

Extracts from the Great Migration Begins
for Walter Woodworth b 1608

(2) By 1665 Susanna (Hanford) Whiston, daughter of Jeffrey and Eglin (Hatherly) (Downe) Hanford and widow of JOHN WHISTON [Stevens-Miller Anc 1:485-86; GMB 3:1975]; she was named in her husband's will on 6 March 1682/3.

CHILDREN (all baptized at Scituate Second Church):

With first wife

- i HANNAH, b. say 1644, bp. 14 September 1645 [NEHGR 57:82]; living at the date of her father's will, presumably unmarried, as she is bequeathed more than her married sisters.
- ii NATHANIEL, bp. 29 March 1646 [NEHGR 57:82]; m. Scituate 24 December 1678 Elizabeth Curtis.
- iii MARY, bp. 28 November 1647 [NEHGR 57:83]; living at the date of her father's will, presumably unmarried, as she is bequeathed more than her married sisters. (The Torrey entry for the younger Thomas Lapham of Scituate suggests that his wife might have been this Mary Brooks, but none of the sources listed by Torrey includes any evidence relating to this suggestion.)
- iv SARAH, bp. 26 May 1650 [NEHGR 57:83]; probably married by the time of her father's will, and said to have married Joseph Studley, but evidence for this marriage has not been found.
- v MIRIAM, bp. 6 June 1652 [NEHGR 57:84]; m. Scituate 4 April 1678 John Curtis.
- vi DEBORAH, bp. 18 March 1654/5 [NEHGR 57:84]; probably married by the time of her father's will, and said to have married Robert Stetson, but evidence for this marriage has not been found. (Robert Stetson was not married in 1675-6, when he had an illegitimate child with Elizabeth Woodworth, daughter of WALTER WOODWORTH [GMB 3:2066].)
- vii THOMAS, bp. 28 June 1657 [NEHGR 57:85]; m. Scituate 6 June 1687 Hannah Bisby.
- viii JOANNA, bp. 16 October 1659 [NEHGR 57:86]; m. Marshfield 13 September 1687 John Bisby [PCR 8:89].

ASSOCIATIONS: Probably brother of GILBERT BROOKS, also a passenger on the *Blessing*. William's son Nathaniel named a son Gilbert, born at Scituate 9 November 1690.

8:172-74, 207-08]. (Albert Henry Silvester claimed that Benjamin married first Lydia Standlake, and then a second wife Mary _____, who might have been a sister of Lydia [NEHGR 85:264]. Aside from the extreme unlikelihood of a seventeenth-century man having two wives who were sisters (based on the Biblical concepts of incest), there is no evidence that Benjamin had any wife other than Mary, and Mary's sister Lydia Standlake married Isaac Woodworth, son of WALTER WOODWORTH.)

COMMENTS: On 5 March 1688/9 "Ric[ha]rd Silvester was fined 12s. for selling strong water, which he paid into the Court" [MBCR 1:249]. On 4 June 1689 "Rich[a]rd Silvester, for speaking against the law about hogs, & against a particular magistrate, was fined ten pounds" [MBCR 1:265]; on 3 September "£6 of his fine respited upon his good behavior, & he paid in the other £6" [MBCR 1:270].

BIBLIOGRAPHIC NOTE: In 1991 Albert Henry Silvester published an account of the early generations of Richard Silvester's family [NEHGR 85:247-65].

MOSES SIMONSON

ORIGIN: Leiden, Holland

MIGRATION: 1621 in *Fortune*

FIRST RESIDENCE: Plymouth

REMOVES: Duxbury

OCCUPATION: Yeoman.

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP: "Moses Symonson, because a child of one that was in communion with the Dutch church at Leyden, is admitted into church fellowship at Plymouth in New England, and his children also to baptism, as well as our own" [Young's Pilgrim Fathers 398].

FREEMAN: In "1639" Plymouth list of freemen after those admitted 1 January 1634/5 [PCR 1:4]. In the Duxbury section of the lists of freemen of 1639, 1658, 29 May 1670 and early 1683/4 [PCR 5:275, 8:175, 198, 208].

EDUCATION: Signed a number of his deeds, but by 1678 was making his mark.

OFFICES: Petit jury, 25 October 1668 [PCR 7:150].

Duxbury highway surveyor, 3 June 1657, 3 June 1662 [PCR 3:116, 4:15]. Scituate surveyor of highways, 1 June 1675 [PCR 5:166].

BIRTH: By about 1605 (assuming that he was a young servant when he arrived in New England).

DEATH: Between 17 June 1689 (date of will) and 10 September 1691 (date of inventory).

MARRIAGE: By about 1635 Sarah _____ (and certainly by 13 December 1660 [MD 34:85]).

CHILDREN:

- i REBECCA, b. say 1635 (called "eldest daughter" by father); m. by 1655 as his first wife John Soule (estimated b. of eldest child Sarah), son of GEORGE SOULE.
- ii MOSES, b. say 1639; m. by 1664 Patience Barstow, daughter of William Barstow (by 27 July 1664 William Barstow had given "a small tract" of land "unto my son Moses Simons" [PCR 4:68-69]).
- iii MARY, b. say 1641; m. by about 1660 Joseph Alden, son of JOHN ALDEN [MD 31:60].
- iv JOHN, b. say 1644; m. Duxbury 16 November 1669 Mercy Pabodie.
- v SARAH, b. say 1649; m. by 1669 James Nash (eldest child b. Weymouth 21 April 1669).
- vi ELIZABETH, b. say 1651; m. after 1673 [PCR 5:116] and before 1689 Richard Dwelly (father's will).
- vii AARON, b. say 1653; m. Scituate 24 December 1677 Mary Woodworth, daughter of WALTER WOODWORTH.

ASSOCIATIONS: In the land division of 1623 Moses Simonson was paired with PHILIP DELANO in a grant of land, suggesting that they may have come together from Leiden.

There was a THOMAS SYMONS in Plymouth by 1633, and several authors have attempted to squeeze him into the family of Moses Simonson, but there is no evidence that he belongs. The most egregious attempt in this direction was perpetrated in 1935 by Raymon Meyers Tingley, who fabricated documents, including an alleged deposition made by Thomas, and managed to make Thomas both son and brother of Moses [Tingley-Meyers 371-72].

COMMENTS: On 3 June 1673 Richard Sutton of Roxbury brought suit against "Moses Symonds," Sarah his wife, and Elizabeth their daughter, saying that Elizabeth had promised to marry him, but her parents prevented it. The court refused the engagement but ordered "Symonds" to pay Sutton £3 [PCR 5:116].

Pope included in the sketch of the immigrant an abstract of the will of his son Moses, who predeceased his father.

This would mean that it was the younger Nathaniel, returning from Taunton, who was readmitted as an inhabitant. We now take note of his surety, Thomas Harwood, who had married in 1654 the widow of Robert Smith, son of Nathaniel the elder [NEHGR 51:173]. Here at last is our strong connection between the elder and younger Nathaniel.

In his deed of 1655, the younger Nathaniel is not accompanied by a wife, as he is in earlier and later deeds. This may be interpreted to mean that his first wife had died by this date, and perhaps he was returning to Boston to find a new wife, or otherwise find assistance in caring for his family. Within a few years he had found a second wife, Katherine, and returned to Taunton.

The inventory of the estate of Nathaniel Woodward of Boston was taken on 11 December 1675, and was presented at court by Rachel Harwood [SPR 5:299]. Since the younger Nathaniel was alive as late as 1686 [BrLR 3:8], this must be the estate of the elder Nathaniel, still attended by his remarried daughter-in-law.

Since both Nathaniels were carpenters, and both active in Boston during much the same period, we are left uncertain as to which one of these men was the surveyor employed by the colony to run the line between Massachusetts Bay and two other colonies, Plymouth and Connecticut [MBCR 1:261, 323, 333], and which was the carpenter involved in a dispute with John Coggan in 1640 [Lechford 358-59], although the younger man would seem to be the more likely candidate for the surveyor.

COMMENTS: The first five of the younger Nathaniel's children must have been born before 1655, and we have assumed that he was between wives in that year, so all these must be by the first wife, Mary. Son James did not marry until about 1698, and so he is more likely a child of the second marriage.

On 5 June 1671 "Nathaniel Woodward, for speaking abusive words against Mr. Shove, the pastor of the church of Taunton, was sentenced by the Court to sit in the stocks during the pleasure of the Court, which accordingly was performed" [PCR 5:61]. (This may have been the younger Nathaniel of Taunton.)

WALTER WOODWORTH

ORIGIN: Unknown

MIGRATION: 1633

FIRST RESIDENCE: Plymouth

REMOVES: Scituate

FREEMAN: Propounded as a freeman on 1 December 1640 and admitted 2 March 1640/1 [PCR 2:3, 8]. "Walter Woodward" in Scituate section of 1639 (added after his admission on 2 March 1640/1), 1658, 29 May 1670 and early 1683 lists of Plymouth Colony freemen [PCR 5:275, 8:175, 198, 204].

EDUCATION: Signed his will by mark. His inventory included his "purse & apparel & books" valued at £5 10s.

OFFICES: Scituate surveyor of highways, 4 June 1645, 2 June 1646, 3 June 1656 [PCR 2:84, 102, 3:100]. Arbiter, 4 June 1645, 3 June 1662/3, 9 June 1665 [PCR 2:85, 4:31, 100]. Coroner's jury, 1 July 1680 [PCR 6:45].

Walter Woodworth was in the Scituate section of 1643 Plymouth list of men able to bear arms [PCR 8:191].

ESTATE: "Walter Woodart" assessed 9s. in Plymouth tax list of 27 March 1634 [PCR 1:29].

He is on the 3 June 1662 list of servants and ancient freemen granted land [PCR 4:18] and as a consequence on 4 October 1664 was granted sixty acres [PCR 4:75].

In his will, dated 26 November 1685 and proved 2 March 1685/6, "Walter Woodward of Scituate" bequeathed to "Thomas Woodward my eldest son a parcel of upland containing five acres" in Scituate; to "my two sons Thomas & Joseph Woodward ten acres of marshland" in Scituate to be equally divided; to "the said Thomas my son one-third part of all my lands at Seconet which is purchased, & the other two-thirds I give unto my son two sons Benjamin & Isaak Woodward" to be equally divided, "excepting twenty & five acres which I do give unto my son Joseph ... & ten acres the which I do give unto my daughter Martha"; "all the rest of my land at Seconett which is yet to be purchased I give unto my two sons Thomas & Joseph Woodward" to be equally divided; to "Benjamin my son aforesaid my dwelling house with my barn & other outhousing with all my land both upland and marshland thereunto belonging, that is to say twenty acres of upland ... & six acres of marshland ... upon condition that my son Benjamin aforesaid do pay & allow the sum of seventy pounds unto my son Joseph & my six daughters Sarah, Elyzabeth, Mary, Martha, Mehetabel & Abigaile," £10 apiece, and permit "my two daughters Mehetable & Abigaile" to live in the house as long as they are unmarried; to "my said two daughters Mehetable & Abigaile my feather bed with the furniture thereunto belonging & all the rest of my household goods I give unto my six daughters Sarah, Elyzabeth, Mary, Martha, Mehetabel & Abigaile" to be divided equally; residue of estate to "all my children"; "my son Benjamin" to be sole executor and "my two sons Thomas & Joseph" to be overseers [PCLR 5:382-83].

The inventory of the estate of Walter Woodworth was taken 25 February 1685/6 and totalled £355 10s., of which £310 was real estate: "one

dwelling house & barn & upland & meadow land adjoining thereto with common privileges," £140; "ten acres of salt meadow land," £50; "five acres of upland," £20; and "one whole share of land at Saconet," £100 [PCLR 5:383-84].

BIRTH: By about 1612 based on taxation in 1633.

DEATH: Scituate between 26 November 1685 (date of will) and 25 February 1685/6 (date of inventory).

MARRIAGE: By about 1641 _____; she died after about 1664.

CHILDREN:

- i THOMAS, b. say 1641; m. Scituate 8 February 1666[/7] Deborah Daman, daughter of John Daman.
- ii SARAH, b. say 1643; apparently married by 26 November 1685 (father's will).
- iii JOSEPH, b. say 1645; m. Scituate 6 January 1669[/70] Sarah Stockbridge [NEHGR 133:100-01].
- iv ELIZABETH, b. say 1648; in court 27 October 1675, 7 March 1675/6 and 22 July 1676 [PCR 5:181-82, 188, 208] about a child with Robert Stedson (Joseph Woodman calls her sister [PCR 5:208]); apparently married by 26 November 1685 (father's will).
- v MARY, b. Scituate 10 March 1650/1; m. Scituate 24 December 1677 Aaron Simmons (or Simonson), son of MOSES SIMONSON.
- vi BENJAMIN, b. say 1656; m. (1) by about 1680 Deborah _____ ("Deborah the wife [and] Elizabeth [and] Deborah the children of Beniamin Woddward" were bp. at Scituate on 16 July 1682 [NEHGR 57:319]); m. (2) by 1691 Hannah _____ (on 24 June 1691 "Benjamin Woodworth and Hannah Woodworth his wife" acknowledged a deed in which Benjamin sold the land he had inherited from his father [PLR 3:11]).
- vii ISAAC, b. say 1658; m. by an unknown date Lydia Standlake, daughter of Richard Standlake [PLR 8:172-74, 207-08; NEHGR 87:84].
- viii MARTHA, b. say 1660; m. Scituate June 1679 Zachary Daman, son of John Daman.
- ix MEHETABEL, b. Scituate 15 August 1662; "Mehittable Woodworth," daughter of "Walter Woodworth" of Scituate, was a victim of witchcraft, "almost bereaved of her senses," 6 March 1676/7 [PCR 5:223]; unmarried on 26 November 1685 (father's will).
- x ABIGAIL, b. say 1664; unmarried on 26 November 1685 (father's will).

COMMENTS: Savage, following Deane, says that the immigrant had a son Walter Woodworth who had children "Mary, b. 1658; Mehitable, 1662; and Ebenezer, 1664" [Savage 4:648]. There is only evidence of one Walter Woodworth in early New England, as no record refers to Walter Sr. or Jr. The immigrant had daughters named Mary and Mehitable; no record for an Ebenezer is seen.

Paul W. Prindle and Robert S. Wakefield have commented briefly on some errors in secondary sources regarding marriages in this family [TAG 32:203, 61:140].

In arranging the children of Walter Woodworth, the assumption has been made that in his will he named his sons in birth order and his daughters in birth order. This permits a birth sequence for the children which is consistent with other known dates.

On 7 July 1681 "Walter Woodworth of Scittuate" sued Japhett Turner for tearing down some of his fencing, and was awarded "five shillings damage and the cost of the suit"; the "Bill of Cost," apparently prepared by Woodworth himself, totalled £3 16s. [PCR 7:238-39].

PETER WOOLFE

ORIGIN: Unknown

MIGRATION: 1633

FIRST RESIDENCE: Salem

REMOVES: Beverly

OCCUPATION: Yeoman.

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP: In list of those admitted to Salem church before end of 1636 [SChR 6], and freemanship implies membership before 14 May 1634.

FREEMAN: 14 May 1634 [MBCR 1:369].

EDUCATION: Signed will by mark.

OFFICES: Called "Sergeant" in 1636 land grant [STR 1:36]. Essex jury 25 March 1639 [EQC 1:11]. Candidate for lieutenant at Salem, 6 May 1646, but not chosen [MBCR 3:66].

ESTATE: Granted 50 acres at Jeffreys Creek in 1636 [STR 1:19, 25, 26, 37]. He was granted three-quarters of an acre of marsh on 25 December 1637, with a household of four [STR 1:102]. He was granted a fishing lot at Winter Harbor [STR 1:36, 55].

On 28 April 1670 "Peeter Wolfe" of Beverly, husbandman, sold to "Thomas Woodbery" of Beverly, mariner, "1½ acre, part of ten acre lot he now dwells upon, as it was laid out & sold to his father by Mr. [Gorges?] ... to take possession after the decease of myself and Martha my wife" [ELR 4:25]. (The intended meaning of the pronouns in this