

THE FIRST TWO HUNDRED YEARS

of the

OLDHAM FAMILY

in

AMERICA

Compiled by

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PREFACE

For over forty years I have known that my grandmother's grandmother was Betsey Oldham of Hanover, Mass. She married there in 1776 Ebenezer Wing, Jr. of the same town. Of her parentage I possessed neither record nor tradition. This winter I determined to find out, if possible, the names of her father and mother. I soon discovered that this knowledge could be obtained only by a process of elimination. I obtained copies of the Vital Records of all the towns of Plymouth County and from these made a catalogue of every Oldham Birth, marriage, and death. I read all the Oldham deeds recorded in Plymouth County and made copies of all wills, inventories, guardianship papers and administrator's accounts, which in any way pertained to the Oldham family. I found that I then had a history of the first two hundred years of the Oldham family in America.

I soon discovered that Thomas Oldham and his wife Jane Rogers must be the parents of my Betsey Oldham. But it seemed a great waste of time and energy to toss all the material which I had collected into the waste basket. I decided to put it into genealogical form and file it where others could use it. I have made no attempt to bring the records of the family down to the present, but I feel that it is quite complete up to 1900. I have assumed that the first John Oldham was the parent of the three, Richard, Thomas and John.

Ruth Story Devereux Eddy

Providence, R.I.
March 1, 1939

THE OLDHAM FAMILY IN NEW ENGLAND

JOHN OLDHAM came from Darby, England to Plymouth in the "Anne" in the summer of 1623. From the Division of lands in Plymouth the next year, we learn that there were ten members who were counted as his household or company. On page 10 of the Original Records of Plymouth Colony it is written as follows,-

"The sales of their grounds which came over in the shipe called Anne according as they were cast. 1623". "These following lye on the other side of the towne towards the eele-river." "Mr. Ouldham and those joined with him 10."

It would be interesting to try to conjecture who composed this company, but we can be sure probably only of his wife, his daughter Mary, his son Richard, and his sister Lucretia, who on April 10 of this same year, 1624, married Jonathan Brewster. Both Savage and Pope agree that the two younger sons did not come until later and suggest that the wife did not come in the Anne, but accompanied the two younger children on the Elizabeth and Ann in 1635.

In less than two years John Oldham gave offense to the government of Plymouth by siding with the Rev. Mr. Lyford, who had a scheme for overthrowing the existing government under Bradford, and substituting Episcopal rule. He wrote letters to persons in England, who were known to be hostile to the colony. The scheme was detected and both Lyford and Oldham were banished, says Pope, "with more contempt than severity and driven to Nantasket, and thence to Cape Ann where they remained a short time with Conant." Gov. Bradford writing to Mr. Cushman in England on June 9, 1625, - "We have rid ourselves of the company of many of those, who have been so troublesome unto us; though I fear we are not yet rid of the troubles themselves. I hear

Ouldham comes himself into England; the which if he do, beware of him, for he is very malicious, and much threatens you; thinking he hath some advantage by some words you have spoken. Touching his factious doings here, and our proceedings with him, I refer you for it, and many other things to the relations of Captain Standish, whom we have thought most meet for sundry reasons, to send at this time." (Gov. Bradford's Letter Book, printed in Vol. V, page 77 of the "Mayflower Descendant").

Pope states that in this year 1625, "The Western Adventurers of Dorchester, Eng. sent Oldham to Conant at Cape Ann, but he accomplished naught." Whether Oldham changed his views is not known, but by 1628 he was so reconciled to the Plymouth Government and so greatly trusted by them that they gave into his charge their prisoner, the mischief-making Thomas Morton of Merrymount, whom they were sending to England. On June 9, 1628, Governor Bradford wrote to "The right Honourable, his Majesty's council for New England" these words. "Necessity has forced us, his Majesty's subjects of New England in General (after long patience) to take this course with this troublesome planter, Mr. Thomas Morton, whom we have sent unto your Honours." After summing up the delinquencies of Morton he states, "And likewise this bearer, Mr. John Oldham, who can give your Honours further information upon his oath, if need so require, whom we have sent with the prisoner, and to attend your Lordships pleasures". (Bradford's Letter Book, Vol. VI, pages 203 and 209 of the "Mayflower Descendant".)

After this visit to England Oldham returned to New England late in 1629 or early in 1630. Bond in his History of Watertown says that in 1629 Oldham and John Dorrill obtained of John Gorges a lease of a tract of land which embraced most of the territory of the present cities of Charlestown, Cambridge and Somerville, and probably a small

reof ~~that~~ later on Apr.1,1634,the General Court granted him a farm 500 acres in Watertown. This was long known as the Oldham farm afterward as the Dummer Farm. Sometime after the decease of Old-
1,the General Court ordered on June12,1641 said land to be laid out
Matthew Craddock of London to whom Oldham was indebted. This farm
passed successively to Simon Bradstreet,of Ipswich,Thomas Mayhew of
Watertown,and Richard Dummer of Newtown. The town attempted to in-
validate Mr. Dummer's title,but by a vote passed by the town Oct.24,
1659,which was accepted by the Court,Dummer's title was confirmed
and all controversy settled. This farm was between Waltham Plain
and Stoney Brooke,and was bounded on the south east by the Charles
River and contained within its boundaries the hill called Mt.Feake.

It is a fact that John Oldham was in Watertown in 1630 and was
given a tract of land on Feb.12 1630 and was made Freeman in 1631,
on May 18. In 1632 he and Mr.John Masters were chosen by Watertown
to advise with the Governor and the Assistants about the raising of
public stock (Winthrop p.88 and Hinman p.58). In August of 1632
his house which was near the "weare" in Watertown was burned. In
1634 he was chosen Deputy to the General Court from Watertown. It
is thought that he went to England in this year and returned the fol-
lowing year with his two younger sons and his wife,on the Elizabeth
and Ann. John was a boy of twelve and Thomas was ten.

In all the records Oldham's name appears with the prefix "Mr.",
a title which at that time denoted respect. It was given only to
educated men and men of great ability. He served on several committees
and was much engaged with trade especially with the Indians. It is
stated that he had grants from the Indians of islands in Narragansett
Bay. Most of his trading was done by water and it was on one of these
trading trips that he lost his life. He was slain by the Indians in
the waters off Block Island,near the mouth of Narragansett Bay on

on July 20, 1636. Winthrop states that Oldham was in his shallop trading with the Pequod Indians when he was slain, and that this murder was the immediate cause of the Pequod War and the extermination of the whole Pequod tribe. Administration was held on his estate in Massachusetts and it was also reported in the Connecticut Records, perhaps because Connecticut claimed the Long Island waters as her own, and felt that the mouth of Narragansett Bay was a part of the Sound. (J.H.Trumbull ,Vol.I.)

Children(probably):

- * 3 Richard Oldham, b. in England.
- * 4 Mary Oldham, b. in England.
- * 5 John Oldham, b. 1623 in England.
- * 6 Thomas Oldham, b. 1625 in England.

2 LUCRETIA OLDHAM was born in England and came in the "Anne" in 1623. She married on Apr. 10, 1624, Jonathan Brewster, son of Elder William Brewster. William Brewster came on the "Mayflower" and his son Jonathan came the next year on the "Fortune". John Oldham was called brother by Jonathan Brewster, (Goodwin's Pilgrim Republic, p.274). Jonathan died Aug. 7, 1659 and Lucretia, Mar. 4, 1678/9.

Children (M.D.Vol.I, p.p.7,8.)

- 7 William Brewster, b. Mar. 9, 1628, at Plymouth, m. Mary Pease.
- 8 Mary Brewster, b. Apr. 16, 1627, at Plymouth, m. John Turner.
- 9 Jonathan Brewster, b. Apr. 18, 1629, at Plymouth,
- 10 Ruth Brewster, b. Oct. 3, 1631, at Jones River, m. John Pickett; & Chas. Hill
- 11 Benjamin Brewster, b. Nov. 17, 1633, at Duxborow.
- 12 Elizabeth Brewster, b. May 1, 1637, at Duxborow, m. Peter Bradley.
- 13 Grace Brewster, b. Nov. 1, 1638, at Duxborow, m. Capt. Daniel Mithrell.
- 14 Hanna Brewster, b. Nov. 3, 1641 at Duxborow,

3 RICHARD OLDHAM (John), b. in England; d. 1658; m. Martha Eaton, dau. of William Eaton of Watertown. He probably came with his father John on the "Anne" in 1623 and when the latter took up his residence in Watertown Richard accompanied him to that place and there became freeman in 1651. His will was dated July 8, 1653. His wife and Samuel Hyde were named executors. His widow married (2) Thomas Browne of Concord, on Oct. 7, 1656. (Cambridge Records.)

Children(Cambridge Rec.)

- *15 John Oldham, b. about 1632.
- *16 Samuel Oldham.

MARY OLDHAM(John),b. in England,came with her father on the "Anne" in 1623,and married William Bridge,who was also a passenger on the "Anne". He died in 1646 and he died in 1648/9 at Charlestown. Mary probably accompanied her father to Watertown and there married about 1642. William Bridge petitioned for a grant of land in 1644 (Mass. Hist.Col.), when asking for this grant he declared that he came over 21years before when Gov. Endicott was in office,with his father-in-law, John Oldham. He was an inhabitant of Charlestown as early as 1643. In 1646/7 he kept a ferry ,for Peter Tufts was allowed to join him in his work,and is called brother by William. After the death of Mary,he married for a second wife Persis Pierce, who was admitted to the church on Nov. 30, 1643. After the death of William,Persis married again in 1652, John Harrison of Charlestown,and Boston.

Children:

- *17 Peter Bridge,b. in Boston,Jan.1643/44.
- *18 Samuel Bridge
- *19 Mary Bridge,m. John Knight,Jr.

JOHN OLDHAM (John),b. in England in 1623. It is because of this birth that it is thought that the mother Mary did not accompany her husband on the Anne in 1623. Others claim that she came and returned to England with her husband on one of his trips with her young children and that it was not until 1635 that these two appear on the records as arriving in the "Elizabeth and Ann" in 1635. It is supposed that he had a son,but the name of his wife is not known.

Child

- 20 Thomas Oldham,married Rachel Cutcher. (Savage)

6 THOMAS OLDHAM (John)b. probably in England and came to New England in the Elizabeth and Ann in 1635,when he was 10 years old. On Nov.20,

1656 he married Mary Witherell, the daughter of Rev. William Witherell. Scit. V.R.). Mr Witherell was a schoolmaster by profession before leaving England. He has left many proofs of his skill in the languages. He became pastor of the Second Church established in Scituate, in what is now the town of Norwell. His record of the baptisms which he performed has been preserved. He was the first Town Clerk of Scituate. When he left England in 1635 in the "Hercules" he was accompanied by his wife, Mary and three children and a servant. His certificate was dated Mar. 4, 1634/5. He came from Maidstone.

Thomas Oldham learned the trade of a cooper. When the military census was taken in Duxbury in 1643, Thomas was registered as between the ages of 16 and 50 and able to bear arms. He left Duxbury before 1650. For on that date he was in Scituate, plying his trade of cooper. On Oct. 4, 1664 he appeared before the Court to give witness that he saw Thomas Bird sign the will dated Feb. 4, 1663.

On Nov. 11, 1661 "Edward Goodwin of Chatham in the Countey of Kent, Shipwright, Now resident in Boston in the Massachusetts Collonie of New England; for and in consideration of a valuable sume in hand paid by Thomas Oldham of Scituate in Plymouth Pattent in New England ---do graunt ---unto the said Thomas Oldham--- all my Right---to every part of the land contained within this deed;---- Nov. 11, 1661."

This deed mentioned in the above sale was one which Hercules Hills of the "Citty of Rochester in the Countey of Kent," gave to Edward Goodwin on March 13, 1660, which was a piece of upland, containing about forty acres and a piece of marshland thereon adjoining, containing about three acres and 20 rods, which lands are in Scituate in the Government of Plymouth in America "on the south side of the North River there and bounding against the lands now or late of Richard Sible on the one side; against the lands now or late of Thomas Rawlins on the other side; against the North River towards the west and against a certain Wood or Cove there towards the east,--- which lands I the said Her-

Coles Hills then of Scittuate --late purchased---of William Holmes of _8_ Scittuate. (Ply. Deeds, II:II;82,83,84.).

The following year on September 29, 1662, "Thomas Rawlins of Boston sold to Thomas Oldam of Scittuate husbandman---a certain tract of upland in Scittuate --on the easterly side of the North River, which tract of land contains by estimation fourscore acres and is bounded towards the north to the land of Thomas Oldham---towards the south to the land of Thomas Byrd towards the west to the meadow of the said Thomas Rawlins and Thomas Oldham aforesaid, towards the east to the Comon; out of which sale the said Thomas Rawlins hath reserved for himselfe libertie of timber on the said land to fence his meadows as occasion doth require if it bee to bee had on the said land; as also libertie of carting or carriage of said timber stufte to the said meadow. Mem. it is agreed ---that Thomas Oldham should make and maintaine nine rodd of fence against the meadow of Thomas Rawlins---the fence is to bee maintained next the meddow of Thomas Oldham successively. (Ply. Col. III 1-17).

These two purchases gave Thomas Oldham a considerable farm in Scittuate. Here he dwelt until he was about seventy years of age. He then made provision for the rest of his old age by making an agreement with his older son Thomas on June 20, 1695, in accordance with the terms of which Thomas was to sell or deed to his younger brother Isaac a certain tract of land in Mattakeesett and was to receive the lands in Scittuate and care for his father.

(Plym. Co., Deeds 1.356) I Thomas Ouldum of Scittuate---- as well for the tender love and fatherly affection that I have and bear to my eldest and well-beloved son Thomas Ouldum of ye town of Duxbury -- do grant-----all that my dwelling house and barn and lands both uplands and meadows; being the farm and messuage or Tenement on which and where I now dwell and live, scittuate lyeing and being within the Township of Scittuate and bounded toward the west by the North River

so called, towards the north by lands of Jonathan Dodson; towards the east by the commons of ye town of Marshfield and to the south by the lands of Thomas Lapham; together also with all and whatsoever other lands or rights to lands that I have or ought to have within the said Township of Scituate and as also all my quickstock; viz; Neat Cattle, horsekind and swine which I now have and am possessed of; to have and to hold the said dwelling house, outhouses, uplands, meadows, fences, commons and appurtenances on condition that my said son Thomas Oldham, his heirs---shall and do well faithfully and decently maintain and keep and supply with all necessaries myself and wife his mother during the term and time of our natural lives and the natural life of the longest liver of us according as by one Instrument he the said Thomas Oldham my son under his hand and seal given me under same date--- standeth bound and obliged ----." Dated June 20, 1695 and witnessed by Samuel Sprague and Hannah Sprague.

In acknowledging the deed Thomas Oldham signed as Thomas Oldham, Sr. No wife signed off her dower rights, but by the terms of the deed, we know that she was still living. The deed was recorded July 12, 1695. Thomas and his wife continued to live on their home farm and the son at his own home in Duxbury, probably until the death of Mary which occurred on Dec. 12, 1710 at Scituate (V.R.). He died on March 7, 1711/2 in Scituate, so it is likely that the son came to care for him in the last years of his life. Thomas was appointed administrator by the Court, (Plym. Prob., 3.226) on Apr. 15, 1713, and the Inventory was filed on May 7, 1713. (Book 3.227). On the final account shown by Thomas Oldham Jr. on May 11, 1713 one of the expenses was for the funeral of father and mother. After the expenses were paid there remained 5 pounds, 13 shillings and sixpence, ^{worth} of "movables" to be divided. And the statement is made that there is 14 shillings worth to each child, the eldest son Thomas Oldham having none of said movables."

Children (Scituate V.R.):

- #21 Mary Oldham, b. Aug. 20, 1658.
- #22 Thomas Oldham, b. Oct. 30, 1660.
- #23 Sarah Oldham, bp. Apr. 5, 1662; d. young.
- #24 Hannah Oldham, b. Mar. 7, 1664/5.
- #25 Grace Oldham, b. Feb. 13, 1666/7.
- #26 Isaac Oldham, b. Apr. 9, 1669.
- #27 Sarah Oldham, b. Mar. 13, 1670.
- #28 Ruth Oldham, b. Dec. 5, 1674.
- #29 Elizabeth Oldham, b. May 5, 1677; bp. Aug. 18, 1678.
- #30 Lydia Oldham, b. Aug. 11, 1679.

15 JOHN OLDHAM (Richard, John), b. about 1652 in Cambridge; m. July 22, 1675, at Cambridge, (V.R.) Abigail Wood. He died Oct. 14, 1719 in his 67th year, (Cambridge V.R.) also (Wyman's History of Charlestown). Wyman also states that John married for a second wife Elizabeth Pierce, the widow of Thomas Pierce and the daughter of John and Elizabeth (Green) Hall, and born Sept. 18, 1653 at Cambridge, (V.R.).

Children, b. in Cambridge:

*31 John Oldham, b. July 20, 1676.

32 Abigail Oldham, b. Nov. 25, 1679; m. Nov. 23, 1702, Capt. Samuel Frothingham of Charlestown. (Camb. V.R.).

16 SAMUEL OLDHAM (Richard, John), mar. Jan. 5, 1670, (Camb., V.R.) Hannah Dana. He was made Freeman in 1690. His will dated July 13, 1727, mentions only three daughters, so he has left no male issue to carry on the name.

Children (Camb. V.R.):

33 Nathaniel Oldham, d. May 3, 1673.

34 Samuel Oldham, b. May 27, 1672; d. Jan. 13, 1673.

35 Samuel Oldham, d. Aug. 24, 1675. b. Jan. 15, 1673.

36 Hannah Oldham, b. Mar. 25, 1673; d. July 9, 1676.

37 Andrew Oldham, b. Apr. 22, 1677; d. July 12, 1677.

38 Mary Oldham, b. June 1, 1679; m. Apr. 3, 1712, James Reade (Will of Thomas and also Camb. V.R.).

39 Hannah Oldham, b. Oct. 10, 1681; m. May 19, 1703, Amos Gates. (Will of father and also Camb. V.R.).

40 Ann Oldham. Unmar. at time of father's will. She might have been the Anne who married Benjamin Goffard of Charlestown whose intentions were published 1737/38.

22 THOMAS OLDHAM (Thomas, John), b. Oct. 30, 1660, in Scituate, (V.R.); d. between Feb. 21, 1733, when he made his will and Jan. 24, 1734, the date of the probate of the will. He married June 27, 1685, Mercy Sprout, a Scituate, (V.R.), the daughter of Robert and Elizabeth (Sampson) Sprout. Elizabeth Sampson was the daughter of Henry Sampson, who came on the Mayflower, so that all the descendants of Thomas and Mercy (Sprout) Oldham are eligible for membership in the Society of Mayflower descendants. Mercy is mentioned in her father's will, dated Nov. 26, 1711 and probated Dec. 11, 1713. He is called Mercy Oldham, my daughter "to whom I give one of my South Purchase lots, containing as I remember about 40 acres;"

in page 28 of Book 10 in the Plymouth Registry of Deeds is recorded the¹² sale of land by Robert Sprout, Jr., to Mercy Oldham, wife of Thomas; Hannah Richmond, wife of Ebenezer; and Hannah Keen, wife of Ephraim; 60 acres in the South Purchase or the Purchase called Thompsons Purchase, and my lot in Assawampsett and 2 1/2 acres at the brook near Elders Pond." (Plym. Deeds 19.152). "We Thomas Oldham and Mercy, his wife" for 15 pounds sold to Nehemiah Bennett of Middlebury "our 1/3 part of the whole share of land which did belong to the Right of our honoured grandfather, Henry Sampson in the purchase of land called the South Purchase, belonging to the Proprietors of Middlebury and lieth partly in Middlebury and partly in the Township of Plympton." This deed was dated Sept. 6, 1725, and witnessed by Joshua Morse and Thomas Latham and is the sale of the land which Mercy received from her father by will, which had come to him through his marriage with ^{Elizabeth} ~~Hannah~~ Sampson, the daughter of the Henry Sampson mentioned in the deed. Thomas and Mercy were living in Scituate at the time of this deed. (1725).

In 1691 Thomas Oldham was living in Duxbury and was chosen constable, an office of high trust and responsibility in a new colony, and none were elected to it except men of good standing. On June 20, 1693 he was still in Duxbury when he made an agreement with his father to care for him and his mother as long as they lived, and he also agreed to deed to his brother Isaac Oldham certain lands. This he did in 1702.

Before leaving Duxbury he made one more purchase of land on May 16, 1693 from William Bradford, who on the same day had purchased it from the Indians, as shown in the following deeds. (Plym. Deeds, 1.273, 274.)

"To all people to whom these presents shall come----Jeremiah Ihumatoque and Abigail his wife or squa" in ye county of Plymouth in New England Indians, ^{being} ~~Abigail~~ "Abigail, ye only daughter and sole heir of Josias Ihukalabug Indian Sachem, late deceased" send greeting and know ye that we the said Jeremiah and Abigail for and in consideration of the full and just sum of fourteen pounds of current money of New England, to us in

hand by William Bradford of Plimouth in ye County of Plymouth afore-¹³-
said well and truly paid or seemed to be paid with which said sum we
acknowledge ourselves to be fully contented paid and satisfied---- 100
acres of land at ----ponds being part of that 1000 acres of land which
Josias reserved for himself ---- bounded south west by the ponds;
north west by lands of the Town of Duxbury and Marshfield and to the
northeast by lands of the said towns and so to the south and east to
make 100 acres. "

Immediately following this deed by the Indians to Bradford and on
the same-date day following, May 17, 1693, "the abovenamed William Brad-
ford sold the same to Thomas Oldham of Duxbury. (Book 1, 275).

On the following page is recorded the receipt of the fourteen pounds
from Thomas Oldham. "Be it known to all men to whom these presents
shall come that we Jeremiah Humatoque and Abigail his wife or squa
have received of Thomas Oldham, jun'r the full and just sum of 14 pounds
in silver money in full satisfaction for an 100 acre piece of land,
which ye said Jeremiah and his wife have given Deed under their hands
and seals ye which land is bounded, measuring from ye corner stake south
east to a white oak tree, marked on four sides and from thence south-
west to a Black oak tree, marked on four sides and from thence to a
pond. All the bounds above named were settled before James Bishop
and Thomas Lambert. In witness hereunto the abovesaid Jeremiah and
Abigail have sett their hands the 11 day July in ye year 1694. The deed
was witnessed by William Fefrey and Charles Stockbridge.

Sometime between 1695 and 1697 when the following transactions occur-
red Thomas moved from Duxbury to the homestead farm of his parents, to
care for them in accordance with the agreement that he had made in 1695.
On June 20, 1697 he and Edward Wanton made an exchange of lands. (See
deeds on pages 5 and 83 of Book 3).

Edward Wanton of Scituate, shipwright, in exchange for a tract of
land lying at or near Namaseakoset, being part of that land which Jere-

miah and Abigail lately sold to Thomas Oldham jun'r late of Duxbury, to me by deed of same date as this together with 10 pounds in money to me by bill of same date," sell-- " which I lately purchased of Daniel Hicks, late of Scituate, dec'd and so much of my meadow at ye west end of upland as shall be contained in the limits and bounds therein enclosed,"----- bounded to the north by lands of Walter Hatch,-- to the east by the Comons of Marshfield, to the south to the lands now occupied by Samuel Hatch,---to east by marked white oak tree in the range of Samuel Hatch near the meadow thence running toward the northeast to ye end of a ditch on ye meadow ---etc. Walter Hatch and Peter Collamer witnessed the deed dated June 20, 1697 and Mary the wife of Edward Wanton signed off her dower rights to the land.

Thomas Oldham's deed to Edward Wanton is recorded on page 3 of Book 3. "Thomas Oldham, jun'r husbandman in consideration of a lot of upland in Scituate, on the east side of the North River and a small meadow adjoining, which formerly was land of Thomas Hicks deceased to me by deed in way of exchange under hand of Edward Wanton of Scituate, shipwright, of same date, do sell a part of my hundred acres with the house on the land lately purchased of William Bradford of ye heirs of Josias Wampatuck, Deceased, and by Bradford assigned to me by deeds on record, May 16, 1695 ----- and bounded unto the said Thomas Oldham in the presence of James Bishop and Thomas Lambert (do sell) to Edward Wanton all of said tract except 50 acres, the part which I reserve lying next to the pond, and is bounded by marked trees in the presence of John Bonney and Henry Perry. Dated June 20, 1697. His wife Mercy signed also and the deed was witnessed by Walter Hatch and Peter Collamer, and recorded Nov. 23, 1697.

Thomas was obliged to reserve the 50 acres because he had agreed with his father to deed this to his brother Isaac. On May 23, 1702 he kept this promise. (book 4, page 114) " Thomas Oldham Jun'r in consideration of a writing bearing date of June 20, 1696, given to my honour

her Thomas Oldham ,as may appear by said writing I have obliged _15_
elf to give to my brother Isaac Oldham the $\frac{1}{2}$ of my land in Matta-
sett in Duxbury, i.e. 50 acres and I do give him the said Isaac
ham the 50 acres .The west corner is an oak sapling at the mouth of
brook which runs into the ponds near the bounds between Marshfield
Duxbury then to a maple tree, etc.---- east by Edward Wanton's line
Thomas Lamberts line, etc, - to the pond. This deed was acknowledged
ne 1,1702 and recorded three days later. John Record and William May
re the witnesses.

Thomas made a sale of land of about 20 acres in Pembroke to his
other Isaac for 10 pounds on June 30,1714. This land bounded on
e south partly on lands already owned by Isaac and partly on the Great
erring Pond, on the west by the pond and on the east by Henry Perry.
ne deed was witnessed by James Sprout and Hudson Bishop. (Book 11.244)

On June 16,1713 Thomas Oldham and his wife Mercy; Ephraim Keen
nd his wife Hannah; and Ebenezer Richmond and his wife Anna sold ^{some of} the
and they together bought from their brother Robert. This is described
s being 25 acres upon the neck called Assawampsett in Middleborough,
being No.23 lot in the Neck and is in the range on the south east side
of Capt, John's lot ---and just east of the line between the first and
second divisions, near the Felix lots---and by the heads of the lots of
Felix and Capt. John, ---which belonged to our father Robert Sprout, dec'd
and also one share in the Common land in said Assawampsett Neck.

One other deed given by Thomas of Scituate is recorded in Book
30, page 219, and is dated Apr. 19, 1726. This is of especial interest be-
cause his sons Thomas and Caleb were the witnesses. To Jedidiah
Dwelly of Scituate he sold "My whole two shares in the common or un-
divided lands in the township of Scituate, one of which shares was
granted to me in my own right and the other to the successor of Thomas
Oldham, dec'd which happened to be the 51st and the 51st lots in the
first division of said lands, together with all that shall be laid out

a said shares in any and every other division of said common lands. -16-

We find Thomas deeding land to only one of his sons, the eldest, Joshua Oldham. (Plym. Deeds, 24, p. 190). Thomas Oldham of Scituate in consideration of the goodwill and fatherly love and natural affection I have and do bear towards my eldest son Joshua Oldham of the same town, labourer-----convey land in Scituate with a dwelling house thereon viz. part of the lands which was formerly the lands of Daniel Hicks, bounded on the south by Samuel Hatch and on the north by John Hatch; east by marked trees--- and in ye westerly side of Buck hill, from said Samuel Hatch's land to said John Hatch's land, and all the meadow at the west end of said land which is estimated to be 100 acres. Dated Mar. 13, 1723, and witnessed by John Winslow and Isaac Hatch.

In his will however Thomas gives land to his other two sons. This will is on file in the Plymouth Registry ~~of Deeds~~ and is dated Feb. 21, 1733. The following is an abstract.

Thomas Oldham of Scituate, yeoman ----- to my son Joshua 5 shillings for I have already given him his share, --- to son Thomas Oldham, all the farm where I now dwell, on the west side of the highway----west to a ditch that is across my meadow from ye meadow that was Thomas Stetsons to the meadow land of Michael Wanton, also 3 acres of land, which is a part of my farm on the east side of the way, bounding south by Samuel Lapham, and north by a stone wall, also twelve acres more or less at the head of Hicks lot, so called, from a range of stakes to the Marsh-field line, also $\frac{1}{2}$ of the Cedar swamp lying in Hanover,--and $\frac{1}{2}$ of the personal estate within and without doors,---- to Caleb all the rest of the farm and upland and meadow on both sides of the highway and the other half of the Cedar swamp and the other half of the personal estate ---to my daughters Mary, Mercy, Elizabeth, Abigail, Anne, Desire, and Grace 40 pounds, of which Mary is to have 10 pounds and the rest 5 pounds each, having received part of their portions already. The witnesses were: Samuel Sylvester, Josiah James and Caleb Torrey. It was

probated Jan.24,1734.

-17-

From these deeds and the will it is clear that Thomas lived in Duxbury until about 1696 or 1697 and from that time on was a resident of Scituate. Though several of his children were born before his removal to Scituate, their births are recorded in Scituate and not in Duxbury.

Children (Scituate V.R. and Will of father):

- *41 Joshua Oldham, b. June 20, 1684; bp. Aug. 8, 1686.
- *42 Mary Oldham, b. April 1, 1686.
- *43 Mercy Oldham, b. July 28, 1689.
- *44 Elizabeth Oldham, b. Oct. 4, 1691.
- *45 Abigail Oldham, b. Nov. 24, 1693.
- *46 Anne, b. Mar. 19, 1695.
- *47 Desire Oldham, b. Feb. 28, 1697/98.
- *48 Thomas Oldham, b. Jan. 30, 1698/99.
- *49 Caleb Oldham
- *50 Grace Oldham, bp. Feb. 27, 1703/4.

24 HANNAH OLDHAM (Thomas, John), b. Mar. 7, 1664/5, (Scituate V.R.); m. Nov. 6, 1688, (Scit. V.R.) Joseph Stetson, son of Joseph. Although no wife is given in the records for the births of the following children, from the continuity of the dates it would seem that they all belonged to Hannah.

Children (Scituate V.R.)

- 51 Ruth Stetson, b. Sept. 11, 1689.
- 52 Lois Stetson, b. Aug. 1, 1692.
- 53 Bathshua Stetson, b. Sept. 29, 1693.
- 54 Nehemiah Stetson, b. June 25, 1693.
- 55 Mary Stetson, b. May 23, 1696. See No. 62
- 56 Hannah Stetson, b. Aug. 1, 1700.
- 57 Hesaciah Stetson, b. Aug. 1703.
- 58 Abthiah Stetson, b. Apr. 24, 1703.
- 59 Abigail Stetson, b. Jan. 17, 1707/8.

25 ISAAC OLDHAM (Thomas, John), b. Apr. 9, 1669, (Scit. V.R.); m. Nov 21, 1695 at Duxbury, Hannah Keen (spelled in the records Kane). She was the daughter of Josiah and Hannah (Dingley) Keen. In his will Josiah Keen mentions his four daughters, who are not married at this date, May 28, 1695, and four sons, Josiah, John, Ephraim and Matthew. On Oct. 30 1717 the following deed was given to Israel Thomas. (Plym. Deeds 17.128). We Josiah Keen, Sr., John Keen, Matthew Keen, Ephraim Keen, Isaac Oldham and his wife Hannah, John Bishop and his wife of Pembroke, Hudson Bishop and Abigail his wife of Scituate, and Timothy Rogers and his wife Sarah of Middleborough sell to Israel Thomas of Marshfield all our right in

3 acres of land in Duxbury in the second division of lands in Duxbury
and Pembroke laid out in 1713, the rights of the three sons, Josiah,
Matthew, and Ephraim, being 1/16 and each of the girls owned the same,
while the rights of John were 9/16. It is interesting to read in con-
nection with this deed, a page in the old account book of Hezekiah
Keen of Duxbury, printed in the Mayflower Descendant, Vol. 28. p.5 and p.6.
Hezekiah Keen's Grandfather, who was born in England & came to New Eng-
land and who was the first Josiah Keen in New England and married to Abigail
Lettel & had my father Josiah Keen who was the first Josiah Keen that
ever was Born in New England and then his mother who was Abigail Lettel
he died & then my grandfather married with his Sekent wife who was
Hannah Dengley who my grandfather had 3 sons & four daughters. the sons
were John, Matthew, Ephraim & Hannah, Elesebeth, Abigail & Sarah." Josiah
Keen married with Ledia Baker, John Keen married with Rebekah Barker, Matthew
Keen married with Martha Mackfarland, Ephraim Keen married with Hannah
Brought, Hannah Keen married with Isaac Oldham, Elesebeth married with
John Beeshep; Abigail Keen married with Hotsen Beeshep, Sarah Keen married
with Timothy Rogers."

In 1710 Isaac Oldham was still a resident of Duxbury, having received
from his brother Thomas in 1702 the land which was promised to him when
his father deeded the homestead to Thomas. On June 30, 1714 Thomas sold
Isaac land in Pembroke, and it is likely that Isaac soon changed his
residence to Pembroke, for when he bought land on July 17, 1718 from
Jacob Thomson of Middleborough he gives his residence as Pembroke. From
his time on the descendants of Isaac are found for nearly a hundred
years or more in this town. (Plym. Deeds 14.189), Jacob Thomson of Mid-
dleborough to Isaac Oldham of Pembroke, who has lost his deed of 1/2 part
& a share in the Cedar swamp which did originally belong to the Right
of my father John Thomson, de'd, being the 3th lot of the Cedar swamp."
Previous to his removal to Pembroke he purchased a small tract of
land in Duxbury adjoining his other land from Edward Tanton, on Mar.

23,1708.

Isaac Oldham died at Pembroke shortly before June 8, 1736 when the Court appointed his son Isaac to administer the estate. (Plym. Prob. 7.214) "To Isaac Oldham of Pembroke---- your father Isaac Oldham, late of Pembroke had property --- and died intestate----- you are to put in a true account of his estate before Sept. 1, 1736. The estate was appraised by Thomas Burton, Jacob Mitchell and John Bouney and presented by Isaac Oldham at the meeting of the Court on Sept. 1736, as the estate of my father Isaac Oldham. This inventory contains several items of interest which do not ordinarily appear on one of such early date. His purse and apparel were worth 6 £ -2-9, arms and ammunition, corn and pease, tobacco and pipes, pewter, glass, iron and books valued at 16£-6; chalk, beeswax, and buttons; meat, tallow and candles; hammer, chisels, and compass; bells and old candlesticks; hourglass, sickle and spindle; baskets, comb, and warming pan; Grindstone; bed and bedding; Trundle bed, cord and mattress; 2 cows and heifers worth 26£ and a mare worth 3 £; 2 swine; 44 acres and buildings on the farm, valued at 572 £; 34 acres and fences, 238£; 10 acres 60 £; and 8 acres 20 £. A valuable estate! One wonders what the books were in the inventory.

The births of three children are recorded in the Pembroke records. It is possible that there were other daughters, but there was no son to reach maturity, other than Isaac, for every male ~~ein~~ on the records in the various towns in Plymouth County is accounted for in the other families. *Moreover Isaac bought out only two sisters.*

Children (Pem. V. R.)

- *62 Isaac Oldham, b. Sept. 22, 1709
- *60 Hannah Oldham, b. June 25, 1700
- *61 Alice Oldham, b. June 22, 1703.

27 SARAH OLDHAM (Thomas, John), b. Mar. 13, 1670 (Scit. V. R.). Probably she is the Sarah who married on Jan. 11, 1714, Lenix Beverly of Rehoboth.

28 RUTH OLDHAM (Thomas, John), b. Dec. 5, 1674 (Scit. V. R.); m. Jan. 30,

1711/12, Elias Magoon of Duxbury (Scit. V.R.), son of John Magoon, and born Aug. 17, 1673. From a study of the records, it would seem that Ruth was ~~the~~ second wife of Elias, for between the years 1703 and 1708 an Elias Magoon with a wife Hannah had three children, whose births are recorded in Pembroke, viz. David, Elias and Mary. Sarah was baptised in the church at Scituate Aug. 13, 1678.

Children, (Pembroke V.R.)

63 Nathaniel Magoon, b. Jan. 30, 1713.

64 Ruth Magoon, b. May 1, 1714; m. June 15, 1737, James Randall.

65 Recompense Magoon, b. May 19, 1716; m. July 20, 1742, Ruth Crooker.

69 ELIZABETH OLDFHAM (THOMAS; JOHN), b. May 5, 1677; bp. Aug. 18, 1678 at Scituate (V.R.); m. Mar. 7, 1704/5, Samuel Hatch, both being residents of Scituate. He was the son of Samuel and born Nov. 10, 1678.

Children, (Scit. V.R.)

66 Lydia Hatch, b. May 24, 1706.

67 Ruth Hatch, b. Oct. 21, 1709

68 Samuel Hatch
(perhaps others)

70 LYDIA OLDFHAM (Thomas, John), b. Aug. 11, 1679; m. July 2, 1707, Samuel Gardner, (Scit. V.R.) No further records found.

31 JOHN OLDHAM (John, Richard, John), b. July 20, 1676 in Cambridge, Mass. (V.R.); m. Nov. 1, 1720, Mindwell Parker (Camb. V.R.). He died about 1750, or 1731. On Oct. 14, 1733 his three youngest children were baptized as children of the widow of John. On Dec. 6, 1733 Hindwell married (2)

Joseph Tessenden (Camb. V.R.).

Children (Camb. V.R.):

*69 John Oldham, b. Dec. 18, 1720.

70 Samuel Oldham, b. Aug. 26, 1722; m. Elizabeth--- and was in Vermont in 1763.

71 Mary Oldham, b. Mar. 10, 1727/8.

72 Elizabeth Oldham, bp. Oct. 14, 1733.

73 Abigail Oldham, bp. Oct. 14, 1733; d. Oct. 20, 1743.

74 Jonathan Oldham, bp. Oct. 14, 1733. He had his tax abated in 1754.

41 JOSHUA OLDHAM (Thomas, Thomas, John), b. June 24, 1684, (Scit. V.R.); bp. Aug. 8, 1686; d. after 1758 (Deed 45.162). He married (1) ^{May 12, 1715} Mehitable Gorham at Barnstable (V.R.). (Note, - The records of Barnstable as printed in the Mayflower Descendant (Vol. 14, p. 37) give the marriage of Mehitable Gorham to John Oldham. This must be an error in transcribing or an incorrect interpretation of the writing, for there was no John Oldham to be married at this date and there was a Joshua Oldham, who two years following this marriage in Barnstable, was in Scituate with a wife Mehitable, who is the mother of his daughter Mehitable. Later Joshua has transactions with a ^{John} ~~James~~ Gorham, showing that he was on friendly relations with the Gorham family. Mehitable Gorham was born Apr. 23, 1683, the daughter of James and Hannah (Huckins) Gorham. James was the son of John and Desire (Howland) Gorham and grandson of John Howland, who came on the Mayflower. Joshua married for his second wife Bathsheba Bradford of Kingston, Mass. Their intentions were published in Kingston on Mar. 21, 1732 and in Scituate on Mar. 23, 1732. She was Bathsheba Le Brooke, the widow ^{of} Elisha Bradford, who had married her as his second wife on Sept. 7, 1718. Her name appears as Pethschua and Bathseba as well as Bathsheba on the various records.

In the will of his father, Joshua is called the eldest son, and

likewise in a deed from his father, (Plym. Deeds 21.30). Because in this²²-
deed Thomas gives to his son Joshua his share of land, Joshua receives
from his father by will only 5 shillings, "he having had his share al-
ready". This deed is found in Plym. Deeds Bk. 24. p. 190, wherein Thomas
"for the goodwill and fatherly love and natural affection I have and
do here towards my eldest son Joshua Oldham of Scituate, Labourer-----
convey land in Scituate with a dwelling house" thereon, which land was
formerly the land of Daniel Hicks.

(Deed 21.30) Dated Feb. 4, 1724 Joshua Oldham, husbandman, sold to Stephen
Clapp of Scituate for 25 £, interest in the common or undivided upland
and swamp land that shall belong to me or be laid out to me in my right
or share upon a division. No wife signed this deed, so it is possible
that by this time Lehitable was dead.

(Deed 37.178) "We Joshua Oldham, Thomas Oldham, Jun'r and Caleb Oldham,
husbandmen, give up all claims which they might have in the lands given
by our honored mother to her seven daughters by will upon her death-
bed, the said lands being in Middleborough. Dated Oct. 8, 1728. (Note, -
No record of this will can be found in the books of Plymouth County
Probate. It may be that it was an oral will and to confirm it the
sons made this record of their renunciation of any rights which they
would inherit from hercy.) Though acknowledged on Nov. 3, 1738, by
Joshua and Caleb, (Thomas, having died in the meanwhile) this deed was
not recorded until Oct. 25, 1745, twenty years after it was made, and
signed by the three brothers.

(Deed 39.168) On Aug. 12, 1742 Joshua Oldham of Scituate, Husbandman,
for 50£ to Isaac Hatch of Pembroke, yeoman, $1\frac{1}{2}$ acre in Scituate---at a
creek called Wanton's Green and to extend south on one side of said
Oldham's meadow and on other side by heirs of Michael Wanton and said
Isaac Hatch. No wife signed this deed.

Joshua's daughter Lehitable married Job Nichols. Just before Joshua's
second marriage we find him sending to Job Nichols a piece of land

upon which Job had already built a house. (Deed 41.196) "I Joshua Old- -23-
ham, of Scituate, yeoman, for 19~~2~~ to Job Nichols of Scituate, cordwainer,
all my land to the eastward of the highway that leads by my house to
Pembroke." Bounds north on Benjamin Hatch's line; east on land of Thomas
Oldham, south on Samuel Hatch's land, west on Isaac Hatch's land, ----ex-
cept 1 acre and a house on same which now belongs to said Job Nichols.
Dated Mar. 1, 1752 and no wife signed.

In March or early in April Joshua married Bathsheba Bradford, for
their intentions were published Mar. 25, 1752. In Book 42.85 we find the
following deed, "I Joshua Oldham, yeoman of Scituate, sell to my wife
Bathsheba, which is now present with me, ----all my lands in Scituate and
my dwelling house and fencing, etc. being 40 acres and lies partly on
sides of Isaac Hatch's land, partly on Benjamin Hatch's land and on
the road that goes from said Isaac Hatch's to the grist mill, and on
the north-west side of the road, and also my meadow and marsh and
orchards in Scituate and all real and personal estate, but I am to live
use and improve the estate while I cohabit with her as my own, but if
debts are to be paid, "she is to have power to sell for his debts or
the two of them together, and if she is his widow, she is to dispose of
the property. But if she should marry again and any "of my estate is
left and no debts, --then it is to go to my proper heirs and not to
her husband" ---it is for "her while she is my wife or widow." Dated
May 2, 1753 and witnessed by Samuel Foster and Benjamin Wadsworth,
and recorded the same day. Truly Joshua did "with all my worldly
goods I thee endow".

(Deed 45.182) On May 25, 1753 Joshua and his wife sold 24 acres of
this estate to Israel Parner of Pembroke, "and is our homestead and
also $\frac{1}{2}$ of the dwelling house thereon, bounded by the road that goes
from Pembroke to Hatch's mill, to land of Isaac Hatch so with the road
till it comes to lands sold to John Bertram and then to land of Ben-
oni Hatch ---- Joshua signed with a mark, but Bathsheba signed her

self. The deed was witnessed by Israel and Deborah Cowing and recorded ⁻²⁴⁻
the following year on Apr. 13, 1759. The land mentioned in this deed
as having been sold to John Gorham was deeded to him on May 13, 1756 by
both Joshua and Bathsheba for 14¹/₂ 8 shillings, and is described as being
on the westerly side of the road called the 2 mile. (Deed 42.227). This
was witnessed by Daniel Lewis and Honour Torrey and recorded Apr. 27,
1754.

Together with Israel Hatch and John Magoon he took the inventory
on the estate of Samuel Hatch of Scituate on July 7, 1735. His name does
not appear as holding office. Only the birth record of Nehitable ap-
pear on file, but it would seem that the Sarah Oldham who married Sam-
uel Sprague in 1742 must also have been his daughter, as the names Joshua
and Thomas among her children would suggest.

Children (Perhaps incomplete):

*75 Nehitable Oldham, bp. at Scituate Dec. 1, 1717.

76 Sarah Oldham (probably)

42 MARY OLDHAM (Thomas, Thomas, John), b. Apr. 1, 1686, (Scit. V.R.) m. Jan. 31,
1710/11 (Scit. V.R.), John Hisee of Marshfield. They were living in Pen-
broke when he purchased on Feb. 23, 1742 from four of his wife's sisters
their shares in the estate of their mother Mercy Oldham. (Deed 37.178 and
179). John Damon of Pembroke and Elizabeth his wife; Nathaniel James
of Marshfield and Abigail his wife, Samuel Hilden of Marshfield and
Desire his wife, and Anthony James and Grace his wife of Marshfield
--- to John Hisee of Pembroke, yeoman, for twenty pounds --- all our
part in the lands in Middlebury, which were the estate of our honoured
mother Mercy Oldham. Thomas Tracy and Silvanus James were the witnesses
to the deed which was recorded Oct. 26, 1743.

Children (perhaps incomplete):

77 Child b. 1710/11 in Marshfield.

78 Jonah Hisee, b. Mar. 14, 1716/7 in Pembroke (V.R.).

79 Elizabeth Hisee, b. Apr. 14, 1720.

80 Hilden Hisee, b. May 26, 1719.

81 Mary Hisee, b. Feb. 2, 1727.

43 MERCY OLDFHAM(Thomas, Thomas, John), b. July 28, 1689, (Scit.V.R.); m. Nov. 4, 1703, (Scit.V.R.), Andrew Newcome of Eastham (M.D.LX). He died on Dec. 9, 1743 at the age of 68 years, (Grave stone).

As there are no records in Scituate of Andrew and Mercy, it is likely that Mercy went to Eastham with her husband soon after their marriage. The records of the Church at Truro contain several baptisms of the family. "On May 2, 1730 baptised Andrew Newcomb, and adult, and on the same day Andrew and his wife Mercy were admitted to full communion. . On the 21st of June in the same year, 1730, the following children of Andrew were baptised.

Child ren (Truro V.R.):

- 82 Andrew Newcomb
- 83 Jesse Newcomb
- 84 Robert Newcomb
- 85 Lemuel Newcomb
- 86 Mary Newcomb
- 87 Sarah Newcomb

44 ELIZABETH OLDFHAM(Thomas, Thomas, John), b. Oct. 4, 1691, (Scit.V.R.); m. Sept. 12, 1717, (Scit.V.R.) John Damon. He was a cooper and they were living in Pembroke in 1742 when they joined with Elizabeth's sisters Abigail Eames, Desire Tilden and Grace Eames in selling their rights in the land which Elizabeth had inherited from her mother Mercy Oldham, to her sister's husband, John Bisbee. (Plym. Deeds 37.173, 179).

Oldham

45 ABIGAIL ~~OLDFHAM~~ (Thomas, Thomas, John), b. Nov. 24, 1693, (Scit.V.R.); m. Jan, 2, 1720, (Marshfield V.R.) Nathaniel Eames of Marshfield. In 1742 they were living in Marshfield when Abigail and her husband joined with her sisters Desire Tilden, Elizabeth Damon and Grace Eames in selling to their brother-in-law, John Bisbee their rights in the land in Middlebury, which they had inherited from their mother. (Deed 37.173, 179).

Children (probably an incomplete list):

- 88 Ezra Eames, bp. in Marshfield Apr. 2, 1731.
- 89 Silvanus Eames, bp. at Marshfield, Mar. 6, 1734.

46 ANNA OLDFHAM(Thomas, Thomas, John), b. Mar. 10, 1695/6, (Scit.V.R.); m. Oct. 15, 1718 at Scituate (V.R.), Joseph Young, b. Oct. 3, 1692 (Scit.V.R.)

son of Thomas Young. In 1720 they were living at Truro on the Cape. -26-

Joseph was admitted to full communion in the Church at Truro on March 13, 1725/26 and on Nov. 19, 1727, his daughter, Anna was baptised there.

On Sept. 21, 1729 his wife Anna joined the Church.

Children (Probably an incomplete list) (Truro church records):

90 Isaac Young, bp. Aug. 7, 1720.

91 Joseph Young, bp. Aug. 4, 1723.

92 Anna Young, bp. Nov. 19, 1727.

47 DESIRE OLDHAM (Thomas, Thomas, John), b. Feb. 28, 1697/8, (Scit. V.R.);
m. Nov. 14, 1717 (Scit. V.R.), Samuel Tilden, Jr. They were living in
Marshfield in 1742, when they joined with her sisters Elizabeth Damon,
Abigail Eames, and Grace Eames in selling her right in property in
Middlebury, which she had inherited from her mother Mercy Oldham. (Deed
37.178, 179).

Children (perhaps incomplete):

93 Abigail Tilden, bp. Aug. 23, 1719.

94 Desire Tilden, bp. Sept. 13, 1720.

*95 Mercy Tilden, bp. Sept. 9, 1722.

96 Ruth Tilden, bp. Oct. 4, 1724.

48 THOMAS OLDHAM (Thomas, Thomas, John), b. Jan. 30, 1698/9, (Scit. V.R.); d.
before Aug. 1, 1735; m. May 8, 1727, in Marshfield, (Scit. V.R.), Desire
Wormall, the daughter of Josiah and Patience (Sherman) Wormall. Patience
Sherman was the daughter of William and Desire (Doty) Sherman and
granddaughter of Edward Doty of the Mayflower Pilgrims. Josiah Worm-
all married (2) on Dec. 25, 1725 Grace Sprague, the widow of William
Sprague (John, Francis) and daughter of Deacon John and Abigail (Wait)
Wadsworth. (Sprague Gen., p. 13). She survived her husband and after his
death became for a few years the ^{custodian} guardian of his orphaned grandchild-
ren, Thomas and Patience. Her will dated Jan. 15, 1748 was proved Apr.
3, 1758. In it she mentions only her own children by her husband
William Sprague, and her own grandchildren. (Plym. Prob. 14.803).

Desire died before her husband Thomas. The latter in 1735 left
a non-copative will (Plym. Prob. 7.185). "Thomas Oldham died July 23, 1735
and in the hearing of Samuel Tilden, Jr., Deborah Lapham and Elizabeth

Taylor" expressed his desire" The "Abovesaid Samuel Tilden being at 27 the house of Thomas Oldham ,desired by one of said Oldhams sisters to ask him whether he did not intend to give Mercy Thomas his housekeeper something beside her wages answered Yes and said I'll clear up my throat and then I'll speak. Rebekah and Elizabeth being called & bid us to take notice he gave 20L to Mercy Thomas." This bequest was recognized by the Court. The Inventory of his estate showed that he had a house and lands on the Westerly side of the highway, 3 acres on the eastern side , 16 acres of woodland at the head of Joshua Oldham's lot and 2 acres of cedar swamp. There were debts due ^{from} the estate-~~from~~ to twenty five different people .Among them were his sister Grace Eams, his brother Joshua, and brother Caleb and his two brothers -in-law, Samuel Tilden and Nathaniel Eames, and his sister Elizabeth Damon. On Jan. 5, 1735/6 Josiah Wormal, the father of his deceased wife, was made the administrator of the estate; he sold on Feb. 9, 1737 to Israel Hatch, clothier, "by liberty granted by the Court held at Plymouth on Tuesday preceeding the last Tuesday of April 1737" land in Scituate being part of the homestead of said Thomas Oldham, dec'd, "on the south-erly side thereof and on the east side of the road; the bounds mention Samuel Lapham, Israel Hatch and Joseph Hatch.

On Aug. 1, 1735 the Court made Josiah Wormal the guardian of the two orphans, children of Thomas Oldham. (Plym. Pro. 7.150). "To Josiah Wormal of Duxbury, your son-in-law, Thomas Oldham, late of Scituate, dec'd" left a son Thomas, who is a minor under 14 years, you are appointed guardian of your grandson, Thomas Oldham; and the following document makes him guardian of Patience, daughter of Thomas Oldham, under 14 years. But Josiah did not live to fulfill all the duties. At his decease his widow Grace collected his papers and gave an account to the Court of his stewardship. From this we learn that most of the debts had been paid, that Mercy Thomas "now married to Joseph Oyster" received her bequest, and that the grandchild Patience, lived but two years, ^{and} that

Soon after this account was accepted by the Court, Samuel Tilden was appointed guardian of Thomas Oldham, who will be 21 in 1751.

Thomas Oldham lived so short a time that we find very few records of him. On Nov. 6, 1724, William Stetson, Jr., and Thomas Oldham, Jr., blacksmith, both of Scituate sold to Caleb Torrey of Scituate all their rights in the Common or undivided lands. Thomas signs his name as Thomas, Jr. and Robert Stetson and William Moore witness the deed. This was not recorded until Sept. 15, 1740 after the death of Thomas, though he had acknowledged it in 1732. Thomas witnessed a deed of his father's, together with his brother Caleb, (30.219). He joined with his two brothers, Joshua and Caleb in signing off any rights he might have by inheritance to the lands in Middlebury which had belonged to his mother Mercy Oldham, in accordance with her expressed wish on her death bed. (34.178) On Apr. 8, 1736 his brother Caleb gave a deed in which he mentions his brother Thomas, as deceased. (31.103).

Children (Court papers of guardianship):

*97 Thomas Oldham, b. 1730 (Prob., 12, 155).

98 Patience Oldham, b. about 1732; d. 1737 or 1738.

49 CALEB OLDHAM (Thomas, Thomas, John), m. Oct. 21, 1724 at Marshfield (V.R.) Bethiah Stevens, b. Feb. 1703, dau. of William and Hannah Stevens. The date of the birth of Caleb is not known, but it must have been previous to 1703, for he was of age to give a deed in 1724, on the fourth of February. He is mentioned in his father's will, and with his brother Thomas was one of the executors. In 1728 he joined with his brothers Joshua and Thomas in relinquishing any rights he had in his mother's estate in Middlebury, (37.172, 173).

Caleb was a blacksmith and evidently plied his trade throughout a long life, for in 1735 when he sold to Barzillai Celano he calls himself by that title. The date of his death is not known, but he was living in Duxbury at the time, having removed from Scituate, between 1735 and 1740. He is the ancestor of the Oldhams whose records are found on the pages of the Duxbury births, marriages and deaths.

(Deed 20.7) Caleb Oldham of Scituate, husbandman to Caleb Torrey, all my_29_ rights in the Common or undivided uplands and swamps in Scituate to be laid out upon a division at any time. Dated February 4, 1734.

(Deed 31.108) Caleb Oldham of Scituate to Isaac Hatch, Jr. of Scituate 15 acres, a part of my homestead; bounded east by the Scituate town line at the head of 2 Mile; south by Samuel Lapham and west to heirs of my brother Thomas deceased. Dated Apr. 8, 1736.

(Deed 38.73) John Wadsworth of Duxbury, for 35 $\frac{1}{2}$ to Caleb Oldham of Duxbury, 3 acres in Duxbury, at a place called Bluefish River, and is part of the farm, where Ichabod Samson of Duxbury formerly dwelt, the hill next Mill River and the highway are mentioned in the bounds. Dated Aug. 20, 1745.

(Deed 63.159) Caleb Oldham of Duxbury, blacksmith or yeoman for 16 $\frac{1}{2}$ to Barzilai Delano of Duxbury land where I now dwell and is part of the farm where Ichabod Tomson formerly dwelt. June 1, 1765. This is the same piece which he bought forty years before.

Children (births not recorded):

- *99 John Oldham
- *100 Oliver Oldham, d. Oct. 1759 on return from the fleet from Canada expedition of the yellow fever. (Dux. V.R.).
- *103 Bethiah Oldham, b. about 1742.
- *104 Betty Oldham
- *105 Peleg Oldham
- *106 Hannah Oldham -

50 Grace OLDHAM (Thomas, Thomas, John), bp. Feb. 27, 1703/4, (301t. V.R.) m. in Marshfield (V.R.) Dec. 11, 1724, Anthony Eames of Marshfield. They were living in Marshfield when she joined with her sisters in selling their rights in the inheritance from their mother Mercy Oldham to their brother-in-law John Bisbee.

Children (perhaps an incomplete list):

- 107 Lemuel Eames, b. July 1, 1725.
- 108 Mercy Eames, b. July 2, 1727.
- 109 Elisha Eames, b. Sept. 28, 1728.
- 110 Abner Eames, bp. July 25, 1734.
- 111 Lydia Eames, bp. July 26, 1734.

60 HANNAH OLDHAM(Isaac, Thomas, John), b. June 23, 1700(Pem.V.R.); m. Sept.³⁰-
23, 1716 at Pembroke(V.R.), Henry Josselyn of Scituate, b. 1697. They lived
in Scituate. On June 30, 1736, soon after the death of her father
"Henry Josselyn and Hannah his wife, being a daughter of Isaac Oldham
---sell to our brother Isaac Oldham of Pembroke our share". (Deed 31.98).

The deed was witnessed by Thomas Burton and Andrew Lindsey.

Children:

- 112 Hannah Josselyn, b. Oct. 1, 1719.
- 113 Henry Josselyn, b. June 11, 1727.
- 114 Isaac Josselyn, b. Nov. 4, 1743.
- 115 Margaret Josselyn, b. Dec. 9, 1729.
- 116 Joseph Josselyn, b. June 22, 1734.
- 117 Lucy Josselyn, b. Oct. 5, 1741.

perhaps others.

*Charles b. MAY 7, 1739 Pembroke Hd. July 10, 1760 Rebecca Keen daughter
of Ebenezer & MARY (Whitridge) Keen*

61 ALICE OLDHAM(Isaac, Thomas, John), b. June 22, 1703 at Pembroke, (V.R.).
m. Feb. 13, 1723/4(Pem.V.R.), Henry Rickard. On June 11, 1736, Henry Rickard
and Alice my wife, said wife being a daughter of Isaac Oldham late of
Pembroke, dec'd sell to our brother Isaac Oldham of Pembroke, husbandman
(son to Isaac deceased) all right, real and personal in the estate of
our father, except what may fall to us out of our mother's thirds after
her decease. (Deed 31, 98).

Children

- 118 Samuel Rickard, b. Sept. 23, 1724.
- 119 Judah Rickard, b. Mar. 1, 1725.
- 120 Isaac Rickard, b. Feb. 6, 1723.

62 ISAAC OLDHAM(Isaac, Thomas, John), b. Sept. 22, 1708; (Pem.V.R.) d. in 1796;
m. Nov. 11, 1731 at Pembroke(V.R.), Mary Stetson, daughter of Joseph and
Hannah Stetson. She died Apr. 4, 1803, aged 94-1-6. Isaac Oldham left a
Jan. 3,
will dated 1789 and proved May 2, 1796. This will mentions a son Isaac
who is deceased, but who had a daughter Sarah, who is now the wife of
Abel Stetson; a daughter Deborah Howland, who has a son Issachar How-
land, daughter Lydia, wife of Barnabas Jackson; daughter Ruth, wife of
Joshua Winslow; daughter Mary, who has a son Isaac Benson, and sons
Daniel, David, Jonathan, John and Abel. He names his son David as exec-
utor of the will. When the Census of 1790 was taken Isaac was a resi-
dent of Pembroke and his household consisted of two males over 16 and