

two records which, taken together, suggest that he married and became the father of several children, including two sons. Unlike his brother, Rowland, this Benjamin is not listed on the tax returns in the 1770s (see below), nor does his name appear in the 1790 Census. But James A. Roberts, *New York in the Revolution as Colony and State* (Albany, N. Y., 1897), shows that Benjamin Gifford served with Rowland Gifford in the Albany County, 17th Regiment of New York militia. In the 1800 Census there appears at Stanford, Dutchess Co., N. Y., along with the purported father, John Gifford, a Benjamin Gifford, head of a family of one male between 10 and 16, one between 16 and 26, one 45 and over, and one female under 10, one between 10 and 16, two between 16 and 26, one between 26 and 45. We have found nothing in the Columbia Co., N. Y., surrogates or land records for this Benjamin Gifford. We suspect that proof of the Benjamin Gifford family may turn up as a result of genealogical serendipity, if at all.

viii. BATHSHEBA, b. 20: 3mo. (Mar.) 1758 (twin).

137. ix. JOHN, b. 20: 3mo. (Mar.) 1758 (twin).

67. HANANIAH (ANANIAS, ANORARIAH)⁴ GIFFORD (*Stephen³, Robert², William¹*) was born 20 August 1714, and he died at Tiverton, Rhode Island, before 6 May 1805 when his will was proved.

He married probably at Freetown, 29 August 1733, MARY ALGER, daughter of John and Joanna (King) Alger of Swansea (Arthur M. Alger, "Descendants of John Alger of Boston," *Register*, 31 [1877]: 101), died after 4 January 1784 as she is mentioned in her husband's will.

In 1737 and again in December 1748 Stephen Gifford conveyed land to his son, Hannaniah Gifford of Tiverton. Hananiah, called "Anorariah," appears in the 1790 Census at Tiverton as head of a family of one male and one female over 16. In 1800 he was probably still in Tiverton in the household of his son, William, who is shown with two males over 45 years.

The will of Ananias Gifford of Tiverton, dated 4 January 1784, proved 6 May 1805, names his wife, Mary; son, William; daughter, Hannah (single); son, Stephen "deceased," whose widow was Rebecca; and grandsons, Joseph and Silas Gifford (Tiverton, Newport Co., R. I., probates, 6:19).

Children, born perhaps at Freetown, although no records have been found:

138. i. WILLIAM⁵, b. ca. 1734.

ii. HANNAH, b. ca. 1736.

139. iii. STEPHEN, b. ca. 1738.

68. BENJAMIN⁴ GIFFORD (*Stephen³, Robert², William¹*) was born 2 February 1727/8. "Benjamin Gifford of Westport, aged 89 years, born at Dartmouth and never 40 miles from home. His surviving descendants are five children and 189 grandchildren and great-grandchildren" (*Rhode Island American* [Providence], 30 Apr. 1817).

He married at Tiverton, 30 July 1749, MARY PETTIS, who has not been identified.

Benjamin Gifford "of Westport, blacksmith," conveyed "for the Love and Good Will which I bear towards my son George Gifford of the same town all my house and land, being my homestead" [about 21 acres]. The deed was signed by Benjamin Gifford and the mark of his wife, Mary Gifford. It was dated 4 January 1803 and acknowledged the same day but not recorded until 18 April 1805 (Bristol County Deeds, 17:259).

Benjamin Gifford is listed at Westport in 1790 with a family of one male and two females over 16 years.

Further search in Bristol County records is needed here.

Children. The births of some of the children are recorded in Freetown:

- i. RUTH⁵, b. ca. 1750/1; d. before 30 Dec. 1798; mar. PHILIP⁵ SANFORD (*Peleg*⁴, *Samuel*³, *John*²⁻¹). He mar. (2) 30 Dec. 1798, Catherine Tripp, dau. Samuel Tripp of Tiverton, R. I. The widow Catherine (Tripp) Sanford mar., 12 Nov. 1818, Job Soule, son of William and Keziah (Gifford) Soule. Children, surname *Sanford*—data furnished by the late Jack Sanford: 1. *Stephen*, b. 1770. 2. *Thomas*, b. ca. 1772. 3. *David*, b. ca. 1773/4. 4. *Rhoda*, b. 3 Dec. 1775; mar. (int. at Tiverton, 12 Feb. 1797) Thurston Gifford of Tiverton. 5. *Peleg*. 6. *Anne*. 7. *Abraham*. 8. *Ruth*. 9. *Philip*, b. 26 Dec. 1787; d. 17 Apr. 1869; mar. (2) 12 Feb. 1855, Cynthia (Gifford) Howland, dau. Leonard and Ann (Whit) Gifford, and widow of Benjamin W. Howland.
140. ii. JOHN, b. 28 Aug. 1754.
141. iii. NATHANIEL, b. ca. 1757.
142. iv. JAMES, b. 1 June 1759 (Freetown town records).
143. v. STEPHEN, b. 5 Feb. 1762 (*ibid.*).
144. vi. GEORGE, b. 17 Feb. 1772 (*ibid.*).

69. STEPHEN⁴ GIFFORD (*Stephen*³, *Robert*², *William*¹) was born about 1730, and he died about 1792.

He married in Tiverton, 30 December 1753, MERCY PECKHAM of Swansea who has not been identified.

The two daughters shown below are on record only through their marriages. The sons are not positively identified, but they are included in this family as the most likely. Perhaps there were other children. Further search in Bristol County records is indicated.

Children:

- i. ABRAHAM⁵ (see Bristol County Deeds, 13:29, 30, 31).
- ii. MARY; mar. in 1776 STEPHEN WEAVER (Tiverton records).
- iii. SUSANNAH; mar. June 1778 GEORGE CROCKER, JR. (*ibid.*).
- iv. JOB.
- v. THOMAS.

70. RECOMPENSE⁴ GIFFORD (*Stephen*³, *Robert*², *William*¹) was born in Dartmouth about 1732.