

- 105). Children, surname *Kelley* (*ibid.*, 110): 1. *Hannah*⁶, b. 7 Sept. 1805; d. 29 Oct. 1829. 2. *David*, b. 13 July 1809. 3. *Elizabeth*, b. 23 Apr. 1811. 4. *Catherine*, b. 23 Sept. 1813.
- iii. SARAH, b. 26 May 1774; d. unm. in December 1870 "ae. 96 yr. 7 mo." (*ibid.*).
- iv. WILLIAM, b. 22 Mar. 1778 (Sandwich Monthly Meeting Records, 1717-1850, p. 87).
117. v. HANNAH, b. 6 Feb. 1780; d. testate in 1858; unmar. (*ibid.*). The will of Hannah Gifford of Yarmouth, dated 9 June 1849, proved 14 Oct. 1858, gives to her sister Sarah Gifford of Falmouth, the improvement of all property not before disposed of. She makes bequests to various nephews and nieces (see below) and names her nephew Azariah executor (Barnstable County Probates, 81:503-504).
118. vi. THEOPHILUS, b. 14 Mar. 1784 (*ibid.*, 103).

52. WILLIAM⁴ GIFFORD (*Silas*³, *William*²⁻¹) was born 12 November 1739, and he died after the date of the 1790 Census, when he was listed as William Gilford in Chilmark, Martha's Vineyard, with one male over 16, seven males under 16, and six females. He may have died there or possibly in Maine.

He married (int. in Falmouth 23 Oct. 1762) MARY CHADWICK, daughter of Samuel and Elizabeth (Price) Chadwick, born 16 May 1742 (Falmouth Town Records, 2:9). They were "both of Falmouth," and he was called "Junr."

Children, birth records not found:

- i. SAMUEL⁵, b. ca. 1765; not traced further.
- ii. SILAS, b. ca. 1767; d. 8 Dec. 1826 on Puna Island, Gulf of Guayaquil, Ecuador (Dartmouth Vital Records); mar. 23 Mar. 1788 RUTH PEABODY (Chilmark Vital Records). Evidently he was the Silas Gifford listed in the 1790 Census at Chilmark with one male over 16 and one female. It is likely that he had issue.
- iii. JUSTICE, b. ca. 1769; not traced further.
- iv. ROSE, bapt. ca. 1771; mar. 28 Nov. 1788 FORTUNATUS PEASE (*ibid.*).

The identity of these children is proved by the Falmouth Church Records which show that Mary Gifford, wife of William, Jr., was admitted to full communion 15 September 1771, and their children were baptized there 29 September 1771: "Samuel, Silas, Justus, and Rose" (Falmouth Church Records, 1:63). Four younger children were also baptized there, but after 1781 the family may have moved elsewhere and/or joined the Chilmark Church. Carl W.⁹ Gifford was able to trace his own line (see below) back to this William Gifford.

- v. FEAR, bapt. 2 May 1773; mar. 21 Apr. 1792 CORNELIUS ROBINSON (Chilmark Vital Records).
119. vi. ISAIAH, bapt. 15 May 1774 (*ibid.*).
- vii. MARY, bapt. 13 June 1779; mar. 22 June 1796 STEPHEN ROBINSON (*ibid.*).

- viii. MARTHA [MATTY, PATTY], bapt. 14 Aug. 1781. She may have been the Martha Gifford who mar. (int. 3 May 1812) EPHRAIM PIERCE ("both of Falmouth"; see Falmouth Town Records). The church record shows Matty Gifford, dau. of William and Molly, bapt. "at a lecture at the home of William and Molly Gifford on Pesk, one of the Elizabeth Island."

53. MORDECAI⁴ GIFFORD (*Melatiah*³, *William*²⁻¹) was born about 1746, and he died at Falmouth in 1805.

He married, 31 December 1767, GRACE GIFFORD (Falmouth Town Records, 2:18), daughter of Silas³ Gifford (*William*²⁻¹), born 18 April 1749. They were first cousins.

In his will Melatiah Gifford gave to this son the house in which he was then living, 12 July 1779, and one third of his Falmouth land.

By a deed of 14 March 1785, Jabez Gifford, Mordecai Gifford, and George Gifford sold to Prince Gifford a tract of land with three dwelling houses, a barn, and a joiner's shop for £360 (Barnstable County Deeds, 39:137). As executors of their father's will, Jabez and Mordecai Gifford sold to Barnabas Bowerman about three acres of land for £40 (*ibid.*, 40:100). Later Mordecai and George Gifford sold to Bowerman a third piece of land from their father's estate, containing 5¾ acres.

By a quit claim dated 21 May 1788 Jabez Gifford of Falmouth renounced any further claim on the estate of their father, Melatiah Gifford, to Mordecai and George Gifford, as executors of the will. The deed was acknowledged the same day and recorded 6 November 1788 (Barnstable County Deeds, 40:231; copy from Gifford-Davis collection).

In his later years Mordecai Gifford was evidently in poor mental health. In January 1803 Jabez Gifford had turned over the control of his estate to his relative Prince Gifford. In a document of 1 February 1803, Prince Gifford, as assignee to Jabez Gifford, filed a complaint against "Mordecai Gifford, one of the executors to the Last Will . . . of Melatiah Gifford, late of Falmouth, Deceased." The claim was made that Mordecai had obtained letters testamentary to the said will in March 1783, but he had neglected either to sell part of the property to pay debts or to file an accounting. He petitioned the court to force Mordecai to settle the estate. A memorandum was addressed to the sheriff requiring him to read the complaint to the said Mordecai Gifford and to compel him to appear at a probate court to be held at the dwelling house of Jabez Howland in Barnstable on the second Tuesday in February next, by one of the clock, after noon (original data from Gifford-Davis collection). At his death Mordecai was considered *non compos mentis*.

In the 1790 Census of Falmouth, Mordecai Gifford was the head of a family of four males over 16 and three females. The births of the children are not of record, although the date of birth of Amasa is known from other sources. It appears that he had three sons, but proof of this awaits further search.