

A
SANDWICH-DARTMOUTH-NORTH KINGSTOWN
ALLEN LINE

-SOURCE-

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George Allen, with his wife Katherin; sons George, William, and Matthew; and servant Edward Poole sailed from Weymouth, Dorsetshire, England, on or about the twentieth of March, 1635, as members of the band of one hundred six persons who came under the leadership of the Reverend Joseph Hull, being chiefly residents of the two contiguous counties of Dorset and Somerset. The clerk who registered the names and ages of the passengers seems to have been very careless and inaccurate; for he recorded the Allen family as consisting of

George Allin aged 24 years
 Katherin Allyn his wife aged 30 years
 George Allyn his sonne aged 16 years
 William Allyn his sonne aged 8 years
 Mathew Allyn his sonne aged 6 years
 Edward Poole his s'vaunt aged 26 years

The father's age as given is an impossible one, since one son with him was sixteen years old, and since we know of other, still older children who came to America on other boats. Since the father is not included in the list of those able to bear arms in 1643 (that is, he was over sixty-five at that time) he must have been born before 1578. The wife Katherin was obviously a second wife.

Mrs. A. H. Wright, in her Allen manuscript at the New England Historic Genealogical Society, offers rather strong evidence in support of the theory that George Allen was son of John Allen of Saltford, Somersetshire, which is on the River Avon, about ten miles southeast of Bristol. Mrs. Wright quotes in full a Somerset deed by which on 8 May 1627 Rice Davis of Tichnam, Esq., for £32 10s. sold to George Allen of Saltford alias Saltford yeoman his third part of a messuage with the buildings in Saltford "now in the tenure of John Allen, father of George Allen" and adds that the premises shall remain to George Allen discharged of all encumbrances except the rents to the chief lord of the fee and a lease made to John Allen, George Allen, and George his son at the yearly rent of 6s.4d. Much depends upon the interpretation of the phrase "George his son." If the meaning is that the lease was made to the grandfather John, the son George, and the grandson George, then the George Allen who came to America in 1635 was not involved in the deal, for in 1627 his son George was only eight years old. If, however, the word "his" has the effect of an apostrophe (as we think it at times does) and the meaning is "John the grandfather, George the son, and George's son" then the reference might be to an older son of George--perhaps a son who remained in England. We rather lean toward this interpretation.

1 Hotten: Original Lists, 283-4 3 Somerset Record Society, vol. 51
 2 N. J. Gen. Mag. 16:1 (1936) Roll xxiii p. 241

The Harleian Society's Marriage Licenses by the Bishop of London, p.146, has: 1624, Nov. 4. George Allen of St. Michael, Queenhithe, London, clothworker, and Katherine Stark, spinster, daughter of --- Starkes, dec'd, at All Hallows, Honey Lane, London. And the Register of All Hallows, on p.428 has this marriage entry: 1624, Nov. 5, George Allen of London, clothworker, and Katherine Starkes of Woking, in the County of Surrey, by virtue of a license. If, as seems probable, these were the George and Katherine who came to America in 1635, then George had probably been living in London during his first marriage, but after his second marriage decided to return to farm work with his father in Saltford.

The boat that left England about the 20th of March 1635 arrived in Boston harbor on May 6th. Rev. Benjamin Fessenden, pastor of the Sandwich church about 1750, wrote in a letter to Dr. Prentice that George Allen and Ralph Allen were for a time members of the church in Roxbury. They could not have remained there long. On 8 July 1635 the General Court of Massachusetts voted that "There is leave granted to 21 families to sitt down at Wessagusset" -- a name soon changed to Weymouth; and George Allen's family was of the number. The Reverend Joseph Hull was pastor in the new community. George Allen had in all 30 acres of land granted to him at Weymouth; and since the plan was to allow 6 acres to the head of a household and 3 acres for each child, it would seem that at this time George had eight children living with him. He was there somewhat less than two years, and on leaving seems to have given most of his land to sons. Later records show that Ralph Allen owned there 20 acres "first granted to George Allen in Easternecke;" and John Allen had 10 acres, also first granted to George Allen. The George Allen who was living at Weymouth in 1640⁶ and until 1651⁷ was probably son of George; and the Ebenezer Allen there in the latter year may possibly have been another son. George, Sr., seems to have retained ownership of his three acres on King Oke Hill -- possibly his home lot -- for a time after removing to another town.

We do not know why George Allen left Weymouth, nor exactly when. His son-in-law, Joseph Holway, who in 1634 had been of Dorchester,¹¹ by 1636 was of Lynn;¹² and sometime during that year Allen also came to Lynn.¹³ They were probably both still there when, on the third of April 1637, a group of men of Lynn received from Governor William Bradford permission to establish a settlement at Sandwich, with land sufficient for sixty families.¹⁴ Before the year 1637 was out, both Allen and Holway were residents of the new town. By 1638 a church had been established at Sandwich, and among the first eleven males who were members were George and Ralph Allen.¹⁵

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| 1 J.K. Allen; George Allen MSS. p.6 | 9 Nash; Weymouth Sketch, pp.281-2 |
| 2 Southeastern Mass., p.350 | 10 Chamberlain; Weymouth, 3:11 |
| 3 R.I. Col. Records 1:13 | 11 Hist. of Dorchester (1851) p.57 |
| 4 Nash; Weymouth Sketch, p.87 | 12 Savage |
| 5 J.K. Allen (above) p.9 | 13 Lewis & Newhall; Lynn, p.191 |
| 6 Nash (above) p.261 | 14 Lewis; Hist. of Lynn, p.101 |
| 7 Do, p.255 | 15 Freeman; Cape Cod, 2:37 |
| 8 Lechford; Notebook, p.195 | |

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Although George Allen is described as having been an Anabaptist and as still having scruples about the taking of oaths, he seems to have remained up to the time of his death in 1648 in good standing with the Puritan church of which he was a member and with the community, in this respect differing greatly from Ralph Allen (probably his brother) and from the seven of his own children who when the Quakers came in 1657 alligned themselves with that group and for so doing were denied the rights of townsmen. In 1639 George was admitted as freeman, and in the same year was appointed constable.¹ In 1640, 1641, 1642, and 1644 he was Deputy to the General Court for Sandwich.² In 1640 he was surveyor of highways; and in that year he and his son-in-law Joseph Holloway were two of the five townsmen appointed to meet with another committee of five and confer with the Governor as to a fair division of the meadow land. In 1641 he served on a jury;³ was, together with Edward Dillingham, appointed to appraise certain swine;⁴ and became surety for Edward Doty in an action brought by the latter against William Almy.⁵ In 1642 he sued Edward Wollanston, Gent., for trespass.⁶ In 1644 he and many others were licensed to cut hay at the Ponds beyond Sandwich Plains "if he give not the Indians anything for it without the approbation of the Bench."⁷

George Allen's land in Sandwich consisted of two parcels: one of sixty-two acres of upland at Spring Hill;⁸ the other of six and a half acres of marshland granted him in the land division of 16 Apr. 1640.⁹ It would seem that his land has been passed on from one owner to another with little change; for when someone in 1923 located the site, he found that the farm, then owned by a Mr. Packard, consisted of sixty-two acres of upland and six and a half of marshland, with Spring Hill River flowing through the marshland and bounding the property on the south and west.¹⁰ It is said that in 1646, two years before his death, George Allen built on his Spring Hill land,¹¹ on the highway between Sandwich and West Barnstable,¹² and about a half-mile from the Quaker meeting-house,¹³ the old Allen house that stood till late into the nineteenth century, and that the house that now stands on the same site has in its cellar walls some of the stones of the original structure.¹⁴ Mrs. Eliza A. Wing was the last occupant of the old house.¹⁵ However, we note that the Wing genealogical magazine¹⁶ ascribes the building of the house not to George Allen, but to his grandson Daniel, thus giving a much later date of erection. So there is need for further investigation.

George Allen was buried on 2 May 1648.¹⁷ By his (undated) will each of his children was to receive 12 pence; the son Matthew, a calf and 5 shillings; the son William, the meadow lot George had bought of Peter Gaunt; while the house and its contents were to belong to Katherin while she remained a widow, and then to be di-

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| 1 Bowden: Hist. of Friends (1850) | 10 Plym. Col. Rec. 2:18 |
| 2 M. J. Gen. Mag. 16:3 (1941) | 11 Do 7:29 |
| 3 Plym. Col. Rec. 1:130 | 12 Do 2:76 |
| 4 Do 1:125 | 13 J. K. Allen: "Geo. Allen" MSS, N. E. H. G. S. |
| 5 Do 1:155; 2:16; 2:40; 2:75 | 14 Plym. Col. Rec. 1:149 |
| 6 Do 1:141 | 15 Mrs. A. H. Wright: Allen MSS, NEHGS |
| 7 Do 1:147 | 16 The Owl 1:234 |
| 8 Do 7:19 | 17 Thompson: Geo. Allen, Ralph Allen p. 6 |
| 9 Do 2:24 | 18 Plym. Col. Rec. 8:6 |

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vided among "my five least children" and "my adventure in the barque" was also¹ to go to Katherin and the five least children; and all the land not otherwise disposed of was to go to sons Henry and Samuel. George's inventory (amounting to £44 16s., over half of it in cattle) was taken 22 Sept. 1648; but the will was not proved until 7 June 1649. At the probate Ralph Allen and William Newland testified that the testator had named his wife Katherin as sole executrix, with Ralph Allen and Richard Bourne as overseers.

A few days after George Allen died, his widowed daughter, Rose (Allen) Holway, married William Newland,² above; and at a date not known the widow Katherin married John Collins,³ formerly of Weymouth,⁴ and removed to his Boston home, doubtless taking with her the youngest children. When Collins died in 1670, it was Katherin's son Gideon who was appointed to administer the estate. In the administration there was no mention of Katherin, which indicates that she was no longer living.

It has been frequently stated that George Allen had ten sons. There seems to be definite evidence that he had eleven. In giving his family data for the town records when he removed to Milford, Conn., Henry Allen stated that he was son of George and Katherine of Sandwich; that his brothers were Ralph, George, Samuel, William, Matthew, "and five others." George probably had several daughters too, though there is definite evidence of only one. We shall name the twelve children whom we consider as constituting George's family, and one other who may have been a daughter; stating our reasons for so thinking, and acknowledging that in several cases there is no definite proof, only probability.

Before we can discuss George's family intelligently, it will be necessary to say something about the two Ralphs; one the son, the other probably the brother of George; for the two men and the two families have been almost hopelessly confused. We cannot accept the statement often made that the younger man was born about 1600; for that means he was eighty years old when appointed surveyor of highways, ninety-eight years old when he died, and about thirty-eight years old when he married. We think his birth year was probably nearer 1615. We think, too, that it was the brother -- not the son -- Ralph who joined the Roxbury church when George did and the Sandwich church together with him; who was able to bear arms in Sandwich in 1643; and who witnessed and was overseer of the will of George. It is certain that it was the older Ralph who married Esther Swift of Sandwich about 1645 and whose children were born there from 1646 to 1657. We think the younger man was the one at Weymouth and that he did not have Sandwich as his home until after his father's death, when the records began to distinguish between the two Ralphs by attaching "Sr." and "Jr." to their names. Ralph, Sr., had been married before he married Esther Swift about 1645. It is not certain, but probable, that he was the Ralph Allen who married in London 6 May 1619 Hester English.⁵ The children of this marriage were probably, some or all of them, with him

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| 1 Mayflower Descendant 9:224-5 | 4 Mrs. M. L. Holman: Stevens Gen. p. 214 |
| 2 Sandwich vital records | 5 Suffolk Co. Prob., n.s. 1:480 |
| 3 Jacobus: Old Fairfield p. 13 | 6 J. K. Allen's Ralph Allen MSS. p. 19 |

in his home at Sandwich. Much of the confusion between the two families has arisen from the fact that the two brothers gave the same names to sons in several instances. Allen genealogists have found sound reasons for believing that Ralph, Sr., like George, had sons John, Henry, and George. We agree, and think it likely that he also, like George, had sons Samuel and William. Ralph's John married Elizabeth Bacon in 1650 and settled at Newport. His son Henry was in Weymouth in 1640 and still owned land there in 1647, having removed to Boston about 1645. He is mentioned in the 1682 will of Robert Tucker of Weymouth and Milton, as "my loving Brother-in-law, Deacon Henry Allen of Boston." Ralph's son George was of almost identical age with George's George. We think Ralph's George was the one with wife Susan (na) and a family of daughters born in Boston 1648--1653; and possibly later of New Jersey. Without proof, we think it very likely that Ralph had a son William, the William who in 1676 was of Newtown, L.I., "Quaker," and who on 16 May 1677 married at Newport, R.I., in Quaker ceremony, Patience (Clifford) Beers, he being "late of New York, now resident of Rhode Island." He died in 1718 ae. 89, so born 1629. We think, too, that the Samuel Allen in Hempstead (very near to Newtown) in 1664 was quite probably another son of Ralph. If so, he would be the Samuel who, with his cousin Ralph, Jr., and either his brother or his cousin George, three young men trying to find a place to settle, in 1639 visited Newport briefly and were accepted as inhabitants, but decided not to remain. He would also be the Samuel of Sandwich able to bear arms in 1643.

If I am right in thinking that George gave to five of his sons the same names that his brother Ralph, also of Sandwich, had given to five of his sons by his earlier marriage, then it is little wonder that the two families have been inextricably confused.

In his history of American Quakerism, Bowden states that Ralph Allen and six of his brothers and sisters were among the first to join the Sandwich Quaker group. Lists of Sandwich people who were penalized for their Quaker faith include the names of Ralph Allen, Sr., Ralph Allen, Jr., William Allen, Matthew Allen, George Allen, and Francis Allen; and Rose (Allen-Holway) Newland. The last five named were brothers and sister of Ralph. Who the sixth one was we have not learned--probably one of the many Sandwich wives fined or called to court for attending Quaker meetings or for failure to attend meetings of the orthodox church, or for disturbing such meetings when they did attend. Among such were Goodwife Turner [probably wife of Michael]; Widow Knott [Martha, widow of Geo.] Jane Swift [probably widow of William]; Dority Butler [probably wife of Thomas]; Jane, wife of William Saunders; the wife of Peter Gaunt; and the wife of John Newland. Perhaps somewhere in this list lies another daughter of George Allen, to complete the "six brothers and sisters" of Ralph who became Quakers.

1 Newport Hist. Mag. 3:191

2 Chamberlain: Weymouth 3:77

3 Register 46:185

4 Hinman

5 Robert Tucker Gen., p. 339

6 Chamberlain: Weymouth 4:70

7 J.K. Allen: "Ralph Allen" MSS.

8 Boston vital records

9 Bunker: Long Island Genealogies

10 Quaker Rec. at Newport Hist. Soc.

11 R. I. Col. Rec. 1:92

12 Freeman: Cape Cod, 2:44

13 Do 1:204

14 Do 1:242

15 Plym. Col. Rec. 3:111

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Now we will attempt to make a list of George's eleven sons. We know that George, William, and Matthew were his sons from the sailing list of 1635. We know that Henry and Samuel were his sons because so called in his will. We know that Ralph was his son because in his will he calls William his brother. We know that Rose was his daughter because her husband, William Newland, in his will calls William his brother-in-law. Although there is no direct evidence that Francis was his son, he has been so regarded by the most careful genealogists of the family, including J.K. Allen; and his close association with the Quaker group at Sandwich make it most likely that he was one of the "six brothers and sisters of Ralph Allen" referred to by Bowden as early Quakers. The evidence is stronger in the case of Gideon Allen, who was probably the youngest of George's eleven sons. He evidently grew up in the Boston home of John Collins, his step-father, and when John died was made administrator of his estate. In a moment we shall attempt to show that John Allen of Rehoboth and Swansey was son of George. When John was at Rehoboth, Gideon was there and witnessed a deed for him. When John was later at Swansey, Gideon was there also for some years, and when George's son Henry was in Milford, Gideon visited there also, married his wife from there, and later made Milford his home. We feel convinced that John was George's son. He was not a Quaker and did not associate closely with the Sandwich group. He held Baptist (or Anabaptist) views, like his father's, and was one of the founders of the Baptist church at Swansea. After his father left Weymouth, John was there. He held three parcels of land there: one of eight acres on Westernneck "first granted to George Allen;" one of two and a quarter acres and twelve rods on Westernneck "first given to George Allen;" and one of five acres "first granted to Thomas Applegate." Since George Allen had in 1640 (after leaving Weymouth) bought the Applegate home farm, this land of John's probably also came to him from his father. This third piece of land was bounded on one side by the land of Ralph Allen, who held twenty acres in Weymouth "first granted to George Allen." When John left to join the new settlement at Rehoboth, Ralph went with him; but later Ralph removed to Sandwich and joined with those who became Quakers, while John went on to help found the Baptist settlement at Swansea. Pope, in his Pioneers of Massachusetts, definitely considers John as son of George and we feel that the evidence is very strong that he was such.

If John was son of George, Robert was certainly so; for the two men are definitely called brothers in Plymouth Colony Records. Sandwich records state that Robert "revolted from the covenant of his father." Robert left Sandwich and was for a time in Yarmouth, but at the time of his death, in 1661, he had certain live stock in Sandwich.

All that is known of Ebenezer Allen, whom we name as being possibly the eleventh son of George, is that at some time before 2 Feb. 1651/2 he had a grant of land in Weymouth "on the east side of Fresh Pond." Our only reason for considering him possibly son of George is that if George had eleven sons, Ebenezer seems to be the only one we can find to be eleventh.

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| 1 Mayflower Descendant 32:166 | 6 Nash: Sketch of Weymouth p. 255 |
| 2 Do 24:61-63 | 7 Register 46:185 |
| 3 Suffolk Co. Prob. n. s., 1:480 | 8 Nash (as above) p. 261 |
| 4 Plym. Col. Rec. 4:164 | 9 Plym. Col. Rec. 3:221 |
| 5 Wright: Hist. of Swansea p. 49 | 10 See Pope's Pioneers of Mass. |
| and Swansea vital records | 11 Chamberlain: Weymouth 3:11 |

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It is possible that George Allen had also a daughter Joan. A Joan Allen married Clement Briggs at Dorchester in 1631. Now a John Allen (possibly son of George) was at Dorchester, probably in 1632, certainly in 1634; and Joseph Holway who had married George Allen's daughter Rose, was also of Dorchester in 1634. And Clement and Joan Briggs were soon, like the Holways and Allens, settled at Weymouth; so the relationship seems not at all unlikely.

Since the births of George Allen's children were not recorded, they can only be arranged in order of age by taking into consideration such factors as marriage and death dates; years when real estate transactions were first entered upon; testimony given in court cases, etc. A word must be said, too, about the ages of the sons Matthew and William. The 1635 sailing list makes William born in 1627 and Matthew in 1629; but the 1643 Sandwich list of those able to bear arms (that is, sixteen or over) includes Matthew and omits William. One list must be in error; and since we know the ship's clerk was most careless in recording the father's age, we think he may easily have interchanged the ages of the two small boys; and are therefore accepting the Sandwich record as the more reliable and making Matthew the older of the two. We notice, too, that George Allen in his will names Matthew before William. The following table, giving the death dates and exact or approximate marriage dates, shows the basis of our conjecture as to birth dates.

The children of George Allen, probably by his first wife:

	born	married		died
1 Rose	c. 1610	(say) 1630	between 1690 &	1695
2 John	c. 1611	(say) 1636		c. 1690
3 ?Joan	(say) 1613	c. 1631	after 1635	1635
4 Ralph	(say) 1615	(say) 1638		1698
5 Robert	(say) 1617	-----		1661
6 George	c. 1619	(say) 1647		c. 1693
7 ?Ebenezer	(say) 1621	-----		----
8 Francis	(say) 1623	1662		1696

Probably by his second wife, Katherin:

9 Matthew	c. 1627	1657		1695
10 William	c. 1629	1659		1705
11 Henry	(say) 1636	1662		1690
12 Samuel	(say) 1639	??? by 1663		----
13 Gideon	(say) 1645	c. 1672		1693

George Allen in his will referred to his five least children, probably indicating the children of his second marriage. It would seem that the second wife, Katherin, and her children were the only ones provided for in the will, except for the twelve pence to each child. And only four of the five least ones are mentioned by name--perhaps because the youngest was only an infant, or little more. And perhaps the children of the earlier marriage had all had portions--as almost certainly some had had in Weymouth land.

1 Davis: Landmarks

2 Hist. of Dorchester (1851)
p. 40

3 Hist. of Dorchester (1851) p. 57

We will sketch briefly what is known of the children of George (1), omitting many of the details already given. For authorities not cited here, see the tables on pages 23-28.

- 1 Rose She married first, possibly in England, Joseph Hol(1o)way. They were of Dorchester in 1634; of Lynn in 1636; and of Sandwich 1637, where Joseph was millwright. He died in December 1647. On 19 May 1648 Rose married (2) William Newland, who, like her father, had been early at Weymouth and had removed thence to Sandwich. Newland was Deputy from Sandwich eight years. He was one of the first two in Sandwich to accept the Quaker faith. Rose also was very active in the Quaker movement and was one of those penalized for so being. She was alive when her husband wrote his will on 26 Aug. 1690, but had died before the will was proved on 6 May 1695. It is from this will that we know Rose's parentage; for Newland in it mentions "my brother-in-law William Allen."
- 2 John was perhaps in Dorchester 1632; then in Weymouth, where he had three parcels of land that had been his father's. In 1643 he joined with the group who left Weymouth to found Rehoboth, and twenty-six years later joined with the group who left Rehoboth to found Swansea. He was active as surveyor, land-divider, arbitrator, and Deputy. He was both plaintiff and defendant in cases at law. He was probably the John Allen who bought land in New Jersey in 1664, but seems never to have gone there. In 1689 he was still on the list of non-resident proprietors of Rehoboth. His wife was named Christian. Their first child was probably the one born in 1637. John wrote his will 12 Mar. 1689/90, "being in the eighty years of my age," Christian being at that time alive. The will was proved 21 May 1690.
- 3 Joan married Clement Briggs in early 1631. They removed from Dorchester to Weymouth. She had died by 1639, as Clement's second wife, Elizabeth, is called mother of Clement's son David, who was born 23 Aug. 1640.
- 4 Ralph was probably the Ralph who in 1639 was briefly at Newport with his cousin Samuel and brother or cousin George. He was some years at Weymouth, where he had five parcels of land, of 20, 4, 3, 2, and 2 acres respectively, the first named

1 Hist. of Dorchester (1851) p. 57	14 Bowen: Rehoboth 1:30 & 36
2 Savage	15 Plym. Col. Rec. 3:221
3 Pope: pioneers of Mass.	16 Do 5:24
4 Mayflower Descendant 3:207-8	17 Do 4:176
5 Do 15:28	18 Do 5:31
6 Nash: Sketch of Weymouth, p. 262	19 Do vols. 5 & 7 scattered pages
7 Deyo: Barnstable Co. 1:288	20 "Piscataway & Woodbridge" p. 166
8 Bowden: Hist. of Friends in Am.	21. Bowen: Rehoboth 1:54
9 Freeman: Hist. of Cape Cod 1:242	22 N. C. P. in Hart. Times 12 Dec. '42
10 Barnstable Co. Probate 1:250	23 Mass. Col. Bay Rec. 1:83
11 Hist. of Dorchester (1851) p. 40	24 Chamberlain: Weymouth 3:128-9
12 Nash (above) p. 255	25 Nash: Sketch of Weymouth, p. 261
13 Chamberlain: Weymouth 3:11	26 or been divorced

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and last plots being land that had belonged to his father. When he left Weymouth in 1643 to join the new settlement at Rehoboth with his brother John, his property was valued at £270, John's at £156. Soon after his father's death, perhaps about 1650 or 1651, he removed to Sandwich, and then "Sr." and "Jr." had to be added to their names to distinguish between the two Ralphs. He became an ardent Quaker, and like his brothers and uncle was fined exorbitantly for so being. From 1663 to 1672 he bought extensively in Dartmouth land that he passed on to his children and grandchildren, who settled in that town in great numbers. In July 1669 the General Court gave him permission to run a ferry at or near Pocasset (Portsmouth R.I.) and to transport passengers, and permission to buy land of Indians from Rhode Island to the maine. His family probably lived in Portsmouth for a short while; for Philip Allen, son of Ralph, died there in 1671, and Benjamin Allen, son of Ralph, had died there at the home of Thomas Cornell in 1669. He was probably back in Sandwich by 1671, for in that year he was appointed surveyor of highways, as again in 1680. In 1676, during King Philip's War, Ralph Allen and Stephen Skiffe were appointed "to carry the town's mind to Barnstable that the towns may know each others minds in reference to the bringing of some of the people of the out-towns among us." As Ralph grew old, his rigid Quaker stand began to soften. In 1694 the Reverend Roland Cotton, minister of the Sandwich church, and eleven men who had been Quakers, Ralph among them, accepted the covenant put forth by the synod of Boston. His will, written in 1691 and proved in 1698, states his desire to be buried in the Quaker burial lot on his brother William Allen's land. His wife's name is thought to have been Susanna. His son John--probably his oldest child-- in 1662 was called "John Allen of Sandwich and Paulmannuck" when he reported a mare killed by the Mashpes Indians; that is, he was then a grown man, settled on his own, and so born probably by the late 30's or early 40's. His brother Joseph who married in 1662 was probably born not much later. Other children of Ralph were born in 1645 and 1650. In his earlier years Ralph was described in deeds, etc., as "planter;" (His uncle Ralph was "mason.") but in later years he was "wheelwright."¹³

5 Robert. Robert, son of George of Sandwich, may be identical with the Robert in Marblehead in 1637¹⁴ and/or the Robert in 1644 in New Haven¹⁵ and/or the Robert whose swine in 1651 were damaged by Pequot Indians; we have not followed his case sufficiently to be able to say. What is definitely known of him is that he was of Sandwich in 1645 and served for thirteen days in the war against the Narragansetts;¹⁷ that he "revolted from the covenant of his father,"¹⁸ that he left Sandwich and went to Yarmouth, where in 1651 he was presented for villifying the ministry of Mr. John Miller;¹⁹ and that he committed suicide at the home of his brother John 15 May 1661.²⁰

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| 1 W.S.Allen: "George Allen" | 11 J.K.Allen: "George Allen" MSS |
| 2 Besse: Sufferings of Quak. p380 | 12 Plym.Col.Rec. 4:17 |
| 3 Plym.Deeds 2:155&161; 3pt. 2:80 | 13 Plymouth Deeds 5:119 |
| 4 Plymouth Col.Rec. 5:23-24 | 14 Mass.Bay Col.Rec. 1:198 |
| 5 Leonard MSS, New Bedford | 15 Hoadley: N.Haven Col.Rec. 1:138 |
| 6 Arnold: vital records 7:85 | 16 Plym.Col.Acts of Com. 2:225 & 298 |
| 7 Plym.Col.Rec. 6:42 | 17 Plym.Col.Rec. 2:90 |
| 8 Deyo: Barnstable Co. 1:271 | 18 See Pope's Pioneers of Mass. |
| 9 Crowell: N.Eng.in Nova Sc. 224 | 19 Plym.Col.Rec. 2:165 |
| 10 Barnstable Prob.Rec.: 2:75 | 20 Da 4:13 |

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6 George

was sixteen years old when his father brought him to America in 1635. It may be that the Applegate land bought by the father in 1640¹ was purchased as a gift to four of his sons, either already there or soon to be so; for it seems that land they held in Weymouth may have been contiguous. John Allen's 5-acre parcel of Applegate land was bounded in part by Ralph Allen's land;² in February 1651 John Allen and George Allen were entitled to land east of Great Pond;³ and in that year Ebenezer Allen's land was described as east of Fresh Pond.⁴ Possibly the reason none of these sons was mentioned in the father's will was that they had had gifts of Weymouth land. George, Jr., was of Weymouth by 1640, for in that year he offered a petition about the Weymouth ferry; and about 1641 "George Allen of Weymouth in New England planter aged about 21 years" gave testimony about a boat that had been loaded by William Newland [his brother-in-law] and next day sank.⁵ We do not know when George removed to Sandwich. He was there by 8 June 1651, for he was fined on that date for failing to serve as juror; and on 7 Oct. 1651 he and his wife were fined for absenting themselves from public worship;⁶ and several times later he was fined for refusing to take an oath;⁷ and--after the Quakers came in 1657--fined for consorting with them.⁸ In 1652 it was ordered "that Edmund Freeman, Edward Perry, George Allen, Daniel Wing, John Ellis, Thomas Tobey shall take care of all the fish that Indians shall cut up within the limits of the town."⁹ In 1655 when money was being raised for rebuilding the church George and his brothers Matthew and Francis each gave 5s while their brothers William and Ralph and uncle Ralph gave 10 s each;¹⁰ although in that same year George and his brother-in-law William Newland were called "the implacable opponents of Mr. Leverich" the minister.¹¹ In 1656 George bought of his brothers Henry and Samuel land in Sandwich that had been willed them by their father.¹² A letter written by George in 1661 to Experience Mitchell has come down to us.¹³ In 1670 he bought land in Monmouth County, New Jersey,¹⁴ and although he himself never went to that colony, most of his children settled there. In Sandwich he had about 30 acres of land,¹⁵ in seven parcels. As time passed, the attitude of the community toward Quakers, and of the Quakers toward the community grew less tense. In 1675 Quakers were given the rights of other townsmen in Sandwich;¹⁶ and in 1678 we find George Allen taking the oath of fidelity.¹⁷ George was married twice. His first wife, Hannah, was mother of his large family. They were reprimanded in 1683 because their daughter Lydia had married out of

1 Register 46:185

2 Nash:Weymouth p.255

3 Do pp.281-2

4 Chamberlain:Weymouth 3:11)

5 Lechford:Notebook 195

6 Do 215

7 Plym.Col.Rec.2:171

8 Do 2 173

9 Do 3:138;176;181,etc.

10 Bowden: Hist. of Friends 18:146

11 Deyo:Barnstable Co. 1:268

12 Freeman:Cape Cod 2:54

13 W.S.Allen:"Geo.Allen"

14 Mayflower Descendant, 25:136-7

15 Do 15:60

16 N.J.Gen.Mag. 16:8

17 Freeman:Cape Cod 2:68

18 Do 2:72

unity; and on 3 June 1687 George was again reprimanded for having himself done the same in marrying his second wife, Sarah. He died about 1693, his estate being settled on 3 May of that year.⁷

7 Ebenezer. Of him we know only that he ^{had} land east of Fresh Pond, Weymouth, 1651¹, and was to draw farther land 2 Feb. 1651/2.¹¹

8 Francis was able to bear arms 1643 (so born by 1627); had charge of Sandwich town calves 1654 & 1658; was deeded land by Thomas Burgis in April 1654;⁷ served on the grand jury 1660 and on the coroner's jury 1664; married Mary Barlow 20 July 1662; rights he lost for being a Quaker were restored in 1675;¹² was given a dole by the Quakers in 1675 and 1676 "because of his mind weakness and his young child;" was labored with because of some bad carriage toward his wife and for not attending Quaker meetings; promised to amend; and in 1678 took the oath of fidelity. He drew land on Shawmo Neck 1695.¹³ His will was written 18 Feb. 1695/6 and proved 16 Mar. 1697/8. He died 1 Dec. 1696.¹³

9 Matthew. Full details of his life will be given farther on.

10 William. On 21 Mar. 1650¹⁴ he married Priscilla Brown, daughter of Peter of the Mayflower, and on 8 June following sold land in Duxbury left her by her father. In 1653 he was called to court for failure to serve on the grand jury.¹⁵ He and his uncle Ralph seem to have been the most outspoken and active of the Sandwich Quakers. William was fined for holding meetings in his house,¹⁶ for entertaining visiting Quakers, and for resisting their arrest;¹⁷ and in 1659 he and Ralph were thrown into Boston jail; and when released were tied bareback to a cart's tail and lashed through several towns. In 1663 William was sued for cutting grass on William Swift's land;¹⁸ and in 1665, for having in his possession a mare and foal belonging to Thomas Hawley, and lost both cases. In 1669 he sold Henry Tucker of Milton land in Dartmouth, from which it seems that William, like his brothers Ralph and Matthew, had been buying Dartmouth land. In 1678 there was some misunderstanding between William and his wife; the Friends conferred with them, and Priscilla acknowledged herself at fault; but in 1680 the matter was up again, and she protested against having Mary Mills at her home, saying Mary and William were "both set against her."¹⁹ William wrote his will 17 Feb. 1697/8, at which time Priscilla was alive. The will was proved 26 Oct. 1705.²⁰ He died 1 Oct. 1705.²³

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| 1 N. J. Gen. Mag. 16:8 | 13 Mayfl. Desc. 32:83 |
| 2 Mayfl. Desc. 18:36 | 14 Plym. Col. Rec. 3:204 |
| 3 Chamberlain: Weymouth 3:11 | 15 Do 3:100 |
| 4 Nash: Weymouth, p. 281 | 16 Do 3:112 |
| 5 Freeman: Cape Cod, 2:44 | 17 Do 3:213 |
| 6 J. K. Allen: "George Allen" MSS. | 18 Bishop: New Eng. Judged p. 211 |
| 7 Plymouth Co. Deeds 2:69 | 19 Plym. Col. Rec. 7:124 |
| 8 Plym. Col. Rec. 3:188 | 20 Do 7:110 |
| 9 Do 4:85 | 21 Mayfl. Desc. 5:36-37 |
| 10 Savage | 22 Barnstable Co. Prob. 2:213 |
| 11 Freeman: Cape Cod, 2:68 | 23 Mayfl. Desc. 32:26 |
| 12 Do 2:72 | |

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11 Henry. He was probably born in America, one of the five "least" children, and so probably grew up in the home of his step-father, John Collins, shoemaker, of Boston; and it is in Boston that he first appears in public records. In a deed dated 10 July 1656, "Wee Henry and Samuell Allin of Boston in New England, Joynt heires of a peece of land.....in the bounds of Sandwich of Plymouth Pattent in New England with certaine meddow ground thereunto adjoining and appertaining; which was the proper possession of our father George Allin Deceased; and by him given to us; wee....with the Consent of our mother; to say now Katheren Collins whoe hath Interest therin During her life; have for £20 to bee payed according to a bill by us in hand Receivedunto George Alline of Sandwich aforesaid; all that our land upland & meddow; with all the wood underwood timber fruites effects proffitts emunities appurtenances and hereditaments...as it now lyeth bounded being in the neckemsett necke; bounded on the south and west side by the River called spring hill river; on the north by shal---harbour bordering to the sea on the east side by the land of Richard Chadwell." The witnesses were John Collins and John Sanford. It is not certain, but seems rather probable, that this Henry who seems soon after this to disappear from Boston records [The Henry active thereafter was probably his cousin Henry] was the Henry who a few months later was at New Haven. At a court session in that city on 7 Dec. 1658² William Trowbridge asked permission to "diect and lodg" Henry Allen shoemaker until spring. Henry was still in New Haven on 23 May 1661³ when "The Court enquired of Jeremiah Osburne whether he knew of any yt stood related to the aforesd John Overin [late of New Haven, deceased] who answered that Henry Allen hath told him that he hath a brother about Piscattoway, who undertooke to give him notice of John Overin's death. The estate was left with Jeremiah Osbourne to be kept in specie till further order." [Jeremiah Osburne was son of Thomas of East Hampton, L.I.] Somewhere about this time he removed to Milford, and married, perhaps about 1662, Sarah Hill,⁴ daughter of John and Frances. Their first child, Mary, was born 21 Oct. 1663.⁵ The mother Sarah was baptized and admitted to Milford church 7 Oct. 1666⁶ and the daughter Sarah two weeks later, on the 21st; other children between 1668 and 1680.⁷ Sarah, the mother, died at Milford in 1680,⁸ and Henry later removed to Stratford and married there Rebecca, widow of Robert Rose.⁹ It is possible that Rebecca was daughter of Thomas and Anna Sherwood. With her parents, this Rebecca Sherwood came to America on the same boat that brought Henry's parents; in that case, she was some ten years Henry's senior. There were no children by the second marriage. Henry died about 1690, his inventory being taken the 20th of Sept., and Rebecca being alive the 8th of Nov. of that year.¹⁰

1 Plymouth Co. Deeds: 237752 Register 57:250-251

2 New Haven Rec. 1:370 6 Jacobus: Old Fairfield

3 Do 1:472

7 Milford 1st Ch. Baptisms

4 DeForest: Moore & Al. Fams. 8 N.J. Mag. 16th volume

12 Samuel. All that we know with certainty about Samuel is what we learn from the father's will,¹ by which his brother Henry and he were to have all the land except one meadow willed to William; and also--if we judge rightly that he was one of the "least five,"² a fifth of the house and its contents and a fifth of the barque; and what we learn from the Boston deed,³ by which Henry and he on 10 July 1656 sold to their brother George their Sandwich land, upland and meadow. Since in both the will and the deed Henry's name stands first, it would seem that Samuel was the younger of the two. It is entirely possible that Samuel was the brother mentioned without name by Henry, as being in Piscataway in the spring of 1661 and as having given notice of John Overin's death;⁴ and it may also be that he was the Samuel Allen with wife Mary who on 16 July 1663 sold a two-and-a-half acre lot in Fairfield to Robert Meeker--a conjecture that possibly is slightly strengthened by the fact that a nephew of Samuel married a Fairfield girl.

13 Gideon. From his late marriage and late entry into business activities, we judge him to have been the youngest of George Allen's children and the only one of the "least five" not mentioned in the will by name--perhaps because in infancy or little more. He doubtless grew up in the Boston home of John Collins, his step-father, and was the administrator of the latter's estate in 1670. Before that he had been in Rehoboth, where on 20 May 1667 he was witness for his brother John, and had joined with John in founding, with many others from Rehoboth, the new settlement at Swansea in 1669. He was classed in the second, or middle rank of Swansea townsmen, while John was in the upper rank.⁵ Probably soon after settling the Collins estate he visited his brother Henry in Milford; found there a wife, Sarah, daughter of Rev. Peter Prudden;⁶ and brought her back to his Swansea home, where their first child was born 20 Oct. 1673.⁷ In 1674 Gideon served on the grand jury. // In 1676, during the turmoil of King Philip's War, he removed his family to Boston,⁸ where he was a member of the Third Church.⁹ Thence he removed to Milford, which was to be his home for the remainder of his life. His daughter Abigail was baptized there on 5 Dec. 1680.¹⁰ He became a man of importance in town affairs.¹¹ As late as 1686 he still owned land in Swansea.¹² He died at Milford about 1694.¹³ His widow Sarah was alive on 1 Mar. 1699/1700.¹⁴

1 Mayfl. Desc. 9:224

2 Do 25:136-7

3 N. Haven town rec. 1:472

4 Jacobus: Old Fairfield

5 Suffolk Co. Prob. 7:73 and
Do new series 1:480

6 Plym. Col. ~~Rec.~~ Rec. 4:164

7 Bowen: Rehoboth 1:366

8 Bowen: Rehoboth, p. 38 of vol. 1

9 Register 84:62

10 Swansea vital records

11 Plym. Col. Rec. 5:145

12 Savage

13 Register 32:328

14 Bowen: Rehoboth 1:43