

Eldredge  
Frost

# ANCESTORS OF EDWARD IRVING ELDREDGE AND HIS WIFE HELEN LOUISE DUTCHER

SHOWING DESCENT FROM BRODHEAD, BURROWS,  
DEPUY, HARDENBERGH, HASBROUCK, PACKER,  
AVERY, SCHOONMAKER, VAN VOORHEES, WILTSIE,  
RICKARD, AND OTHER FAMILIES.

COMPILED FOR THEIR SON  
EDWARD IRVING ELDREDGE, JR.

BY  
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Howe, Beecher-Bullard and Yates-Terry Genealogies and Lineage  
Book of the Colonial Daughters of the Seventeenth Century*



EDWARD IRVING ELDREDGE, JR., AND HIS SON EDWARD IRVING ELDREDGE

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## ELDREDGE

Sergt. Samuel Eldredge	m.	Elizabeth	———
Capt. Daniel Eldredge	m.	Mary	———
Capt. Thomas Eldredge	m.	Abigail Packer	
Capt. Thomas Eldredge	m.	Helen Brown	
George Eldredge	m.	Hannah Burrows	
Robert Niles Eldredge	m.	Melinna Louise Johnson	
Edward Irving Eldredge	m.	Helen Louise Dutcher	
Edward Irving Eldredge, Jr.	m.	Althea Gibb	

**NOTE.** The name Eldred, Eldredge, Eldridge existed in England before William the Conqueror landed on its shores. It is of Saxon origin and was borne by several of the Saxon kings. Eldred was king of Chester in 951. At the time of William the Conqueror, the Archbishop of Canterbury was an Eldredge. The family had lands in Wilts, Dorset, Somerset, Devon, Gloucester and York in 1085. John Eldredge, born 1552, was of Great Saxham and subsequently in Suffolk, where he died in 1632. He was a merchant and an extensive traveller and one of the founders of Virginia, being a director many years of the Virginia Company, and it is supposed but not proven that the early New England immigrants, William, Robert, Samuel, John and Nathaniel were closely related to him. For the sake of uniformity the name will be spelled "Eldredge" in this book as distinctive of this branch of the family who for several generations have so used it.

**I SAMUEL (ELDRED) ELDREDGE** was born in England about 1620 but when he arrived in New England is not definitely known, but he was in Cambridge, Mass. before 1641, for during that year he, from that place, joined the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company of Boston. He married Elizabeth, maiden name not known. Their first four children were born in Cambridge, but the birth places of the last three have not been found.

As Sergeant Eldred he occupied the Keayne farm in Chelsea, Mass. for two years, 1657-1659 but none of the births of his children are registered in that town. The next known of him is when he is listed among the first settlers of Aquidnessett, now Wickford, R. I., on July 3, 1663, with Samuel, Jr. May 4, 1668 as Samuel Eldred he signed a petition as an inhabitant of said Wickford, with eighteen others, which was sent to the General Court at Hartford, Conn., desiring protection of Connecticut "as promised four years

before, for if not, that so we may look for government and protection elsewhere, being not able to live either in our civil and ecclesiastical matters without government, which both the honor of God and the good of the country now calls upon us to seek after."

In Oct., 1668 he signed another petition, desiring with others, to be under the jurisdiction of Connecticut. In 1670 among the list of male adults in Wickford were Samuel, Thomas and James Eldredge. On Oct. 13th of that year he was appointed Constable of Wickford and those of that place were to repair to court at New London.

1670, June 22. He took Constable's oath at Wickford, under appointment of Connecticut, which then and for many years after, disputed the territory with Rhode Island. He was imprisoned this year by Rhode Island authorities, for assuming to call a jury on behalf of Connecticut, in a murder case—Thomas Flounders having killed Walter House.

1670, July 13. He wrote from Wickford to Thomas Stanton, at Stonington:—"Mr. Stanton, Sir: This is to inform you how the case stands with the town of Wickford, in respect of Rhode Island. This very day there came down, Mr. Samuel Wilson and Mr. Jireh Bull and Thomas Mumford, with his black staff, and upon this sad accident; and would have panelled the jury, whereupon I told them that they had nothing to do here, to panel a jury; but if they would look upon the corpse, they might, which several of them did. Then they commanded, in his Majesty's name, some to serve, and commanded myself to serve as a jurymen upon the inquest, and commanded John Cole and several others, which did refuse. I also warned them to serve in a jury for us, as we were under Connecticut, but they would not, but commanded us not to bury the man till a jury had passed on it by virtue of their power. So there was mighty commanding in his Majesty's name on both sides, and mighty threatening of carry to jail, insomuch that neither party could get twelve on a side. But at last they commanded all that were on their side to come out and they would panel a jury, if there were but six. Upon that account, the doors were shut where the corpse was, so they called the people to bear witness that they were obstructed in their power, and commanded us in his Majesty's name, not to bury the man, and told us that they would return our answer to their masters. We told them we would return their actings and words to our magistrates. So they commanded all the party to go with them. And so we proceeded and buried the man, and have searched for the murderer, but cannot find him, and therefore, would intreat you to send out after him, and send some this way, for we have never an officer here to grant me one. Sir, I would entreat you be strong

and send away word to Connecticut by the first, for we are in greater trouble than ever we were, and like to be in worse, therefore, mind your promises and stand by us. John Cole stood to it and assisted as much as could be, not having taken the oath. Captain Hudson has not been here since, and sir, the people will fain be doing, and beg to find that if it be not mended suddenly, it will be bad times here. Not more at present, but remain, yours to serve,

SAMWILL ELDRIDGE."

July 21, 1670, a letter from Hartford to the authorities of Rhode Island, complains of the seizure of Mr. Samuel Eldred and John Cole, the former having been carried "from Wickford to the island of Rhode Island," and on Oct. 8, 1674 the General Court at Hartford "grants Samuel Eldred the sum of twenty robes for his good service in doing and suffering for this colony."

At a meeting of the Council held at Hartford, March 6, 1675/6, Samuel Eldred and John Sweet were allowed to transport "ten bushels of Indian corn apiece for their distressed families," because the people of Rhode Island had exhausted their own supply for the wounded men after the first engagement in King Philip's War, when practically every house in Narragansett was destroyed and the inhabitants driven off.

On July 29, 1679 among those who signed a petition in Wickford, were Samuel, John and Daniel Eldred.

Sep. 6, 1687, Samuel Eldred was taxed in Kingstown, R. I. under Sir Edmund Andros's levy as were also Samuel, Jr., Thomas, Daniel and John. In a list of freemen of Kingston, "alias Rochester," made in 1696, the following under the name of Eldred are enrolled: John, Daniel, Samuel, Thomas, Robert, Elisha, Thomas, Jr. and Anthony.

The last entry found concerning Samuel is in 1697, when he deeded his son John, one hundred acres of land in North Kingston, with a right on the other side of the Pequot Path. This was probably the home farm and where his son John died. The Eldred family burial plot lies a short distance east of the old Post Road from Providence to New London (the ancient Pequot Path) and is now grown up to weeds and brush, but the headstone of Capt. John is in fair condition. He died Sep. 17, 1742, aged 65 years and 1 month. At the death of John, an agreement was made between his wife Mary and the children, whereby his son Anthony was to have one-third of the homestead farm at the death of Mary, excepting one-half acre "where our father is buried which shall lye for a burying place for our said father's family forever." (Land Records, N. Kingston, Book 5a, p. 248.)

Testimony given by Henry Knowles, March 20, 1721 as to the Pequot Path "which was east of the ruins of an old house which belonged to old Mr. Eldred, father of Capt. John," shows that the home of Samuel Eldred had then fallen into decay.

The children of Samuel and Elizabeth were, as far as known as follows:

- (1) Elizabeth, born 26th of 8th mo., 1642
- (2) Samuel, born 26th of 8th mo., 1644, married Martha Knowles.
- (3) Mary, born 15th of 4th mo., 1646, married Rouse Helme and died May 9, 1712.
- (4) Thomas, born 8th of 7th mo., 1648, married Susanna Cole.
- (5) James.
- (6) Daniel, married Mary ——— and died Aug. 13, 1726.
- (7) John, born Aug. 17, 1659, married Margaret Holden.

2 DANIEL ELDRIDGE, son of Samuel and Elizabeth Eldredge, was probably born in the late 1650's but where, has not been ascertained. He was old enough to sign a petition in Kingston, R. I., July 29, 1679. He married about 1687, Mary, whose maiden name is not known but exhaustive research inclines one to the belief that she may have been a "Phillips," although no documentary evidence has been found to sustain it. He was taxed in Kingston, R. I., Sep. 6, 1687 and listed among the freemen there in 1696.

"Monday, Sep. 7, 1702, Progress of Governor Dudley of Mass. and the Governor and Council of Rhode Island. This morning, his Excellency, attended by the Lt. Governor, Col. Townsend, Col. Byfield, with several other gentlemen, went from Bristol over to the Narragansett Country, or King's Province and landed at Rochester (Kingston) where they were received with all respect by the gentlemen of the place. Capt. Daniel Eldredge attended with his company of arms, and his Excellency's commission from her Royall Majesty for the command of the militia, etc. of that country or Province, was there read and published." Signed, ISAAC ADDINGTON, Sec.

The compiler of "Old Homes in Stonington, Ct.," states that he came to that place in 1704 "as the town records show" and there he built his home, still standing, later known as the Elisha Bennet house, on the old road from the head of the Mystic to Wolf Neck "set back a little from the gaze of the traveller and sheltered by old apple trees." He worshipped in the Road Church and here "his children were baptized." Some of them returned to Kingston, but his grandson Christopher, of his son James, came to the old home to live. In 1903 it was owned by Benjamin Brown



ROBERT NILES ELDRIDGE AND HIS WIFE, MELISSA LOUISE JOHNSON

March 25, 1709, Capt. Daniel Eldredge, "formerly of Kingston, but later of Stonington, Ct.," purchased 100 acres of Joseph Doliver "in ye Narragansett, Colony of Rhode Island," having for his neighbors, Ludowick Updike and the heirs of Capt. John Fones. About this time, perhaps previous to it, he purchased a new dwelling house in "the Narragansett," from Alexander Huling, the land lying between that formerly belonging to Major Richard Smith, dec'd, Ludowick Updike and Capt. Rhodes. The Kingston records have been badly mutilated by fires and the date on this deed is missing, but it just precedes the first one mentioned and they give about the probable time of his leaving Stonington and making his residence in North Kingston, which place he represented in the General Assembly of R. I. in Oct., 1715. He had previously been Deputy from Stonington to the General Court at Hartford, Ct., in May, 1709.

He made his will in North Kingston, R. I. and died there Aug. 13, 1726. He bequeathed his wife Mary, the use of his dwelling house, etc. and mentions his son Daniel of Stonington, sons James and Thomas, daughters Abigail, Mary, Freelope, Hannah and Sarah. The Capt. Daniel Eldredge referred to in the Diary of Joshua Hempstead is Daniel, Jr., who was also a Capt. and Deputy.

In 1729 the Narragansett Church Records mention Mary as Mrs. Capt. Daniel Eldred and as a "member and well wisher of the Church of England." She survived her husband many years, her will being probated Dec. 24, 1750, wherein she states she is of N. Kingston and mentions: daughter Freelope, wife of Nicholas Northup of N. Kingston; daughter Hannah, wife of Thomas Hazard of S. Kingston; daughter Sarah Carpenter; grandson Daniel of son "Daniel Eldred late of Groton," dec'd; grandson Christopher Eldred, of son James; daughter Abigail's eldest son; daughter Mary's eldest son John Miner; son ——— Eldred of Groton, all the remainder of the homestead "where I now dwell"; son Thomas Eldred; granddaughter Freelope Thomas of Nathaniel and Sarah Carpenter; son Richard.

The witnesses were Capt. James Eldred, Christopher Phillips, Sr. and Jr.

The births of the children of Capt. Daniel and Mary Eldredge are given as below in the Vital Records of Stonington, Ct., excepting the first child, Abigail:

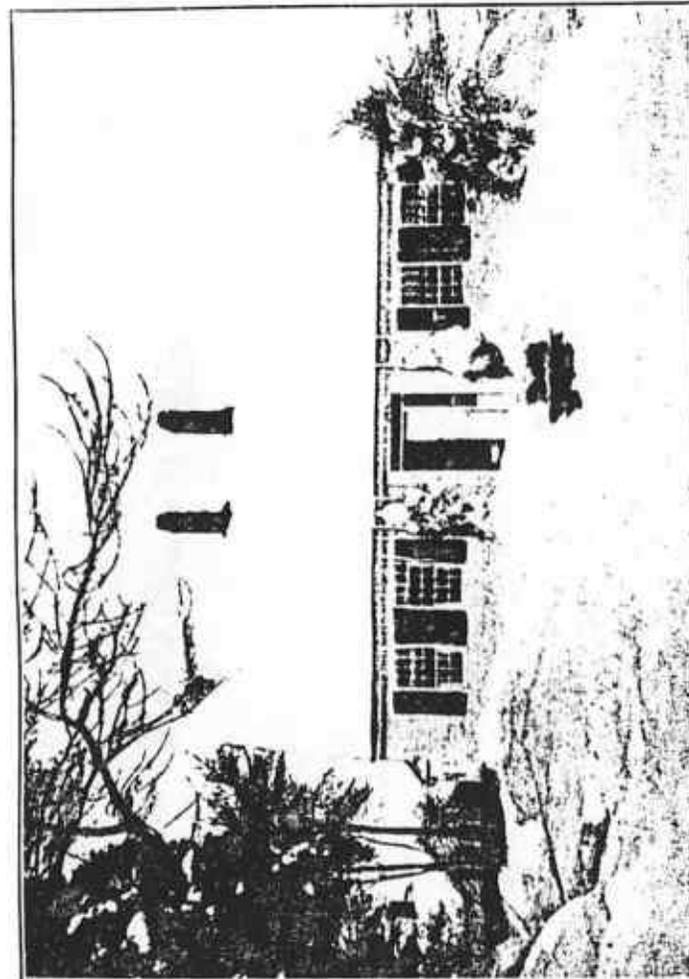
(1) Abigail, born Aug. 19, 1688, married Feb. 22, 1705, James Miner.

(2) Daniel, born March 20, 1690, 1690

- (3) Mary, born Dec. 6, 1691, married John Miner, May 5, 1709.
- (4) Freelove, born March 25, 1695, died March 8, 1697.
- (5) James, born Dec. 5, 1696, married Mary ———.
- (6) Thomas, born Feb. 2, 1698/9, married Abigail Packer.
- (7) Freelove, born March 29, 1700/1, married Nicholas Northup.
- (8) Hannah, born March 20, 1702/3, married Richard Updike and Capt. Thomas Hazzard.
- (9) Sarah, born Jan. 29, 1705/6, married Nathaniel Carpenter.
- (10) Richard, born, April 9, 1712, died in Kingston, 1752.

3 THOMAS ELDRIDGE, son of Daniel and Mary Eldredge, was born Feb. 2, 1699, in Stonington, Conn., and married in Groton, Ct., Oct. 12, 1727, Abigail Packer, born there Oct. 23, 1708. He was left property in Kingston, R. I., in the will of his father and it was probably the land he sold there as Thomas Eldred, April 19, 1734 (he being then of Groton, Ct.) to James Sweet of Portsmouth, consisting of 100 acres. Feb. 2, 1737/8 as Capt. Thomas Eldredge, mariner of Groton, Ct., he purchased 50 acres of land in Stonington, Ct.

He died at sea as the Diary of Joshua Hempstead of New London, p. 608, has the following item: "June 13, 1753. Mr. Stewart's Brigg which Capt. Thomas Eldredge salyd in arrived from Anguilla with salt & he Dyed on his passage home aged near 60, I suppose." July 16, 1753 his widow Abigail, with her son-in-law Oliver Gallup, gave an administration bond of one hundred pounds on his estate and on Aug. 13, 1754 it was divided, the widow receiving one-third and certain rooms in the house which were specified. The acreage each received was small, averaging about fifteen acres and the children named in the division were Thomas, Freelove, wife of Olliver Gallup, Abigail, Mary and Hannah. In 1756 the daughter Abigail, deeded to her mother, all her right to the buildings "which did belong to my honored father, Capt. Thomas Eldredge, late of Groton, dec'd." In 1755, Olliver and Freelove Gallup sold Peletiah Fitch, land which was "part of the farm which did belong to Capt. Thomas Eldredge." April 6, 1761, Thomas Eldredge sold land "part of farm which formerly belonged to my father, Capt. Thomas Eldredge." The daughter Mary had married Ebenezer Goddard and in Aug., 1758 they deeded to her mother Abigail, "land on Fort Mill, part of the farm which did belong to Capt. Thomas Eldredge," thus giving an idea as to the location of his property. Abigail Eldredge, widow of Thomas, was living in 1788 for on July 5th of



ELDRIDGE HOMESTEAD, MYSTIC, CONN.

ELDREDGE Family

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