

WILLIAM SWYFT
OF SANDWITCH
AND SOME OF HIS
DESCENDANTS.

1637-1899.

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"William Swyft of Sandwich"

and some

Of His Descendants.

1637--1887.

IT SEEMS quite certain that "William Swyft, of Sandwich," with his family, came from England to America in the great "Boston Immigration" of 1630-1. Savage says that he, "probably came from Bocking, County Essex, or its vicinity; was in Watertown, Mass., in 1634, and had been there some time. Sold his property in Watertown in 1637, and probably moved to Sandwich, where he died in January, 1644." Rev. F. Freeman says that he died in 1642.

But the Plymouth Colony Record says:

"In Probate office, Plymouth,"

"William Swyft, Sandwich."

"1643,—Administration by Joane, his wife."

"January, 1643, the Inventory was shown at Court. Amount £72 11 shillings." (The year then began in March, and January was the 11th month of the year.)

Search in Bocking for traces of the first William has proved fruitless, as the Parish Records were burned about the time of the Restoration. Dr. Henry Bond in his History of Watertown and its early settlers, says: "William Swyft, proprietor, 1636,-7, sold his house and land in Watertown to Thomas White, of Sudbury, who sold it March 31st, 1640, to John Knight. In 1636, Wm. Swift mortgaged his house and lands in Watertown to John Haines, Attorney of Andrew Coleman, in England, to whom Swift had given his name as joint security in a matter where Roger Spring was the principal debtor. Col. Rec. Sept. 1, 1640."

He also says, that in the third Great Dividends of Town Lands owned by the proprietors, made July 25th, 1636, William Swift drew number 14, being a 40 acre lot, and February 28th, 1636,-7 he also drew a five acre lot in "Beaver Brook Plowlands." At another division of proprietors' lands in June, 1637, his grantee Thomas White, received a lot, proving that William sold out in Watertown and removed to Sandwich in the spring of that year. The farm which he then bought in Sandwich, the largest in the town, is to-day (Jan. 1st, 1887) owned and occupied by his lineal descendant, Shadrach Freeman Swift, Esq.

His widow Joan survived him 20 years. Jedediah Allen, son of Ralph and Easter (or Esther) writes in the family Bible as follows: "Jone Swift, my grandmother, deceased ye 26 day, —" the rest is torn off with the leaf. As her will bears date October 12th, 1662, and the Inventory of her estate was taken December 25th 1663, she probably died November 26th, 1663.

The following is a copy of her will from the Plymouth Colony Records. The amount of the Inventory is £105 6 shillings.

"The 12th day of the 8th month, 1662.

SWIFT GENEALOGY.

"I Jone Swift of Sandwich, being sicke of body, but of perfect memory, do make my last Will.

"I do give unto Daniel Winges, his sons Samuel and John, a mare foal of a year old. Item, I give unto my grandchild Hannah Swift, the old mare, if she be alive, if not, the next to her. Item, I give unto my grandchild Experience Allen, a chest with drawers and my Bible. Item, I give unto my two grandchildren Hannah Swift and Experience Allen, all my linen and my pewter, to be equally divided between them. Item, I give unto Mary Darbey my wearing clothes. Item, I give unto Hannah Winge the Elder my best hat and forty shillings to her daughters, to be divided amongst them. Item, I give unto Jedediah Allen and Experience Allen the third part of my Estate, this house and garden being part of the third; I give unto my son William's children, each of them a mare foal; my debts being discharged, and my funeral being paid, I give the rest of my Estate to my son William, whom I make my Executor. I make John Dincent and Benjamin Hammond my overseers of this my will and give to them twenty shillings apiece.

WITNESS.

JOHN DINCENT.

BENJAMIN HAMMOND.

The
JONEmark of
SWIFT.

"Benjamin Hammond gave oath to this will the third of March, 1663, before the General Court, then held at Plymouth.

"Mr. John Dincent was deposed to this will of Jone Swift above said this seventh of April, 1664; before me, Thomas Hickley, Assistant, by order from the Court."

Rev. F. Freeman in his "History of Cape Cod" writing of the inhabitants of Sandwich, and the Rev. C. P. Wing in his "Register of John Wing, of Sandwich, Massachusetts, and his descendants," speak of this will as the will of "John Swift" evidently having been misled by the peculiar spelling of the name; and yet, the merest reference to the heading of the Inventory of her estate recorded with her will (a copy of which heading is given below), would have dispelled the erroneous idea.

"An Inventory of the Estate of Mistriss Joane Swift deceased taken by us, whose names are underwritten being this 25 of the 10 month. 1663, and exhibited to the Court held at Plymouth, the 3d of March, 1663; on the oath of William Swift.

First Generation.

- 1 WILLIAM SWIFT, born in England, married Joan—Their children were:
- 2 HANNAH, born married Daniel Wing, November 5, 1641.
- 3 EASTER (or ESTHER) born " Ralph Allen, 1645.
- 4 WILLIAM, Jr., born, " Ruth —

Second Generation.

- 2 HANNAH, daughter of William and Joan Swift (1) born in England, was married at Sandwich, Massachusetts to Daniel Wing of that town on 9th month (Nov.) 5th, 1641 and died there 10th month, 1, 1664. Her husband married again on 6th month, 2,

SWIFT GENEALOGY.

1666, Anna, daughter of Thomas and Sarah (Learned) Ewer and died in 1678,-9. His children by Hannah were:

*HANNAH, born 7 month, 28, 1642, married Jedediah Lombard, July 20, 1668.

*LYDIA, born 5 month, 23, 1647.

*DEBORAH, born 10 month, 10, 1648.

EPHRAIM, born 1650.

SAML. BATCHELDER, born 8 month, 20, 1652.

*HEPZIBAH, born 11 month, 7, 1654.

JOHN, born 11 month, 14, 1656, married Martha Spooner, 1683.

*BEULAH, born 9 month, 16, 1658

DANIEL, born 9 mo., 28, 1664, married Deborah Dillingham, 1686.

*Named in Joan's will as "daughters" of "Hannah Winge the elder."

- 3 EASTER, (ESTHER) a daughter of William and Joan Swift, (1) born in England, was married in 1645 at Sandwich, Massachusetts, to Ralph Allen, who was a native of that place. Two of her children, Jedediah and Experience are named in the will of their grandmother, Joan Swift.

- 4 WILLIAM, only son of William and Joan Swift (1) born in England and accompanying his father until he settled at Sandwich, in the spring of 1637, married Ruth —, and lived at Sandwich until his death in January, 1705-6. Their children were:

5 *HANNAH, born March, 11, 1651, married—Tobey.

6 WILLIAM, born Aug. 28, 1654, married Elizabeth, —
RUTH, born 1652, died in infancy.

7 EPHRAIM, born June 6, 1656, married Sarah —

8 MARY, born April 7, 1659, married Ezra Perry, of Sandwich, Jan. 11, 1704.

9 SAMUEL, born Aug. 10, 1662, married Mary —

10 JIREH, born 1665, married Abigail Gibbs (Sandw.) Nov. 26, 1697.

11 TEMPERANCE, born — married Deacon Timothy Bourne.

12 ESTHER, born — married — Gibbs.

13 DINAH, born — married — Perry.

14 JOSIAH, born — married { Mary Bodfish, Apr. 19, 1706.

{ Experience Nye, June 23, 1718.

*Named in her grandmother Joan's will.

The following references to William 2 and his children, taken from town records of Sandwich, Massachusetts, will explain themselves:

"1643, Sandwich—Able to bear arms—Willm Swyft."

1643, Enrolled as between 16 and 60. Able to bear arms—therefore born at least as early as 1627, and, beyond doubt in England.

1655, William 2, Swift unites in a call to a pastor, together with his mother, "Johana"

1658, Record made of the boundaries of his land.

1675, William Senior is recorded among 52 freemen of Sandwich, William 3 now being 21.

1681, The names of Ephraim Swift and William Junior recorded as additional townsmen to vote for officers, and Ephraim and William Jr., and Sam-

uel took the oath of fidelity.

1702, A list of freemen ordered June 25, contains the names of Ephraim, Jireh, and William, evidently William 2, as William 3, his son died in 1701.

1705, William 2 made his will Dec. 15, of this year, which was presented at Court Jan. 29, 1705-6 and which was as follows:

"I, William Swift, senior of the town of Sandwich in the County of Barnstable in New England being weak in body, but in good and perfect memory do make this my last Will and Testament making null and void all other and former will and wills which has by me been made whether written or verbal.

"I commend my soul unto the hands of Almighty God and Jesus Christ his only son in and through his merits I hope for Salvation. First my mind and will is that after my decease my body decently buried by the advice of my friends at the comon burial place of our Town. Secondly that all my just debts be paid by my executor hereafter named. Thirdly I make my son in law Timothy Bourn my whole and sole executor. Item I do give unto my loveing wife Ruth Swift fifty pounds in money of my estate after my decease. Fifthly I do give unto my son Josiah Swift this house and land I now live in and possess excepting that piece of land about the picket cliffs I bought of Jonathan Morie. Sixthly I do give unto the three sons of William Swift my son deceased Thomas Swift, Josiah Swift, and Ebenezer Swift that tract of land I bought of Jonathan Morie lying upon the Clifts as ye go to Plymouth as appears by a deed equally to be divided among the three brothers and not to be sold or any way disposed of but to the Swifts. Seventhly I do give unto my son Jirie Swift Twenty pounds in moveables of my estate. Eightly I do give unto my grandson William Swift son of the deceased William Swift twenty shillings. Ninthly I do give unto my daughter Hannah Tobie and to my daughter Temperance Bourn and to my daughter Hester Gibs and to my daughter Dina Perry the rest of my moveables to be equally divided amongst them four sisters and will that all things herein contained and mentioned be faithfully and truly performed written this fifteenth day of December, one thousand seven hundred and five years.

WILLIAM SWIFT, SENIOR. (Seal)

Signed and sealed in presence of us,

THOMAS GIBS.

His

SAMUEL O GIBS.

Mark

JAMES STEWART.

Third Generation.

- 5 HANNAH, a daughter of William and Ruth Swift (4) born March 11, 1651, is named as Hannah Tobey in her father's will and nothing beyond this is known of her.
- 6 WILLIAM, eldest son of William and Ruth Swift (4) born August 28, 1654, was a carpenter by trade, married Elizabeth — and died at Sandwich in April or May, 1701. His will dated June 17, 1700 and presented at Court May 12, 1701, names his wife Elizabeth, his sons William, Benjamin and Joseph, and "their brothers and sisters." His sons William, Thomas, Josiah, and Ebenezer are named in their grandfather's will. The children were:
 - 15 WILLIAM, born Jan. 24, 1679, married Lydia Weeks, Falmouth, Oct. 9, 1707.
 - 16 BENJAMIN, born 1682, married Hannah Wing, Sandwich, Feb. 24, 1703-4.
 - 17 JOSEPH, born Nov. 1687, married Mercy —
 - 18 SAMUEL, born Dec. 1690. {Widow, Rebecca Morton, S., Mar. 4, 1730-1.
Abigail — [1730-1.
 - 19 JOANNA, born Mar. 9, 1692, married Thomas Gibbs, S., Oct. 22, 1714.
 - 20 THOMAS, born Dec. 169— married Thankful Morey, Plymouth, Jan. 23, 1718-19.
 - 21 ELIZABETH, } John Gibbs, S. Nov. 9, 1716.
gem. } born Jan. 11, 1696. mar.
 - 22 THANKFUL, } Benj. Morey, Ply. Nov. 3, 1715.
 - 23 JOSIAH, }
 - 24 EBENEZER, born — married Abigail Gibbs, S., Feb. 13, 1723-4.
- 7 EPHRAIM, second son of William and Ruth Swift (4) born June 6, 1656, married Sarah —, who died before him, August 13, 1734, and died at Sandwich, where he had always lived, in 1742. He was a carpenter and cooper by trade. His will dated April, 10th, 1735, and presented at Court February 17, 1742, names all his children except Ephraim, Jr., who died in childhood. Their names were:
 - 25 ELIZABETH, born Dec. 29, 1679, married Joshua Lawrence, S., Dec. 15, 1702.
 - 26 JOANNA, born July 7, 1683, married Roger Haskell, Rochester, Feb. 25, 1707-8.
 - 27 SAMUEL, born April 9, 1686, married Ruth Hatch, Falmouth, Dec. 24, 1712.
 - EPHRAIM, Jr., born Dec. 9, 1688, died young.
 - 28 SARAH, born April 12, 1692, married — Kirby.
 - 29 HANNAH, born May. 19, 1695, married Allen Marshall, Mar. 18, 1723-4.
 - 30 MOSES, born Sept. 15, 1699, married Mary Foster, S., Dec. 24, 1719.
- 8 MARY, a daughter of William and Ruth Swift, (4) born April 7,

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