Then I may allude to her physical disformations and say that

such a person is more likely to be mentally disordered, than one whose body is perfect.

If she was not insane, she must have been a *monster* of wickedness, in making such reports as she did of expecting to be murdered. and ; the affection which I still cherish for her, makes me willing to lean to the conclusion, that she was insane.

Now I have something to say about grammar. As now used, it is a nuisance, most of men are or should be laborers, mechanics, soldiers sailors &c what has grammar to do with these classes? most of women are to be wives, they want no grammar to help them take care of the children, or to keep the house in order.

Let every child I say, be taught to read and write understandingly, with some knowledge of figures and accounts, this if necessary at the public expense ; anything beyond this should be taught, if taught at all, at the expense of the parents and guardians. Let children be educated in such things as will make them *useful* not to make them lawyers, preachers, fops and tramps, for we have far too many of these vermin already. To educate children in this manner *at the public expense* is tyrannically unjust. Yet there are those who if they could, would have all children go through all the mazes of a classical education, boarding and clothing them in the time, all at the cost of the public. With as much justice may you give every boy a farm or a store of merchandize from the same source.

I know nothing of the rules of grammar, yet I know how to talk and to write, not grammatically perhaps, but, coherently certainly, and intelligably. It might be desirable to know a little more than I do of punctuation, beyond which I would not give a penny for all the grammar that ever was invented.

This work is purely my own composition except copies and extracts (For if printed I shall not allow the printer to alter a single word or even a punctuation mark, from what I *intended* to write) A scholar of the present day may be able to write a more grammatical work and one therefore more acceptable to the snobbery, but can he write a more sensible or intelligable one? If he cannot let him and his backers, shut up their heads, about grammar for the lower orders of people, and at the public expense.

* * * * * He twitted me of being nothing but a common sailor. His words were, that I " dont know so much as other

folks, as I had my education in a ships forecastle " He had a brother living somewhere in the West, who by some mistake or other, was once master of a ship. A letter came, the brother was dead, *died drunk in a station house.* And how came I to be acquainted with this fact? Ans I, who did not know so much as others, was called in to read the letter, which he and his family could not read. In those times I was frequentry called for that purpose. He has not said "ships forecastle" to me since that time.

Hard and laborious service, on land and sea, has fallen to my lot ; except perhaps a few winters when I have taught school. It is not easy to tell at what age a farmers boy begins to labor ; he is brought in gradually, and I was harnessed fully as young as others. It would be safe to say that I did a good deal of work, at the age of ten, and thenceforward till seventy ; always seeking labor of some kind, when it did not seek me ; and always finding it when wanted. Hence I say that I have been a laborer sixty years, and that I will no longer labor, nor can any reasonable person ask it of me*

I admit that I am physically a coward, and have explained the cause of my being so. But I am an unusually healthy man. The surgeons in the navy, who have *investigated* me have so certified.

A fondness for children, is a marked trait of my character. I am never more happy than when I have a little babe on my knee ; or when passing a little boy he says "hello Eli" ; and I have a kindly feeling towards birds and all harmless animals. I was, to some extent in this mood in my earliest years, and the feeling has grown on me with age. I will kill no harmless creature if I can avoid it. I eat no meat, as if I should do otherwise I should be inconsistent when pleading against the slaughter of cattle and sheep. I sometimes am seen and *heard* at clambakes and similar gatherings protesting against the cruelty of roasting alive, multitudes of harmless and helpless creatures, in order to gormandize our own stomachs ; but it is very recently that I thought of the passage "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy" I do not nor never did encourage the feeling in expectation of ever being rewarded for it ; though I have sometimes

*One of my nieces, the only mean one among them all, was heard to say, not long ago, that I am as well able to work as other men, and that I ought to be compelled to do it. It is probable that she gave birth to this sentiment about the time that she was buried alive.

jokingly said, that the ox whose life I saved in California by driving him away from my comrades, when they proposed to shoot him, is to swim me across the great river when I need his assistance. I have often wondered how people who *pretend* to be *good* and vaunt their goodness every Sunday, in the meeting house, can reconcile these pretensions with their every day practice of taking innocent lives, and not always from a constructive necessity, but often for mere sport and wantonness.

I am also *heretical* on the negro question. I believe that Negroes, Indians &c have *rights*, and I cheerfully accord to them, every right which I claim for myself. I would marry a colored woman as readily as any other, provided that her capabilities, and other qualities, were equally satisfactory. In fact my second wife, as I am informed, was a quadroon, and so little did I heed the fact, that when relating my marriage and connecting circumstances I did not notice it.

To the foregoing I may add that it has always been my *natural* disposition, and not a studied principle, to protect as far as I could, young sailors when abused by older ones. One young native of one of the South Sea Islands for this reason, declared, that I was a *mikonary* by which expression he meant that I was an adherent of the missionaries ; in other words a Christian ; and I could not make him believe that I was *tooti-owry* his expression for unbeliever or bad man.

I have been a sailor fifty-seven years. I have seen the four quarters of the globe, Europe, Asia, Africa and America ; I have stood on three of them, and was near enough to the other to see houses and men on the shore. I have seen most of the Islands in the Atlantic and Pacific. I have been in most of the coast cities in America, North and South, and several European capitals. I have been in about twenty of the United States, including *every one* of the thirteen originals. I have exercised the voting privilege in four states. I have sailed, and served, in more than fifty vessels of all descriptions and I can count fifty, in each of which I have served not less than six days and from that up to $3\frac{1}{2}$ years. I have been in Lat from 60° South to 70° North in about 240° of Longitude. I have been where the sun is never out of sight in June (fogs and clouds excepted) and where he is *never* seen in December. I have been where rain,

snow, or ice, are never known. I have doubled Cape Horn twelve times, crossed the Equinox probably fifty times, have been in all the zones except the South frigid, have been in

The only place now known to men of science

Where continents may be embraced within the scope of vision,

Where continents extend their arms as if to breath defiance

Where but a few more miles of land would place them in collision.

Few men have come nearer than I have, to going "all over the world" I have used no strong drink in 64 years, no tobacco in 99 years; got religion 59 years ago. I have performed nine whaling voyages, served four enlistments in the U S navy. I have been 8000 miles from home in a Westerly direction and 6 or 7 thousand in a South Easterly one. I have been six months at one time, without seeing land; and ten months at another, without seeing a woman. I never deserted, never was shipwrecked, never was seriously ill in a vessel, never sailed under any other flag than the stripes and stars.

On the suicide of my wife in 1875 ; and my persecutions following that event ; and the inconsistency of Christians in the matter

My wife is dead, she hanged herself of course she gone to glory.
 She tied the knot and hanged herself. Lamentable the story,
 She tied the knot and hanged herself, with Lucifers assistance,
 And I was persecuted by "the people called Christians"
 They raised a cry that murder foul had surely been committed,
 That ninety-nine of every hundred believed that I did it;
 And Hell was searched from pole to pole for such as would a story tell
 Which true or false, would prove that I was criminal.
 Old Hell-born crime who calls himself Napoleons superior;
 Who prays and tells how he loves God, proves that revenge is dearer
 Tis evident that Peter saw this character in vision;
 Else how could he describe him with such accurate precision?
 (Do you ask why there are not found. Poisonous reptiles on Watuppa
 ground ?

Nature lacked venom of which to make, A P * * is and a rattlesnake,
 She pondered long concluded at last, 'twere best to make a snake in the
 grass)

Busy-body in other mens matters and transactions
 An classed him with a murderer, thief and like connexions
 Not only this old *Hypocrite* but all the crew infernal,
 Are in Isaiah the fifty-ninth, described as in a journal
 My mother she, living with me was not allowed to 'scape,
 The worse than fools, infernal souls, brought her into the scrape,
 They forged a proclamation and handed it around
 That poison in the stomach in Boston had been found
 My friends were now discouraged and thought my case was gone,
 For if I was a murderer, why should they hold on?
 Same time this act emboldened those who loved to accuse me.
 Enlarged their lies and perjuries twas safe now to abuse me.
 For I should be confined in jail, my few days yet remaining
 And this was what induced the crime of which I am complaining
 No honest man tis safe to say would ever thus have acted.
 That soul is worth about two cents with nineteen mills subtracted
 They would not let the body rest where my affection placed it
 Twas disinterred, exposed to view with bosom mutilated,
 On which in times of dalliance my head sometimes was seated,
 Poison they sought but none was found the villians were defeated
 The great Napoleon of the clan thus made his charge,
 I count him as a dangerous man, not fit to be at large.
 Six weeks the jury held their court, my soul was on the rack,
 My whole past life was criticized. My every sinful act,
 Was brought to view, commented on, and greatly multiplied;
 Not only this but some there were, How recklessly they lied.
 Were bold enough to say, a few; she never killed herself they knew,

One brazen hag with lying breath. Declared I plagued my wife to death
 One drunken fellow who deals in ice, said he could prove I killed my
 wife

As I approached a house one day, Where oft Id been before,
 The murderer cometh said they, And hastily barred the door
 Other houses to which I went. Were silent dark and gloomy
 Such undeserved receptions sent. Arrows of anguish through me
 One Christian man dared me to fight, When satisfied that I was right,
 And when he found I too could jaw He changed his tone and threaten-
 ed law.

And then I called to mind the word, How dwelt in him the love of God?
 A carriage passed me one day conveying men of strife
 Says one of whom, pointing to me, Thats him who killed his wife.
 A gang of rail-road men one day. Adherents of the Pope,
 Inquired of me Insultingly, Where have you put the rope?
 Three damsels stood one day near by where I went,
 "Poison folks" said one of them I well knew what it meant.
 One dunce was brought into the ring, by way of subornation,
 Who knew no more about the thing, Than any fool in Creation
 When I was bitten by a dog, a few months after this,
 Some fools there were, Who did declare, Twas judgment on my wick-
 edness

I stood in dread of rail-road men for many a night.
 I barred my doors and loaded my gun prepared to fight
 I dreaded too the Temperance gang who nightly pass my house,
 Often obliged to hear their slang and smutty vile abuse
 Some mornings when I left my bed, my house, my domicil,
 I was apprehensive that the night would find me in jail.
 Mid all this uproar and delusion, With perjury in great profusion
 Some of those who pitied me, Dare not avow it openly.
 A few there were of solid merit. Independence, honor, spirit;
 Who abundantly assisted me By manifesting sympathy.
 Palsied my tongue when I forgot Their kindness and its benefit*
 The Priest and Levite came my way, but did not choose to call
 No word of kindness did they say. No neighbor they at all.
 The good Samaritan was here applying oil and wine
 But she does not attend the church, so far as I can find.
 One woman says she is afraid to meet me in the road.
 Because I am an heretic and dont accept her God,
 This then is the reason why Im treated as a beast,
 Because I am an heretic and will not kiss the priest
 Theyre sore ashamed of their defeat, Know that theyre badly beat,
 To make the best on't that they can They next fall back on "dangerous
 man"
 They're not afraid, tis nought but shame, That they have played so
 foul a game

*I allude specially to Wm H Gifford, Mrs Rachel Davis, Joshua N Wodell, Wilson Sherman, Albert Sherman, Mary wife of Albert and Lydia wife of Spencer Macomber.

They lie as often as they say, That they're afraid to meet with me.
 I carry a knife in my pocket, true; And so do others and pistols too.
 The jury wearied with the game, Thought best to terminate the same
 Twas plain there was no guilt around, That no indictment could be found.

But two'd not do to say (I think) Conspirators you made a stink.
 Something like this was their report, We cannot say murder or not.
 If Jesus Christ should take this track, And meet the jury (some of them)

He might repeat an ancient act By riding them into Jerusalem.
 Im ruined in purse, Proscribed in reputation,
 My state can scarce be worse, Nor social situation
 I'll be wicked to an amount, Which I never was before,
 And if I'm called to account, I'll lay it at the Christians door,
 Most of our female devotees There little room to question,
 Will not refuse to show their knees, At a ministers suggestion
 My opinion long has been, Of that impostor Jesus Christ.
 That being like most other men. *He did not fail to Beecherize.*
 "Salt of the Earth says Jesus are ye followers of my gospel and are
 The "light of the world see how it shines, In charging an innocent
 man with its crimes

If tis right for any man Living here under the sun,
 To be as wicked as he can, I'll maintain that I'm the one
 When a church member is detected, Husband poisoning to prison sent
 Many are the plans projected, To screen her from just punishment
 Church meetings called, money subscribed. Law circumvented in its
 course

Witnesses and lawyers bribed. All Hells machinery put in force
 But when on me suspicion fell Though entirely free from guile
 The pious bitches raised a yell, Which was heard for many a mile.
 "Salt of the Earth raised a smell, Instead of preserving made a spoil
 The Bible contains of truths a few, That here is one, all must believe
 Judge not says Christ for if ye do, The measure ye mete ye shall receive
 They meted to me a murderers groan But Justice gave them a stern
 denial

Since which they behold one of their own, Lodged in a dungeon and
 brought to trial

And those who raised the cry against me,
 Are mainly the cause of her distress
 And if they were candid as Christians should be
 They could not but see that such is the case
 They made her believe that I poisoned my wife
 And that by my skill I escaped arrest
 Then why could not she curtail a mans life
 With equal impunity. equal success?

ERRATA

p 22 Return *Hounvy*, read, Return *Hounry*.

p 43 bottom *has* other ch, read, *have* other ch, being more grammatical

ibid Wilson md not *my cousin* proper, but a *dr* of my cousin.

ibid *Louisa* wife of Thomas Sherman, her name is *Lovisa*.

p 47 top. Charles *W*, Lovisa *W, md*; the md should precede LOVISA.

p 46 Azubas family, *Mersba* King ; read *Meriba* King.

p. 47 *Lovina* Cook, read *Lovisa* Cook.

p 78 Alfreds dr *Guola*, her name is Julia.

ibid Note at the bottom, Charles md *Louisa*; her name is Lovisa
Quadrilaterals \square should precede these names Harvey Chace p
33, third line from top. Sarah 2d dr of Alfred *W* p 48 Joseph
W p 51 Eli *Wardell* and Edgar *W* p 58

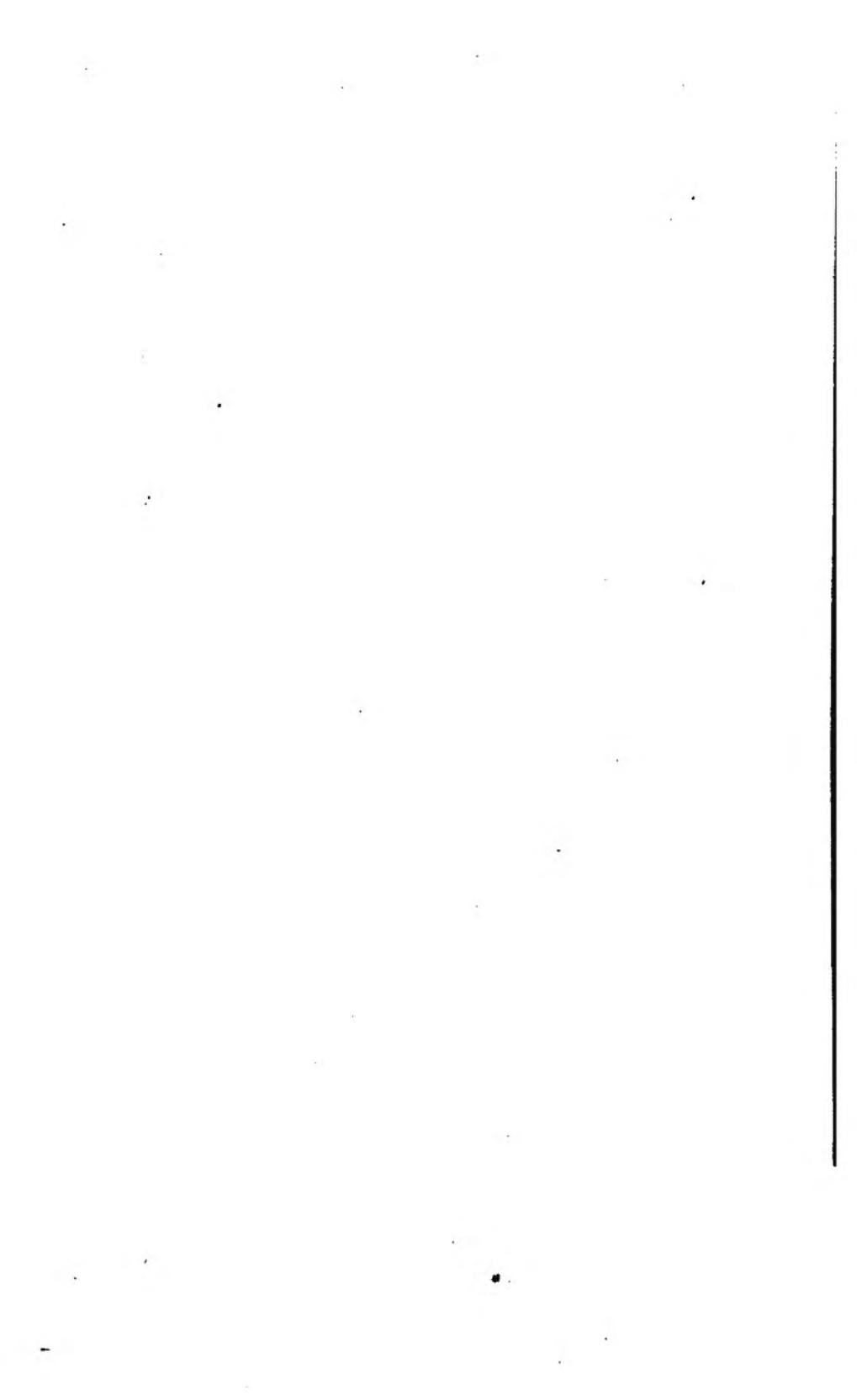
Parallels, = instead of Quadrilaterals \square should precede Rodney
D *W*, Gideon F *W*, and Gershon *W*, sons of Gideon *W*, p 54.

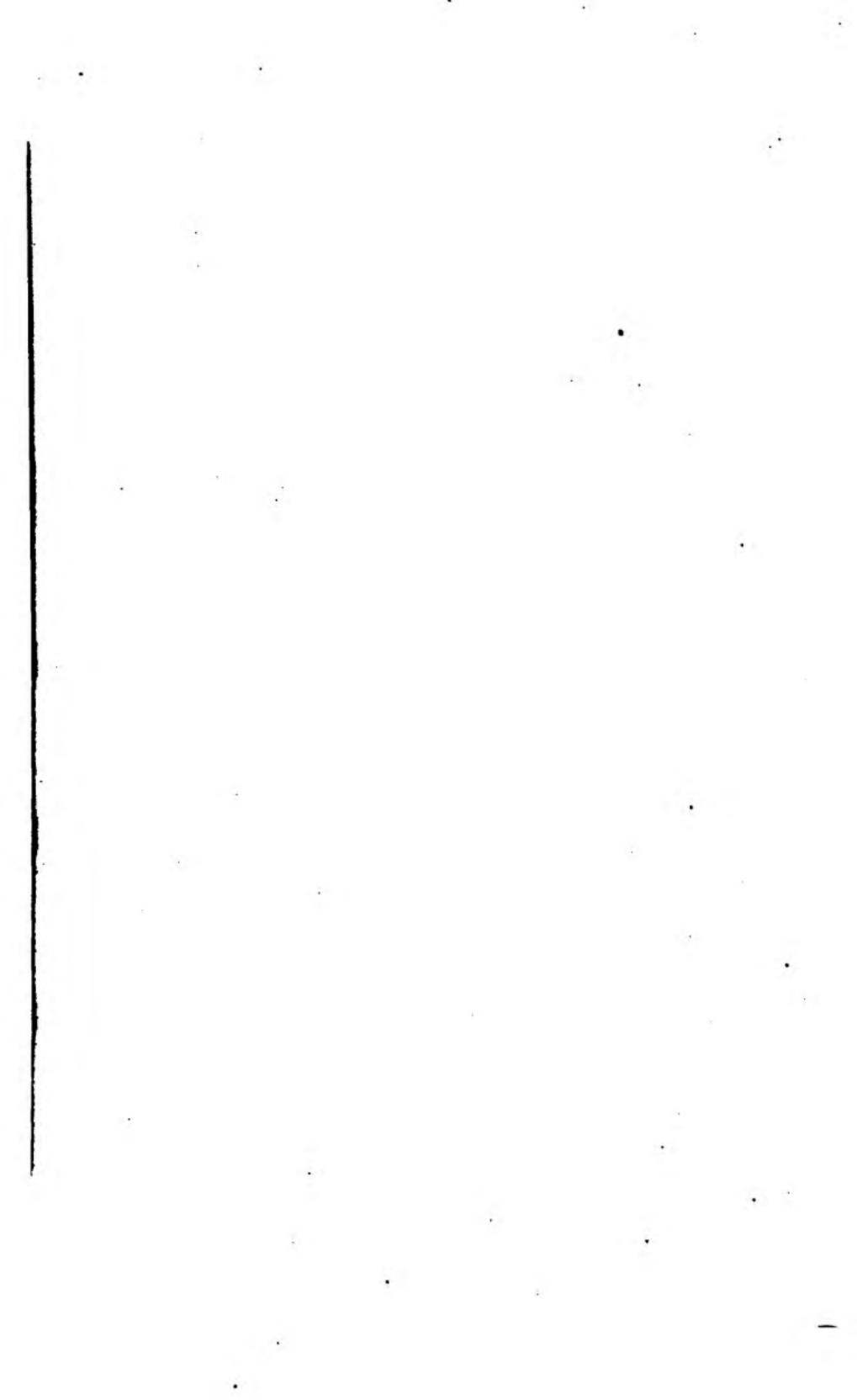
p 46 near the bottom, *Harvey Franklin W*, son of Perry *W*, his
name is *Harry Franklin W*, as represented p 58 near the bottom.

p 59 Margin, Peleg Taber *W* md *Lake* Her name was *Susan* or
Suke Pettis

INDEX.

| | PAGE. |
|---|-------|
| Preface, | 12 |
| William Wodells deed, | 16 |
| Other deeds, | 17 |
| A protest, | 18 |
| Explanation of certain dates, | 19 |
| Will of Gershom Wodell, | 20 |
| Deed of Robert Lawton, | 22 |
| Deed of Warwick from Miantinomo, | 25 |
| Extract from Savages Genealogical Dictionary, | 24 |
| Uzzael Wardwell, | 26 |
| Portsmouth extracts, | 28 |
| Tiverton extracts, | 30 |
| Plymouth and Dartmouth extracts, | 31 |
| Rhoda Rider, | 32 |
| John and Hannah Chace, | 33 |
| Mary Wodell, | 34 |
| Introduction, | 36 |
| William 4th, | 40 |
| Innocent, | 41 |
| Ruth, | 42 |
| Gershom 4th | 44 |
| Borden, | 46 |
| Patience, | 50 |
| Gershom 5, | 51 |
| Phineas, | 58 |
| Thomas, | 60 |
| Silas, Susanna, Constant, Molly, Lovina, | 61 |
| My Maternal Relatives, | 64 |
| Biography, | 72 |
| On the suicide of my wife, | 96 |





This work has been selected by scholars as being culturally important, and is part of the knowledge base of civilization as we know it. This work was reproduced from the original artifact, and remains as true to the original work as possible. Therefore, you will see the original copyright references, library stamps (as most of these works have been housed in our most important libraries around the world), and other notations in the work.

This work is in the public domain in the United States of America, and possibly other nations. Within the United States, you may freely copy and distribute this work, as no entity (individual or corporate) has a copyright on the body of the work.

As a reproduction of a historical artifact, this work may contain missing or blurred pages, poor pictures, errant marks, etc. Scholars believe, and we concur, that this work is important enough to be preserved, reproduced, and made generally available to the public. We appreciate your support of the preservation process, and thank you for being an important part of keeping this knowledge alive and relevant.

Published by Franklin Classics Trade
Press, an imprint of Creative Media
Partners.



9 780343 945527