

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

(D. 1687)

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**99.** JOSIAH<sup>5</sup> GIFFORD (*John<sup>4</sup>, Yelverton<sup>3</sup>, John<sup>2</sup>, William<sup>1</sup>*) was born 18 May 1748. "Capt. Josiah Gifford died in 48th year" (*Providence Gazette*, 18 July 1795). The *Providence, Rhode Island, U. S. Chronicle* of 16 July 1795 adds "burial with Military Honors." A thorough search of original probates and deeds in Providence is here required. Until this is done we have no proof that the subject Josiah Gifford is the Capt. Josiah Gifford whose death is noted, nor that the latter, whom we believe is the man listed at Providence in the census records, was the son of John<sup>4</sup> Gifford of North Kingston and East Greenwich, Rhode Island. We know that the subject Josiah Gifford's father died in 1760 when Josiah was only about twelve years old. We know that Josiah was, nevertheless, the eldest son, and we know that he was living in 1772 when named in the will of his grandfather, Yelverton<sup>3</sup> Gifford. We were puzzled by the fact that in the 1774 census of Rhode Island Josiah Gifford is listed as head of a family of ten persons. Similarly, in the 1782 census he is shown with a large family. But we venture the tentative hypothesis that he may well have had living in his household his mother and several of his young siblings. This is sheer conjecture, but we hope that further search may prove or disprove the suggestion.

The name of his wife, whom he married probably between 1770 and 1775, is known only from a death notice: "Mary Gifford, widow of Capt. Josiah, died in this town aged 47 years" (*Providence Gazette*, 30 September 1797). The same account records the deaths of "Mrs. Gifford, widow of Josiah, in this town, also three of her children and a servant in the family." *The Centinel & Columbian Centinel 1784-1840* (compiled by the American Antiquarian Society) also reports the death of Mrs. Gifford, widow, in its issues of 30 September and 11 October 1797. The names and ages of the three children reported dead in the 30 September issue are given, as well as a fourth child reported dead in the 11 October issue. It would be interesting to know whether the mother and four children, together with the servant, died as a result of an epidemic disease or whether fire or other accident was the cause.

The Rhode Island census of 1774 lists at Providence: Josiah Gifford, with a family of five males above 16 years, two under 16, one female above

16 years, two under 16; total household 10. "The Rhode Island Census of 1782" (*Register*, 127 [1973]: 225) lists Josiah Giffard [*sic*] at Providence, head of a household of four males under 16, one female under 16, two males 16 to 22, one female 16 to 22, three males 22 to 50, and one female 22 to 50, or a total of twelve. The United States census of 1790 shows at Providence Josiah Gifford, head of a family of four males over 16, three under 16, and six females.

Children (this again is partly conjectural):

- i. ? A SON<sup>6</sup>, b. ca. 1776.
- ii. ? A SON, b. ca. 1778.
- iii. JOHN, b. ca. 1780; d. "ae. 17 years, son to Capt. Josiah and Mary" (*Providence Gazette*, 23 Sept. 1797).
- iv. SALLY, b. ca. 1782; m. 13 Oct. 1804, "dau. of late Josiah, Esq., and SYLVESTER BOWERS, by Dr. Gano" (*Providence Phenix*, 27 Oct. 1804).
- v. ANN MARCY, b. ca. 1784; m. 20 June 1809, "dau. of late Capt. Josiah, and Edward Mason of Providence, by Rev. Mr. Cornell" (*ibid.*).
- vi. SAMUEL, b. ca. 1786; d. "son of Capt. Josiah and Mary, aged 11 years" (*Providence Gazette* of 30 Sept. 1797).
- vii. MARIA, b. ca. 1788; d. "aged 9 years, dau. of Capt. Josiah and Mary" (*ibid.*).
- viii. LOUISA, b. ca. 1792; d. "aged 4 years, dau. of Capt. Josiah and Mary" (*ibid.*).

**100.** DAVID<sup>5</sup> GIFFORD (*John<sup>4</sup>, Josiah<sup>3</sup>, John<sup>2</sup>, William<sup>1</sup>*) was born 22 June 1741 and died 5 June 1814 (Falmouth Town Records, hereafter FATR). The inscription on his gravestone in the Old Town Cemetery reads: "4 June 1814, in the 73rd yr. of his age" (from copy made by H. H. Smythe in *The Falmouth Enterprize*, 1903-1904).

He married 19 May 1763, TEMPERANCE DIMMOCK (FATR), who was born 15 January 1741/2, baptized 23 January 1742/3 (Falmouth Church Records, hereafter FACR), and died 23 June 1823, "wife of David in her 82nd yr" (g.s. beside that of her husband in the Old Town Cemetery, Falmouth). She was the daughter of Theophilus<sup>4</sup> Dimock (*John<sup>3</sup>, Shubael<sup>2</sup>, Thomas<sup>1</sup>*) and Sarah<sup>4</sup> Hinckley (*Benjamin<sup>3</sup>, Samuel<sup>2-1</sup>*) of Falmouth.

Under the date 30 September 1761, the Sandwich Friends Monthly Meeting records show:

We have been informed that David Gifford, son of John Gifford and Lusanna, his wife, did enlist himself as a soldier in the (French and Indian) War, it being contrary to the good order of Friends, this meeting appoints Samuel Bowerman and David Bowerman to labor with him and make report to the next monthly meeting. We are likewise informed that John Gifford, father of the sd David Gifford, did hire a man to go into the war in his son's