

WILLIAM¹ GIFFORD OF SANDWICH, MASS.

(D. 1687)

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124. JEREMIAH⁵ GIFFORD (*Jonathan¹, Jeremiah³, Robert², William¹*) was born 21 February 1738 and died after the date of the 1790 census.

He married at Dartmouth, 10 October 1762, ELIZABETH SALISBURY, daughter of Joseph and Innocent (Head) Salisbury, who was born 30 March 1738 (Vital Records of Little Compton, Rhode Island) and died Medusa, Albany County, New York, 12 July 1825.

We have seen that his father's will, dated 30 December 1756, made this son sole executor, and gave him a principal share of the estate. Also, the will of his uncle, Gideon Gifford, dated 10 December 1759, gave to "my Couzen Jeremiah Gifford, son of Jonathan Gifford."

Further search in Bristol County and Dutchess County, New York, deeds will, we believe, confirm the evidence that this Jeremiah Gifford and his second cousin, Obadiah Gifford, who had married Mary Salisbury, sister of Elizabeth (Salisbury) Gifford, moved to Northeast, New York. A deed of 1758 whereby Jeremiah Gifford bought land of Joseph Allen and one of 1774 when Jeremiah Gifford sold land to Gideon Cornell, we think, refer to this man (Bristol County Deeds, 7:20; 12:190, hereafter BRCD).

In June or July 1775 Jeremiah Gifford signed an agreement of the "General Association" in the town of Northeast, Dutchess County, New York. We believe that this is the Jeremiah Gifford who served in the 6th Regiment, Dutchess County Militia, and that it is he who is listed in the 1790 census at Northeast, Dutchess County, New York, as head of a family of one male under 16, one over 16, and two females. His brother-in-law, Obadiah Gifford, and two of the latter's sons are also listed.

Children, the first two recorded in Dartmouth:

- i. ABIGAIL⁶, b. 4 Dec. 1763.
- ii. DINAH, b. 3 July 1765.
- ? iii. JOSEPH, b. ca. 1767 probably in N. Y. state.
- ? iv. ELIZABETH, b. ca. 1769.
- ? v. JONATHAN, b. ca. 1771.

125. EPHRAIM⁵ GIFFORD (*John⁴, Jeremiah³, Robert², William¹*) was

born 18 November 1733 and died, intestate, before 3 December 1771 when his brother-in-law, Daniel Wilbor, was appointed administrator of his estate (Little Compton, Rhode Island, Probates).

He married in Little Compton, 11 May 1755, ESTHER WILBOR, daughter of William and Esther (Burgess) Wilbor, who was born 18 November 1733 and died 17 March 1810. The will of William Wilbor, Esq., of Little Compton, dated 28 May 1772, gives "To my daughter Esther Gifford" (Little Compton Probates). Esther's sister, Deborah, married Elijah Gifford.

The widow Esther Gifford is listed in the 1774 census of Little Compton as head of a family of one male above 16, one under 16, and two females.

"Esther Gifford, widow Ephraim, d. William Wilbur & Esther, dec'd of Little Compton, R. I." married secondly, 21 September 1780 in Dartmouth, James Chase of Little Compton, son of James and Alice Chase (*Vital Records of Westport, Massachusetts . . .* [Boston, 1918], hereafter, *WEVR*). The will of Esther Chase of Little Compton, "widow, advanced in years," dated 10 September 1805, proved 4 April 1810, gives: "To my grandson John Gifford, son of my son Jonathan Gifford, all land that I bought of my sd son Jonathan Gifford. To my son William Gifford, land which I bought of Nathaniel Searles about 17 acres, and my book called Barclay's Apology. To my four grandchildren Ephraim, Benjamin, Phebe and Hannah Gifford—\$15 each. To my daughter Lydia Chase, my book called Subs history. To my daughter Esther Chase, the rest of my books." She named as executors her two sons-in-law, Philip Chase and James Chase. Witnessed: Daniel Wilbor, John Hart, John Mosher (Little Compton Probates, 4:306).

Children recorded to Ephraim and Esther—first born at Little Compton, the rest at Westport:

- i. PHEBE⁶, b. 5 Feb. 1756; d. y.
- ii. JONATHAN, b. 5 Aug. 1757; d. 26 July 1821 (John R. Wilbor, *Wildbores in America* [St. Paul, Minn., 1907], 28); m. 29 Apr. 1779 at Westport, LOIS EDDY, dau. Ichabod and Sarah (Winslow) Eddy, b. 30 Dec. 1759, d. after 1 Jan. 1794 (R.S.D. Eddy, *Eddy Family in America* [Boston, 1930], 92). Child: 1. John "3d"; m. 9 Aug. 1810 Eunice Kirby.
- iii. WILLIAM, b. 24 Feb. 1762; d. 13 May 1846; m. 4 Feb. 1784 HANNAH SMITH, dau. Benjamin and Susannah Smith of Dartmouth, b. 5 May 1765. Children born Westport: 1. *Ephraim*, b. 6 Feb. 1785. 2. *Phebe*, b. 1 Feb. 1787. 3. *Benjamin*, b. 22 Feb. 1789. 4. *Hannah*, named in her grandmother's will in 1805.
- iv. LYDIA, b. 27 May 1765; m. 14 Nov. 1784 PHILIP CHASE.
- v. ESTHER, b. 12 Nov. 1769; m. 6 Oct. 1788 JAMES CHASE, brother of Philip Chase who m. her sister. Both were sons of James Chase by an earlier wife, Huldah, and thus step-brothers to their wives.