

LA Lib

MASS

*Nugh Henry
John Henry (brother)*

12-20-89
DEC 24 1887

THE

Early Settlers of Colrain, Mass.

—OR—

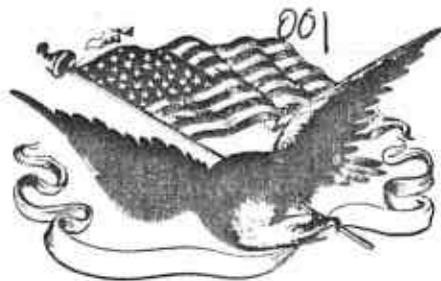
Some Account of ye Early Settlement of "Boston
Township No. 2, alias Colrain," "adjoyning on
ye north sid of Deerfield."

AN ADDRESS

Delivered before H. S. Greenleaf Post, No. 20,
G. A. R., at Colrain, May 30, 1885,

—BY—

CHARLES H. McCLELLAN.



GREENFIELD, MASS.
W. S. CARSON, PRINTER.
1885.

SEP 4 1967

meetings, and if affairs were not conducted as she thought proper, or seemed to encroach upon her rights; she was wont to protest against the action of the town, and have it placed on record; and some of the protests of Hannah Kately, the original "woman's righter" of Colrain, may be found in the old record book to-day. James Stewart, Jr. died in 1809, at the ripe old age of four score. His father James, senior, died in 1773, aged 93.

Ensign Hugh Henry, was another of the veterans of his time. He came from Stowe, Mass., about 1740, settling on lot 34, and built his first log house a few rods southwest of where the south school house now stands, just at the east side of the line of the old road. In this house the first town meeting was held, of which he was moderator, and for several years he was selectman and treasurer of the town. His death occurred in 1746, leaving a wife and certainly five children, all young; the youngest being but four years of age. He was great grandfather of Mr. Charles Henry of Greenfield, and of others of the name living in Heath. In 1754, his heirs sold lots 34 and 35, to William Miller, and the last named lot has remained in the possession of Miller's descendants ever since.

John Henry (brother of Hugh) settled a short distance north of Samuel C. Avery's, on the farm afterward owned and occupied by James McCulloch. His wife was Mary McCrellis, sister of Martha, the wife of Hugh Morrison. He died about 1750, leaving five children. William, his oldest son removed about 1772 to Bennington, Vt. where some of his descendants, now live; others of them reside in Michigan; the wife

of Governor Alger, at the present time Governor of that state, being a great grand-daughter of William Henry. James and John, next younger, removed to Cambridge, N. Y. and their descendants are numerous in that vicinity; and Andrew, the youngest son settled in Leyden.

The wife of John Henry was a remarkable woman, and had a most remarkable career. In her early life in Ireland, she married (—) Foster, by whom she had one child, a daughter, whom she named Margaret. Being left a widow she than married (—) Workman, by whom she had a son, John. Again left a widow, she emigrated with her two children to America, where she married Henry, by whom as I have said, she had five children. After his death she became the wife of Richard Ellis, who lived at one time on lot No. 10, and who afterward removed, I think to Ashfield. She outlived her fourth husband, spending her last days with her son Andrew Henry, in Leyden, and died there May 11, 1802, in the ninety-seventh year of her age. Her son John Workman, married Phoebe Stewart, sister of James Stewart, Jr., and settled on the farm where Mr. Ariel Hinsdale now lives.

Two families by the name of McCrellis, lived in town, back in the early times; John and William. The "McCrellis family records" say they were brothers, but I am confident they were not.

John McCrellis (older brother of Martha and Mary, mentioned above) settled on the Handy place and had a family of four children; dying May 3, 1759, aged 59. His oldest son, John Jr., married Hannah

LA LIB

James Carey

3-26-94

THE

HISTORY AND ANTIQUITIES

OF

BOSTON,

THE CAPITAL OF MASSACHUSETTS AND METROPOLIS OF NEW ENGLAND,

FROM ITS SETTLEMENT IN 1630, TO THE YEAR 1770.

ALSO,

An Introductory History

OF THE

DISCOVERY AND SETTLEMENT OF NEW ENGLAND.

WITH NOTES, CRITICAL AND ILLUSTRATIVE.

See R 974.42 B74 Dra

By SAMUEL G. DRAKE, A. M.,

MEMBER OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF NORTHERN ANTIQUARIES AT COPENHAGEN, CORRESPONDING SECRETARY OF THE NEW ENGLAND HISTORICAL AND GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, AND HONORARY AND CORRESPONDING MEMBER OF THE NEW HAMPSHIRE, RHODE ISLAND, CONNECTICUT, NEW YORK, PENNSYLVANIA AND MARYLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETIES, ETC. ETC.

63727 1

BOSTON:

PUBLISHED BY LUTHER STEVENS,

156 WASHINGTON STREET.

1856.

MAY 16 1939

Drakes History of Boston.



- 97. Boston
- 96. Rail Road Car Houses
- 89. Cambridgeport
- 83. East Cambridge
- 101. Congress Point Bridge

Refer to

Reference

England and Ireland, but as to passengers or settlers but few came ; and according to some, emigration entirely ceased during the year.* And above one hundred years later it was observed, that more people had removed out of New England to other parts of the world, than had come from other parts to it.† And now it may be said, at another hundred years' distance, that, notwithstanding the immense emigration from all parts of Europe to New England, far more go from than emigrate to it.

So great had been the importation of provisions and other things, that people before the close of the year found themselves almost entirely without money, and the Authorities were obliged to pass a law making them receivable in payment for all new debts ; Indian at four shillings the bushel, rye at five, and wheat six ; for old debts the creditor might take goods or land, at a value to be fixed by three men.

By letters from some of Plymouth, who had had advices from Connecticut, disturbances were apprehended from the Indians. Miantonimo was believed to be in treaty with the Mohawks, with evil intentions towards the English. The Government here did not think the fears of Plymouth and Connecticut very well grounded ; however, Captain Jennison was sent from Boston, with only three men besides an Indian interpreter, to the Narragansets, to ascertain the truth with regard to the rumors. The messengers were kindly entertained, and they returned well satisfied that no mischief was intended. It was a part of the business of Captain Jennison to invite Miantonimo to Boston. He said he would come provided Mr. Williams might come with him ; and as to remaining at peace with the English, the Narragansets, he said, had no other purpose, unless the English begun first. The English thought it rather strange that Miantonimo would not communicate through their interpreter, while they refused to allow Roger Williams to accompany him to Boston.

Some time this summer Mr. Thomas Gorges‡ arrived at Boston, on his way to his Government of New Somersetshire ; " a young gentle-

* Robinson, *Hist. Mass.*, i. 93. — " They," says the same Author, " who then proposed to be able to give the best account, say, that in 28 ships, which were the whole number from the beginning of the Colony, there were 21,000 passengers, men women and children, perhaps about 4000 families." — *Ibid.*

† The sudden stop to emigration had a surprising effect upon the price of cattle, the price for which increased as the inhabitants multiplied, and the price of a milch cow had risen to £25 to £30, but fell at once this year to £15. A farmer who could spare but one cow a year out of his stock, used to clothe his family with the price of it at the expense of new comers ; when this failed they were obliged to sell their cattle, although they judged they were worth more in the Colony." — *Ibid.* See also *Wander Work. Prov.*, 31, Stiles' *Christian Union*, 110, Dunmer's *Defence of the Charter*, 9.

‡ Dr. Franklin said before 1760, " There has not gone from Britain to our Colonies these twenty years past to settle there, so many as ten families a year." — Stiles' *Christian Union*, 111.

§ Probably son of Capt. William Gorges, and had a son, Henry, living in Barbadoes in 1686. He had also a son, Ferdinando, residing in Maine the same year, as agent for his father, who leased to John Littlefield for 21 years certain lands, mills, &c., on Oguncot river. If Ferdinando Gorges, Esquire, the Author of " *America Painted to the Life*," printed in 1659, be the same Ferdinando in Maine, 1686, said Ferdinando was grand-son of Sir Ferdinando. However, the Ferdinando of Maine, 1686, was son of Thomas and brother of Henry of Barbadoes, as original papers under his own hand in my possession certify. Ferdinando, Esquire, speaks of his " uncle Capt. Robert Gorges," and of his " couzen, Captaine William Gorges, who had been his grand-father's Lieut-

man of the Inns of Court, kinsman" of Sir Ferdinando Gorges. His stay was short, and he left a very favorable impression on the minds of the best people here.

One of the ships that arrived this season met with an accident which came near occasioning its loss. She was struck by a whale, the wind blowing heavy, which stove in her bows above water, breaking "the planks, six timbers and a beam, and staved two hogsheads of vinegar."

Aug. 27. Something of terror overspread the town on this day, caused by a great explosion of gun-powder in a ship lying in the harbor, the *Mary Rose* of Bristol. There were twenty-one barrels of

tenant in the fort of Plymouth."—See "*America Painted to the Life*," p. 24. There was living at Wrexall, C^o of Somerset, in 1673, Edward Gorges, Esq. In Hazard's *Collections*, i. 392, there is a petition of "Edward Lord Gorges," 1635, concerning lands in New England. By Lechford's *Plain Dealing*, it appears, that "Master Thomas Gorges" was the "sonne of Capt. Gorges of Batcombe, by Chedder in Somersetshire." Hence, I suppose, Thomas Gorges was a son of Capt. William Gorges, as before stated. The note of Hutchinson, that he was son of Sir Ferdinando Gorges, was an error easily made.—See Burko, *Extinct and Dormant Baronetcies*.

Jan. 27.—William Needham is granted a lot for two heads at the Mount; Robert Hewstead for 8 heads; Geo. Wright for 3; bro. Henry Shrimpton for 3; bro. Richard Hogge for 5; bro. John Spoor for 5; Edmund Grosse "ye square pece" next William Letherland's; Richard Critchley for 5 heads; bro. John Gallopp* the meadow on Long Island; Thomas Clarke, smith, for 8 heads at the Mount; bro. Edward Bendall to bestow all goods without owners; Samuel Grame a great lot at the Mount for 4 heads; Robert Mears sold to Dorothy Bill, widow, and her son James Bill, his house and garden, "where they now live;" Robert Bradford, tailor, allowed to inhabit; bro. Anthony Stoddard a lot of 100 acres; Thos. Foule 600 acres; Saml. Mavericke 600; Henry Messenger for 2 heads at Muddy River; bro. Joshua Scotto* a lot there for 3 heads; Thos. Painter, joiner, for 4 heads; bro. Robert Hull 6 acres at Hog Island; Benj. Negoose allowed to inhabit; Mr. W^m Tompson 120 acres at the Mount; Mr. Henry Flint 80; John Lugg a lot for 9 heads; John Uyall [Viall] weaver, allowed to inhabit; Mr. Benj. Keayne 200 acres at the Mount; to the Canonier of Boston 500, and 2000 to the Town.

Feb. 24.—Mr. Richard Parker 400 acres at the Mount; to Lewys Kidby a house lot next John Lowes two rods towards the sea; W^m Blanton, carpenter, a lot for 3 heads at Muddy R., and a house lot on the Neck; Leonard Buttles, bricklayer, lot for 4 at Mud. R.; Edward Fletcher may be an inhabitant, and have a house lot; bro. Rich^d Brackett may mow the marsh in the New field; bro. Arthur

* See his autograph, p. 243 ante.

Perry, Rich^d Hogg and John Hurd, each a house lot; W^m Briscoe, tailor, may inhabit, and have a lot at the Mount for 8 heads; John Marshall, husbandman, having served bro. Edward Hutchinson, is allowed to inhabit; Robt. Wing a lot at Mud. R. for 4; Lewys Kidby, fisherman, same for 2; John Moore, the Governor's servant, same for 3; bro. Tho. Mekyns, the younger, for 7; Geo. Barrell, cooper, for 9; W^m Kirkby, fisherman, for 3; John Arnould, plasterer, for 2; Rich^d Carter, sawyer, for 3; Waters Sinnott, fisherman, 3; Thos. Jewell, of the Mount, miller, 12 acres; the like to Mr. Daniel Welles for 20 heads, 80 acres; Peter Brackett for 12 heads, 48 acres; Saml. Allen, 28 acres for 7 heads; to W^m Allyce 12 acres for 3 heads; Jacob Wilson 16 acres for 4; John Reade 44 acres for 11; Robt. Stephens 12 acres for 3; Geo. Ross 20 acres for 5; Henry Addams 40 acres for 10; Thos. Place 20 acres for 5; John Harbar 12 acres for 3; Benj. Albyo 12 do. for 3; Thos. Simons 40 do. for 10; John Marchant 8 do. for 2; Geo. Poffer 20 do. for 5; John Paffyn 8 do. for 2; Robt. Sharpe 16 do. for 4; John Dasset 28 do. for 7; Thos. Blyse, 36 for 9; Thos. Gilbert 28 for 7; Henry Neal 12 for 3; Henry Maudsley 12 for 3; James Corey 16 for 4; Saml. Bitfield 20 for 5; James Clarke 8 for 2; James Wiseman 12 for 3; John Collyns, of Monanticott, 12 for 3; Christopher Collyns 8 for 2; Geo. Aldrich 20 for 5; Anthony Newton 12 for 3; Matthew Smith 20 for 5; John French, of Monanticott, 40 for 5; John Mills, of the same, 44 for 6; Rich^d Rockett, of same, 40 for 5; Nicholas Hathway, of the same, 36 for 4; Thos. Bird 36 for 4; Geo. Sheppard 18 for 2; Thomas Tayer 40 for 9; Danyell Lovell and his mother 12 for 3; David Rogers 8 for 2; John Onyon 8 for 2. All these at Mount Wollaston. From Lewys Kidby to Waters Sinnott, all probably resided in Boston proper. Those from Thos. Jewell to John Onyon resided already at the Mount, or in that part of it called Monanticott, or Monaticott. William Mawer, late of Boston, husbandman, sold Capt. Edward Gibbon a house and garden, now occupied by W^m Taffe, tailor; date of sale 12 Feb. 1640. Brethren Edward Randsford and Wm. Hudson ordered to accompany the surveyor to lay out the planting ground at Long Island.

16:
pov
son
"b
wat
sel
the
the
Sept.
the
Chu
in r
com
to h
igno
says
brav
close
sigh
the
gates
of th
Nov.
ernor
at the
ruptly
insult
them
a Pec
* Ab
hill wro
for perm
Kleft at
of his
States C
However
Thomas
Dover u
near the
of the C
Pequots
fishmen,
service o
was then
in Septe
Underhil
Dutob pr
was not
Hutchins
little bel
fighting v
dians wer

3,4,7

2AL13

mark
D

3-28-94

James Corey deed
to Wm. Vezz & Dec 1851.
RECORDS

OF THE

TOWN OF BRAINTREE.

1640 TO 1793.

EDITED BY SAMUEL A. BATES.

Gen R 974.42 B82Ba

COPY 3

RANDOLPH, MASS.:
DANIEL H. HUXFORD, PRINTER.
1886.

OST 257

Delivery and sezeing acknowledged of the land bought of Richard Right the 10th of 5th mo 1640 delivery and sezeing we acknowledged by the s^d Richard Right unto the towne of Brantree.

There is a footway to ly from the laine of Goodman Penimans where it is markd one the pails and two ladders appointed to be made for a stile and from thence upon a straight line to the meeting house over the old Bridge.

9^{mo} 1641 Against any inhabitant selling y^r Land without offering of it first to the selectmen to a stranger

It is ordered that noe inhabitant shall sell or dispose of any house or land to any that is not received a inhabitant into the towne without it be first offered unto the men that are appointed to dispose of the towns affairs; and in case it be not bought by them within twenty dayes after the first offer; that they shall have liberty to dispose of it, only to such as the town's men shall approve one, and therefore it is Agreed that evry acre of land or house so disposed one without the [townsmens consent shall pay] [3] the whole sume of nineteen shillings and seven pence:

4th of the 2^{mo} 1641.

Moreover it is furdur ordered that noe man that is not received an inhabitant into the town shall have liberty to build any house or cottage within the libertys of the towne without the consent of those that are chosen to dispose of the towns affaires.

The 19th. 10^{mo}. 1642 Highway.

At a meeting their being present Samuel Bass John Albee Steven Kinsly Martin Sanders Thomas Madson Thomas flatman Peter Brackitt It was ordered by one consent that a highway for a cart should be at William P [Ennes] hedge end one William Potters land one [rod] wide to goe into the old field and that [them] that make use of that way should be at the charge to hang a gate at the [hedge end]

1th: 11^{mo}: 1644 A Ladders to be provided for Chimneys.

The same day it is ordered that every [house] holder in this towne shall by the first day of March next insuing shall have a ladder of his to stand up against his chimney to secure them and the town from fire or else shall be lyable to pay what penalty the town's men shall impose one them.

The 29th 10^{mo}. 1645 Town march to the elders.

At a town meeting there being present Welde James Peniman Martin Sanders Thomas Mekins, Samuel Bass Peter Brackitt It is ordered that the fourteen acres of town March shall be improved to the elders use, Mr Tompson and Mr. flint, [to] such time as the townsmen shall [see fit] otherwise to dispose of it.

[4] 9^{mo} 1648 Mr flints acknowledgment of the sale of the Schoolehouse.

This day Mr flint made acknowledgment of the sale of the house and lote which was latly John Paffins and since his death sold unto the said Henry flint by William Penne by virtue of an execution sued out by him in the presence of all the townsmen the said Henry flint doth acknowledge himselfe fully satisfied by Mr. Doctor John Morly for the said house only the said Mr. Doctor doth promise that if he should be called forth off the towne to surrender backe againe the s^d house to Mr flint at the same rate of seaven pounds which he paid being allowed at the discretion of indifferent men for such charges as he has bine att in witness herof the s^d Henry flint and Mr. Doctor have herto set their hands the day and year above written in the presence of

Samuel Bass
Richard Brackett
Moses Paine
Thomas Blanchar
Matthew Barnes.
William Allis,
Martin Sanders.

Henry flint
John Morly.

[5] 4th 10^{mo} 1651 The sale of Dudatus Curtises Land sold to Thomas Barrit

This day Martin Sanders and francis Eliot made acknowledgment of the Sale of the Land which was latly Goodman Curtises which he sold to s^d Martin Sanders and francis Eliot which the s^d Martin Sanders and francis Eliot have sold now to Thomas Barrit being seaven acres more or less lying next to Thomas Burt on the West side and next the common one the south side and next Barnabas Derrifall of the north side and next Nathaniel Herman one the east side and in the presence of these men the s^d Martin Sanders and francis Eliot doe acknowledge ourselves fully satisfied by the s^d Thomas Barritt and in witness herof the s^d Martin Sanders and francis Eliot have set to our hands

witness
Richard Brackett
francis Nucome

Martin Sanders
francis Eliot.

6th 10^{mo} 1651. James Couveys acknowledgment of his sale of his land to William Veza

This day James Couvey made acknowledgment of the sale of the land that was Henry Neales and his owne land which his house stands upon which the s^d James Couvey has sold to William Veza being nintenne acres more or less and all the houses which stand upon the s^d ground with all the s^d premises belonging to the s^d house and ground, the ground lying next to the common one the [] and next to William Owen upon the South and next the brooke upon the West and next Charles Grigses, upon the North in the presence of these Witnesses the s^d James Couvey does acknowledge himself fully [satisfied] William Veza []

[6] and in Witness herof the s^d James Couvey have set to his hand

Wittness.

Richard Brackett
Samuel Bass.
Petter Brackett.

the mark of
James x Couvey

29th 11^{mo} 1650 A petetion of David Mattaks to the selectmen of Brantry.

To our loving Brethren and neighbours the Townesmen of Brantree these are to certifie you that all we whose names are under written doe stand to a Joint and equall purchase of the Common one to pay as much as another and to have every man alike equall part or share of it not that we intend hereby that any man not having Cattell of his owne answerable to his share of Common shall either directly or indirectly take in from any other Towne or Townes any maner of Cattell to sumner them upon the Common thereby to wronge the Towne (we profess against it) provided this hinder not any of us the inhabitants aforsayd to hire oxen or cows for our owne proper use or servis.

Steven Kinsly in the name of the rest.

[7] 10th 9^{mo} 1646: A grant of taking timber off of the common for a mans own use, But not to sell out of Towne.

At a meeting being present Samuel Bass James Peniman Gregory Belshar Henry Adams Samuel Addams, It is ordered that every man that is an inhabitant of the Towne shall have Liberty to take any timber off the Common for any use in the Towne (provided) so they make not sale of it out of the Towne and in case any shall make sale of it out of the Towne either in boards or bolts or any other wayes whole or sawne they shall pay for every tunne of timber five shillings a tunne to the Towne

BRANTREE.

8th 1^{mo} 1652 The grant of the Townesmen of Brantree to Mr. William Tinge.

In consideration of Chapt William Tinge his interest with Boston men in all the lands of theirs within their precincts wherof they have made a grant to this Town dated 20th 8^{mo} 1647 which was delivered to remaine in his hands untill he was satisfied for yeelding his farmes to be thierein comprehended and in consideration of his consenting thereunto and delivering them up the s^d grant, it is agreed and ordered that the s^d William Tinge his heires and succedors shall forever freely injoy to every of his three farmes in particular all libertys and privileges By the s^d grant to the Towne as fully and annually as any one inhabitant their or party purchasers thereof and shall also enjoy all other privileges which this Towne in any wise that doth or may pertaine unto their towne and it is also agreed and ordered that noe way for swine shall be required through the grounds of the s^d William Tinge but such dwrift way as George [Spear] hath of late in part or whole layd

out for [driving] of Cattell nor noe way for carts but the s^d dwrift way when it is made conveniant for the passege theron by the Judgment of foure [men] indifferently chosen by both partys:— Wittness the hands of the Townsmens meeting

Samuel Bass
Martin Sanders
Steven Kinsly
James Peniman
William Allis

[6] 12^{mo}: 1652 A highway to the Common

There being present the selectmen of Brantree as Martin Sanders James Peniman, Samuel Bass William Allis Richard Brackett: Have ordered and set out a high way for our heard the way as followeth that is to say att the uper-end of Thomas Mekins ground going to manati-cutt in the country high way to ly between Thomas Mekins ground and Thomas Mattsons foure rods wide and so to rune to James Penimans ground & so to rune between Goodman Penimans and Goodman Mattsons foure rods wide while it comes to the way leading to Goodman flaxsons.

Samuel Bass
James Peniman
William Allis
Martins Sanders
Richard Brackett

9th: 11^{mo}: 1652 A highway layed out through George Ruggells ground. —

There being present att a meeting Samuell Bass and James Peniman William Allis Martin Sanders Richard Brackett the Selectmen of Brantree have ordered and set out a highway ni Georges Ruggells ground beginning in the highway that lead from Robert Permanters to waymoth ferry this way to beginne twenty rods or theirabouts from the South east end of Robert Permanters Barne and so to the lower side of this way to rang uth three blacke Stobbes and so to run two rods through the s^d Georges Ruggells ground while it come to Richard Brackett ground and so through Richard Bracketts ground to rune two rods wide, in the common highway while it come to Peter Bracketts ground and so to rune through his ground while it come to Martine Sanders ground

Samuel Base
James Peniman
William Allis
Martin Sanders
Richard Brackett

[There is here a mutilated marginal note. — *Copyist.*]

[7] 6th: 12^{mo}: 1653 An Order Aganst Strangers Cominge into Towne without consent of the Selectmen.

There being mett together Martin Sanders Samuel Base James Peniman Richard Brackett William Allis: — Upon Consideration

of great ill conveniencies that may come to the Towne of Brantree by parsons coming into inhabite amongst us; It is therefore ordered that noe person or persons shall come into inhabite amongst us without the Selectmens consent upon the penalty of ninetene shillings fine for every three dayes they shall stay amongst us; and it is furdur ordered that noe inhabitant shall receive any person or inmate into ther house above three dayes without the Townsmens consent upon the forfeiture of ninetene Shillings and eleven pence:—

And it is furdur ordered that noe man shall build house or cottage within the Township of Brantree uthout the Townsmen consent upon the forfeiture of such penalty as the Selectmen shall see cause to put upon them

————— Martin Sanders
Richard Brackit
William Allis

11th: 12^{mo}: 1655 A highway layed over the Brooke by Deacon Eliots

Upon the same day ther is layd one footway to ly from the Roche by George Ruggells [street] over the fresh Brooke in the convenientest place and so straight along by the foreside of ffranis Eliots Barne and so straight over his Lot in the convenientest place and so to the end of the highway that goes up by Mr. flints:—:

[8] 23th 12^{mo} 1651. A highway layed out to the Common through Richard Hardiers ground and Martin Sanders Junior.

At the Selectmens meeting ther being present Samuel Base and Martin Sanders Steven Kinsly James Peniman: William Allis: They have ordered and layed out a highway to the Common the way to begine att the uper-end of Martin Sanders Juniors ground next the highway going to the mill twelfe foote of it to ly in Martin Sanders ground and twelfe foote of it to ly in Thomas Mekins ground the high way to be foure and twenty foote broad and so runing to the pich of the hill after the pich of the hill to run a rod in Goodman Richard Hardiers ground and a rod in Thomas Mekins ground two rods broad and so to run foure and twenty foote wide in Thomas Mekins ground upon a straight line to the uper end of his ground and then to run from thence into Richard Hardiers ground foure and twenty foote wide up to the common.

It is furdur ordered that the Towne shall provide two gates sufficiently hanged; And then Richard Hardiar and Martin Sanders Junior doe promise to maintaine them or cause them to be maintained by them and ther heires and sucseeders ever after:— Upon which condition the Selectmen of Brantree doe give these s^d. men mentioned Richard Hardiar and Martin Sanders Junior thirty Shillings to provide gates to hang up;— and the s^d. townes men doe give them twenty shillings upon these conditions as afsorsayd that they shall maintain these s^d. gates for ever; And

they have liberty to keep them lockt from the first of Aprill to the first of October, but to let any of the Towne to make use of the highway in this time they coming for the key: And the rest of the yeare the gates are to stand open:—

[9] 29th: 8^{mo}: 1656: A vote passed att a publike meeting about the common.

The Inhabitants of Brantrey having publike notis given six weekes before the Vote passed to give a publike meeting for the ordereing and disposing of the Common, for future times)

At which meeting the inhabitants that were their meet voted the Common for to lye as a free Common unto all inhabitants of the Towne, that are legally taken in by the Selectmen: and such to have the like priveleges as the grand purchassers: But when it was voted att the s^d meeting their was but foure men that discented or voted against it: which were by nam as is here under written

Robert Stevens
John Harbour Sen.
William Veza
Samuel Tompson.

2th: 11^{mo}: 1656. A highway layd out in the old feild for goodman Hoydin to bring his corne out or any that shall have cause to bring any that way.

A high way layd out by the Selectmen in the old feild for goodman Hoydin to carry or bring his corne out of his land by John Dossits land, Senior, which way is layd and appointed to lye in the line betwene Deacon Bass and John Dossit Senior, downe the hill and then to lye by goodman Webbs swamp and so along betwene the two hills: and so to come in the way as Deacon Bass brings out his corne only for harvest time this way to be made use of) and in case any shall brack downe gate or railles they shall make it good againe;

[10] 2th: 11^{mo}: 1656. A highway layed out into the Common upon Henry Neals land from Barnabus Derifalls

This way was layed out into the common by goodman Grisers and James Couveys formerly going up the rockes straight from the runnill of water in the country highway; but upon the request of Henry Neal & uth the consent of the Selectmen it was altered and layed by the sid of Henry Neals planting feild one the south sid of the country way and by the side of the hill a great rocke lying one the lower side before you goe over the runnell, and when you are over the runnell a little to the right on a steep pich of a hill and then into the écommon this way turning out of the country high way before you come to goe downe the hill where the water runs downe into a swamp one the north west sid of the country way:—

[3]

1643.

Solomon Curtis son of Deodatus Curtis and Rebeckah Curtis his wife was borne, the eighth day of June 1643.

Hanna Jewell Daughter of Thomas Jewell and Grizell his wife Borne, the 27 day of y^e 12 month.

Peter Stott, y^e son of Beniamen Stott & Hannah his wife borne y^e 6th of March, 1643.

1644.

Eliazer sonne of Henry Adams and Elizabeth his wife was born the 5 Day of the 6 month.

1646.

Samuel, sonne of William Alyes & Mary his wife was Borne the 24th. of y^e 12 month.

Edmond Sheffield soone of Edmond Sheffield & — his wife Born the 15 of the 10 month.

Hannah, Daughter of William Osborne & Frizund his wife was Borne The 24th. of the 6 month.

[4]

1647.

Elizabeth, Daughter of Thomas Willmott & Elizabeth his wife was Borne 4 D. 2 (m^o).

Mary, Daughter of James Couvo & Mary his wife was Borne the 7 D. of the 3 month.

Jasper, soone of Henry Adames & Eliasabeth his wife was Borne the 23 D. of y^e 4, month.

Samuel, soone of Henry Neale, & Martha his wife Borne the 31 of 5 month.

William soone of William Veazie & Elinor His wife was Borne the 6 of the 8 month.

Elisabeth Daghter of Thomas Thaire & his wife born 23 of 1 (mo).

1648.

Samuell, the soone of George Rugels & Elizabeth His wife was Borne the 3 day of the 11 month.

John soone, of Edward Inman & his wife Borne 18 of the 7 month.

[5]

1649.

Henry soone of Henry Neall and Martha his wife was borne the 19 day of the 1 month.

Elizabeth, Daughter of Henry Adams & Elizabeth His wife was Born the eleventh day of the ninth month, 11.-9.-49

Ann Sheffield, y^e Daughter of Edmd Sheffield Born the 1 day of the 2 month.

Bezaliell, soone of William Osborne & Frizund His wife was Borne the eight day of the first month 8-1-49

Abigall, Daughter of Francis Gould and Roose His wife was Borne the 18 Day of the 12 month, 49

[6]

1650

John, soone of Francis Eliote & Mary his wife was Born the seventeen Day of the second month.

[7]

RECORDS OF BIRTHS, Richard Brackett Clerk.

Wilom Arnoll, the sonne of Joseph Arnoll and Rabecka his wife was born the 16 day y^e (1) mo. 1649.

John Holl, the sonne Edward Holl and Hester his wife was born the (23) of (11) mo — 1650.

William Allis the sonne Willim Allis and Mary his wife was born the (8) (mo) (20) (1651).

Samuel Walsbe, the sonne of David Walsbee and Hanna his wife was Borne the (9) of (2) mo. (51).

James Yorke, the sonn of y^e James York and Johanna his wife was borne the (14) day (4) mo (48).

Ruth Curtis, the Drter of Deodatus and his wife Rebecka was born the (8) (11) (1647.)

Joseph Arnoll the sonne of Joseph Arnoll and Rebeka his wife was born the (18) (8) (52).

Hanna Adams, the daughter of Joseph Adams and abagall his wife was born the (13) y^r (9) (1652)

1654.

Submit the sonne of Alexander Plumly and Hester his wife was born the (8) (11) (53)

Mary Allis the dauter of wilom Allis and mary his wife was born the (25) (8) (53)

Sarra the Dagtar the Henery Nell and Martha his wife was born the (23) (5) (53)

Mary the Daughter of Francis Goole and Ros his wife was born the (23) (10) (51)

Martha the Daughter of Francis Goole and Ros his wife was born the (15) (8) (54).

Hanna the Daughter of Henry Nell and Martha his wife born (2) (2) 1651

[9]

RECORD OF MARRIAGES IN BRANTREE.

1643.

Henry Adames and Elizabeth Paine were married the seventeen day of the eighth month 1643 (17) D 8) m

1650.

Joseph Adames and Abigal Baxter were married the second day of the ninth month 1650 (2) of (9).

1651

Steven Payne and Hanna Bass were married the 15 of the 9 mo 1651

1653

Samuel Staples and Mary Boles were married I the (30) (6) (52)
Samuel Staples & Mary Cole, 1644.

1647.

[10] Samuel Dearing & Bethia Baxter were married.

Dr John Morly & Constant Starr were married the 20, Day of the 2 month.

Daniel Weld & Ann Hide married the 30 day of the 5 month.

11-15

Gen R
O
YMP
Full B. ...

No Cover
Organization of 110 Waltham

3-26-94

A HISTORY

OF

OLD BRAINTREE AND QUINCY,

WITH A SKETCH OF

RANDOLPH AND HOLBROOK,

BY

WILLIAM S. PATTEE, M. D.

Gen R 974.42 B&P

COP. 2

QUINCY:

PUBLISHED BY GREEN & PRESCOTT,
No. 84 HANCOCK STREET.
1878.

FEB 21 1967

in England. It appears by the laws of the Massachusetts Colony that Irish emigration was forbidden.¹

The tide of emigration to New England had now commenced. They soon found Boston was the most convenient for shipping and for trade, consequently the land upon that peninsular was quickly taken up. In the year 1634, what was then called Mount Wollaston, comprising fifty square miles of territory, was annexed to Boston, as will be seen by the following order of the General Court:—"The Court hath ordered that Boston shall have convenient enlargement at Mount Wollaston, to be set out by four indifferent men, who shall draw a plot thereof and present it to the next General Court, when it shall be confirmed."²

On the twenty-fifth day of September it was "Ordered, that Boston have enlargement at Mount Wollaston and Rumney Marsh." It will also be seen that by order of the Court that large tracts of land were given to certain inhabitants of Boston to come to the Mount and settle; quite a number of those who received grants of land here did not come to Braintree³ to reside, but continued to be domiciled in Boston, and held the land here as a matter of speculation.

The first step was to give their pastor, the first minister of

1. Which was owlog, probably, more to their religious views than their nationality. "Oct. 19, 1632. Mr. Daniel Sellake, craving pardon for his offence in bringing some of the *Irishmen* on shore, hath his fine remitted, so as the first opportunity be taken to send them out of this jurisdiction. The said Mr. Sellake, on his request, hath liberty for the bringing another *Irishman* on shore, to endeavour his recovery, provided he give bond to send him out of this jurisdiction when he is well."—Record of Mass., Vol. III., p. 291.

"Oct. 23, 1652. Martha Brenton desireinge an Irish boy and girle about the age of 12 years, for servants, hath her request graunted, so as the parties are proved before two magistrates to be born of English parents."—Records of Mass., Vol. III., p. 294. *Sed quere*, How Irish if born of English parents?

2. Rec. City of Boston, Vol. I., pp. 4 and 5.

3. Mr. Adams in his admirable address on the opening of the Town Hall in Braintree, July 29th, 1838, gives the following derivation of the name of Braintree:—"This name is variously written in ancient records. In the Domesday Survey, it appears as Branchetren, which is said to be Saxon, and to mean a town near a river. In this particular the New England namesake is placed appropriately enough. Much more so, indeed, than the County in which it is situated. For here Norfolk is south of Suffolk. Other ancient designations of the town are Branketre, Branchetrefen, Brantcoe, Brantree, Bromptre."

Boston, a plantation, and, "It was ordered that Mr. Wilson the Pastor (in lieu of his land granted him at the North River by Mystic, which he shall pass over to the town of Boston) shall have as much land at the Mount Wollaston as he elects; and after, so much as shall be his portion of other lands belonging to this town; to be laid him out so near his other land at Mount Wollaston, as may be for his most conveniency."

On the fourteenth of December, 1635, we find the following: "It is agreed by general consent that Mr. W. Colburne, Mr. W. Aspinwall, Mr. J. Sampford, W. Balstone and Richard Wright shall in behalf of the town, go and take view at Mount Wollaston, and bound out there what may be sufficient for Mr. William Coddington and Edmund Quincy to have for their particular farms there; and accordingly as they five or four of them shall agree upon to stand, and the same to be entered in this book."

Immediately after this comes the following:—"Item, it is agreed that all the allotments at Mount Wollaston shall be set out by Mr. Coddington, William Colburne, William Aspinwall, Edmund Quincy and Richard Wright, or some four of them; and that every allotment shall have a convenient proportion of meadow thereunto, according to their number of cattle that have the same."¹

Many grants contained from two to five hundred acres such as those given to Coddington, Wilson, Quincy, Hutchinson and Wheelwright. John Winthrop, Jr., and others, in 1644, received a grant of three thousand acres for the encouragement of iron works.

The town of Braintree was incorporated² on the thirteenth

1. Rec. City of Boston, Vol. I., p. 59.

2. "The petition of the inhabitants of Mount Wollaston was voted and granted them to be a town according to the agreement with Boston; provided, that if they fulfill not the Covenant made with Boston, & herto affixed, it shabee in the power of Boston to recover their due by action against the said inhabitants, or any of them, and the town is to be called Braintree. May 13, 1640."—Mass. Rec., Vol. I., p. 291.

The following is the Covenant, as agreed upon between Boston and the inhabitants of Braintree:

"It was agreed with our neighbors of Mount Wollaston, vid; William Cheesbrooke, Alexander Winchester, Rich: Wright, James Penniman, f. e. in

of May, 1640 (old style).¹ It comprised the tract of land now included within the bounds of the towns of Quincy, Braintree, Randolph and Holbrook. The principal settlement and business centre, of the town for the first half century from its incorporation, was in the North Precinct, *i. e.*, what is now the town of Quincy; the present town of Braintree constituted the middle and Randolph and Holbrook the South Precinct.

the name of the rest, (for whom they undertooke,) that they should give to Boston 4 shs, the acre for 2 ac of the 7 ac formerly granted to divers m of Boston upon expectation that they should have continued still with us, and 3s the ac for every acre which hath bene or shallbee granted to any other who are not inhabitants of Boston, & that, in consideration hereof, & after the said portions of money shallbee paid to the towne treasurer, all the said lands shallbee free from any town rates or charges to Boston; & upon the tearms, & also from all County rates assessed with Boston, but to be rated by the Court by its selfe; provided, that this order shall not extend to any more or other lands than such as shall make payment of the said rates so agreed upon of 4s & 3s the ac; and upon the former consideration there is granted to the Mount all that Rockye ground lying between the Fresh Brook & Mr. Coddington brooke, adjoining to Mr. Houghs farme, & from the West Corner of that farme to the southmost corner of Mr. Hutchinson's farme, to be reserved & used in common forever by the inhabitants & landholders there, together, with an other parcell of rockie ground near to the Knights Neek, which was left out of the third Company of lots, excepting all such ground lying among or near these said Rockye grounds, formerly granted in lots to particular persons.—Mass. Rec., Vol. I., p. 291.

1. "Before 1752 the year was, by the legal method of computation, held to begin on the 25th of March, Lady-day or Anunciation, so called, from the notion entertained by the Church that the event recorded in the Gospel of Luke 1: 26-38, occurred on that day. The general practice of England had, indeed, several years earlier conformed to that of the rest of Christendom, in making the first of January new-year's day; and the law at last followed the popular wisdom, as usual in the correction. It is of more importance, however, to remark, that, in reckoning the months, March was called the first, February the twelfth, September, October, November and December then having, consistent with their Latin etymology, the numerical rank which is now lost. Yet it is still more important to be noticed, that a very dangerous diversity existed, in styling the year by its old numerical until the 25th March, or giving it the new designation from the beginning of that month." Another fact, that should be borne in mind, is the difference of the two styles, by which dates are reckoned, which may cause a discrepancy of ten or eleven days. Up to 1582, the old style prevailed, but in that year, Pope Gregory XIII introduced the new system, by striking ten days out of the almanac of that year, calling the fifth the fifteenth of October, 1582, thus connecting the long accumulated errors of the old method. The new style was not adopted in Great Britain and its Colonies until 1752.

Although incorporated in 1640, the town did not then get control of all the land within its bounds, as appears by the following votes:—"March 4th, 1642. At a generale Towne's meeting upon lawfull warning, it is ordered, that the residue of the Towne's lands, not yet disposed of, excepting those that are lay'd out for Commons, at Boston, Braintry and Muddy River shall be divided amongst the present inhabitants." It also appears by the records that some of the Common was sold for the benefit of Rev. Henry Flint, the clergyman:—"July 29th, 1644. The land within the common fence at Braintry, neere Knight's Necke, belonging to Boston, is hereby sold unto — Matson, James Penniman, Moses Payne, Francis Elliot, for 5s. per acre, be it more or lesse, to be paid in corne or cattle within one month, unto the hands of Henry Flint, of Braintry, for his own use, on consideration of his late great losse, through the hand of God's Providence, by fire."

The South Precinct of the old town of Braintree was incorporated into a town on the ninth of March, 1793, and called Randolph.

The people of Braintree seem to have had a desire for all the land that they could get hold of, for in 1666, they sent a petition to the General Court, asking for a new plantation of six thousand acres.² The General Court saw fit to grant their

1. Rec. City of Boston, Vol. I., pp. 59 and 71.

2. At this early period (1666) the people came short of land, for the reason that much of the best and most available arable surface was held by non-residents and citizens of Boston as a matter of speculation, and by others in large farms, that it was a source of great inconvenience to the permanent inhabitants of the town, as they, in their poverty, were not able to pay the high rents asked of them by the non-residents; which deprived them of having sufficient land for carrying on their agricultural pursuits to any advantage, therefore they were obliged to petition the General Court for more land.

"To the Honorable General Court now Assembled. The Humble Petitioners of the inhabitants of the town of Braintree Humbly Sheweth.

"That your Petitioners account it our duty, being thereunto moved from the necessity that lyeth upon the inhabitants of the Town already, although it is our grief that we are constrained to be troublesome, to make our application to this Honorable Court for some help and relief for our comfortable accommodation in point of Lands, in this respect the Township is very poor; and never having any land granted them free, except some five or six of the ancient inhabitants now dwelling there, nor Commonage but what they have purchased, which is not

petition, for on the tenth of October, they passed the following vote: "In answer of the inhabitants of Braintree, the Court on consideration of the reason therein expressed judge meet to grant unto them six thousand acres of land, in some place, limited to one place, not prejudicing any plantation or particular grant." They selected a tract of land laying between Braintree and Plymouth but the General Court would not let them have this:

"31 May, 1670. In answer to the petition of Braintree, subscribed by their Selectmen, humbly desiring this Court's favor to confirm unto them their six thousand acres, granted to them for their engagement, in a place they have found lying between

two thousand acres, and that is very poor and barren land, the rest of that little portion of land which the inhabitants have obtained by purchase, and the town consisting of a considerable number of inhabitants and still multiplying, are already much straightened, as a great part of the Town being in farms, which consist of the best Lands, with many small lots also which belong to Gentlemen and friends of other Towns, which several of our inhabitants are enforced by their wants to hire of them at dear rates, they having not any lands to give out, neither for their enlargement of Tillage, although that little land which they have is much worn out, nor yet to pasture upon for the Summer time those cattle which they must be necessitated to raise and keep. The consideration of these things, herein presented, in respect of their present necessity, as also the Court's readiness to afford their help and grant relief to others, whomsoever which we are apt to conceive their streights could be greater than ours be, doth embolden us Humbly to request and entreat the Honorable Court to take our case into their serious consideration, and if it may stand with your pleasure to grant unto us a quantity of six thousand acres of land in some place so as may be a relief to the inhabitants of the Town, which we hope will be according to God and no detriment to any other Township, and your Petitioners, as in duty bound, shall always pray."

"At a General Court held at Boston, 11th October, 1666:

"In answer to the Petition of the Inhabitants of Braintree, the Court on Consideration of the Reasons therein expressed, judge meet to grant unto them six thousand acres of Land in some place, limited to one place not prejudicing any plantation or particular grant.

"That what is above written is a true copy of the original Petition exhibited to the General Court, and their answer thereunto, as attest, Edw. Rawson, Sect.

"Braintree, 19th October, 1666. We, the Selectmen of Braintree, presenting a Petition in behalf of the inhabitants of to the General Court, by Ensign Moses Pain, our Deputy, Dated the 19th of this instant, as attested by Samuel Bass, Richard Brackett, Edmund Quincy, and William Nedom."—Mass. Arch., Vol. 105, p. 7.

their township and Plymouth. The Court sees no cause to grant this petition."

Nothing more seems to have been done about this grant until 1713, when the people waked so far as to choose a Committee to search the records and see if the right had expired; evidently they came to the conclusion that it had not; for they chose another Committee who appeared before the General Court and got their former grant confirmed.

This time they selected a tract of land where the town of New Braintree now is, in the County of Worcester. The land was sold in lots, and the proceeds divided between the precincts. Some few went from Braintree to settle this new town.

During the revolutionary war, some agitation as to the probable value of what were once called the Hampshire grants became perceptible in the older towns of Massachusetts. The opportunity offered of getting lots at a very small price induced many to emigrate from this place; they formed the town of Braintree in the State of Vermont.

Another act of colonization took place in 1645, when several inhabitants of Braintree asked the General Court, and were granted a right to settle with Gorton.¹

1. Gorton was a religious fanatic, who was banished from Massachusetts and settled in Rhode Island.

"It is ordered that Samuel Gorton shall be confined to Charlestowne, there to be set on worke, and to weare such boylts or Irons as may hind'r his escape, and to continue dureing the pleasure of the Cor't; p'vided that if hee shall breake his said confinem't, or shall in the meane time, either by speech or writing, publish, declare, or maintaine any of the blasphemous or abominable heresies wherew'th hee hath bene charged by the Generall Co'rt, contained in either of the two books sent unto us by him or Randle Holden, or shall reproach rep're the churches of o'r Lord Jesus Christ in these United Colonies, or the civill governm't, or the public ordinances of God therein (unless it bee by answer to some question p'pounded to him or conference w'th any elder, or w'th any other licensed to speake w'th him privately, under the hand of one of the Assistants) that immediately upon accusation of any such writing or speech, hee shall by such Assistant, to whom such accusation shallbee brought, bee committed to prison, till the next Co'rt of Assistants, then and there to bee tryed by a Jury, whether hee hath so spoken or written, and upon his conviction thereof shallbee condemned to death and executed." Dated the 31 of the 5th m., 1643.—Mass. Rec., II., p. 52.

1643. "The Charge of the Prisoners, Samu: Gorton & his Comp'a."—"Upon