

WILLIAM<sup>1</sup> GIFFORD OF SANDWICH, MASS.

(D. 1687)

*Almon E. Daniels and Maclean W. McLean*

*Edited by Anne Borden Harding*

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**34.** CORNELIUS<sup>3</sup> GIFFORD (*James<sup>2</sup>, William<sup>1</sup>*) was born in Sandwich 9 February 1718/9, and he died in Lee, Massachusetts, 29 April 1808 (*Lee Vital Records*).

He married in Sandwich 4 May 1741, ELIZABETH BARLOW, daughter of Samuel<sup>3</sup> Barlow (*John<sup>2</sup>, George<sup>1</sup>*) and Susanna (Barlow) Barlow (*Nathan<sup>2</sup>, George<sup>1</sup>*), born in Sandwich 28 April 1724, died in Lee 5 September 1813 (*ibid.*). She is named in the will of her father, Samuel Barlow, dated 1 February 1771.

James Gifford died intestate at Sandwich in 1734, and Cornelius Allen was appointed guardian of this son, Cornelius Gifford. He probably received his share of his father's estate when he came of age in 1740. He settled in that part of Sandwich which later became Pocasset. A petition dated 30 May 1769 asked the Provincial Court to permit the inhabitants of Pocasset to build a meetinghouse and to relieve them from further taxes for support of a minister elsewhere. The petition was granted. Among the signers were Cornelius Gifford, his father-in-law, and his brothers-in-law, Samuel and Seth Barlow (*Mass. Archives*, 14: 545-547).

Cornelius Gifford, the Barlows, and other relatives evidently removed at the outbreak of the Revolution southwest to Hartwood in Berkshire County. A petition of 17 June 1776 to the General Court requested that parts of Hartwood, Great Barrington, and Washington be set off as a new town, which became Lee in 1777. Cornelius Gifford, his sons Thomas and Jesse, his son-in-law Job Hamlin, and his brother-in-law Seth Barlow were among the signers (*Records of the Town of Lee . . .* [Lee, 1900], 308, 347).

Elizabeth, wife of Cornelius Gifford, was admitted to the church, 17 September 1786 (*ibid.*, 257). At a town meeting on 7 May 1788, it was voted to remit a debt of 5s.2d. owed by Cornelius Gifford. The 1790 Census shows Cornelius Gifford in Lee with a family of one male over 16 and four females.

Children, recorded in Sandwich:

- i. ABIGAIL<sup>1</sup>, b. 28 Sept. 1741; mar. 8 Jan. 1761 JOB HAMBLIN (*ibid.*). She is named in the will of her grandfather Barlow, 1 Feb. 1771. This family also removed to Lee.
- 88. ii. THOMAS, b. 13 Mar. 1746.
- 89. iii. JESSE, b. 12 May 1753.

35. SYLVANUS<sup>3</sup> GIFFORD (*James*<sup>2</sup>, *William*<sup>1</sup>) was born in Sandwich 18 October 1720, and he died in Lee 8 February 1804 (*Lee Vital Records*). He is buried in Fairmount Cemetery, Lee.

He married first, in Dartmouth, 28 July 1748, JENEVERAH [GENEVERAH, GENEVRA, JENEVERETH] WALKER, daughter of John and Sarah (Summers) Walker of Dartmouth, born there 12 June 1728 (*Dartmouth Vital Records*), died between 14 February 1773 and 2 December 1790, when her widower remarried.

He married second; in Lee 2 December 1790, TABITHA DEXTER (*Lee Vital Records*), born perhaps about 1751, died 6 September 1833, "ae. 82 or 3, of old age" (*ibid.*).

At the death of his father in 1734, Sylvanus and his sister, Deborah, chose Joseph Hoxie, a son of Grace (Gifford) Hoxie, as their guardian. Probably Sylvanus received land in Sandwich when he reached his majority in 1741, but evidently he disposed of his holdings there before 1750 and settled in Dartmouth. A deed of 19 February 1749/50 shows Sylvanus Gifford of Dartmouth and Jenevarah, his wife, selling to Thomas West, also of Dartmouth, for £25 "all our right and title . . . unto all that land which was the homestead of our Honoured Father John Walker, late of sd Dartmouth, deceased . . . situate in Dartmouth . . . which said homestead lays on the North-erly side of the way that leads from the sd Wests to Christian Turner's . . . and is bounded Easterly by Irish Swift's land, westerly, and northerly on land belonging to Mark Jenne and Mr. Samuel Hunt, both of Dartmouth, afsd., dec'd. . . which may evidently appear to have been given to the sd Jenevery in the last will and Testament of our sd Father, being dated 22 April 1742." The deed was signed by Salvenus and Jeneverary Gifford and witnessed by John Walker and Ephraim Devel. It was acknowledged before Samuel Willis, J.P., 3 April 1750 (*Bristol County Deeds*, 6:108).

From the fact that the children's births are recorded in Sandwich, Sylvanus and his wife may have returned to Sandwich after 1750 and lived there for some years before removing to Lee. But the 1790 Census shows him in Lee with a family of one male over 16 and two females.

#### Children:

- i. DEBORAH<sup>4</sup>, b. 4 Apr. 1753; mar. (1) 4 Jan. 1773 BARNABAS PHINNEY, son of Zaccheus<sup>4</sup> Phinney [Finney] (*Benjamin*<sup>3</sup>, *John*<sup>2-1</sup>), b. Barnstable 11 Mar. 1748, d. Lee, 30 June 1780. Children, surname *Phinney*: 1. *Ancel*, b. 25 Dec. 1773. 2. *Benjamin*, b. 23 May 1775. 3. *Calvin*, b. 7 Feb. 1774. 4. *Sylvanus*, b. 15 Dec. 1778. She mar. (2) 21 Mar. 1782 NATHANIEL<sup>4</sup> TOBEY (*Samuel*<sup>3</sup>, *Jonathan*<sup>2</sup>, *Thomas*<sup>1</sup>), b. Sandwich 1 Mar. 1742/3. Children, surname *Tobey*: 5. *Experience*, b. 28 Dec. 1782 (bp. as "Achsah" in Lee Church). 6. *Samuel*, b. 22 Oct.