

THE
GEDNEY AND CLARKE

FAMILIES

OF

SALEM, MASS.

COMPILED BY

HENRY FITZGILBERT WATERS.

[From the HISTORICAL COLLECTIONS OF THE ESSEX INSTITUTE, Vol. XVI, p. 241.]

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THE
GEDNEY AND CLARKE FAMILIES
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IN the following papers will be found some account of two families, the first of which (Gedney) flourished in Salem during the first century after the settlement of New England, and became connected by marriage with other important and distinguished families of the colonial period, and one or two members of which held some of the most prominent offices of trust and honor in town and state. The second of these families (Clarke) first settled in Salem early in the eighteenth century and continued here about a hundred years. Their connection with the family of Fairfax, who have held a most distinguished position both in England and America, and through them with the family of Washington of Virginia, will, I suppose, impart some interest to this portion of my work.

I am under obligations especially to Dr. Henry Wheatland and George R. Curwen, Esq., for valuable assistance in the preparation of these papers.

1 John Gedney was admitted for an inhabitant of Salem at "a towne meeting y^e 7th of 6th moneth," 1637, having recently arrived from England, as appears by the following extract from a list of the passengers of the ship *Mary Ann* of Yarmouth, Wm. Goose, master, deposited in the Rolls Office in London :

"May the 11th 1637. The examination of John Gedney of Norwich in Norff. * * * * * to passe for New England with his wife Sarah aged 25 yeares * * * * * Lediah, Hannah and John; mo^r 2 Seruants; William Walker aged * * * * * Burges aged 26 yeares are desirous to passe for Salam."

The following extracts referring to Mr. Gedney are taken from the earliest volume of Salem Town Records now known to be in existence :

"At a meeting vpon the first day of the 11th moneth 1637" there was "graunted to John Gedney 80 acres of land whereof six acres of it are medow, lying neere to Mr. Gardner & is to be layed out according to former order."

"At a generall towne meetinge held the 11th day of the 10th moneth 1639," * * * * * "John Gedney is called by the towne to keepe an Inne, & John Holgraue layeth his down." In a list, made probably in 1637-8, to regulate the distribution of marsh and meadow lands according to the number of persons in a family, Mr. Gedney appears to have seven in his family. At a meeting, held "the 14th of the 7th moneth 1640," it was voted "That o^r Brother Gedney & o^r brother Balch & o^r brother flogg doe enquire about fustean spinsters & to informe the towne the next 2^d day." He took part in the government of the town as selectman in 1655. He was always styled a vintner in the records and was, as shewn above, an innkeeper; and, after the death of Lieut. Wm. Clarke, kept the principal tavern in Salem.

His first wife, according to Mr. Savage, was wrongly named on the Custom house records; certainly the mother of his children whose baptisms are found recorded at Salem, was Mary. Her maiden name and the date of her death have not been ascertained. He afterwards married Catherine ———, whose surname is not given, but we may conclude that she was the widow of Mr. William Clarke (before referred to) who in 1645 was "chosen to keepe the ordinarie in Salem." Otherwise I know not how to account for his being in possession of the well known Clarke's Farm; which is described in the following grants: "By the Towne in generall the 19th of 4^{mo}, 1637" * * * * "Agreed that M^r. Clark shall haue 200 acres by the sear pound (pond) not exeeding 20 acres medow; to be Laid out according to the discretion of the Layers out." "At a meeting the 13 of the 12 moneth 1642. Granted to Will^m Clarke 60 acres of land in leiw of that land w^{ch} hath lost by the laying out of Lyn bounds being within the Lymitts of Lyn though laid out by Salem. The sixty acres are to be laid out by the towne of that land that lyeth South from M^r Downyngs great medow towards M^r Johnsons land." "The 13th of the 8th m^o 1649." * * * * "Granted vnto M^r Gedney the land and medow w^{ch} was taken from M^r Clarkes ffarme by the men of the towne of Lin." This farm lies within the present borders of the town of Peabody (recently known as South Danvers and more anciently as the Middle Precinct of Salem) close to the borders of Lynnfield and near the well known farm granted to Col. John Humphrey. Mr. Clarke and wife Catherine had, among other children, only two (daughters) who seem to have survived him, viz., Susanna and Hannah, who became the wives of two of the sons of their step-father Mr. Gedney, viz., John Gedney, jr., and Bartholomew Gedney. John Ged-

ney of Salem, vintner, by his deed of 15 March, 1677-8, for love and affection, conveyed to his "son Bartholmew Gedney and Hannah his wife and to my daughter in law Susanna Gedney widow of John Gedney my farms in Salem by Cedar Pond formerly granted by y^e towne of Salem to M^r William Clearke deceased and 60 acres additional granted to same William Clearke and afterward confirmed to me John Gedney." Susanna's portion is thus described in a deed of conveyance which she made to her son Wm. after her marriage to her second husband, Mr. Parkman, as follows: "Deliverance Parkman of Salem Merch^t and Susanna Parkman my wife, the only surviving Daughter and living child and Heir^e of our Father M^r William Clark, Late of Salem in y^e County and Province afores^d Dec'd" * * * "For that Love and natural Affection w^{ch} we Have and Bear to our son William Gedney who bears up y^e Christian name of our said Deceased Father Have given granted and By these presents Do freely Clearly and Absolutely Give Grant and Confirm unto ye s^d William Gedney all that Our Farm both upland and meadow commonly known by y^e name of Cedar pond farm or Clarkes farm w^{ch} was Granted by y^e Town of Salem in y^e year 1642 Containing about one hundred and Fifteen acres be it more or less lying and Being in y^e Township of Salem being y^e one halfe of y^e above^d Grants Butted and Bounded westerly on M^r. Joseph Newhall northerly wth our Sister Hannab's halfe now in the Possession of Cousin Francis Clarke easterly with John Nurse and Golds southerly on Salem Common" (18 July, 1715). The history of the other half will be traced in the account of Bartholomew Gedney's family.

Mr. Gedney's tavern, called the Ship Tavern, seems to have stood about where John Turner, Esq., afterwards built his house, well known in recent times as the Man-

sion House, famous as a good inn, and opposite the head of Central Street. It is interesting to note that this lot or the next (now occupied by the Essex Coffee House) has been the site of Salem's most frequented hostelry, almost without a break, for more than two centuries.

Mr. Gedney owned a part of the Christopher Waller lot (formerly John Whitlock's) on the north side of the lane leading to the Pound (now Browne Street, next to St. Peter's Church). This he divided into two portions in 1661, and gave one of them, with a new dwelling house thereon, to his son John Gedney, jr., mariner, and the other (also with a dwelling house on it) to his son-in-law Nicholas Potter and Mary his wife, Mr. Gedney's daughter. His wife Catherine relinquished her dower. The next year (1662) he bought of John (and Sarah) Ruck a lot of land on the present northerly corner of Summer and High Streets, which in 1664 he conveyed to his son Bartholomew.

He died, it is said, 5th August, 1688, aged eighty-five years, having made a will 22d Sept., 1684, which was proved at Salem 12th Dec., 1688, and recorded at Boston, 7th Feb., 1688. He makes bequests to "daughter in law Rebecca Putnam," * * * "to Bethiah Hutchinson* that now liveth with me five pound in money and the debt which her father Joseph Hutchinson oweth unto me," * * * "to the children of my daughter Mary Potter," * * * "to son Bartholmew Gedney and to grandson Eleazer Gedney" * * * "to my grandchildren, the children of my son Eleazer Gedney" * * * "to my daughter Susanna

* In the inventory of the estate of Bethiah Hutchinson, presented 26 Nov., 1690, appears the item, "given to her by her grandfather Gidny—13£ 11s. 7d." The name of Bethiah Hutchinson's mother has not been ascertained.

From his calling a Rebecca Putnam his daughter-in-law it would seem that he took a third wife, perhaps the mother of Rebecca (Prince), wife of John Putnam. We have yet to learn her parentage and that of her neighbor (perhaps brother) Robert Prince.

Gedney and unto her children she had by my son John Gedney" * * * "to my son Bartholmew Gedney his wife and children." The witnesses were John Browne, sen., and John Marston, sen., the latter of whom made oath "that the 3^d day of August 1686 the within written was read unto M^r John Gedney and he declared the same to be his last Will & Testam," etc.

Mr. Gedney's children were :—

2 Lydia, born in England.

3 Hannah, born in England.

4 John, born in England about 1636-7, m. Susanna Clarke.

5 Mary (of whose birth nothing has been found), m. Nicholas Potter.

6 Bartholomew, bapt. in Salem 14 June, 1640, m. Hannah Clarke.

7 Eleazer, bapt. in Salem 15, 8 mo., 1642, m. Eliz. Turner.

8 Sarah, bapt. in Salem 23, 4 mo., 1644.

4 John (*John¹*) born in England about 1636-7, m. 4 May, 1659, Susanna, dau. of Wm. and Catherine Clarke, bapt. in Salem, 12th 1 mo., 1643; was a mariner and lived in the house on Browne Street conveyed to him by his father in 1661. He died in the lifetime of his father, at a date* not yet ascertained, and an inventory of his estate, taken 21 Nov., 1684, was presented to the Court by his widow Susanna, who was married 2dly, as has been said, to Mr. Deliverance Parkman.

Her will, made 23 April, 1724, was proved at Salem 7 March, 1727-8. She bequeathes to "son W^m Gedney my Farm commonly called and known by the Name of Cedar Pond Farm or Clarks Farm granted by the Town of Salem in the year 1637, with the additional grant in 1642 to my Hon^d father M^r William Clarke late of Salem deceased who died seized of the same and in my Possession ever since his decease to this day, my said son William Gedney paying out of the same fifty five Pounds in

* His neighbor James Browne in his will (1674) speaks of him as deceased.

Province Bills of Credit to my Grandaughter Sarah Williams of Salem. Item to my daughter Elizabeth Gedney nine pieces of Eight mild money. Item I give to my grandson Bartholomew Gedney my silver tankard marked S: P: . Item I give to my Grandaughter Sarah Williams wife of Robert Williams twenty six Pounds in Province Bills of Credit. Item I give to my granddaughter Susannah Williams daughter of my granddaughter Sarah Williams five pounds in Province Bills of Credit. Item I give to Susannah Gedney daughter of my Grandson Bartholomew Gedney five Pounds. Item I give all the remaining Part of my Estate to my son William Gedney and in case I should outlive him or survive him my will is y^t what I have given him shall be equally divided between his children in manner following viz: Bartholomew shall have one third Part, Hannah Grant one third Part, and Elizabeth Davie one third Part, and in case Elizabeth Davie should not live to lawfull age or to be married and leave no Issue then her Part to be equally divided between Bartholomew Gedney and Hannah Grant."

In 1698 (24th Dec.) Wm. Gedney, merchant (wife Hannah releasing dower), and Nath'l Gedney, mariner (wife Mary releasing), convey to their step-father Deliverance Parkman, merchant, one-half of the Ship Tavern, etc., calling themselves the "only surviving children of M^{rs} Susanna Parkman and grand children of M^r John Gedney of Salem dec'd."

In 1704 (18 Sept.) "Deliverance Parkman who married with Susannah Gedney adm^r on y^e estate of M^r John Gedney jun^r late of Salem dec'd" conveyed "to W^m Gedney of Salem y^e only surviving sonne of said John Gedney," by quit claim deed, all her interest "especially in and to that dwelling house and land in Salem that was the estate of my wife Susannahs late husband John Ged-

ney jun^r & now in the possession of Mary Gedney adm^r on the estate of Nathaniel Gedney."

The children of John and Susanna (Clarke) Gedney were :—

- 9 John, b. 5 March, 1659-60, d. young s. p.
- 10 Sarah, b. 6, 5 mo., 1662, d. 19, 5 mo., 1662.
- 11 Susanna, b. 4 March, 1663, m. 23 April, 1688, George Corwin, s. p.
- 12 Sarah, b. 12 April, 1666, d. young, s. p.
- 13 William, b. 25 May, 1668, m. Hannah Gardner. x
- 14 Nathaniel, bapt. 5 June, 1670, m. Mary Lindall.

5 Mary (*John*¹) was third wife of Nicholas Potter, formerly of Lynn, afterwards of Salem, his first wife (Emm?) dying in Lynn (probably); his second wife, Alice, widow of Thomas Weekes of Salem and perhaps daughter of William Plasse, died in Salem 26, 11, 1658. By his first wife he had two children, to whom he gave his estates in Lynn, viz., Robert and Elizabeth (wife of Thomas Newhall). He died in Salem 18, 8, 1677. In his will of 10, 8, 1677, proved 27, 9, 1677, he refers to son Robert Potter of Lynn and dau. Eliz. Newhall, and makes bequests to "my six children by last wife viz: Samuel, Benjamin, Sarah, Mary, Hannah and Bethiah." * * * "my hon^d father John Gedney to be sole Executor and my son Robert Potter & my brothers Bartholmew Gedney & Eleazer Gedney overseers." The death of his wife Mary has not been found recorded. Of their children Samuel died s. p. 1692, leaving a will made 18 Jan., 1691-2, proved 3 Oct., 1692, in which he provides for his wife Rebecca and makes bequest to his brother Benjamin, appointing his "unkle Gedny & Father Trask overseers." His widow afterwards became the wife of Joseph Boice, jr., of Salem and gave a quit claim on her former husband's estate to her brother-in-law Benjamin Potter 6 Feb., 1695-6. Benj. Potter died without issue and, in

1697 (14th Aug.), the remaining children and heirs of Nicholas Potter and wife Mary, viz., William and Hannah Roach, Mary Elson and Bethia Witt, came to an agreement about his estate, by which Wm. Roach and his wife were to have the dwelling house and land,* the western boundary of which was land of Nathaniel Gedney. To this agreement Bethia and Deborah Gedney were witnesses.

The children of Nicholas and Mary (Gedney) Potter were:—

- 15 Mary, b. 4, 11, 1659; d. 29, 8, —.
- 16 Hannah, b. 25, 1, 1661; d. 28, 8, 1662.
- 17 Sarah, b. 4 Oct., 1662; d. s. p.
- 18 Mary, b. 10, 9, 1663; m. Samuel Elson.
- 19 Samuel, b. 9, 11, 1664; d. 10, 11, 1665.
- 20 Hannah, b. 27 March, 166(5)6; m. William Roach
- 21 Lydia, b. 26 Feb., 1666(7); d. 17, 7, 1668.
- 22 Bethia, b. 23 May, 1668; m. 26 Feb., 1685, Thomas Witt of Lynn, who died 27 Jan., 1690-1.
- 23 Samuel, b. 22 April, 1669; m. Rebecca (Trask?); d. s. p.
- 24 Lydia, b. 16 July, 1670; d. — April, 1671.
- 25 Benjamin, b. 6 Nov., 1671; d. s. p.
- 26 Joseph, b. 9 June, 1673; died young.

6 Bartholomew (*John*¹) bapt. in Salem 14th June, 1640, m. 22d, 10 mo., 1662, Hannah, dau. of William and Catherine Clarke. He began life as a ship carpenter. Most of his life, however, was spent in the public service, as Judge of Probate for Essex County, as Member of the Court of Assistants for the Colony and Province, and as Colonel and Commander-in-chief of the military forces of the county, besides other offices of trust and honor that he was at various times called to fill: An interesting article upon his life and services has already been written

*This estate afterwards came into the possession of Mr. Thomas Poynton and then into the Ives family, who still possess it. By the same division Wm. Roach acquired Picton's (or Figden's) Point, on the Neck, afterward's called Roach's Point, where the Alms House now is.

for these COLLECTIONS (Vol. II, p. 223) by Abner C. Goodell, jr., Esq., whose only mistake seems to have been his assertion that Col. Gedney's mother was Catherine (instead of Mary).

The Hon. Col. Gedney's dwelling house, as has been stated, stood at or near the northern corner of Summer and High Streets in Salem.

He died 28 Feb., 1697-8, and administration was taken out in Suffolk County by his daughters Bethia and Deborah Gedney, spinsters, while in Essex County Samuel Gedney, chirurgeon and "only son," gave his bond as administrator on his father's estate 27 June, 1698. By the papers on file it appears that Col. Gedney took a second wife, Anne, widow and administratrix of the estate of Mr. Wm. Stewart of Ipswich, an inventory of whose estate was handed in; and in the account of administration credit was asked for payment to "Coll. Appleton Guardian to Mrs. Margaret Stewart" (dau. of Wm. and Anne) "towards her portion," and a charge made of an amount "Due still to Margeret Steward."

In 1701 (3d Nov.) an agreement was made "between Sam^l Gedney only son and Hannah Grafton one of y^e daughters, widow, Bethiah Gedney of Salem, singlewoman, one of y^e daughters of said Barthol^o & y^e said Samuel Gedney as administrator of y^e Estate of his sister Lydia Corwin Decēd and Guardian to Bartholomew Corwin only son of y^e said Lydia a minor under age, Francis Clarke of Boston & Deborah his wife an other of y^e daughters." Under this agreement Bethia and her sister Deborah received each one-half of their father and mother's portion of the Clarke Farm, then occupied by Peter Twist. Two years afterwards (22d Sept., 1703) Bethia Gedney of Salem, spinster, conveyed her half to Francis Clarke of Boston, merchant, referring to this agreement.

Col. Gedney's half of the Ship Tavern was sold to Deliverance Parkman, 13 Dec., 1698, by Samuel Gedney of Salem, physician, only son and heir and administrator, Joshua Grafton, mariner, and his wife Hannah, a daughter, Lydia Corwin of Salem, widow, and Bethia and Deborah, singlewomen, also daughters.

Dr. Samuel Gedney having died "before he gathered in y^e Creditts of y^e said Dec'd, wherefore to M^r Fran^s Willoobee who married to one of y^e daught^{rs} of y^e said Barth^o dec'd" letters of administration de bonis non were granted 31 March, 1708.

Col. Gedney's first wife, Hannah, d. 6 Jan., 1695-6. Their children were:—

- 27 Bartholomew, b. 4th, 2 mo., 1664; d. 12th Aug., 1664.
- 28 Jonathan, b. 14th, 4 mo., 1665; d. 14th, 6 mo., 1665.
- 29 Bartholomew, b. 2d, 6 mo., 1666; d. 22d, 7 mo., 1666.
- 30 Hannah, b. 19th, 6 mo., 1667; m. Joshua Grafton.
- 31 Lydia, b. 9th March, 1669; m. George Corwin.
- 32 Bethia, b. 27th May, 1672; m. Francis Willoughby.
- 33 Deborah, b. 3d Jan., 1673; d. 9 Dec., 1674.
- 34 Samuel, b. 2 Nov., 1675; m. Mary Gookin.
- 35 Deborah, } tw. bapt. 25th Nov., 1677; { m. Francis Clarke.
- 36 Martha, } d. young.
- 37 Priscilla, bapt. 1st May, 1681; d. young.

7 Eleazer* (*John*¹), bapt. 15th, 3d, 1642, m. 1st, 9th June, 1665, Elizabeth Turner, probably a dau. of John Turner, a merchant, formerly of Salem, afterwards of Barbados, and certainly a sister of John Turner of Salem, father of the eminent merchant, Col. John Turner, Esq., as appears from an agreement on record, bearing date 20th March, 1691, between Major Charles Redford, who had married the widow of Mr. Turner, and Elizabeth Gedney, daughter of Eleazer Gedney, deceased, who is also called "niece of John Turner, merch^t, dec'd, who bequeathed to her one hundred pounds," etc. Mr. Gedney m. 2dly

*This name often appears on the records shortened into Eli and Elie; but the facts show them to be one and the same person.

Mary Pateshall * 2d June, 1678, and had issue, as will appear, by both wives. He was a ship builder and lived in Ruck's Village, as that region south of Norman St. and east of Summer St., running down thence to the creek and river, was often called. His mansion house stood on High Street near Summer Street and nearly opposite that of his brother Bartholomew, while his ship-yard was down by the creek, say between the present easterly ends of High and Creek Streets, opposite the Eastern R. R. grounds. This neighborhood was for a time the home of the ship-building interest of Salem and, from the noise of the caulkers' and ship-builders' hammers, received the vulgar name of Knocker's Hole, by which it is still oftentimes called, although the bed of the creek has long ago been filled in and built upon and no trace remains to indicate the business once so actively carried on here.

Mr. Eleazer Gedney dying intestate (29th April, 1683) the Worshipful William Browne and Bartholomew Gedney, Esqs., Assistants, granted letter of administration on his estate, 14th May, 1683, to his widow Mrs. Mary Gedney, who appeared in Court 25th Nov., 1684, and desired "a settlement of y^e s^d estate w^{ch} according to Inventory by her presented amounted unto two hundred & fifty pounds clear of debts There being 7 children now liveing of the s^d Mr Eleazer Gidney. For the settlement of the s^d estate This Court doth order & decree That the widow M^{rs} Mary Gidney shal have fifty pounds of the s^d estate to be wholly her own and at her own disposal & y^t y^e eldest sone Eleazer Gidney shal have a duple portion in proportion w^t y^e rest of the children w^{ch} amounts fifty pounds and he to have it in houseing or lands according to apprizal in s^d Inventory . y^t y^e rest of y^e children six in

* She may have been a daughter of Edmund Pateshall of Pemaquid. "1680, 2 May Mary wife of Deacon Gidney from Boston." [Ch. Rec.]

number shal have each of y^m twenty five pounds to be pd to y^m as they come of age or shall chuse guardians according to the liberty in law or be marryed," etc., etc. "The names of the children being Eleazer, Elizabeth, Ruth, Mary, Ebenezer, Edmund and Martha." Eleazer Gedney, shipwright, acknowledges, 28 Oct., 1690, to have "received of my mother M^{rs} Mary Gedney Relict & Administratrix of the estate of my father deceaced twoe parcels of Land situate in Salem that was part of the estate of my said Father as by deeds of Sale Appeares I doe here by declare that I doe Accept the same In full sattisfaction of my portion of my fathers Estate assigned by the County Court & the portion Assigned to my sister Mary Gidney," etc. .

Mrs. Gedney rendered to the Court 9th Dec., 1699, an account of her administration, among the items being "soe much Disburst on Ebenezer Gidney in y^e Time of his sickness & fluneral &c as p acctt — 16^s-12-00." The other children are named as then alive.

Mr. Ebenezer Gardner of Salem in his will of 3d Feb., 1684, bequeathed to Ruth Gedney ten pounds "lent to her father & now in her mother's hands"; and there is on file in the Registry of Probate for Essex County a bond of Mary Gedney, widow, etc., to pay Habakkuk Gardner "the sum of 10^s at or before 20th Nov., 1701, which is for the like sum of ten pounds due from my s^d Husbands estate to Ruth Gedney, the now wife of s^d Habbakuk Gardner by guift from her unkle Ebenezer Gardner unto whom the s^d sum was justly due from s^d Estate." In what way Mr. Ebenezer Gardner was uncle to Ruth Gedney I cannot yet explain.

Eleazer Gedney,* the eldest son by the first wife, re-

* He probably left posterity in New York; for a Capt. Gedney's house is spoken of in an account of the operations of the combined French and American armies about New York, published in a recent number of *The Magazine of American History*.

moved from Salem to Momorinock in West Chester County, New York, as appears from a deed by which he conveys, 17 March, 1696-7, to Deacon John Marston the former building place (ship yard) of Mr. Eleazer Gedney of Salem deceased. His wife Anna releases her right of dower 4th Feb., 1696-7.

Ebenezer Gedney, the eldest son by the second wife, died, as we have seen, before his father's estate was settled.

Edmund, the youngest son, died without issue and by his will of 15 March, 1705-6, proved 11th July, 1706, left one-half of his estate to his mother and the other half to his only sister of the whole blood, Martha Gedney.

The widow, Mrs. Mary Gedney, died 4th Sept., 1716, and administration on her estate was granted to James Ruck of Salem and Martha his wife, "children" of deceased, 21 Jan., 1716-17. She had retained possession of the mansion house, which thus descended to Mrs. Ruck and her heirs.

Mr. Gedney's children were:—

- 38 Eleazer, b. 18 March, 1665-6; m. Anna —, and removed to New York.
- 39 Elizabeth, b. 2d, 4 mo., 1669; perhaps removed with her brother.
- 40 Ruth, b. 24th May, 1672; m. Habakkuk Gardner.
- 41 William, bapt. 2d Aug., 1674; must have died in infancy.
- 42 Mary, bapt. 25 Nov., 1677; perhaps rem. with her bro. Eleazer.
- 43 Ebenezer, b. 25th, 3 mo., 1679; not living 9 Dec., 1699.
- 44 Edmund, b. 15th, 9 mo., 1680; d. before 18th July, 1706, s. p.
- 45 Martha, b. 29th, 2 mo., 1682; m. James Ruck.

13 William (*John^d John^l*), born in Salem 25th May, 1668, married 7th May, 1690 (or as another record says 9th June), Hannah, dau. of Samuel and Mary (White) Gardner, b. in Salem 18th July, 1669. In 1693 she inherited from her twin brother, Jonathan Gardner, by his will, a portion of their father's homestead, which stood at

the eastern end of what was anciently the estate of Emanuel Downing, Esq., from whom it passed to his daughter Anne, wife 1st of Lieut. Joseph Gardner and 2dly of Governor Simon Bradstreet. Mrs. Gedney, before her marriage, had already inherited from her father, by will, a portion of this estate at the northeast corner, near the common or training field. After her marriage her husband bought of his brother-in-law, Abel Gardner, his portion of the estate. Mr. Gedney and his wife thus became possessed of all the Gardner homestead except the portion of house and land that had descended to Joseph and Mary Henfield, who inherited in right of their mother Mary, another daughter of Mr. Samuel Gardner. This then became the homestead of William Gedney, Esq., who in 1696 gave to his brother Nathaniel a quit claim of all his interest in the homestead of their father John Gedney, jun., deceased, on the northern side of Browne Street.

His wife Hannah died 4 Jan., 1703-4, and he m. 2dly 25th May, 1704, Elizabeth, daughter of Samuel and Elizabeth (White) Andrew of Cambridge, born in Cambridge, 5th April, 1663.

In 1698 (5th Sept.) Wm. Gedney, merchant, took out letters of administration de bonis non cum testamento annexo on the estate of his grandfather Mr. John Gedney, Sen., and received his quietus from the court 9th Sept., 1706, having "exhibited acquittances* from y^e severall legatees."

Mr. Gedney was an active merchant, filled the office of

* These acquittances, which were then ordered to be placed on file, were never recorded and are now found to have disappeared, and recently too, for there is evidence to show that they were in place within a very few years. It is to be hoped that they have become misplaced rather than taken from the Court House. If they had been found they would surely have thrown light upon these investigations.

Sheriff of the County for several years, and was always prominent in public affairs. He died 24th Jan., 1729-30. His will, made 26th Nov., 1729. was proved by his sons, Bartholomew Gedney and James Grant, executors, 5th Feb., 1729-30. He mentions his wife Elizabeth and her relatives and his grandson Wm. Grant and gives his homestead to his son Bartholomew, dau. Hannah (wife of James) Grant, and granddaughter Elizabeth Davie.

His widow died in Boston, as appears by her will of 11th Jan., 1737, proved 20th Sept., 1737, wherein she is styled "Elizabeth Gedney of Boston widow of William Gedney Esq. late of Salem dec'd." To Elizabeth Davie she bequeathes a silver porringer marked S. P. to E. G. ; to her daughter-in-law Sarah Gedney she leaves her gold necklace; another bequest is made to her kinswoman Mary Andrew of Cambridge. The bulk of her estate was disposed of as follows: "Half of my estate after my debts and Funeral charges are paid I give and bequeath to my beloved brother the Rev^d Samuel Andrew of Milford in Connecticut. And the other half of my estate I give to the children of my Brother William Andrew late of Cambridge dec'd, viz Samuel Andrew, Elizabeth Andrew now Elizabeth Stone and Mary Andrew to be equally divided between them." * * * "I constitute make and ordain Bartholomew Gedney my son in law sole Executor." Jonathan Andrew and Andrew Durand, executors of the will of Samuel Andrew, late of Milford, in the county of New Haven within His Majesty's Colony of Connecticut, dec'd, appointed, 21st Aug., 1738, the Rev. Timothy Cutler, D. D., of Boston, etc., their attorney "to demand of M^r Bartholomew Gedney of Boston Executor of Mrs. Eliz^a Gedney late of Boston deceast a certain legacy by her given to our Hon^d Father M^r Samuel Andrew," etc.

The children of Wm. Gedney, Esq., were :—

- 46 Susanna, b. 29th April, 1691.
- 47 Margaret, b. 8th (or 9th) June, 1694; m. Humphry Davie, Esq.
- 48 William, b. 11th (or 12th) Oct., 1696, abt. $\frac{1}{4}$ of an hour after five in the morning and died 28 Nov., 1698.
- 49 Jonathan, b. 11th (or 12th) Oct., 1696, abt. $\frac{1}{4}$ of an hour after six in the morning and died 12 Nov., 1698.
- 50 Bartholomew, b. 22d March, 1697-8; married four times.
- 51 Hannah, b. 12th June, 1701; m. James Grant.
- 52 William, b. 12th Aug., 1707; d. 8th Jan., 1707-8.

14 Nathaniel (*John^t John^l*), bapt. at Salem 5th June, 1670, married Mary —, whose surname and date of marriage have not been found, but we may reasonably infer that she was Mary Lindall, b. 7 April, 1674, dau. of Mr. Timothy Lindall, a merchant in Salem, son of James Lindall of Duxbury. Her mother was Mary, dau. of Mr. Nathaniel Veren of Salem, who was brought by his father Philip Veren from the city of Salisbury, Wiltshire, England, in the ship James of Southampton, 1635.

In 1689 (Oct. 16) Nath'l Gedney and his brother William received from their mother a conveyance of the acre of land which had belonged to their father, bounded north by the North river, east by land of Samuel and Jno. Williams, south on the lane by the Pound, west by land of Stephen Hasket. In 1696 he conveyed his interest in it to his brother. This land afterwards came into the possession of the Derby family, who had acquired possession of the contiguous Hasket estate, and from the Derby family I think it came into the Forrester family. The paternal homestead, the site of which is now owned by Stephen B. Ives, Esq., came to Nathaniel by quit claim from his brother William, 23 Nov., 1696, and is described as "given by my grandfather M^r. John Gedney Sen^r. decēd to my father M^r. John Gedney Jun^r. deceased and then after my father's decease to my Brother M^r. John

Gedney Jun^r and after my Brother's decease to my Brother William Gedney and my selfe." A condition of this deed is that the first male child to be born to Nath'l Gedney shall be called John Gedney and shall have a double portion in said house and land.

Administration on the estate of Mr. Nath. Gedney, late of Salem, mariner, deceased intestate, was granted 7 July, 1701, to his widow Mrs. Mary Gedney, who on the same day was appointed guardian of their daughter Sarah, "a minor of four years old or thereabout." Her sureties were James and Nathaniel Lindall. She rendered an inventory 22 Sept., 1701. Among the items appear "a farme Intailed or one Quarter part of the farme w^{ch} was Given by Mr. John Gidney Sen^r the halfe to y^e Children of John Gedney jun^r as William and Nath^a of w^{ch} y^e other halfe is to y^e Children of Coll^o Barth^o Gedney," etc. The same day she exhibited an "Accompt of her Administration on s^d Estate," in which she credits the estate with twenty-five pounds "Due from Mr. Parkman to be paid after y^e Death of his Wife." The real estate was divided; one-third to the widow during her life and the other two-thirds to Sarah Gedney, "only child." The daughter gave a discharge to her mother, the first clause of which reads as follows: "Whereas M^{rs} Mary Gedney alias Phippen late wife of M^r Nathaniel Gedney late of Salem in y^e County of Essex in New England marriner Decēd now wife to Thomas Phippen of Salem aforesaid marriner was appointed Gardian to Sarah Gedney only child of said Nathaniel Gedney Decēd w^{ch} said Sarah is since married to Robert Williams of Salem aforesaid marriner." This is dated "Twelfth day of february Anno Domini 1717-8."

The will of Mrs. Mary Lindall, proved 13 Jan., 1731, mentions her "dafter Phipen wife to Thomas Phipen," among others; and on file with it, but not recorded, is a

receipt signed by Sarah Williams and Mary Rose for a portion of their "Grandmothers wareing aparil which we haue Rec'd In Rite of our mother M^{rs} Mary Phippen Decst," dated Jan. 13th, 1731-2.

Sarah Williams, wife and attorney of Robert Williams, of Salem, mariner, and a granddaughter of Mrs. Susanna Parkman, late of Salem, dep'd, etc., acknowledged, April, 1728, receipt from her uncle William Gedney, executor of the will of said Susanna Parkman, etc. Mrs. Gedney left two children by her second husband, as appears by a conveyance, made 3 Jan., 1737-8, by Sarah Williams, Edward Rose and wife Mary, to Jonathan Ring, of all their right that their mother, Mrs. Mary Phippen, late of Salem, had to the thirty-third lot in Salisbury in Mill Division, the said Sarah and Mary being children of Mrs. Phippen; and a quit claim of the same lot from Nathan Phippen, who acknowledges receipt of a certain sum of money from his two sisters therefor. Susanna Williams was a witness to the first deed.

I find that Mrs. Gedney was married to Thos. Phippen Oct., 1706.

Mr. Nathaniel Gedney's only child by his wife Mary was :—

53 Sarah, bapt. 23 May, 1697; m. Robert Williams 16 Oct., 1717.

30 Hannah (*Bartholomew^s John^l*), born in Salem 19th, 6 mo., 1667, was married to Joshua Grafton 2d August, 1686. He was born in Salem 9 April, 1660, being a son of Joseph Grafton by his first wife Hannah, daughter of Joshua Hobart of Hingham, and a grandson of Joseph Grafton, the first of the name in Salem, whose homestead included what is now known as Hardy Street and the lots on both sides of it from the harbor up to Essex Street.

Administration on the estate of Mr. Joshua Grafton, late of Salem, mariner, was granted 14th August, 1699, to his widow Mrs. Hannah Grafton, whose sureties were Timothy Laskin and Samuel Gedney. From the inventory of his estate, exhibited 4 Dec., 1699, it is evident that he was a merchant as well as mariner. His dealings were with Barbados.

Very little has been learned about his family. In 1732 Nath. Emms of Boston and his wife Hannah conveyed to Timothy Lindall, Esq., one common right and a half "being originally from Joshua Grafton father of s^d Hannah his homestead near Col. Turners." This places it at the southeast corner of old Mr. Joseph Grafton's estate, at the foot of Grafton's lane, now Hardy Street.

The births of Joshua and Hannah Grafton's children are thus recorded:—

54 Hannah, b. 27 May, 1691, abt. 3 of ye clocke in ye morning; m. Nathaniel Emms.

55 Joshua, } b. 16 Jan., 1693.
56 Samuel, }

57 Sarah, b. 18 April, 1697.

58 Priscilla, b. 8 Feb., 1698.

31 Lydia (*Bartholomew^s John^t*), born in Salem 9th March, 1669; was the second wife of Capt. George Corwin or Curwen, born in Salem 26 Feb., 1666, son of Mr. John Corwin by his wife, Margaret, daughter of the Hon. John Winthrop, jr., Governor of the Colony of Connecticut. His first wife had been Lydia's cousin Susanna Gedney (*John^t John^t*), whom he married 23 April, 1688, and by whom he seems not to have had issue. His father was eldest son of Capt. George Corwin or Curwen, born in England 1610, who settled in Salem in 1638 and died 3 Jan., 1685, leaving one of the largest estates up to that time accumulated in the Colony. This family ranked high among the leading families of the Colony, not only

socially but also in public affairs, both civil and military. The Hon. Jonathan Corwin, second son of the first immigrant, held, among other very important offices, that of Justice in the Special Court of Oyer and Terminer appointed to try witchcraft cases in 1692; and his nephew, George, the subject of this notice, was sheriff of the county during these trials. This family have always borne the same arms as the Curwen family of Workington, Cumberland Co., England, differenced, in the case of the Hon. Jonathan Corwin (above-named) by the proper mark of cadency, a crescent in chief.

Mr. George Corwin, beside holding the office of sheriff, as above stated, was a captain in the expedition against Canada under Sir William Phipps in 1690. He died 12 April, 1696, and his widow, Mrs. Lydia Corwin, died 23 Dec., 1700. They had an only son:—

59 Bartholomew, b. 21 June, 1698; m. Esther, dau. of John Burt (of England); removed to Amwell, New Jersey, and died 9 May, 1747.

32 Bethia (*Bartholomew^s John^s*), born in Salem 27th May, 1672; was married 26th April, 1705, to Mr. Francis Willoughby, born in Salem 28 Sept., 1672, eldest son of Mr. Nehemiah Willoughby, a merchant of Salem, by his wife Abigail, dau. of Mr. Henry Bartholomew of Salem. His grandfather was the Hon. Francis Willoughby, Esq., who in May, 1665, became Deputy Governor of the Colony of Massachusetts Bay, and so continued until his decease, in April, 1671. He is said to have been a son of Col. William Willoughby of London, who died in 1651, and whose widow, Elizabeth Willoughby, left a will dated at London, May, 1662, in which she made bequests to her son Francis and his children, etc.

They were an arms-bearing family, as appears by a seal attached to the signature of the Dep. Gov. on a bond

issued by him 1 Feb., 1667, bearing *Fretty (metals and tinctures not indicated)*; crest, *a lion's head between two wings expanded*. This seal, discovered by me in my researches among the files of Middlesex County Court some years ago, is the only instance yet found of the arms borne by the New England family of Willoughby, and would seem to indicate their relationship to Sir Francis Willoughby who was knighted by the Lord Deputy of Ireland 30 Oct., 1610 (see Burke's General Armory Edition of 1878).

Mrs. Bethia Willoughby died 24th Nov., 1713, and he took another wife, as appears by his deed of 6th March, 1717-18, conveying to Sam. Browne, Esq., his dwelling house in Salem with wharf land and flats (about one acre), bounded south on the lane that leads to the South Fields (now High St.), west on the common, formerly known as Laws Hill, now sometimes called Pickerings Hill (Summer St. now bounds this property on the west), north by the narrow lane betwixt these premises and the homestead of Capt. Manasseh Marston deceased (this is now known as Gedney Court) and east by low-water mark; all which (he says) Mr. Ruck sold Mr. Jno. Gedney, vintner, June 20, 1662, John Gedney conveyed to his son Barth. Gedney 20 Nov., 1864, from whom it came to Samuel Gedney, only son of Barth. Gedney, and by him was given by will to his wife Mary, who conveyed it to me. When he executed this deed he was of Boston, and his wife Sarah released her right of dower. This estate he had bought in 1710. In 1719-20 (10 March) he sold to Benj. Ives three or four acres in Salem, bounded west on the common or training field, south on town common, east by a small strip that runs down to the river by Geo. Hodges and north by said Hodges. This had been the property of Mr. Nehemiah Willoughby, who

Francis Willoughby of Salem and Sarah Chauncey of Boston published their intention of marriage in Boston, 12 Sept., 1716.

had derived it from his father-in-law, Mr. Henry Bartholomew, and now comprises the well known Hosmer, or Briggs, estate, the Richardson estate, and the Newhall and Townsend estates, lying between Boardman Street on the north and Forrester Street on the south and bounding west on Pleasant Street.

Mr. Willoughby was a representative to the General Court in 1713. His name disappears from the records, and he may have removed to England to get possession of a house and land there, appraised at four hundred pounds, which he claimed "as eldest son and heir and not to be brought into Division" with his father's estate. This property was bequeathed to Nehemiah by his brother William, who, in his will of 1 Sept., 1677, speaks of it as left him by his uncle William Willoughby.

The births of the following named children have been found entered on the Salem records :—

60 William, b. 25 July, 1706.

61 Bethia, b. 19 March, 1708-9; d. 11 July, 1709.

62 Bethia, b. 1 Oct., 1712.

34 Samuel (*Bartholomew⁶ John¹*) born in Salem 2 November, 1675, m. 2 May, 1701, Mary Gookin of Cambridge, born 26 Aug., 1679, whose father, Mr. Samuel Gookin, was Sheriff of Middlesex Co., and her grandfather, Major General Daniel Gookin, was one of the most distinguished men in the early history of the colony of Massachusetts Bay.

Mr. Gedney was a chyrurgeon and physician and lived in his father's homestead, at the northern corner of High and Summer Streets, which his widow, Mrs. Mary Gedney, sold to her brother-in-law, Mr. Francis Willoughby, 10 June, 1710. He evidently died without leaving issue, and his widow was married, 16 Aug., 1711, to the Rev. Theophilus Cotton, of Hampton Falls.

The will of Dr. Sam. Gedney, made 24 Feb., 1704, proved 29 Nov., 1705, mentions wife Mary, sisters Hannah, Bethia and Deborah, and nephew Bartholomew Corwin; to his wife's brother, Samuel Gookin, he bequeathed his "studded head cane." He appointed as overseers Major Stephen Sewall and cousin William Gedney.

By wife Mary he had only:—

63 Samuel, bapt. 5 July, 1702; d. young. .

40 Ruth (*Eleazer^d John¹*), born in Salem 24 May, 1672, was married, 22 March, 1696-7, to Habakkuk Gardner of Salem, born 25 Oct., 1674, son of Lieut. Thomas and Mary (Porter) Gardner. Mr. Gardner was a mariner, and died 3 Feb., 1732-3. Administration on his estate was granted to his widow, Ruth, 14 Feb., 1732(3), and the estate was divided 17 Jan., 1733(4), between the widow and the two surviving children, Habakkuk Gardner and Ruth Nutting. Mrs. Gardner died 23 Aug., 1737.

The only son surviving, Habakkuk, was a mariner, like his father, and in 1735, purchased of his sister Ruth and her husband, John Nutting of Salem, school-master, her share of their father's homestead.

The children of Habakkuk and Ruth Gardner were:—

64 Ruth, b. 16 March, 1699; m. Mr. John Nutting, 12 Feb., 1719-20. and d. 22 Nov., 1736.

65 Mary, b. 22 June, 1700.

66 Joseph, b. 25 Jan., 1702; d. the August following.

67 Mercy, b. 23 April, 1705; d. 7 Jan., 1732-3.

68 Habakkuk, b. 3 Aug., 1707.

69 Eunice, b. 4 Dec., 1709; d. 29 Aug., 1729.

45 Martha (*Eleazer^d John¹*), born in Salem 29th 2 mo., 1682, was married, 6 Nov., 1712, to Mr. James Ruck of Salem, born 20 May, 1675, son of John and Elizabeth Ruck. Mr. Ruck was a boat builder and resided

in the Eleazer Gedney homestead on the south side of High Street, afterwards in possession of his grandson, Gedney King.

James and Margaret Ruck had one daughter:—

70 Mary, b. 6 Sept., 1717; m. Nathaniel King of Salem, 27 Dec., 1739.

47 Margaret (*William¹³ John⁴ John¹*), born in Salem 8th (or 9th) of June, 1694 (for authorities differ), was married, 22 April, 1714, to Humphrey Davie, son of Humphrey Davie (a merchant, formerly of London and afterwards of Boston), and grandson of Sir John Davie of Creedy, Co. of Devon, England, who was created a baronet 9 Sept., 1641. His eldest brother, John, became heir to the estate and succeeded to the title.

Administration on the estate of Mr. Humphrey Davie was granted 29 Dec., 1718,* to Mr. John Walley of Boston. Mr. Bartholomew Gedney of Boston was appointed guardian of Elizabeth Davie, a minor of about fourteen years of age, daughter of Humphrey Davie, late of Boston, 5 Feb., 1729-30. This Elizabeth was married, 17 May, 1739, to James, son of James and Abigail (Eustice) Butler of Boston, and died 15 Feb., 1739-48, in giving birth to her son James, who married, 18 May, 1763, Mary, dau. of Anthony and Mary (Waters) Sigourney, and died at Oxford, Mass. (see N. E. Hist. and Gen. Reg., Vol. I, p. 167).

Humphrey and Margaret Davie had one daughter:—

71 Elizabeth, b. about 1715; m. (as above) James Butler.

50 Bartholomew (*William¹³ John⁴ John¹*), born in Salem, 22 March, 1697-8, was the only surviving son of Sheriff Gedney, who was appointed his guardian, 12 May, 1713, in trust for a legacy received under the will of the

*An Elizabeth Davie was married at Boston, 3 Nov., 1720, to John Southcott. Who she was does not appear.

boy's grandaunt, Madam Anne Bradstreet, widow, relict of the Hon. Simon Bradstreet, Esq., Governor of the Colony; the sureties on the bond of guardianship being Paul Dudley, Esq., and Mr. Jonathan Waldo, of Boston. Madam Bradstreet was a daughter* of Emanuel Downing, Esq., a lawyer of the Inner Temple, London, afterwards of Salem, by his wife Lucy, dau. of Adam Winthrop, Esq., of Groton, Co. Suffolk, England, and sister of Gov. John Winthrop of Massachusetts. Her relationship to the Gedney family was only through her first marriage, to Lieut. Joseph Gardner (killed in the famous swamp fight at Narraganset, 19 Dec., 1675) who was a brother to Samuel Gardner, the father of Mrs. Gedney.

Young Bartholomew Gedney removed to Boston very early and married, 1st Abigail Mason, 15 Sept., 1720, 2d Mary Webber, 25 July, 1723, 3d Hannah Danforth, 23 Oct., 1729, and 4th (and last) Sarah Johnson, 28 Oct., 1731, and he had issue by each of these wives. The parentage of his first wife is shewn in a deed, of 16 Feb., 1720-1, recorded in the Registry of Deeds of Suffolk County, by which Bartholomew Gedney of Boston and wife Abigail, and Thomas Gould of Westerly, Rhode Island, and wife Mary, convey to Samuel Gibbon of Boston certain real estate at the south end of Boston, formerly belonging to Samuel Mason, grandfather to the said Abigail and Mary; and Sarah Allen, relict of John Mason and mother of the grantors, releases her right of

*Her brother, George Downing, born in London, was fitted for college in Salem by the Rev. John Fiske, was a graduate of Harvard College in the first class (1642), went to England and became in 1645 a chaplain in the regiment of Okey, who was afterwards one of the regicide judges. Coming into favor with Cromwell, he was made resident minister at the Hague. In 1654 he married Frances Howard, granddaughter of the fourth Duke of Norfolk and sister of Charles, Viscount Morpeth and first Earl of Carlisle. By the King he was made a baronet, 1 July, 1663, by the style of Sir George Downing of Gamlingay in Co. Cambridge. His grandson, Sir George Downing, dying without issue, left to the University of Cambridge a bequest which became the foundation of Downing College.

dower in the premises. Abigail, wife of Bart. Gedney, died in Boston 17 Nov., 1721, aged twenty-three years; his second wife, Mrs. Mary Gedney, died 17 Jan., 1728-9, aged twenty-four years; and his third wife, Hannah, died 21 Sept., 1730, aged thirty years, soon after having given birth to Bartholomew, her only child by Mr. Gedney. His fourth wife outlived him. His son, Bartholomew, died in the father's life-time, leaving a widow Naomi, who was appointed administratrix on her husband's estate 31 May, 1754.

Administration on Mr. Gedney's estate was granted 16 July, 1762, to his widow, Mrs. Sarah Gedney; and the inventory, presented by her 27 Aug., 1762, shows that the mansion house was in Middle Street. A warrant was issued 12 May, 1763, to divide the real estate, one-third being settled on the widow for term of life, and, of the remainder, two-sevenths being assigned to the representatives of Joseph Gedney, the eldest son, deceased, and one-seventh each to Susanna Cowell, to the representatives of Elizabeth Ridgway deceased, to George Broughton Gedney, to Sarah Gedney and to Hannah Gedney. The widow must have died very soon, for on the 31st of the same month another warrant was issued to distribute her dower in the same proportions and among the same heirs, the youngest daughter now being named Hannah Baxter. In April, 1766, the daughters or their representatives gave releases for their portions of this dower, viz.: Edward and Susanna Cowell, Sarah Gedney, Paul and Hannah Baxter, and Samuel Ridgway, jr., for his two children, heirs of Elizabeth Ridgway, deceased, viz., Samuel Ridgway tertius and Elizabeth Ridgway.

The eldest son, Joseph Gedney of Boston, by his will of 21 July, 1762, proved 6 Aug., 1762, left all his personal estate and the income of his real estate to his

mother, Mrs. Sarah Gedney, and, after her death, the real estate to be divided between his brother George and his sisters (of the whole blood) Sarah and Hannah.

Miss Sarah Gedney died in Boston, — Nov., 1771, leaving by her will of 19 Aug., proved 15 Nov., 1771, all her real estate to her brother George Broughton Gedney, and sundry legacies to her sister Susanna Cowell, the two children of her sister Elizabeth Ridgway, deceased, her brother-in-law Paul Baxter and his wife Hannah, her sister.

Mr. George Broughton Gedney died in Boston, — Sept., 1784, aged forty-six years, having made his last will and testament 6 Sept., 1784, proved 14 Sept., 1784. The legatees were his sister, Mrs. Hannah Baxter, and her heirs, the church and congregation whereof the Rev. John Lothrop was pastor, the church and congregation whereof the Rev. John Elliott was pastor, and his kinswomen Elizabeth Miller and Susanna Coverley. The real estate was divided 20 Nov., 1796, among the children of Hannah Baxter, deceased, viz., George Gedney Baxter, Charles Baxter, Paul Baxter, Sally Gedney (wife of Thomas) Howe, and Hannah (wife of Elijah) Tower.



The family tomb of Mr. Bartholomew Gedney in King's Chapel yard carries an armorial tablet, bearing *three eagles displayed*; crest, *an eagle displayed*.* This would seem to connect them with the Gedney family of Suffolk, Eng. (See Burke's Gen. Armory.)

Mr. Bartholomew Gedney's children by his four wives were all born in Boston:—

72 Susanna, b. 13 June, 1721; m. Edward Cowell, jr., 8 Jan., 1746.

73 William, b. 24 Oct., 1725; d. 6 Dec., 1726.

*For the engraving of these arms the compiler is indebted to the courtesy of William H. Whitmore, Esq., of Boston.

- 74 Mary, b. 28 May, 1724; d. young.
 75 William, b. 1 Dec., 1726; d. 14 Dec., 1726.
 76 Elizabeth, b. 9 Aug., 1728; m. Samuel Ridgway, jr.
 77 Bartholomew, b. 5 Sept., 1730; m. Naomi ——— and d. ———, 1754.
 78 Joseph, b. 8 March, 1733; d. ———, 1762, s. p.
 79 Edward, b. 8 Feb., 1734; d. young.
 80 Sarah, b. 5 April, 1736; d. 31 Aug., 1736.
 81 Broughton, b. 1 Sept., 1737; d. 27 Jan., 1737-8.
 82 George Broughton, b. 21 Oct., 1738; d. — Sept., 1784, s. p.
 83 Sarah, b. 2 Nov., 1739; d. (unm.) — Nov., 1771.
 84 Hannah, b. ———; m. Paul Baxter.

51 Hannah (*William¹³ John⁴ John¹*), born in Salem, 12 June, 1701, was married to Mr. James Grant of Salem, 24 Mar., 1724. In 1742 (15 Apr.) James Grant bought of David Glover the west end of a house and about ten poles of land fronting north on what is now Browne St., and butting south on his own estate, which he and his wife had got partly by will of her father; Sheriff Wm. Gedney, and partly by purchase (14 July, 1741) from her brother Bartholomew Gedney, who had previously purchased from James Butler of Boston, administrator of the estate of his wife Elizabeth, deceased, her portion. This estate he seems to have kept in his possession until 31 Oct., 1750, when he sold it to Mr. Jonathan Garduer.

James and Hannah Grant had issue as follows:—

- 85 William, bapt. 27 Dec., 1724.
 86 Hannah, bapt. 5 June, 1726.
 87 Hannah, bapt. 16 Aug., 1730.
 88 James, bapt. 16 July, 1732.

53 Sarah (*Nathaniel¹⁴ John⁴ John¹*) bapt. at Salem, 23 May, 1697, was married 16 Oct., 1717, to Mr. Robert Williams of Salem, a mariner. Very little has been ascertained about them. They sold to Joseph Very one-half of messuage, etc., formerly the estate of John Masury, jr., deceased, 1 Jan., 1733. This was the last estate at the eastern end of Essex Street, on the northern side

of the street, and close to Neck gate. After Mr. Nathl Gedney's death they probably made his house their home. Mrs. Sarah Williams, widow, sold to Mr. Thomas Poynton, 15 Aug., 1754, a portion of the land appertaining to this homestead; and John Osgood of Salem and wife Susanna, daughter and only heiress of Sarah Williams, late of Salem, widow, deceased, intestate, conveyed, 9th July, 1756, to the same Thomas Poynton, another portion of the same homestead.

Mrs. Susanna, widow of Mr. John Osgood, died 1805, aged eighty-four years.

Robert and Sarah Williams' children were:—

89 Susannah, bapt. 3 Sept., 1721; mar. John Osgood.

90 Nathaniel, bapt. 25 Aug., 1723; d. young.

91 Robert, bapt. 11 Dec., 1726; d. young.

THE FAMILY OF FRANCIS CLARKE.

1 Francis Clarke, said to have been born in England, married 16 Oct., 1701, Deborah³⁵ Gedney (*Bartholomew's John*¹) bapt. in Salem, 25 Nov., 1677 (see the account of the Gedney Family). His wife, as we have seen, inherited a portion of her father's moiety of the Clarke Farm near the borders of Lynn (now Lynnefield), while the other portion fell to her sister Bethia Gedney, who, in her deed of 22 Sept., 1703, conveyed to Francis Clarke, of Boston, merchant, one-half of a farm lately of Peter Twist, "which is part of a farm commonly known by y^e name of Clarks Farm," "allotted to me as my part of the estate of my honored deceased father Bartholmew Gedney Esq^r as by agreement between me my brothers and sisters bearing date 3^d of Nov 1701 upon record"

Whether this Mr. Francis Clarke, who thus became possessed of the moiety of Clarke's Farm and who married Susanna Gedney, bore any relation to Mr. William Clarke, the grandfather of this lady and the original grauntee and proprietor of this farm, has not yet been ascertained. His granddaughter, Mrs. Anderson, said that he was born in England. He is known to have been a merchant in Boston, where he filled the office of Selectman in 1712, was afterwards of Salem, where he died, 9 May, 1727, administration on his estate being granted to his widow, Mrs. Deborah Clarke, 5 Aug., 1727. An inventory of his estate, sworn to 19 Aug., 1727, was presented 20 Jan., 1727-8, and claims against it allowed 17 April, 1729. Among the items was one "To J^{no} Clarke 280^l being a bond given by said Clarke & M^r. Sam^l Waldo to Indemnifie Sheriff Winslow or to refund to said Winslow Just so much that he might not be a sufferer in Levying an Execution for the dec'd Francis Clarke, while living, on a parcel of Goods of that value originally attached in Dorothy Ackland's shop to satisfie a debt due from her husband Richard Ackland to said Francis Clarke,—vide s^d Clarke's acct." The estate was declared insolvent 6 April, 1733.

The children of Francis and Deborah (Gedney) Clarke were:—

- 2 John, m. Ann Furneaux (or Furness).
- 3 Hannah, b. 2 Sept., 1704; d. 21 Dec., 1713.
- 4 Deborah, b. 31 Oct., 1705; d. in infancy.
- 5 Deborah, b. 31 Jan., 1708; m. William Fairfax, Esq.
- 6 Gedney,* b. 5 April, 1711; m. Mary ———.
- 7 Francis, b. 16 May, 1713; d. 10 Dec., 1713.
- 8 Hannah, m. John Cabot.

2 John (*Francis*¹) married, 29 May, 1734, Ann Furneaux, who died 29 Oct., 1784. John Clarke, Esq., of

* He was a Colonel in the British service and Governor of Barbadoes, we are informed.

recently at the corner of Essex and Cambridge Streets. He set sail, 17 June, 1734, from Salem to Virginia, and there was made manager of the estates of his cousin Thomas, sixth Lord Fairfax, who had become possessed of them by inheritance, through his mother, Catherine, daughter of Lord Culpepper. At first he took up his residence in Westmoreland County, Va., but subsequently removed to a beautiful plantation of nearly two thousand acres on the Potomac, called Belvoir, fourteen miles below Alexandria, whither came, as a frequent and favored guest, a youth destined, in a score or two of years, to become "first in war, first in peace and first in the hearts of his countrymen."

Besides superintending the affairs of his cousin, Mr.

Susanna, the wife of John Touzell (see Bulletin of Essex Inst., Vol. I, page 76, also Essex Reg. Deeds, Book 5, fol. 283), and from her it passed to her daughter Mary, the wife of William Hathorne, and for many years it was in the possession of that branch of this family.

In the taking down of this house in May, 1872, the various alterations and additions were traced from the original, located about fifteen feet from the street, with two rooms and an entry between, and the projecting second story in front, and a lean-to in the rear.

The following deposition from the manuscripts on file in the Library of the Institute confirms this tradition:—

"The Deposition of Christian Swasey, formerly Christian Legree, who saith That about five years ago she Lived with Capt. John Touzell and Susanna his wife in the House Mr. Fairfax now dwells in in Salem, and that Mr. Phillip English, the Father of the said Susannah. Then dwelt with Them in said House, and That she Then & There at Diverse Times heard the said Phillip English Say to his Daughter Susannah Touzell I give you all my Household goods and at Several Times when he said So He also bid Her fetch it up every Thing from his House to Her House, To which She Replied she had not House Room Enough to Hold it and That about four years Since They all removed Down to the House where They now Live, & That she often Times since has heard the said English' say He had Given all his Household Goods to his Daughter Touzell for her & her children.

The Mark.

Christian X Swasey.

Essex, ss. Aug. 2, 1733.

Then Christian Swasey made oath to the truth of the foregoing Deposition (Philip English Jr. & Wm. Brown being present at the Caption who objected that their Father Mr. Phillip English sen. hath not for these several years past been of a sound & Disposing Mind) and this evidence is Taken to be in Perpetuum rei memoriam.

Benj. Lynde } Justice of
Benj. Lynde Jun. } Quorum unus."

Fairfax was appointed to the office of Collector of his Majesty's Customs for the South Potomac, and was, for a time, President of the Council of Virginia. He died 3 Sept., 1757, aged sixty-five years. Of his children by his first wife, who died in 1731, the eldest son, George William, born 1724, married Sarah Cary and died at Bath, England, 3 April, 1787, without issue; Thomas (R. N.) was killed in a naval fight with the French in the East Indies, 26 June, 1746, in the twenty-first year of his age, without issue; Anne, born at Salem, married, 1st (19 July, 1743), Lawrence Washington,* of Virginia (brother of Gen. Washington), and, 2d, Col. George Lee, descended from an old family of Merton-Regis in Shropshire, England; Sarah married John Carlyle, a merchant of Alexandria, Virginia.

By his second wife, Deborah Clarke, he had issue as follows:—

- 20 Bryan, m., 1st, Elizabeth, youngest daughter of Col. Jefferson Cary of Hampton, Va., and sister of the wife of his half-brother George William. During the French and Indian war he was in the military service of Virginia. He remained neutral during the Revolution, and in 1789 became an episcopal clergyman. In 1793 on the death of Robert, seventh Baron Fairfax, the title devolved upon him, but he took no steps to secure his rights until 1798, when his lordship went to England and set forth his claim, which was confirmed by the House of Lords, in May, 1800. His lordship died in 1802, at Mount Eagle, near Alexandria, Va., and was succeeded by his eldest son Thomas, ninth Lord Fairfax, who was born 1762, and resided at Vaucluse, Fairfax County, Va., where he died 21 April, 1846.
- 21 William Henry, Lieut. in the British Army, killed at Quebec, 1759 (unmar.).
- 22 Hannah, m. Warner Washington, eldest cousin of Gen. Washington.

8 Hannah (*Francis*¹) was married, 5 June, 1747, to John Cabot, b. 26 Oct., 1704, son of John and Anna

*He settled four miles above his father-in-law, and named his place Mount Vernon, in honor of the admiral with whom he had served in the navy. He died at Mt. Vernon, 1752.

(Orne) Cabot and grandson of Francis and Susanna (Gruchy) Cabot. She was Mr. Cabot's second wife, his first wife, Sarah (Higginson), to whom he was married 1 Dec., 1732, dying 14 June, 1746. He died 3 June, 1749.

By his wife Hannah he had:—

23 John, b. 17 March, 1748; d. 19 April, 1759.

24 William Clark, bapt. 8 Oct., 1749; d. aged about fourteen years.

9 Mary (*John^s Francis^l*) born in Salem, 24 June, 1735; was married, 8 Oct., 1761, to William Vans, Esq., a merchant of Boston, afterwards of Salem, where he died 23 May, 1797, aged sixty-seven years. His wife Mary had died 19 May, 1770, and he had married, 2dly, Eunice, daughter of John Nutting, Esq., by his wife Ruth, daughter of Capt. Habakkuk Gardner. She died 25 Aug., 1790, aged sixty years. His will of 25 Aug., 1796, proved 13 July, 1797, mentions his son William Vans, jun., and his children, and his daughter Rebecca, wife of Jonathan Carnes, and her children. His lands in Whitfield, Errol and Millsfield in the State of New Hampshire, he devised to the children of his son William,

The children of William and Mary Vans were:—

25 William,* bapt. 27 Feb., 1763; m.

26 Rebecca, bapt. 5 Feb., 1764; m., 23 April, 1784, Capt. Jonathan Carnes, b. 1757, d. 10 Dec., 1827.

27 Mary, bapt. 26 May, 1765.

10 John (*John^s Francis^l*), born in Salem, 29 January, 1737, married Ann Jones Gascon, or Gascoigne. He entered into the British service, distinguished himself at the conquest of Quebec, under Gen. Wolfe, in 1759, in which action he served as a Lieutenant, was promoted

*In Essex Registry, B. 165, L. 220, is recorded quit claim deed of wharf, etc., made 5 Nov., 1790, to Francis and Henry Clarke by William Vans of Salem, Esq., late resident at Paris in the French Republic, through his attorney, Mrs. Deborah F. Anderson.

to a majority in the 59th Regiment, as a reward for his bravery, and died October 10, 1784. His widow died 21 August, 1821, aged 68 years. In Book 130, Leaves 141-3 of Registry of Deeds for Essex County, appears record of conveyance made to him, 30 June, 1769, by his cousin, the Honorable Gedney Clarke of the Parish of St. Michael, Island of Barbados, Esq., referring to a deed made, 29 Jan., 1746, by John Clarke of Salem, Esq. (since deceased), to his brother Gedney Clarke of Barbados, Esq., etc. The recital continues as follows: "Whereas the aforesaid Gedny Clarke hath since departed this life having first made & published his last will & testament &c and appointed his son the said Gedney Clarke party to these presents an Ex^{tr} and his residuary legatee * * * and whereas the said Gedney Clarke hath agreed to sell and dispose of the said lands houses &c * * * * to John Clarke at present of this Island Esquire, eldest son of the aforesaid John Clarke deceased Now Know Ye that the said Gedney Clarke eldest son and heir at law Executor and residuary Devisee of the aforesaid Gedney Clarke dec'd," etc., etc. Then follows the usual form of conveyance and a description of the premises, well known in Salem as the Clarke House and land on the north side of Essex Street, being a part of the old homestead of Deliverance Parkman (and before him of Hilliard Veren), at the eastern corner of North and Essex Streets. This afterwards became the homestead of their kinswoman, Mrs. Deborah Anderson, whose daughter, Miss Mary Anderson, still lives in one of the tenements of the brick block erected on its site by the late Michael Shepard, Esq.

Major Clarke had one son, viz. :—

28 John Jones Gascon, b. abroad; was a colonel in the British Service, died in England, unmarried, and his aunt, Mrs. Deborah F. Anderson, inherited his estate.

17 Francis (*John^s Francis¹*), born in Salem 6 March, 1754, married, 8 June, 1778, Martha Mansfield, daughter of Matthew and Hannah Mansfield, and sister of Daniel Hopkins Mansfield, of Salem.

He died in Salem, 20 July, 1800, and administration on his estate was granted, 2 Sept., 1800, to Patty Clarke, her sureties being John Punchard and Daniel Hopkins Mansfield. And Mrs. Patty Clarke was appointed, 31 March, 1802, guardian of Patty (about twenty years old), Mary (about sixteen), Matilda (about thirteen), Sally M. (about eleven), Francis G. (about ten), and Harriet (about eight), all children of Francis Clarke of Salem, merchant, deceased.

Mrs. Martha Clarke died in Salem 17 Sept., 1831, aged seventy-three years.

Their children, as appears from data kindly furnished by F. C. Butman, Esq., were:—

- 29 Nancy, b. 21 Apr., 1779; d. 12 Mar., 1859; m. Thomas Butman, 1 May, 1818.
 30 John, b. Sunday, 8 Dec., 1781; d. at sea Sept., 1815, on his passage from Guadeloupe.
 31 Martha, b. Monday, 14 Oct., 1782; d. 10 April, 1843.
 32 Mary, b. Monday, 10 April, 1786; d. 17 April, 1840.
 33 Matilda Fairfax, b. Monday, 7 Apr., 1788; d. 7 Aug., 1812; m. 14 Aug., 1811, Michael Shepard, b. 1786, d. 1856.
 34 Sally Mansfield, b. Saturday, 17 Apr., 1790; d. 25 Aug., 1825; m. George D. Symonds, 1818.
 35 Francis Gedney, b. Wednesday, 28 March, 1792; d. 17 Dec., 1848; m. Sally B. Horton.
 36 Harriet, b. Tuesday, 24 June, 1794; d. 27 May, 1841; m. Michael Shepard, as his second wife.

18 Deborah Fairfax (*John^s Francis¹*), born in Salem, 13 June, 1759, was married 16 Dec., 1780, to John Hartley Anderson, M. D., who was born at Nottingham, near Ferry Bridge, Yorkshire, England, and had two sisters, viz., Grace, who married — Allen, and another, who married — Hoyland, by whom she had a

son named John Hoyland, whose miniature, painted on ivory, came into the possession of his cousin, Miss Mary C. Anderson, now living at a great age in Salem. Dr. Anderson studied medicine in London and afterwards went through a four year's course of surgery under the tuition of the celebrated Dr. Barrow of London. He died 16 Nov., 1781, and his widow died in Salem, 23 March, 1841. They had one child, viz. :—

37 Mary Clarke Anderson, born in Salem, 17 Nov., 1781, and still living (unmarried) in her ninety-ninth year at her old home, corner of Essex and North Streets.

19 Henry (*John^s Francis^d*), the date of whose birth has not been ascertained, married, 11 Nov., 1787, Priscilla, daughter of Mr. Bartholomew and Sarah (Hodges) Putnam, of Salem.

Very little has been learned about him. Administration on his estate was granted, 6 Sept., 1802, to John Punchard, Esq.; and administration on the estate of Mrs. Priscilla Clarke was granted, 21 April, 1807, to Benjamin Ward, Esq.

The will of Mr. Bartholomew Putnam, made 2 June, 1807, proved 5 June, 1815, with codicil made 7 Nov., 1814, mentions his "four grand children, namely, Henry Anderson Clark, William Winthrop Clark, Betsey Putnam Clark and Ann Ferneuse Clark, children of my late daughter Priscilla Clark deceased."

The following children were baptized by the Rector of St. Peter's Church, Salem :—

38 Henry Anderson, bapt. 29 March, 1789.

39 William Winthrop, bapt. 17 July, 1791.

40 Betsey Putnam, bapt. 7 July, 1793.

41 Anna Furno, bapt. 13 Sept., 1796.

CLARKE AND FAIRFAX LETTERS.

It has been thought worth the while to print the following letters, which confirm and illustrate the foregoing account of the Clarke Family.

The first in chronological order is one from Bryan (afterwards eighth Lord) Fairfax to his aunt, Mrs. Hannah Cabot, of Salem, sent by the hands of Capt. Hodges:—

Barbados May 21 1753

Hon^d: Madam

I have been lately favoured wth yours of the 21st April, & am glad to hear my Graudmother continues so hearty: Pray present my Duty to her, Assuring her that I shall always gratefully remember her kind notice of me. You desire to know what Lee it is that has married my Sister, but I can give you no Resolve in that point, as I have not received a Letter from Virginia for many Months: I wrote you by Capt: Jones that I had heard she was married to that Gentleman, but that I could not tell who he was.

Give me Leave also to return you my heartiest thanks for the great notice you are pleased to take of me by your kind Epistles, which have always given me great pleasure & will always be very acceptable to him who has the honour of being with great Esteem

Your most dutiful
& Obed^t Nephew
Bryan Fairfax

The next letter is from his father to the same lady and is as follows:—

Belvoir 7 Feb'y 1754

Dear Madam

M^r Cook giving but a short warning I have only Time to acquaint you of all Welfare, and of the late Arrival of Bryan Ex. from Barbados; which Place not sulting his Desires, had my leave to return, and I hope We shall find him some Business that will be agreeable to Him. Miss Hannah continues to Improve, is at present with her Sister Carlyle, or intended to have wrote. With our Complements of Duty and Love to our Mother, Relations and Friends

I am dear Sister
Y^r very affect^e Brother
W. Fairfax

Then follows a double letter, of Bryan and Hannah Fairfax, on one sheet:—

Hon^d Madam

When my Papa wrote to you last he acquainted you that I was from home, which prevented my writing at the same time; And this being the first opportunity since, I embrace it to pay my Respects to you in as dutiful a manner as an Epistolary Way will admit of and therefore hope that these few lines will be received as a token of that Love & Esteem, which are due to my honoured Aunt.

The opportunitys from hence to your Port are so seldom, that I hope your not hearing from me oft'ner than you will may not be imputed to any Negligence or disrespect in me.

With all dutiful regards to my Grandmama, and best wishes for your Health and Happiness, I conclude myself

Dear Madam

Y^r most obedient

& affect: Neice

Han^h Fairfax

Virginia

Jan^{ry} 8th 1755

There have no vessels from N. England called upon us this year as usual.

Virginia Jan'y 16, 1755

Hon^d Madam

You have no doubt been surprised that you should remain so long without a Line from me, as I have not had the pleasure of writing to you since I came from Barbados; But I flatter myself with your Excuse, when you are informed that, tho' I have been arrived above a year, I never had an opportunity till now of renewing a correspondence which was once very agreeable, and will, I hope, prove as satisfactory as can be expected, considering the few Opportunities we have of communicating our sentiments to each other.

I am equally desirous of hearing from you, and of my Grandmama's State of Health; to whom I desire my most dutiful Respects; And, hoping for the Favour of a few Lines, when any opportunity offers, remain with Great esteem

Hon^d Madam

Your dutiful, affect.

& Obliged Hble Servt

Bryan Fairfax

Westmorland County Janry 22d

When I wrote the above, I was just sitting out from Fairfax to accompany my Sr Lee down here, and, as my Sr Fx. had not time to write her's over again, I hope you'll excuse the many Blots &c.

Pray make my best Respects to my Uncle

B. F.

The following letter refers to the death of William Fairfax Esq. :—

Hon^d Madam

I had the pleasure to find by the letter Captain Cooke brought me that you and all my Friends at Salem was well. 'Tis too true indeed Dr Madam that I have sustained the greatest loss that could have happened to me unless it had been that of my innocence which I trust in God I shall preserve. My Dr Papa died something suddenly after an illness of Six Days his Physicians apprehended no danger till a few hours before his Death he left his children the greatest of all consolations the knowledge of his having endeavoured to live as a Christian ought we flatter ourselves he was never unprepared for the great change.

I live at Belvoir I beleave all my relations are disposed to be kind to me to the utmost of their ability I hope with the assistance of Divine Grace to improve by the good advice my God Mother Gives me in her kind Letters.

Be pleased to present my Duty to my Grand Mamma and love to my cousin Master Cabot and also my cousin Molly who my Uncle told me lives with you. I am

Hon^d Madam

Y^r Dutifully

affect. Nelce

Hannah Fairfax

Febr^y 16th 1758

The next letter is addressed simply to Mrs. Clarke :—

Barbados July 1 1769

Honoured Mother

Though I told you in my last that you should hear from me in England, yet I could not leave this Island without taking up my pen to Inquire after your health which is so infinitely dear to me and my Brothers and Sisters; and I hope to have the pleasing satisfaction of hearing you all enjoy a perfect state of health; Capt. Clarke and myself sail tomorrow, and tho I feel great uneasyness in Leaveing my freands here yet attending that dear that amiable husband and being with him Desipates most part of my Grief, I have another Reason which is that he is going to England In hopes to git a Majority in America, which if he does I shall again have the Pleasure of seing my friends in Barbados, as he intends coming here first, and then I shall have the Inexpressable Happyness of seing you, my Dear Mother and the Rest of the family and In trying to do Everything to shew my Duty and to Gain the Esteem of so Amiable a parent as you are, I will answer for your son that he will do everything to Make

you happy as on your Happiness depends ours. I shall be very happy to Receive my sister Hannah in England If we ever Intend to America, as she may have an opportunity of seeing a little of it, before we come away Capt. Clarke will send for her as soon as we are settled in England, I must beg your Acceptance of 20 Gallons of Spirit which Capt. Clarke and myself send you which is a small Trifle, and Token of our Duty, Providence has at last put it in Capt. Clarke power to get his father's Possessions in Salam which was Mortgaged to my Uncle and which he has took up from my Cousen Gedney Clarke, I am happy that he has it in his power to place you in a house of his own and I am sure he is equally so; I conclude with my best wishes for your health and happyness which are the constant Prayer of her who is with [t] Respect

Your Dutifull Daughter
Ann Jones Clarke

P S I beg my Love to My Sister Vans Hannah and Debby and my Brothers. I shall Write by this opportunity to my sister Hannah and be pleased to tell My Sister Vause I shall Write to her by the Next opportunity: I hope to have the honour of a letter from you and the family when I am in England.

The next letter is addressed to Mrs. Deborah Fairfax Anderson :—

St Kitts July 1st 1785

My Dear Sister

How is it possible for me to express what I suffered at receiving the afflicting account of the Death of so Amiable a Mother as we lost! and what added more to my distress was my having Brother Frank's letter put into my Hands the very Evening of the Day I dispatched a packet of letters to that Dear Parent & you acquainting you with my most fatal misfortune in being deprived of the most excellent of men in your ever dear Brother and his poor Boy in the Tenderest of Fathers; My Spirits were so sunk at writing on that subject that Frank's letter just after it almost drove me to despair; but I hope the Almighty has enabled you & all the Family to endure this double affliction And as I mentioned in my letter to you that I considered myself as bound by my affection for the most valuable of Husbands memory to allow you no longer to struggle through distress. Since this additional loss to you I feel more than ever for your situation & more (if I can possibly be) Inclined to assist you to the extent of my abilities, I fully Intended, I assure you principally on your account, to be in America this Spring, for this purpose I went so far as to take my Passage from hence (where I was obliged to bring my Boy to his Reg^t the 55th) by this very opportunity, but whilst I was waiting

the loading the Vessel your Brothers most particular Friend General Mathew came from his Government of Grenada here in his Way to England and by his advice I was obliged to change my Intention and accept of a passage for myself & Jack on board one of the Transports that were to carry his Regt to England, Nor will you or the Family blame, but rather commend me when I tell you that Genl Mathew prov'd to me that my not agreeing to this might Injure Jack so much as to be the loss of his Commission in the Army, from the following reason, I had a leave of Absence from the Regt to carry him to America for six months but as the commanding officer here could not give for a longer time & as this six months would be out in December which being Winter I dar'd not risk the passage from America home. I was therefore obliged to depend on General Grant the Col of the Regt now in England to send me an additional leave to America, & this Genl Mathew assured me I should not get, & that of course my Boy would be superceeded, & you must allow I should not after this have been acting the part of a good but on the contrary of a most cruel Mother to have been the cause of such a loss to my child, particularly as this commission was a present to him by one of his Father's most intimate Army Friends some years before his death, & the pay of it is sufficient to educate him at one of the first schools in England, nor did I scruple on account of the solemn promise I made your Brother to go to America as it was only during our Mother's life & I as solemnly promised to be both parents in one to our dear Boy, therefore should I do an act that should Injure him in this point I should violently break my vow. Be assured my change of place shall not affect your welfare for I should be happy and request you will come to me & bring your little girl to England next Spring. May is the best month to travel, so as to be with me in June. You shall be received with open arms & a heart as ready to share every penny with you as you yourself can desire my dear Sister; but I have been so unluckly circumstanc'd this year as to be compelled to stay at Antigua & this Island four months & they are such terrible expensive places that out of five hundred pounds (all the money I have received this year from the estate) I have only two hundred to carry home & live the Twelvemonth on & this is so small a sum in England that it will scarcely support Jack & myself, tho his pay pays his schooling. Give me leave then my dear Sister to say that no circumstance but this could prevent my Insisting on your meeting me this year, but a Twelvemonth will soon pass & I hope we may then meet never to part in this life; I have sent you the value of twelve Joes in a Harpsichord I purchased here for my own use when I expected being with you & as you would have lived with me there would not have been occasion to have brought you but what I had, as you would have shared my

purse in everything, but as I am obliged to England & could not sell the Instrument nor could not out of the sum I have spare twelve Joes which I wished to have sent you, I therefore give up with pleasure any amusement the Harpsichord could afford me, and send it under the care of Mr Warner a very genteel man who has promis'd to take care of it and sell it at New York where the Vessel is going, or any other town on the continent he can to the best advantage & give you the money. I am in hopes it will bring you even more than the twelve Joes it cost, but whatever the sum is I beg your acceptance off it, & I hope it may assist you untill you come to me, and with respect to your passage money, I entreat my Brother Frank to pay you whatever the Buildings of any kind on the land in Salem (you know best what they are) are rented for from your Brother's Death Oct: 10th 1784 till you set out for England, what I mean by this is the Thirds of it which is my Right as the Widow, and I write by this conveyance to Frank to lay it off for me, & assure you I mean it only for your advantage the other two parts Brother Frank will keep in his hands for Jack as I must account with him for it when of age.

I beg you will write to me & if you cannot get an opportunity for England Immediately & will send your letter to Mr Warner he will convey it to me (should this Gentleman come to Salem I should be glad of any civility that could be paid him, as he has been very kind about the Harpsichord) please to direct your letter to me under cover to the Agents of Jacks Reg^t the 55th Messieurs Cox Cox & Greenwood Craigs Court London, for they will send it to me whatever part of England I am in, & I shall write as soon as I am settled & let you know what part of England to come to me, let me know in your first letter whether you can get the Thirds laid off & the rent paid you, for if not & you chuse it I will send you a power of attorney for the purpose, tho I should be sorry Brother Frank should oblige us to this.

We sail to morrow, I am therefore only, with Jack's best love & duty, to assure you of my wish to see you in the spring & your little girl* & assure you that I am & ever will be

Your most affectionate sister
& sincere Friend
A. J. Clarke

Give my best love to Brother Harry & excuse my writing to him, but beg he will write & let me know by the first opportunity any service I can do him

*The "little girl" of 1785 is still living, in 1880, and resides in one of the tenements in the brick block erected by the late Michael Sheppard, Esq., on the site of the old homestead spoken of in this and the preceding letter.

The next letter, interesting and valuable for its genealogical information concerning the Fairfax Family especially, is evidently from the wife of Mr. Warner Washington to Mrs. Anderson. We have already seen two or three letters written by her in her girlhood, as Hannah Fairfax.

I was very agreeably surpris'd a few Days agoe, at receiving a Letter from so near a relation (as my dear cousin Anderson) & assure her it gave me inexpressible pleasure to hear of the welfare of such dear friends. It is (to my shame) many years since I have heard any thing relative to my relations either at Salem or Barbadoes; after hearing of the deaths of my two Uncles, & Aunt Cabot, I forbore writing; & living so far from navigation, for we've been moved from Gloster twenty years, we now live in Frederick County, about 70 miles above Alexandria, in a fine, healthy, fertile country. I have very great reason to be thankful to my Maker for the many blessings I have always experienc'd. My Father was a most indulgent parent (my dear Mama I do not remember) & after his death, my eldest Brother kindly supplid his place; & since I have been married, w^{ch} is now 25 years, I have been bless'd with a very kind husband, a good stock of health, & fine healthy children. I have now seven living, five Daughters & two sons, my two eldest girls are married much to my mind; one lives about two miles from me, the other in Gloster, which is 150 miles from us, but as she has a very good husband, I must submit to the distance. I have had twelve, but four of them made their appearance two months too soon, of course they did not live many Days.

Mr: W: n enjoys his health tolerable well for a man of his Years, as He is now sixty, & I am very seldom sick tho near fifty years old. My Brother Bryan has two Sons, very promising young men & two Daughters living, both clever. My Brother George Fairfax (who died in England two yrs agoe) has left his great fortune to my Brother Bryans second son, Ferdinand Fairfax, who is deserving of it.

I should be glad if you woud be more particular in your next, & inform me what is become of my cousin Sam Clarke, & the state of your own family, & whether my cousin Vance left any children. Mr Washington & my Daughters, join me in affect: regards to you & yours

I am Dear Mad: m

Y^r loving Cousin

H. Washington

Frederick County

Fairfield Feb: 27 8th: 1789: ✓

The next two letters were doubtless written by Elizabeth, daughter of Bryan Lord Fairfax, the former before marriage and the latter after her marriage to Mr. David Griffith:—

Mount Eagle April 4th: 1791:

Give me leave, my Dear Mrs Anderson, to reassure you, your letters afford me the most heartfelt gratification and convey to my mind Ideas the most pleasing of a relation, whom I look upon myself as extremely happy in being connected with. I think you evince an unparalleled attachment to your absent friends, in being thus averse to engage in amusements in which they cannot participate; but as I believe you possess a degree of sensibility peculiar to yourself, so I make no doubt but it is more particularly call'd forth when you join any of those gay circles in which you have been accustom'd to see those whom you most esteem & admire move. I feel myself as much at a loss to answer the obliging things which your partiality induces you to say in my favor as you say you were to reply to what you term my compliments: all that I can say is, that if my letters afford you any entertainment I will continue them, tho' conscious that to an indifferent person they must appear dull and uninteresting, but true friendship veils every defect, & gives the pleasing zest to trifles.

And the Dear little Mary is anxious to make me a return for the very trifle which I sent her? Sweet Child! be assured Dear Madam I think my self amply repaid in the contemplation of so lovely a flower's being rear'd to maturity; & trust her generous nature will not be hurt, if I refuse her offer, but I will take the will for the deed, & that will be a compensation three fold.

You request that I will write every opportunity. I thank you for your desire & will comply with it as I can make it convenient; with Mr Porter I have a slight acquaintance, & therefore shall request his conveyance of this letter. Tho' at small distance from Town I seldom go there, but the pleasing view we have of it renders this situation delightful. Such is the difference between your part of the world & ours, that there has not been a particle of snow on the ground for months, in these parts. My Brothers are both absent at present, but I'm sure their best wishes await you my Dear Cousin. I must now bid you Adieu, my pleasing correspondent, & hope that you will ever consider me with every wish for your happiness & that of all your Friends,

Your ever affect:

E: F=x:

The next letter from the same lady is dated :—

Alexandria February 17 —93

I have been prevented from writing to my dear Mrs Anderson by circumstances which I hope she will think a sufficient apology for my silence, when I received your last letter I was in a situation to expect soon to hear the tender appellation of Mother, & knowing the aptitude of your heart to participate in what ever gives joy to others I defer'd writing untill I could acquaint you with a circumstance so pleasing to myself, but Alas! I was but sensible of the tender sensations which that event call'd forth, when by the hand of an all wise providence I was depriv'd of the Dear Infant of my tenderest affections, it was born a most lovely promising child & grew surprisngly untill it was near a fortnight old, when it was taken with a violent cold which soon put a period to its tender life. The only consolation which I have is in the contemplation of the happiness which my Dear Louisa undoubtedly enjoys. I have myself perfectly recover'd my health & strength, & in a few days intend to remove from hence to Towston the seat where my Father once liv'd, & which now belongs to Mr Griffith. It is 13 miles from this, which I am sorry for, as all my Friends live in & about Alexandria, however it is a pleasant place, & 13 miles is but a short distance in Summer. I hope you & your Dear Mary enjoy your health, & that she will be a comfort to your declining years. Remember me affectionately to her, & please to tell her I think it time she had begun her correspondence.

Adieu Dear Madam believe me

Yours affectionately

Eliza Griffith

Next in order of time comes a letter of Thomas, eldest brother of the preceding correspondent and the successor to the title and estates as ninth Lord Fairfax. He is said to have married, 1st Mary Aylett, 2d Louisa Washington, and 3d Margaret Herbert, and to have died 1846 :—

Berkeley (Virginia) March 15th, 1800

Dr Madam

It ever was a very awkward situation with me to sit down to write a complimentary letter without a particular subject and I make no doubt this is the chief reason of what is called neglect among correspondents; this perhaps you have already accused me of, as I promised to write upon my return home last Fall, tho I don't know that I said how soon after. However lest you should think the imputation will apply, I will endeavour to atone for it by writing as many lines

& words in this sheet as it will admit of consistently with legibility, tho' after all I may fall short, notwithstanding my best endeavours. Should this be the case you will nevertheless I hope, according to the old adage, "accept the will for the deed." I have mentioned the word complimentary above, and this may need some explanation. It should more properly have been Friendly or any other synonymous import; for as to letters merely Complimental, or made up of unmeaning professions, I never write them.

After I left Salem I remained a few days at Boston, and as many at Providence, from whence I took the road to Norwich where I purchased a Chaise and Horse, and thus continued my journey all the way by Land. This mode of travelling tho' somewhat lonely, I found infinitely more agreeable than being confined to the promiscuous society of such as occupy the public stages. I went on quite at my leisure, and whenever my horse appeared to be jaded, I remained a day or so at some Tavern to rest him. I found a uniformity in the appearance of the Country the whole distance from Boston to the State of N. York, both as to the quality of the soil, and mode of Cultivation, with only a few exceptions, one of wch was in the Neighborhood of Fairfield (Connecticut) and here the country is level, clear of stone, and extremely fertile; but to these advantages is opposed an evil which with me would be insurmountable, that is, they were infested at the time I passed with myriads of mosquitoes, and this I suppose to be the case more or less every season.

When at Salem you mentioned a thought you had of moving on some farm, if you met with one suitable, and shall be glad to hear when you favor me with a letter, whether you have put in execution the plan. I much doubt if you will find the farming business as agreeable as you might without a trial suppose. It is true there is no situation in life without its cares and plagues, but then one may in some measure become reconciled to those annexed to any particular situation from habit; now as you have been long used to a town life, it affords you an advantage you can't avail yourself of in the country. However, a good deal depends upon a active turn of mind, such as I believe you possess, and such as is eminently calculated to take you through the world without being too much affected by the cross incidents of life. As to myself, I am too apt to be affected by such incidents, and were it not that I am convinced they are wisely intended to prevent our being more attached to this world than as *mere travellers* we ought, I might be tempted sometimes to repine.

My Sister to whom I mentioned lately my intention of writing, and also the proposal I had made to Miss Mary of a correspondence between them, desires me to present her friendly respects, and to say, it is her intention shortly to commence it. I am aware of the reluc-

tance most young ladies have to writing letters, especially to those they are not personally acquainted with, and this either through diffidence, or for the reason given above as an excuse for my backwardness, and therefore I have thought the promise I *extracted* from Miss Mary might be rather of that kind, when one does not know how to refuse a thing, and yet had rather let it alone. For aught I know the same reasons may operate with my sister, tho' she has not expressed any thing of the sort; but be this as it may, it would be too late to retract now on either side; the contract between the two ladies is made, and I am a witness to it, and therefore I shall insist on one or two letters at least, after which I shall leave it to themselves to continue or drop the correspondence, as inclination leisure, or any other consideration may dictate.

I must not omit before I conclude this epistle, to express my thanks for the kind attentions I received at Salem from your self and connections, and to request the acceptance of my friendly regards and good wishes for all the family.

I hope you will not follow my example, in being so long before your write, and will let me hear from you as soon after the rec^d of this as may be convenient.

I remain D^r Madam
&c

T. Fairfax

A letter directed to Alexandria, with a note at bottom in these words, To be forwarded to Keys's Ferry, will be put in the proper channel by the post master.

My father returned from England last November in a very poor state of health which yet continues. When I was down in December, I went with him on a visit to M^r Vernon. The General was then in high health; I never saw him look better or more cheerful, and yet in two days after he was a corps, so rapid was his disorder in its fatal effects.

The last letter of this collection is directed to Mrs. Debora F. Anderson, Salem, etc., and was written at Clifton, a watering-place in Co. Gloucester, England, about one mile west of Bristol:—

Albemarle row Clifton September 1834

My dear Aunt

I was very glad to hear from you & thank you for your kind remarks upon my Dear lost parent—to be methodical & reply so to the subject upon which your letter treated, I shall say that my dear

Mother died the 21st of August 1821, now 18 years ago: her age 65. She died of Palsy & did not articulate tho' seemingly sensible. She was buried in a Vault in a Chapel in the neighbourhood: my poor Mother made a Will or, rather I call it a Memorandum. I wrote it. It was made the 14th December 1820. You my Dear Aunt was not instanced. Poor Old Lady she had nothing to leave, & the little she had was not more than £20 & that was divided to a poor set of people, & even the sum named I advanced, for which I possessed the few Books she possessed. You know the property mine in Barbodoes was in Intail'd possession. We had a long time — or years dock'd the Intail, still giving the survivor the property. It enabled us to sell the Estate which has not yet been paid for, some part of the money has been paid off, I sold that part for an Annuity. I have a very insufficient Income; only that this Country Bristol is a cheap part of England. I am an old man & very sickly. You know my dear Aunt that the Salem property according to Law as well as Justice is mine; But I shall not at the present touch upon that subject. I remain my dear Aunt in affectionate Duty to you & my Cousin your Daughter & am yours to

Command

J. J. G. Clarke.

