

ment to divide, dated 5 December 1792, sets forth that "Job Gifford of Dartmouth, dec'd, by his Last Will and Testament," gave certain land to his three sons: Stephen, Abraham, and Thomas Gifford (*ibid.*, 13:29). By a deed of 6 December 1792 Stephen Gifford of Dartmouth, yeoman, for £24 paid by his brother Abraham Gifford of same, blacksmith, sold 2½ acres at the east end of the blacksmith's shop; signed Stephen and Rhoda Gifford (*ibid.*, 13:27).

The 1790 census shows Stephen Gifford at Dartmouth with a household of one male over 16, four under 16, and three females.

Children recorded at Dartmouth:

- i. DEBORAH⁶, b. 9 June 1778; m. at Dartmouth, 5 Mar. 1805 LEVI CHASE (*DAVR*, 2:196).
- ii. JOB, b. 15 Feb. 1780; m. (1) (int. 8 Oct. 1800) RUTH P. WAIT; m. (2) at Westport, 2 Dec. 1821 NANCY (GIFFORD) SNELL, dau. of John Gifford (*WEVR*).
- iii. ANNA (called NANNA), b. 24 Nov. 1781; m. 6 Sept. 1815 THEOPHILUS SHOVE, son of Edward [of Berkley] and Elizabeth, dec'd (*DAVR*).
- iv. ELIHU, b. 9 June 1783; d. at Westport, 26 Dec. 1809 "in 27th yr."; m. 25 Oct. 1804 BARBARA HOWLAND, dau. of John Howland. She m. (2) 3 Nov. 1811 John Warren Gifford, son of Joseph Gifford (*WEVR*, 194).
- v. JOHN A., b. 10 Aug. 1785; d. 8 May 1837 "ae. 52y. lm. 28d."; m. 24 Mar. 1813 MERCY SLADE, dau. of Edward and Eliphah Slade, b. 4 Jan. 1791 (*WEVR*, 164, 274; *DAVR*, 1:236).
- vi. STEPHEN, b. 2 May 1786; m. at Dartmouth 20 Sept. 1813 REBECCA WING (*DAVR*, 2:207).
- vii. ANTHONY, b. 30 July 1794; d. 30 Apr. 1862; m. 26 Feb. 1824 DEBORAH CHASE, dau. of Peleg and Deborah Chase, b. 1 May 1795 (*WEVR*, 31,160).

153. ABRAHAM⁵ GIFFORD (*Job*⁴, *Simeon*³, *Robert*², *William*¹) was born at Westport, 7 January 1759 and died there, testate, in 1853.

He married at Dartmouth, 3 October 1782 SARAH BROWNELL, daughter of Thomas and Sarah (Brownell) Brownell of Dartmouth.

The will of Job Gifford, dated 21 January 1784, gives: "To my sons Stephen, Abraham, and Thomas to share equally in land to the south of the highway, which is not sold to satisfy debts. . . and in the farming tools." The sons Abraham and Thomas "to share equally in my dwelling house and, after the death of their mother, in the barn on land divided among the three sons. Abraham to have the use of the blacksmith tools until Thomas comes of age, then to son Thomas if he learns the trade, otherwise among the three sons" (*BRCP*, 28:157).

By deed of 5 December 1792 Stephen, Abraham, and Thomas agreed to divide certain lots of land in Dartmouth given by the last will of Job Gifford to his three sons (*BRCD*, 71:431, 432). A second deed dated the

next day shows that "Stephen Gifford of Dartmouth, yeoman, for £24 paid by Abraham Gifford, blacksmith, of sd Dartmouth," conveyed 2½ acres on the east end of the blacksmith's shop (*ibid.*, 13:27).

The will of Thomas Brownell "of Dartmouth within the circle of Westport," dated 31 July 1797 and proved 3 October 1797, gives: "To my loving wife Sarah Brownell. . . . To my four daughters, namely: Unice [*sic*] Gifford, Sarah Gifford, Sevinah Wilcox, and Rhoda Brownell" (BRCP, 35:126-131). This will proves conclusively that Brownell's daughter Sarah married Abraham Gifford, and the daughter Eunice Brownell married Abraham's younger brother Thomas Gifford.

In the 1790 census Abraham Gifford is listed as head of a Dartmouth household of two males over 16, two under 16, and four females.

The 1800 census shows Abraham Gifford at Dartmouth as head of a family of one male under 10, one between 10 and 16, one between 26 and 45, two females under 10, one between 10 and 16, and one between 16 and 26.

There is an interesting genealogical problem here. While this Abraham Gifford, living within the circle of Westport in Dartmouth, was a blacksmith by trade, there was a second Abraham Gifford, some six years older, who in a deed of 1806 calls himself Abraham Gifford of Westport, blacksmith. The latter was a third cousin, son of William⁴ Gifford (*Christopher*³⁻², *William*¹). A thorough search in deeds and probates is necessary to be certain which of the two is listed where at the time of the 1800, 1810, and later census counts.

The will of Abraham Gifford of Westport, dated 19 May, proved 18 May 1853, gives: "To my beloved wife Sarah Gifford. . . . To my son Lilly Gifford. . . . To my daughter Phebe Sherman, wife of Josiah Sherman. . . . To my daughter Sarah Briggs, wife of Thomas Briggs. . . . To my grand daughter Sophia Soule, wife of Resolved Soule. . . . To my daughters Freelove Gifford and Martha Gifford. . . ." Lilly was appointed sole executor (BRCP, 99:289).

Children:

- i. PHEBE⁶, b. perhaps ca. 1783; m. at Dartmouth, (int. 13 Feb. 1806) JOSIAH SHEARMAN.
- ii. LILLY, b. ca. 1785; d. 11 June 1783 "ae 87 yrs: 11m. 6d." (Swansey Friends Recs.; Arnold, *Vital Records of Rhode Island*); m. (1) at Dartmouth (int. 15 Sept. 1807) HANNAH NEGUS of Tiverton; m. (2) Oct. 1825 SARAH CHACE, dau. of Peleg and Deborah, dec'd (*WEVR*, 165), d. 27 Sept. 1835 "w. of Lilly"; m. (3) 6 June 1839 SUSAN SLADE ARNOLD, d. 20 Sept. 1847 (*DAVR*, 2:201).
- iii. FREELOVE, b. ca. 1787; d. 13 Sept. 1835 "dau. Abraham" (Dartmouth Friends Monthly Meeting Records).
- iv. SARAH, b. ca. 1789; m. at Dartmouth, 25 June 1818 THOMAS BRIGGS (*DAVR*, 2:206).
- v. MARTHA, b. ca. 1790; living unm. in 1835 when named in father's will.

- vi. CHILD—either son or dau.—the parent of the “grand daughter Sophia Soule, wife of Resolved Soule” named in the will, although perhaps *Sophia* was a child of one of the known children of Abraham⁵ Gifford. A Sophie T. Gifford m. 31 Mar. 1833 Resolved Soule (*WEVR*, 168; see also *Columbian Centinel*, 10 Apr. 1833).

154. JOHN⁵ GIFFORD (*Obadiah⁴, Simeon³, Robert², William¹*) was born at Dartmouth, 6 May 1764 and died intestate, probably in the town of Batavia, Genessee County, New York, in 1808 when letters of administration were granted in his estate.

He married 12 December 1782 MARY TRIPP (Records of the First Stamford Baptist Church at Bangall, Dutchess Co., N.Y., earlier the Great Nine Partners, Charlotte Precinct, which was organized 15 October 1759; Evelyn Briggs Baldwin, “The First Stanford (Baptist) Church at Bangall, Dutchess Co., New York,” *New York Genealogical and Biographical Record*, 37[1906]:176.

John Gifford was mentioned in 1797 in the will of his father Obadiah Gifford of the City of Hudson.

Like his older brothers, Humphrey and Henry, John served in the Sixth Regiment of the Dutchess County Militia (James A. Roberts, *New York in the Revolution* [Albany, 1898]). He may have moved with his parents and brother Humphrey to Hudson, Columbia County, New York, where a John Gifford is listed in the 1790 census with a family of one male over 16, two under 16, and four females. However, deeds and other records place John⁵ Gifford, tailor, number 103, in Hudson at this time. It appears, therefore, that the present John Gifford escaped separate enumeration in the 1790 and 1800 censuses of New York.

In Genessee County, New York, the town of Bergen was formed from Batavia in 1812, and Byron was formed from Bergen in 1820. John Gifford died in 1808, but the village of Bergen evidently existed before 1812. While other information places the family in Bergen before 1810, for some unaccountable reason the “town” heading preceding the three Gifford entries in the photostats of the 1810 census of Genessee County is Murray. The town of Murray is somewhat remote geographically from Bergen and became part of Orleans County in 1824.

Henry D. Gifford was head of a family of one male between 16 and 26, one between 26 and 45, and one female between 16 and 26. Sires (i.e., Cyrus) Gifford was head of a family of two males between 16 and 26, two females under 10, and two females between 16 and 26. Mary Gifford, evidently John’s widow, was head of a household of one male under 10, two males between 10 and 16, one male between 16 and 26, one female under 10, and one female over 45. There are possibly eight sons and one daughter counted in these census entries, but the names of only three sons are certain. The 1840 census of Bergen shows Henry D. Gifford still there with possibly two brothers, Aaron and Isaac. Their sons,