

was born about 1757 and died probably at North Westport between 1803 and 1818. We have found no probate for this man.

He married at Dartmouth, 18 December 1783 DESIRE MITCHELL, daughter of Hallett and Ruth (Winslow) Mitchell of Dartmouth, who was born 30 July 1760 and died between 9 December 1793 and 1803 (when she did not quitclaim her husband's deed). This date appears also in Stephen M. Andrews's *A Sketch of Elder Daniel Hix With the History of the First Christian Church of Dartmouth* (New Bedford, Mass., 1880). Members of this family group attended this church.

Eli Wodell in his *Wodell Family* notes that Nathaniel Gifford carried on his business of blacksmithing in North Westport. In 1787 Nathaniel Gifford bought a homestead in North Westport. In 1789 he sold land there, his wife Desire releasing her dower rights. In 1803 he sold his homestead, but his wife did not sign a release.

The 1790 census shows Nathaniel Gifford in Westport with a family of one male over 16, two under 16, and two females.

Children, recorded in Westport:

- i. JONATHAN⁶, b. 27 Aug. 1784; d. at Fairhaven, 12 Apr. 1872. His death certificate gives his father's birthplace as Fall River (then Freetown). This seems to be HEG's Branch No. 14 where he is given 6 children and descendants in Puerto Rico.
- ii. HALLETT, b. 15 May 1786; d. at New Bedford, 15 May 1869; m. at Dartmouth, 14 Dec. 1806 DINAH MAXFIELD "both of New Bedford." Issue.
- iii. RUTH MITCHELL, b. 7 June 1789; m. at Dartmouth, 25 June 1815 NOAH MASON WOOD "of Swanzey."
- iv. MARY, b. 9 Dec. 1793; not further traced.

142. JAMES⁵ GIFFORD (*Benjamin⁴, Stephen³, Robert², William¹*) was born at Freetown, 1 June 1759 and died intestate shortly before 5 March 1839, when his estate was administered by his only son, George.

He married at Dartmouth, 19 October 1783 ELIZABETH CHASE.

"Jeams" Gifford was baptized by Elder Daniel Hix of the Baptist First Church of Dartmouth, 6 May 1781 (S. M. Andrews, *A Sketch of Elder Daniel Hix*). In 1783 Elder Hix noted that "bro. Jeams Gifford gave one day's work, and soon after 8 pounds of sugar." Also, that Gifford was elected deacon of the church 5 October 1782 and resigned 3 July 1784.

James Gifford of Dartmouth, laborer, bought for £131 2s from David Bullock of Dartmouth, tanner, 24 April 1787, a tract of land in North Dartmouth, lying by the Sawmill River, containing sixty-four acres (Bristol County Deeds, 11:479, hereafter BRCD). By a deed of 27 January 1792 James Gifford conveyed for £40 to Benjamin and Thomas Baker of Dartmouth a portion of that tract bought from Bullock. A deed recorded 1796 shows that one George Gifford and wife sold land to James Gifford, and we suspect that this was James Gifford's brother

(*ibid.*, 14:95). By a deed of 15 March 1807 James Gifford, yeoman, of Dartmouth, conveyed for \$1,030 to Lemuel and Josher Mosher, yeoman, of Dartmouth, land in Dartmouth with all the buildings, "beginning at the Southwest corner by the highway that leads from Smith's mills to Hicks Meeting House." James and his wife Elizabeth both signed (*ibid.*, 18:204).

James Gifford applied for a pension for service in the Revolutionary War 30 July 1833, stating that he enlisted at Fall River but that he had lived in Dartmouth since the Revolution. He gave his age as seventy-four at the date of application.

The 1790 census for Dartmouth shows James Gifford with a family of one male over 16, one under 16, and two females. In 1800 the family consisted of one male under 10 and one over 45; one female between 16 and 26, and one over 45. These ages are obviously in error since James would have been only 41, and George would have been 12. James and his wife were alone by 1810.

Children, recorded at Dartmouth:

- i. ZERVIAH⁶, b. 11 Dec. 1785.
- ii. GEORGE, b. 10 Nov. 1788; d. in 1864; m. (1) at Dartmouth, 8 Nov. 1807 JUDITH MAXWELL; m. (2) 21 Jan. 1816 MARY RIDER. Administration on his estate was given in 1864 to George A. Cornell. Children (from the administration accounts): 1. Mary⁷, living in 1864. 2. Judith M., m. 29 May 1842 George A. Cornell (*Vital Records of New Bedford, Massachusetts . . .* [Boston, 1932]). 3. Sophia, m. int. at Dartmouth, 13 Sept. 1845 Joshua Winslow. 4. Elizabeth, m. at New Bedford, 17 May 1846 George Lindsey, "bachelor, ae. 26, son Woodbridge & Hannah." 5. Lydia A., m. at Dartmouth, 13 Apr. 1845 Henry⁶ Gifford, b. 1823, son of Stephen and Phebe (Washburn) Gifford.

143. STEPHEN⁵ GIFFORD (*Benjamin⁴, Stephen³, Robert², William¹*) was born at Freetown, 5 February 1762 and died after the date of the 1810 census when he was still living at Freetown.

He married first, 17 December 1785 ESTHER BOOMER of Dartmouth (Andrews, *A Sketch of Elder Daniel Hix*, which gives the date as 7 December 1785).

He married secondly at Dartmouth, 28 June 1792 MARGARET JAMES of Tiverton. At this time he is called "of Westport."

The 1790 census lists Stephen Gifford "2d" at Westport with three males over 16, two under 16, and one female. In 1800 the family consists of two males under 10, two between 26 and 45, and one female. Ten years later there is one male between 10 and 16, one over 45, and one female. Only one male child has been identified as his son. Since Elder Hix's records show that he performed both of his marriages it is probable that he had joined the Baptist Church.