

The MERRILL Newsletter

Volume 5, Number 4

July, 1999

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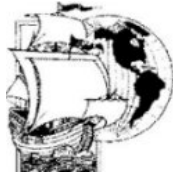
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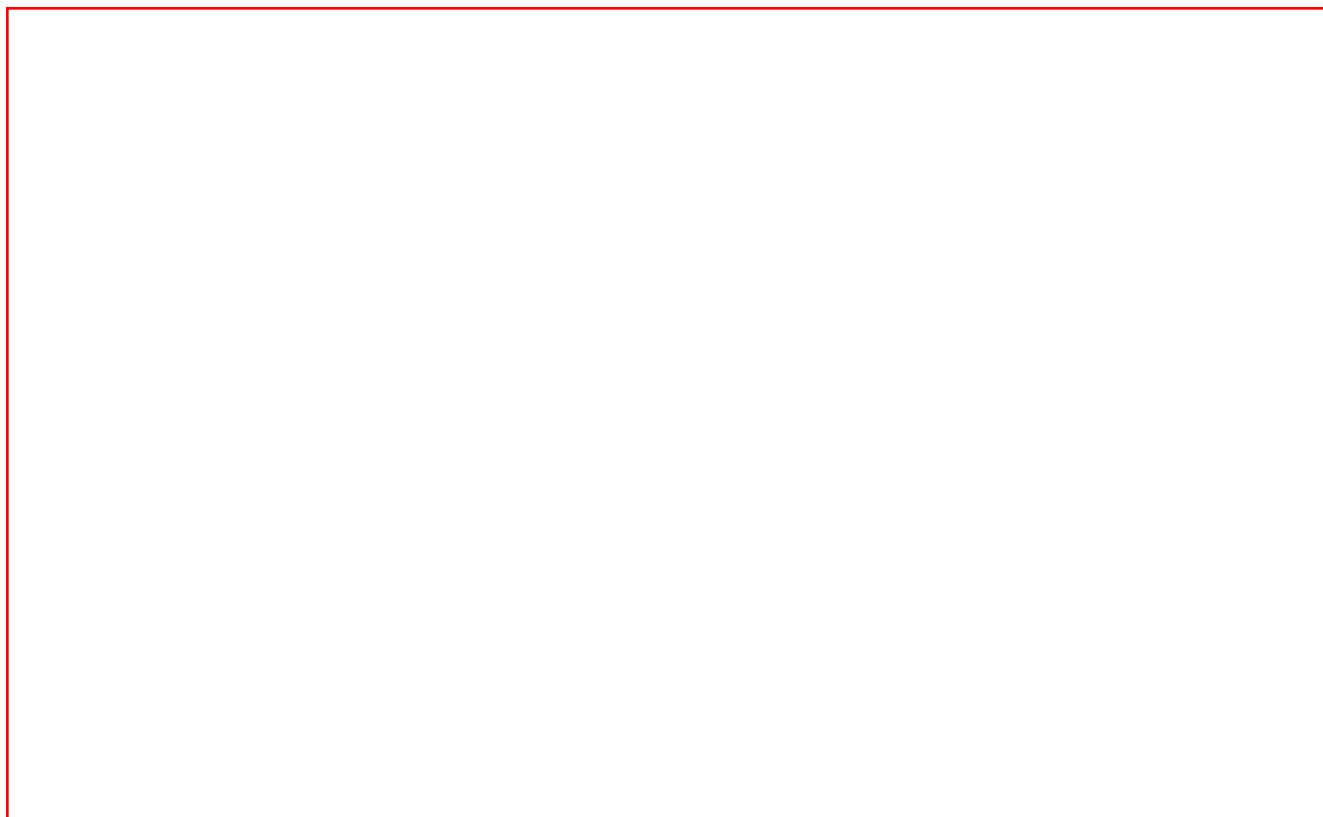
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The MERRILLs of Shelburne Falls, Massachusetts

by Deane Whitney MERRILL (1938-)

4 August 1999 (version 4)



The Shelburne, Shelburne Falls, Massachusetts, in 1926. Built in 1852 as the Shelburne Falls House for Joseph MERRILL 1804-1854. Joseph ran the hotel with his brother, Moses Whitney MERRILL 1817-1859. The building was constructed by Ira MERRILL 1803-1866 and his sons, stonemasons. It serves today as a grocery store and is still the largest building in the Village of Shelburne Falls.

The previous issue of the MERRILL newsletter (Vol.5, No.3, April 1998, <http://merrill.wwh.net/TMN>) contained my article about the MERRILLs of Franklin County, Massachusetts. Since writing that article, I retired from California to Shelburne Falls in Franklin county, a small village where MERRILLs were prominent during the 19th century. My previous knowledge was based entirely on family records, plus census and vital statistics records. Since moving to Shelburne Falls I have discovered local cemeteries, county records, the Shelburne Historical Society and Museum, and local history books and newspapers. My earlier article contained many unanswered questions and a few errors, which have been corrected by MERRILL descendants who provided valuable new information. Details and source information, under continual revision, are at <http://www.bearhaven.com/family/data/dwmerrill12.html>. I encourage readers of the MERRILL newsletter to contact me to exchange information.

Among the earliest MERRILLs in Shelburne Falls were Joseph⁶ MERRILL 1773-1844 (my g-g-g-grandfather) and Thaddeus⁷ MERRILL 1778-1855. Their respective wives were first cousins

Lucinda WHITNEY 1776-1857 and Achsah SEVERANCE 1785-1872. All four, and many of their descendants, are buried in Arms Cemetery in Shelburne Falls. The genealogies of the WHITNEY and SEVERANCE families have been thoroughly studied, but the origins of Joseph and Thaddeus MERRILL are less certain. Based on the known evidence, I believe the most likely lineage is:

John⁴ MERRILL (Nathaniel^{3,2,1}) 1706/7-1741 m. Lydia GAGE b.abt.1695

Daniel⁵ MERRILL b.1729 m. Eunice FELLOWS

Joseph⁶ MERRILL 1773-1844 m. Lucinda WHITNEY 1776-1857

John⁴ MERRILL 1706/7-1741 m. Lydia GAGE b.abt.1695

Nathaniel⁵ MERRILL b.1731/2 m. Anna BALDWIN

Thaddeus⁶ MERRILL b.1758 m. Chloe SMEAD 1759-1827

Thaddeus⁷ MERRILL 1778-1855 m. Achsah SEVERANCE 1785-1872

Joseph⁶, like several of his descendants, was an innkeeper. My wife and I are continuing the tradition, having opened a Bed and Breakfast in the 1852 home built by Joseph's son Moses⁷ W. MERRILL 1817-1859. See <http://www.bearhaven.com>.

Thaddeus⁷ fathered eleven sons and two daughters in Shelburne Falls. His wife Achsah SEVERANCE Merrill 1785-1872 was the granddaughter of the Indian fighter Martin SEVERANCE 1718-1810, who built the first cabin in Shelburne Falls. The house where Achsah was born is the oldest residence still standing in the Village. A newspaper article relates that in her seventies she *won* the female equestrian competition at the county fair, and that her hair had not a trace of gray.

Thaddeus' son Ira⁸ MERRILL 1803-1866 followed in his father's footsteps and became a prominent stone mason in Shelburne Falls. Ira patented innovative techniques for the quarrying and finishing of stone. Two other sons, Solomon⁸ Fellows MERRILL 1820-1898 and Martin⁸ Severance MERRILL 1818-1887, along with Jonathan NIMS b.1817, formed the Shelburne Falls Military Band in 1835, which has continued uninterrupted until this day. Other early MERRILL band members were Moses⁷ Whitney MERRILL 1817-1859 and Cordeanio⁸ Harley MERRILL 1840-1908, the son and grandson of Joseph⁶ MERRILL 1773-1844.

Appropriately for a master stone worker, Ira's grave site in Arms Cemetery, Shelburne Falls, is an imposing pink granite monument, surrounded by smaller markers for many of his family members. Ira and his sons built dozens of major stone structures in western Massachusetts between 1850 and 1900, including banks, hotels, churches, libraries, and bridges as far away as Williamstown and Northampton. Most prominent of Ira's sons was George⁹ Gilson MERRILL 1836-1912, whose name appears on the 1890 iron bridge which crosses the Deerfield River at Shelburne Falls. The most substantial building in Shelburne Falls today is the former Shelburne Falls House, constructed in 1852 by Ira⁸ MERRILL for Joseph⁷ MERRILL Jr. 1804-1854. Joseph Jr. ran the hotel with his brother Moses⁷ Whitney MERRILL 1817-1859. In the late 19th century, the Shelburne Falls House was renowned for its unique dance floor, which was supported on springs! Another local attraction is a stone fire observation tower on the summit of nearby Mt. Massaemet, which was constructed in 1909 by George⁹ Gilson MERRILL's son Roy¹⁰ Stanley MERRILL, who was graduated from Dartmouth College in 1902.

As of a year ago I did not know any of Thaddeus⁷ MERRILL's living descendants. That situation has

changed.

In 1998 I received a surprise visit from Edward¹² Emory HARADON III (1939-) (edmory@webtv.net), who descends from Thaddeus as follows:

Thaddeus⁷ MERRILL 1778-1855 m. Achsah SEVERANCE 1785-1872

Caroline⁸ Hannah MERRILL 1822-1853 m. John Schuyler HARADON 1815-1875

Emory⁹ Schuyler HARADON 1848-1928 m. Susan A. PERRY 1852-1927

Edward¹⁰ Emory HARADON 1885-1970 m. Bessie Blanche HARRIS 1888-1979

Edward¹¹ Emory HARADON 1914- m. Ella Ellen FELLOWS 1920-1982

Edward¹² Emory HARADON 1939-

Edward gave me a copy of a manuscript by John Schuyler HARADON 1815-1875 entitled: "Fitchburg Mass. Aug. 28 1856. I design this Book for A Register of the Families of our Kindred. By John S. Haradon son of John Haradon and Experience Dunham his wife." This book contains birth, death and marriage information for several hundred individuals, including many of Thaddeus⁷ MERRILL's descendants. Edward and I together visited Arms Cemetery and Shelburne Historical Museum, and Edward joined the Shelburne Historical Society.

A few weeks later Edward¹² III visited again, this time with his father Edward¹¹ II (1914-). They brought with them the *original* of another manuscript, "Memoranda and Accounts of John S. Haradon 1815-1875." Edward III had rescued this unique document *from a trash bin* where it would have been lost forever. I made a photocopy, and Edward III donated the original document to the Shelburne Historical Society. Many friends and relatives in Shelburne Falls are mentioned. John HARADON was a school teacher, and the volume lists most of his many pupils beginning in 1833. For many months at a time he lived apart from his wife and children while teaching school. He was deeply religious and an advocate of temperance. One page contains locks of hair from himself and this wife and his three children. He was deeply affected by the loss of his wife, when she was 31. Her fatal struggle with consumption is recorded with great poignancy.

Another living descendant of Thaddeus⁷ MERRILL is Thomas¹² Merrill MEADE (tomnet@gte.net), who descends from Thaddeus as follows:

Thaddeus⁷ MERRILL 1778-1855 m. Achsah SEVERANCE 1785-1872

David⁸ MERRILL 1812-1906 m. Agnes FONDA

Charles⁹ Durkee MERRILL b.abt.1843? m. Lucy GINGELL?

Edward¹⁰ Strong MERRILL b.abt.1873? m. Mary LANNON

Lannon¹¹ MERRILL b.abt.1903? m. --- MEADE

Thomas¹² Merrill MEADE b.abt.1933?

Thomas writes as follows about his grandfather Edward¹⁰ Strong MERRILL (b.abt.1873): "This noteworthy Merrill was born in San Leandro, California and reared on the Merrill farm. His father Charles⁹ Durkee MERRILL (b.abt.1843) and at least one uncle had farms in Beloit, Wisconsin. Part of their property was donated to Beloit College. Edward was a legendary multisport athlete. Some sportswriters rated Edward superior to Thorpe due to his speed, intelligence and all-round ability. He won the Big Ten medal for excellence in baseball, football and track, declined a contract with the

Chicago Cubs in order to attend Boston Psychopathic and later the California School of Osteopathy, and founded a landmark psychiatric practice and sanitarium in Los Angeles. He also taught Latin and Greek at Occidental College, and coached the track team. There is much information available about him. His image and sports stories are in the Beloit Athletic Hall of Fame. He was attracted to Los Angeles originally due to an interest in auto racing. There is a 1960-era news clipping reminding us of him in his Stanley Steamer on the streets of Los Angeles. Most people referred to him as "Big Ed."

"Ed's father Charles⁹ Durkee Merrill (b.abt.1843) and his mother Lucy GINGELL? Merrill were quite peripatetic and sailed round the Horn to California on more than one occasion. There was some Mormon element in the equation and they may have been active in a Mormon settlement east of Los Angeles before the turn of the century. They traveled in Europe."

"Another item dated 1905 came from a librarian in Rockford, Illinois, mentioning David⁸ MERRILL 1812-1906, Edward's grandfather, as "one of the old singing masters who taught singing school here in 1841 now ninety-three years old and still living in the neighboring town of Cherry Valley." The MERRILL Memorial, published 1917-1928 by Samuel MERRILL, states that David⁸ MERRILL was a real estate developer in Beloit. "Merrill's Addition" is a suburb which bears his name.

"Edward's sister Agnes¹⁰ MERRILL married and taught school in Lancaster, CA. His uncles were Presbyterian ministers who founded churches and were pastors in Eagle Rock, between Pasadena and Los Angeles. Pictures and stories of his brothers are in the library at Beloit College - they were robust, excellent athletes and handsome."

From Howard and Jean MERRILL (hjmerril@eatel.net) I received a copy of a 1992 letter from Peggy Dillon LEWIS, whose MERRILL line is as follows:

Thaddeus⁷ MERRILL 1778-1855 m. Achsah SEVERANCE 1785-1872

Thaddeus⁸ MERRILL 1816-1893 m.(2) Experience Christiana HARADON 1829-1915

Alice⁹ Experience MERRILL 1854-1941 m. Francis Marion DILLON d.1909

The MERRILL line of Thaddeus⁸ ends here; the only son of Thaddeus⁸ was George⁹ Arthur MERRILL 1853-1894, who had no children. Note that Experience Christiana HARADON 1829-1915 and John Schuyler HARADON 1815-1875 were siblings, who married the siblings Thaddeus⁸ MERRILL Jr. 1816-1893 and Caroline⁸ Hannah MERRILL 1822-1853. Peggy Dillon LEWIS' letter also contains information about Thaddeus⁷ MERRILL's grandfather and father, Nathaniel⁵ MERRILL b.1731/2 and Thaddeus⁶ MERRILL b.1758.

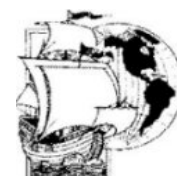
Peggy's letter states that the husband of Lucinda WHITNEY 1776-1857 was Joseph⁶ MERRILL b.1769 the son of Nathaniel⁵ MERRILL b.1731/2. I believe instead that her husband was Joseph⁶ MERRILL 1773-1844 the son of Daniel⁵ MERRILL b.1729. From Joseph and Lucinda's gravestone and from Shelburne death records, Lucinda's husband Joseph MERRILL who died in 1844 was born March 25, 1773. From Shelburne birth records, a Joseph MERRILL was born in Deerfield on March 27, 1773. From the Deerfield birth records, Joseph Merrill, son of Daniel and ____, was baptised on Oct. 10, 1773. The two-day discrepancy in the birth dates, and the six-month delay before baptism, are plausible. Daniel's presence in Deerfield in 1773 is confirmed by tax records. See http://www.bearhaven.com/family/merrill/jos_father.html.

Also from Howard and Jean MERRILL (hjmerril@eatel.net) I received a copy of a 1990 letter "The Children and Grandchildren of Nathaniel⁵ MERRILL (b.1731/2) and his son Benjamin⁶ MERRILL (1767-1854)", prepared for Ted D. MERRILL, Chaparral, New Mexico by professional genealogist Roger D. Joslyn. Joslyn lists six children born in Rowe, Massachusetts to Thaddeus⁶ MERRILL b.1758 who in 1780 married Chloe SMEAD 1759-1827; but these *do not* include Thaddeus⁷ MERRILL 1778-1855 who married Achsah SEVERANCE 1785-1872. Joslyn, like Peggy DILLON Lewis, states that the husband of Lucinda WHITNEY 1776-1857 is Joseph⁶ MERRILL b.1769 the son of Nathaniel⁵ MERRILL b.1731/2, rather than Joseph⁵ MERRILL 1773-1844 the son of Daniel⁵ MERRILL b.1729. Joslyn's reasoning rests on a June 1795 deed, which states that Joseph and Lucinda MERRILL sold land in Rowe conveyed five months earlier to Joseph by Thaddeus⁶ [Hampshire/Franklin county Deeds, 7:674 and 7:697]. Although the land records are persuasive, I find this evidence somewhat less convincing than Joseph's birth and death records cited above.

Genealogy information on the Internet is growing at the phenomenal rate of 5 percent *per month*. See <http://www.bearhaven.com/family/growth.html>. If this trend continues, it will not be long before other MERRILL descendants respond to the MERRILL newsletter, and/or publish new information of their own. I wish to publicly exchange information about the descendants and ancestors of the MERRILLs of Shelburne Falls, especially Joseph⁶ 1773-1844 and Thaddeus⁷ 1778-1855, and I will donate my time and Web resources for this purpose.

Deane¹¹ Whitney MERRILL (Deane¹⁰,Charles⁹,Cordeanio⁸,Moses⁷,Joseph⁶) (1938-)
22 Mechanic Street, Shelburne Falls, MA 01370
email: merrill@crocker.com web: www.bearhaven.com

merrill9907.html 8/4/99 in:
<http://merrill.wwh.net/TMN/199907/> from:
tmn9907.html 7/9/99 in:
dennie:\\c:\webshare\wwwroot\bearhaven2\
<http://www.bearhaven.com/bearhaven2/>
<http://merrill.wwh.net/bearhaven2/>



Next

Merrill Bible Found

Transcribed by
Carolyn Camidge, owner



Carolyn will be happy to place this Bible with a proven descendant of this Merrill line.¹ She requests reimbursement of her costs. Please contact her directly at ccamidge@aol.com.

Transcriber's note:

I AM TYPING EXACTLY AS WRITTEN BY THE AUTHOR - WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE "f" IN THE WORD "MAFS." TO AN "s" - I.E. MASS. - AS I UNDERSTAND IT, OLD HANDWRITING WHERE A DOUBLE "S" OCCURRED, THE FIRST "S" WAS WRITTEN AS THE LETTER "F" - ANYWAY, THAT IS THE ONLY THING I HAVE CHANGED. OTHERWISE, I HAVE TRIED TO LEAVE IT WRITTEN/SEPARATED AS IT WAS ACTUALLY WRITTEN BY THE AUTHOR.

Editor's Note: All of the transcriber's notes are herein written in italics, as the above. LH

PAGE 1

MARRIAGES

Isaac Merrill was married to Hannah Jane Lord Nov. 22, 1829 at [*appears to read*] South Berwick, Maine (??)

Priscilla Merrill was married to Moses Luxbury in Nov. 1821 by the Rev. Mr. (not legible - appears to be Lawson - but not sure)

Enoch Merrill was married Jany. 1 - 1833 to Miss Emeline Crowell of Weare (not sure of spelling), Ms. Age 22 years -

Joseph Merrill was married June 18, 1836 to Dolly F. Morrill of Amesbury. Aged - 19 yrs. 10 months.

Enoch Merrill was married the 2nd time January 26, 1842 to Marth Alexander of Northfield, Ms. - aged 31 years.

Albert Merrill was married² Oct. 1812 [*could be 1852 - handwriting was too small to tell for sure - no day was written in*]
to Miss Sally A. Quimby of Amesbury,
[*not sure of spelling - first name was LIGHTLY penciled in and last name was not very legible - could have started with a "Q" could have been an "L" - just*

*not sure]*¹

- daughter of Robert Quimby, Esquire

Lydia M. Luxbury was married to John Harper Blaisdell of South Hampton N.H. in
[appears to be] A.D. 1846

John Aged 29 Lydia Aged 24 yrs.

Addie E. Merrill married to Edwin Sargent *[last name could be Largent ??]* of
Amesbury, Ms Sept. 17th 1862 *[could be 1812 - ink smudged]* at
5 o clock PM by the Rev. Roger M. Sargent *[could be Largent ??]* of Farmington,
NH *[very hard to read but appeared to be "Farmington"]*
[Notation in light pencil underneath:] Congregation...*[runs into page border]*

Lydia M. Merrill was married to John P. Rowe of Farmington N.H. Dec. 9th 1863
PM by the Rev. Calvin Helman *[could be Halman]* of Rochester, N.H. (Methodist)

[DEATH NOTED UNDER MARRIAGES COLUMN]

Edwin Sargent Died July 2nd 1898 aged 63 yrs

PAGE 2
FAMILY RECORD

AGES OF JOSEPH MERRILL AND WIFE'S AGE AND CHILDREN OF AMESBURY MASS.

JOSEPH MERRILL WAS BORN JULY 29TH 1771

LYDIA MERRILL HIS WIFE WAS BORN JANUARY 16TH 1770

CHILDREN OF THE ABOVE:

PRISCILLA MERRILL WAS BORN FEBRUARY 7TH 1802

ISAAC MERRILL WAS BORN JULY 16TH 1803

CHARLES MERRILL WAS BORN MAY 26TH 1905

ENOCH MERRILL WAS BORN NOVEMBER 23, 1807

ALBERT MERRILL WAS BORN OCTOBER 7TH 1810

JOSEPH MERRILL WAS BORN NOVEMBER 4TH, 1814

**Lydia Merrill Luxbury (??) Daughter of Moses & Priscilla Luxbury was born
October 12th, 1822**

Isaac Merrill Born July 16 1803

Hannah Jane Merrill, his wife born Feb. 1 1809

Isaac Merrill

Died March 17th 1885 - aged 81 yrs. 8 mos.

Hannah J. Merrill

Died July 6th 1896 - aged 87 yrs, 5 mos.

PAGE 3
FAMILY RECORD

AGES OF THE CHILDREN OF ISAAC MERRILL & HANNAH JANE MERRILL

BIRTHS

Charles Albert Merrill
Born August 7th 1833

Adaline Emery Merrill
Born Sept. 23rd 1835

Lydia Martin Merrill
Born Sept. 3rd 1843

DEATHS

Charles A. Merrill
(My son) [*Lightly penciled notation*]
Died Dec. 14th 1852
Aged 19-yrs. 4 mos. 7 days

Charles Merrill of Amesbury, Mass. Died August 10th 1857 [*could be 1837 but I believe it reads 1857*]
(Brother) [*Lightly penciled notation*]
Aged 52 yrs. 2 mos. 14 days

Mrs. Lydia Merrill of Amesbury
(Mother) [*Lightly penciled notation*]
Died March 30th, 1860
Aged 90 yrs. 2 mos. 14 days

Mr. Joseph Merrill of Amesbury
(My Father) [*Lightly penciled notation*]
Died April 15, 1861
Aged 89 yrs. 8 mos. 16 days

Albert Merrill of Haverhill
Mass. Died Jany 24th 1876
Aged 65 years 3 months and 17 days

Enoch Merrill of Worcester, Mass.
died May 14th 1880 Aged
72 yrs. 6 month & 21 days

Isaac Merrill of Farmington,
Died March 17th 1885 aged
81 yrs. 8 mos. & 3 days

Joseph Merrill, Jr. Died
Feb. 9 1898 aged
85 yrs. - 3 mos. & 5d

PAGE 4 - LAST PAGE
FAMILY RECORD
DEATHS

Priscilla Luxbury, Wife of Moses Luxbury
departed this life Nov. 8th 1822 -

Emeline Merrill Wife of Enoch Merrill
departed this life Jany 4th 1837 Aged 26 yrs.

Mrs. Lydia M. Blaisdell wife of
John H. Blaisdell died Feby 27th 1852
Aged 29 yrs. 3 months & 15 Days

Uncle
Ephraim Merrill died
Feby 4th of ??? in 1874
[ABOVE LINE COULD BE Feby 4th of ??? OR IT COULD BE ??? 4th of March - CAN'T TELL FOR SURE - BUT I BELIEVE IT IS Feby 4th OF ??? IN 1874]
at the old homestead of
his Father Aged Eighty two yrs.
[I BELIEVE THE "Aged Eighty two yrs." REFERS TO THE AGE OF EPHRAIM AT HIS DEATH]

Miss HannaH Merrill of
Amesbury Mass. died July
1880 Aged 82 yrs. an own cous
in to my Father
[ABOVE should read "an own cousin to my Father" BUT I AM TYPING EXACTLY AS WRITTEN BY THE AUTHOR - WITH THE EXCEPTION OF - I HAVE BEEN CHANGING THE "f" IN MAFS. TO AN "s" - I.E. MASS. - AS I UNDERSTAND IT, OLD HANDWRITING WHERE A DOUBLE "S" OCCURRED, THE FIRST "S" WAS WRITTEN AS THE LETTER "F" - ANYWAY, THAT IS THE ONLY THING I HAVE CHANGED. OTHERWISE, I HAVE TRIED TO LEAVE IT WRITTEN/SEPARATED AS IT WAS ACTUALLY WRITTEN BY THE AUTHOR.]

Martha wife of Enoch Merrill
Died Jan 6 - 1889 - aged 78yrs.

Sally Ann wife of Albert Merrill Died
June 4th 1910

Mrs. Philomela Lord died June 3 -1951
aged 78 years 5 mo.

Mr. Edmund Lord died Jany 28 - 1852
aged 77 years

Aunts

===

Mrs. Priscilla Bing died
[LAST NAME COULD BE BING, BINY, NISY - THOUGH NOT CLEAR, I BELIEVE IT IS BING]

1856 aged seventy eight yrs.

**Miss Deborah Martin
died Aug-13th or 14th 1860 Aged - 82 yrs.**

**Mrs. Betsey Bartlett
Died some 8 or 10 years since
aged about 78**

[LAST TWO LINES UNDER BETSEY BARTLETT WERE VERY LIGHTLY PENCILLED IN AND WAS ALMOST UNABLE TO READ - HAD TO USE MAGNIFIER AND FLASHLIGHT - NOT SURE EXACTLY

WHAT DATE THAT WOULD PUT MRS. BARTLETT'S DEATH AT ??? THIS ENTRY IMMEDIATELY

FOLLOWED DEATH ENTRY OF MISS DEBORAH MARTIN - POSSIBLY COULD HAVE BEEN ENTERED

AT THE SAME TIME AS MISS DEBORAH MARTIN'S ENTRY - PRESUMING ENTRIES WERE MADE

AT THE SAME TIME IN THE SAME YEAR (THEY ARE THE SAME HANDWRITING) DEATH YEAR MIGHT HAVE BEEN 1860 OR COULD HAVE BEEN 1850 OR 52 CONSIDERING THE REMARK "Died some 8 or 10 years since".]

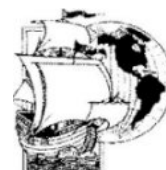
**Mrs. Sally Long Died
some time in 1873
age over 80**

[END of TRANSCRIPTION]

Footnotes:

1. We have gone over this and identified the owner of the bible [from the notations - my father - my son]. He is Isaac (7), Joseph (6), Jacob (5), Isaac (4), Abraham (3,2), Nathaniel (1). We feel that this identification should be included. The people included are primarily the children and grandchildren of Joseph (6) and Lydia Martin plus a few others. Howard and Jean Merrill

2. The MA vital records for Salisbury, MA give the m. date for Albert of Haverhill to Sally Ann Quimby as 1852 Oct. 13 in Salisbury. All other vital records agree with those posted by cmcamidge. Howard and Jean Merrill



Next

The Ancestry of Sarah Moers/Morse, Wife of Daniel⁴ Merrill (Daniel³, Daniel², Nathaniel¹)

by Duane Barton

FIRST GENERATION

1. Sarah Moers^{1,2} was born on 15 May 1707 in Newbury, Essex Co., Massachusetts.³ She died in Newbury, Essex Co., Massachusetts. She was also known as Sarah Mooers.⁴

SECOND GENERATION

2. Jonathan Moore^{5,6} was born on 30 Apr 1681 in Newbury, Essex Co., Massachusetts.⁷ He died before 2 Aug 1714.⁸ His widow married Thomas Chase. He was also known as Jonathan Mooers.⁹ He was also known as Jonathan Moors.¹⁰ He was also known as Jonathan Moores.¹¹ He was married to Elizabeth Woodhead on 14 Aug 1701 in Newbury, Essex Co., Massachusetts.^{12,13}

3. Elizabeth Woodhead^{14,15,16} was born on 28 Dec 1674 in Chelmsford, Co. Essex, England.^{17,18} Jonathan Moore and Elizabeth Woodhead had the following children:

- i. Jonathan Mooers¹⁹ was born on 22 Jul 1702 in Newbury, Essex Co., Massachusetts.²⁰
- 1 ii. Sarah Moers.

THIRD GENERATION

4. Capt. Jonathan Moores²¹ was born on 23 Apr 1646. He died in 1689. He was married to Constance Longhorne on 10 May 1670 in Newbury, Essex Co., Massachusetts.²²

5. Constance Longhorne²³ was born in Sep 1652. Capt. Jonathan Moores and Constance Longhorne had the following children:

- 2 i. Jonathan Moore.
- ii. Richard Moores²⁴ was born on 25 Jul 1683 in Newbury, Essex Co., Massachusetts.²⁵
- iii. Samuell Moers²⁶ was born on 20 Feb 1685/86 in Newbury, Essex Co., Massachusetts.²⁷
- iv. Thomas Moers²⁸ was born on 6 Nov 1688 in Newbury, Essex Co., Massachusetts.²⁹
- v. Dorothy Moers³⁰ was born on 18 Dec 1690 in Newbury, Essex Co., Massachusetts.³¹

6. William Woodhead^{32,33}. He was married to Mary Browne on 21 Jun 1669 in Chelmsford, Co. Essex, England.^{34,35,36}

7. Mary Browne^{37,38}. William Woodhead and Mary Browne had the following children:

- i. Bridget Woodhead³⁹ was born on 3 Apr 1669 in Chelmsford, Co. Essex, England.⁴⁰
- 3 ii. Elizabeth Woodhead.

FOURTH GENERATION

8. Capt. Edmund Mooers was born in 1614. He died on 19 Apr 1699. He was married to Anne.

9. Anne died on 7 Jun 1676. Capt. Edmund Mooers and Anne had the following children:

4 i. Capt. Jonathan Moores.

10. Richard Longhorne. Richard Longhorne had the following children:

5 i. Constance Longhorne.

FIFTH GENERATION

16. Francis Moore was born about 1583. Francis Moore had the following children:

8 i. Capt. Edmund Mooers.

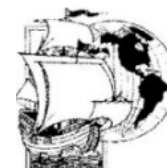
SOURCES

- 1. Merrill, Jack. Descendants of Thomas Meryell. <http://www.familytreemaker.com/users/m/e/r/John-H-Merrill/GENE5-0056.html>.**
- 2. Vital Records of Newbury, Massachusetts to the End of the Year 1849, Volume 1. Salem, Massachusetts: The Essex Institute, 1911. page 334.**
- 3. Ibid. page 334.**
- 4. Ibid. page 334.**
- 5. Chase, John Carroll and George Walter Chamberlain, compilers. Seven Generations of the Descendants of Aquila and Thomas Chase. originally published 1928, Derry, New Hampshire, republished 1998, Picton Press, Camden, Maine, page 37.**
- 6. Vital Records of Newbury, Massachusetts to the End of the Year 1849, Volume 1. Salem, Massachusetts: The Essex Institute, 1911. page 334.**
- 7. Ibid. page 334.**
- 8. Chase, John Carroll and George Walter Chamberlain, compilers. Seven Generations of the Descendants of Aquila and Thomas Chase. originally published 1928, Derry, New Hampshire, republished 1998, Picton Press, Camden, Maine, page 37.**
- 9. Vital Records of Newbury, Massachusetts to the End of the Year 1849, Volume 1. Salem, Massachusetts: The Essex Institute, 1911. page 334.**
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34. Vital Records of Chelmsford, Massachusetts to the End of the Year 1849. Salem, Massachusetts: The Essex Institute, 1914. page 166.
35. Chase, John Carroll and George Walter Chamberlain, compilers. Seven Generations of the Descendants of Aquila and Thomas Chase. originally published 1928, Derry, New Hampshire, republished 1998, Picton Press, Camden, Maine. page 37.
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37. Ibid. page 166.
38. Chase, John Carroll and George Walter Chamberlain, compilers. Seven Generations of the Descendants of Aquila and Thomas Chase. originally published 1928, Derry, New Hampshire, republished 1998, Picton Press, Camden, Maine. page 37.
39. Vital Records of Chelmsford, Massachusetts to the End of the Year 1849. Salem, Massachusetts: The Essex Institute, 1914. page 166.
40. Ibid. page 166.

Many thanks for this well-researched submission to:

Duane Barton
Corporate Applications Manager
Fuji Medical Systems USA, Inc.
Voice: (203)324-2000 x 3683
Fax: (203)353-0926
Internet: duaneb@fujimed.com



Next

MERRILLVILLE CEMETERY

Ross Township Lake County, Indiana

This cemetery is located on Old County Road 330 (73 Avenue) in Merrillville, Indiana and is one of the oldest cemeteries in the area.

MERRILL, Almira A.; wife of J.F. Merrill; Sept 13, 1832; Jan 22, 1906

Andrew J.; son of D. and R. Merrill; died Sept 22, 1857; aged

1 yr 9 mos. 10 da.

Arthur O.; 1876-1932

Caroline C.; wife of Wm Merrill; July 8, 1822; Mar 24, 1880

Charles L.; Mar 15, 1850; Sept 21, 1913

Cora B.; (Mother) 1878-1939

Dudley; died July 8, 1890; aged 75 yrs 9 mos. 24 da.

Elizabeth; wife of Oliver Merrill; died Nov 19, 1852; aged

63 yrs 11 mos

Emeline; wife of Dudley Merrill; died Nov 13, 1853; aged 26

yrs. 2 mos. 19 da.

James D.; Mar 1, 1846; May 5, 1864; (Died in the Battle of The
Wilderness, Civil War)

John F.; May 13, 1822; Nov 11, 1890

Julia Ann; wife of Dudley Merrill; died June 4, 1852; aged

33 yrs 9 mos. 7 da.

Julia A.; wife of Oliver Merrill, died May 7, 1879 (stone
sunken)

Louesa M.; Oct 2, 1852; Mar 16, 1906

Oliver W.; Feb 1, 18??; Jan 10, 1904

Oliver; died Oct 7, 1854; aged 72 yrs 8 mos 12 da.

Roxelana; wife of Dudley Merrill; died Apr 4, 1875; aged

58 yrs 1 da.

William; Apr 16, 1808; Jan 1, 1860

William; son of D. and R. Merrill; died Sept 28, 1861;

aged 25 da.

Ed. Note: Thanks to the USGENWEB Lake County, Indiana archives and the volunteer researcher, Kathy, for this information. Kathy says she obtained the data from microfilmed records at the Lake County Library.





QUERIES

By Howard and Jean Merrill

Sue Wallace (wallace@accessone.com) of Seattle, WA, wrote:

Does anyone have records of the parents and ancestors of POLLY MERRILL JOHNSON (1790-1863), my g2 grandmother? According to her obituary, she left New Hartford, CT in 1813 with her husband, William Johnson, and settled in Braceville, Trumbull County, Ohio, where she died in 1863.

As a veteran of the War of 1812, William may have been seeking cheap Western Reserve land. Polly may be related to Luman, Hiram and Aaron Merrill, who also settled about the same time very near her family in Braceville. Luman married a Nabby Johnson in 1819. Nabby is probably a sister of William Johnson. Polly and William had 9 children, one of whom they named Luman.

Any documented information or even just plain old clues will be greatly appreciated!.

ANSWER

Susan: We should have picked up on Braceville, OH in your previous query and checked the location index in MERRILL MEMORIAL. There it says that Polly, daughter of Aaron⁵ and Annis Humphrey lived in Braceville OH. This Polly is undoubtedly your Polly who m William Johnson. MM has her birth date as 1791. Her brother, Luman Humphrey⁶ was also in Braceville in the 1820 census with his new wife Abigail Johnson [m 1819 Sept 13] and extra male [all are 16-26](perhaps a brother or cousin). By 1840 (and '50 and '60) Luman H. is in Paris, Portage Co OH [adjacent to Trumbull Co]. You also mentioned a Hiram and an Aaron.

We are convinced that Hiram is your Polly's cousin, Hiram⁶ (b 1797 in New Hartford CT), (Cyprian^{5,4}, John^{3,2}). He m Mary Sutherland in Trumbull Co in 1821. He may be the extra male (16-26) living with Luman Humphrey in 1820. We believe that he moved by 1850 into adjacent Crawford Co PA where he is living with a son and 3 daughters and next door to a fourth daughter and her husband. He must have lost his wife between 1840 and 1850. Do you have any Trumbull Co Cemetery records that would confirm that? Or records of other Merrills? He is still there in 1860. Thanks for the 1840 census data on Hiram - We and the census indexer missed him.

Aaron (b 1798 May 16 in Genesee Co NY) is Polly's 2nd cousin once removed, Aaron⁷ [Aaron⁶, Ephriam⁵, Nathaniel⁴, John^{3,2}]. He was in Austintown, Trumbull Co in 1840, but when we looked in Trumbull Co in 1850 we didn't find him. He was still in Austintown, but the county was split in 1842 so Austintown was in Mahoning Co in 1850. Aaron and his wife, Electa Wright are still there in 1860.

Harold Peavey (merilp@worldnet.att.net) wrote:

I am searching for information on brothers Robert and Benjamin Merrill. Robert was born about 1755 in MD and died about 1823 in Montgomery County, AL. He married (1) Rebecca Reid and (2) Frances Wall Foy Browning Carpenter Stradley, August 22, 1816 in Tatnall County Georgia. Received land-grant in 1796 in Screven County, GA. Benjamin Merrill was born about 1765 and died before 1850 in Covington County, AL. He married Rachel Lewis, April 15, 1793 in Craven County, NC. Received land-grant in Screven County, GA in 1802.

Who were parents of Robert and Benjamin? Are they descendants of Richard Merrill (NY) or Nathaniel Merrill of MA or from some other line?

ANSWER

Harold: We do not know who the parents of your Robert and Benjamin are. We do know, however, that they are descended from William [b. ca 1645 who came to Somerset Co. MD in 1668 as an indentured servant, worked off his servitude, m. Eliza__?__, and died there 1710 Jan. 23 leaving 13 children, 4 girls and 9 boys. His early descendants lived in Somerset and Worcester Co. MD and in neighboring Accomack Co. VA on the eastern shore of Chesapeake Bay.

Others who are descendants of Robert and who are actively searching for his parents, but to our knowledge have not found them, are:

Ron Head (ronhead@wsnet.com)

James W Merrill (FLDE96A@prodigy.com)

Joseph M Merrill (jmerrill@storge.fm.bcm.tmc.edu)

Marilyn Howard (airrow@ix.netcom.com) of La Canada, CA wrote:

I am just beginning some research about 5 generations back where I have a Sarah Merrill, b 9/22/1820 married to Hicks Seaman 12/8/1840. Her parents supposedly were Pierpont Merrill, b 1787, d 10/3/1852 in NY and Electra, b 1797, d 1/17/1870 also in NY. They married about 1814 in NY. Any connection? Suggestions for locating them? Thanks.

ANSWER

Marilyn: Your Sarah⁷ Merrill b. 1820 Sept. 22, who m. Hicks Seaman was the daughter of Pierpont⁶ and his second wife, Electa (Morse) Merrill. Pierpont was b. 1787 Sept. 11 in Hartford, CT and died 1852 Oct. 5 in Whitestone, NY. Pierpont was the son of Gideon⁵ and Abigail⁵ (Merrill) Merrill [Asa⁴; Jacob³; John², Nathaniel¹]. The name of Pierpont's first wife is unknown but she bore him a son, James, who d. 1852 Sept. 5. Pierpont m. 1814 Aug. 1 Electa Morse [1797 May 8 - 1870 Jan 17] daughter of Moses and Margaret (Chase) Morse of Whitesboro, NY. She bore him four girls and three boys.

Gideon⁵ was b. 1749 in Hartford, CT and died 1803 June 27 in West Hartford, CT. He was the youngest son of Gideon⁴ and Mary (Bigelow)Merrill. He m. Abigail Merrill 1776 Aug. 1 in West Hartford. She bore him 4 boys and 2 girls. Abigail was bapt. 1753 June 10 and d. 1804.

Gideon⁴ was b. ca1716 in Hartford and d. there 1757 Sept. 9, the youngest son of Wilterton³ and second wife, Hannah Waters. Gideon m.1740 June 5 Mary Bigelow, daughter of Joseph and Sarah (Spencer) Bigelow. She bore him 3 boys and 2 girls. She d. 1750 Mar. 9, age 29.

Wilterton³ was b. 1675 June 28 in Hartford and d. there 1755 May 14, the fifth son of John² and Sarah

Watson. Wilterton m. first 1702/3 Jan 1 Ruth Pratt who bore him a daughter; m. second 1708/9 Jan 20 Hannah Waters, daughter of Bevil Waters, who bore him 2 sons and a daughter. Hannah d. 1730 May 8, age 49 and he m. third Elizabeth Collier.

John² was bapt. 1735 Mar 13 in Lawford, Essex Co., England, son of Nathaniel¹ and Susanna __?__, and died 1712 July 18 in Hartford Ct. Susanna is believed to be the daughter by a prior marriage of Susan, the wife of Gregory Wilterton or Wolterton, proprietor of Hartford. John², after his father's death, went to Hartford and lived with Gregory and wife, Susan, his grandmother. John learned the tanning trade and eventually inherited the bulk of childless Gregory's estate. John m. 1663 Sept. 23 Sarah Watson, daughter of John and Margaret (Smith) Watson. John and Sarah had 2 daughters and 8 sons.

Nathaniel¹ was baptized 1601 May 4 in Wherstead, Suffolk Co., England and d. 1654/5 March 16 in Newbury, MA. Nathaniel and his brother, John, immigrated to Newbury, MA; Nathaniel soon after his daughter, Susanna, was baptized, 1638 Dec 12 in Lawford; John somewhat earlier. Nathaniel m. Susanna __?__. They had six children. The first four in Lawford the last two in Newbury, MA

Nathaniel	1634 May 25
John	1635 Mar 13
Abraham	1637 Apr 9
Susanna	1638 Dec 12
Daniel	1642 Aug 20
Abel	1643/4 Feb 20

By far, most of the Merrills in America today are descended from Nathaniel¹; his brother, John, had only a daughter. Nathaniel's wife, Susanna, m. second Stephen Jordan whom she outlived. She d. 1672/3 Jan. 15.

Hicks Seaman was b. 1812 Jan 30 in Milton, NY son of Benjamin and Anna (__?__) Seaman and d. 1874 Jan. 23 in Jamesville, MI. He m. Sarah Merrill 1840 Dec. 8 in Schenectady, NY and they had five children.

Jane Haver (jhaver@zianet.com) wrote: First of all, let me give you a quick look at what I do know about my line:

Benjamin S. Merrell - (b. 07 Apr 1794; d. 19 Apr 1868, Bloomsburg, Columbia Co. PA)

Jesse Wagner Merrell - (b. 1819, Col. Co. PA, d. 1903 Col. Co. PA)

Thomas W. Merrell - (b. 01 May 1841, Col. Co. PA, d. 28 March 1916 Col. Co. PA)

Jesse E. Merrell/Merrill - (b. 15 Aug 1863, Col. Co. PA, d. c.1900-1905 Luzerne Co. PA)

Thomas Arthur Merrill - (b. Jan 1888, Limeridge, Col. Co. PA, d. 1952, Luz. Co. PA)

Frederick Arthur Merrill, Sr. - (b. 26 Nov 1910, Luz. Co. PA, d. 08 Jan 1984, SC)

Frederick Arthur Merrill, Jr. - (b. 06 June 1936, Luz. Co. PA, d. 31 March 1997 Luz. Co. PA)

Jane Suzanne Merrill Haver - (b. 16 Oct 1962, Luz. Co.)

(Just an interesting note that for six generations, from Jesse Wagner Merrell to Fred Merrill Jr., all of

these sons were the first born child.)

I recently received a photocopy of a handwritten "article" for the second reunion of the Merrell family held at Benton Park (in Columbia County, PA) on August 31, 1935. The article was written by Myra G. Robbins. Here is what Myra states in the "article":

"History of the Merrell family (as I know it). Beginning with 'David' our direct ancestor: he being our great-great-grandfather whose parents came from England. David was born in Maryland, near the District of Columbia. He served in the Revolutionary War, as foot soldier, served seven years from the beginning, was in all the battles along the Delaware River, was with Washington at The Battle of Bunker Hill.

"After the War, he [David] settled near Hope in Warren County, New Jersey. A colony of Hollanders settled in the vicinity and he married one of these as his second wife, of whom Benjamin S. Merrell was a son. He [Benjamin] was born Hope, NJ, April 7, 1794. Died in Bloomsburg, PA on April 19, 1868, at the age of 74 years, 12 days. Benjamin S. Merrell married Mary Wagner, one of a family of nine children. She was born Dec. 29, 1798 and died April 10, 1864, age 66 years, 3 mos., 12 days. To this union there was born four sons and three daughters, namely: Jesse Wagner Merrell, Clark Merrell, John Roseberry Merrell, William Merrell, Mary C. Merrell, Caroline Matilda ("Tillie") Merrell and Hester E. Merrell."

So, I'm looking for proof of Benjamin's birth in Warren County, NJ as well as proof of his parents. Also need date of David's birth in Maryland and names of his parents. And, how can I find out if the info on David serving in the Rev. War is correct?

I think it's interesting that Benjamin has a son named "John Roseberry Merrell." Naming traditions being what they were, I'm thinking that maybe Benjamin's mother may have been a "Roseberry?" In checking out Warren Co., NJ, there are several people researching Roseberry. No connections, though, since I'm not sure who this son was named for. Also, I found a "Merrill Creek Reservoir" in Warren Co., NJ.

Please accept this query for research. I don't know how to proceed with researching this line.

ANSWER

Jane: Your line from David and Benjamin S. is a new one for us. In our census records we can confirm Benjamin's presence in Columbia Co PA by 1820. We did not find him there in 1830 but we probably just missed him since we did find him there in 1840, 50 and 60. We'll check on 1830 when we go next to the library.

The NJ records are very sparse; the census records before 1830 are missing. In 1840 we find in Hope twp. what are probably two younger sons of your David; Joseph and Daniel. The indexer of the 1830 census did not list any Merrills in Warren Co NJ.

We are attaching the reply we got back from Bob Davidson of Richmond VA regarding your David. We agree that David is most likely descended from William (1) and Grace (probably Staats), immigrant to Staten Island ca 1680, who later moved to Hopewell NJ.

[Following from Bob Davidson:] Warren County NJ was formed from Sussex Co in 1825, so all early Merrill records are there. I don't have an old township map, so not sure Hope and Oxford were at one time part of the same township, but they are closeby today, David Merrill was mentioned as being of

Oxford Twsp in 1792. (NJ Archives Vol 37). In 1809 Charity Merrill married Caleb Swayze (IGI) and in 1810 Caleb Swayze and his wife "Else" deeded land to David Merrill, all of Oxford Twsp. (DB X-73)

In 1813 David Merrill and his wife Elizabeth sold this land to Charles Beatty. Witness: Barnabas Swayze. All of Oxford Twsp. (DB c2-34)

In 1814 David Merrill and Elizabeth his wife and Conrad Emory and Mary his wife sold to Aaron Brian of Mansfield Twsp all their share in the lands of Gray Pate dec'd, late of Mansfield. (DB 2-263)

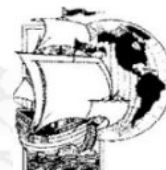
In 1823 Joseph Merrill of Oxford Twsp sold to Lewis Merrill all claim he had to land where David Merrill of Oxford lived, which was 50 acres, adjacencies given. (DB X-2 p165)

Joseph Merrill (born 1789) and wife Mary are in the 1850 census of Hope Twsp, as is Hetty, widow of Daniel Merrill.

Lewis Merrill (1785-1851) is in Mansfield Twsp in 1850 with a large family.

I have not looked at later records. I know nothing about David Merrill, but have always thought he probably came from Hunterdon County, where a Timothy Merrill married Anna, daughter of David Stout about 1750. I have not been able to place this Timothy, but clearly he is a descendant of William and Grace Merrill who came to Hopewell, originally from Staten Island.

As you know there were Merrells in Maryland, but all the pre-revolutionary war ones I have seen lived on the Eastern Shore, not anywhere near D.C.



Next

New Queries

The following queries are from our Guestbook at the Newsletter information website, [The Merrill Newsletter](#) . Howard and Jean have been so prolific with their query answers that we will soon publish a special Query Issue devoted to the queries and answers of the past year. Subscribers will be notified when this Query Issue is online.

From [Rodney Douglas Merrill](#): Looking for information on Winthrop Merrill who worked in Stanstead, Quebec, Canada in the 1790's. Born 1771, Died 1866, Married Mary Bean 1812 in Bath, NY. Buried in Union Ridge Cemetery, Jefferson Park, Cook Co., IL.

From [Donna Nelson](#): Looking for Rachel Merrill who married Andrew Fouts/Foutz/Pfautz abt. 1771 in Guilford (now Randolph) Co. NC, who were her parents?

From [Judie Merrill \(Burke\)](#): I am looking for my ggrandfather, A. Raymond Merrill, b. Bath Maine Sept.22,1832, and am having no luck

From [Arnold Lake Hovey](#): Hannah Merrill who died in Hadley Mass in 1676 married FRANCIS BARNARD on 15 AUG 1644 in Hartford, Conn. I have a lot of data on their descendants. Are they connected to your Merrill?

From [Dick Stout](#): I am related to the MERRILL line via the John STOUT/Rachael MERRILL marriage in NJ. Rachael's father was William MERRILL, but I don't have any information beyond that.

Answers to the above will be sent directly to the queriers by Howard and Jean, and will be published in the next regular issue of the newsletter. If you have a query regarding your Merrill ancestry, please send it to Howard and Jean Merrill, hjmerril@eatel.net.



Next

The Resources of USGENWEB

If you haven't searched the archives of [USGENWEB](#) recently, you may be delighted to find their volunteers have been very busy, and have added a great deal of data over the past year. To access these treasures, click on the link above, choose your state of interest, then click on the archives link to search for your ancestors.

I did a brief search in Maine recently, and came up with the following gems of information.

Regiment 16TH MAINE INFANTRY

Company Company "F"

Last Name Merrill

First Name George

Middle Initial E.

Age 18

Rank Private

Residence Saco

M/S S

Mustered into August 14, 1862

Date of Rank

Remarks Killed at Fredericksburg December 13, 1862

Regiment 16TH MAINE INFANTRY

Company Company "A"

Last Name Merrill

First Name Hiram

Middle Initial A.

Age 26

Rank Private

Residence New Portland

M/S M

Mustered into August 14, 1862

Date of Rank

Remarks

Regiment 16TH MAINE INFANTRY

Company Company "E"

Last Name Merrill

First Name Frank

Middle Initial M.

Age 19

Rank Musician

Residence Turner

M/S S

Mustered into August 14, 1862

Date of Rank

Remarks Died of disease December 21, 1862

Good luck, and have fun! .



Next



Merrilldom in Maine

by Abby Lumsden

As a small child I assumed that every family had double cousins, aunts that were cousins, uncles that were also great uncles, and that every town had a Merrill Road. When I was a bit older my Merrill grandmother presented me with a family fan chart as a reward for being her aide in searching out old gravestones, and I wondered a bit at how there came to be so many Nathaniels, Jameses, Abels and Adames all with the surname of Merrill. Eventually it occurred to me that if these people had the same birth dates, parents, etc, there were probably fewer of them than the names on the chart.

Many years later I fell heir to a box of family papers that included a reasonably tidy notebook labeled "Merrill," and realized there had been a few marriages between Merrill cousins over the years. The full extent of intermingling began to become apparent to me when I began using the Family Tree Maker program and it began to seem as if every time I typed in the surname Merrill a question screen appeared asking "is this person the same as?" It became overwhelmingly apparent when I ran a nine-page 13-generation descendant outline from Nathaniel to me and a kinship chart that lists twelve blood cousin relationships between my grandmother and me.

The tangle starts early, when John, c.1599, had Hannah who married Stephen Swett, and they had descendants who came back into my lines again through my grandfather, and Nathaniel, 1601 with his son Abel, 1643, who had Nathan 1676, Priscilla 1686, and James 1688/9.

I think of James, 1688/9, as being at the center of the knot. My grandmother's notes say that he had "11 children, 78 grandchildren and 147 great grandchildren who continued the name." At that rate his offspring could populate a good part of southern Maine and did a pretty good job of it.

James had been born in Newbury and lived there until about 1725 when he moved to Stratham, New Hampshire, where he stayed until 1738. It was then that he moved to what is now Falmouth, Maine where he bought a large tract of land from Brigadier General Waldo. His farm lay between the east side of the Presumpscot River and the main road leading to the falls bridge. He is said to have lived in a garrison house built about 1714 about three quarters of mile east of Presumpscot Falls. That house was torn down by Harlon Page Merrill, 1841-1905, although the land stayed in the Merrill family until the 1950s. I remember visiting Merrills with my grandmother at a rather dilapidated colonial home sitting close to the road on a bad turn on the Old Falmouth Road. It has since been moved back and extensively modernized complete with a swimming pool in the back yard.

I also have a memory of a trip through a tiny railroad underpass to an abandoned pasture near the mouth of the river where we found the family burying ground. It was my first exposure to the "Remember me as you pass by" verse which haunted my childhood dreams for quite a time. The stones were overgrown and in bad repair then. I do not wish to remember how many years ago that was; it suffices to say that when the interstate highway was later built over them and they have disappeared

without a trace. According to the old notes both the stones of James and his son, the second Adams, were there.

James' daughter Mary, 1735, married her aunt Priscilla's son Samuel Noyes and his son Adams, 1728, married Elizabeth Titcomb who was Nathan's granddaughter through his daughter Sarah. James, 1730, also had a son James who had a daughter Abigail, 1769. Abigail married her first cousin Beniah, 1767, the son of Adams and Elizabeth Titcomb Merrill.

James also had a son Adams, 1755, who had Hannah Greeley Merrill, 1799, whose daughter Elizabeth Aurelia Foster, 1827, married Samuel Noyes Merrill, who was the grandson of Abigail and Beniah through their son Edward Joseph, 1791, who had married Lucy Noyes, 1794, the granddaughter of Mary Merrill and Samuel Noyes and daughter of Silas Noyes, 1763.

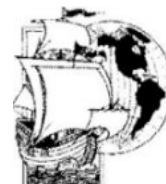
It goes on another generation or two with a son and a granddaughter of Samuel and Elizabeth marrying Randall siblings and a grandson who married back into the original John's line. It gives me a host of relatives with a Merrill somewhere in their name, something I have in common with a large percentage of native Mainers.

The moral of this story is that one does not have to "practice to deceive" to weave a tangled web. One just marries a cousin.

The Merrill generations in my direct line, the tip of the Merrill intermarriage iceberg, listed this way because I cannot figure a way to make a readable chart.

1. Nathaniel, 1571
2. John, c1599 and Nathaniel, 1601
3. Hannah and Abel, 1643
4. Priscilla Merrill, 1686, and Nathaniel Noyes, James, 1689, and Nathan, 1676
5. Samuel, 1725, and Mary Merrill, 1735, Noyes, James, 1730, Adams, 1728, + Elizabeth Titcomb, and Sarah Merrill and Edmund Titcomb (Elizabeth's parents)
6. Silas Noyes, 1763, Adams Merrill, 1755 and Abigail Merrill and Beniah, 1767
7. Lucy Noyes, 1794 and Edward J Merrill, 1791, Hannah G Merrill, 1799 + Alfred Foster, 1793
8. Elizabeth A Foster, 1827, and Samuel Noyes Merrill, 1823
9. Samuel Clinton Merrill, 1852
10. Rena F Merrill, 1889 (Grandmother)

And there I leave the Merrill name, although I have to confess that my first child's given name is Amanda Merrill, who, by the way, works at the Merrill Library in Yarmouth.



Next

Pecan Gap, Texas Cemetery

by Bobby R. Merrill

One weekend last July, my family was in the very small community of Pecan Gap, Texas. We went there because from what I can tell, my grandad, Hiram Eli Merrill was born there in 1864. We found other Merrills buried there, none of which (as far as I know) are connected with my family. They almost have to be connected, but I haven't figured out how as yet. For your info, and possible publication in the Merrill Newsletter, I offer the following headstone readings, many of whom are infants.

Austin M. Merrill, s/o Austin M. and Callye Merrill. Born 10-10-1910 and died 8-25-1911.

Ottney Wayne Merrill, d/o Austin M. and Callye Merrill, born 12-22-1905, and died 5-19-1907.

Callye Reed Merrill, 1882 - 1955

Richard T. Merrill - 1857 - 1929.

Mary E. Merrill - 1870 - 1962.

Olive Merrill - 10 April 1905 - 13 Jul 1983

Annie Lee Merrill - 1899 - 1983

Jessie Merrill - 1890 - 1912

Emily Catherine Merrill - 1911 - 1991.

Hellen M. Merrill - 14 Jan 1843 - 29 June 1916.

William E. Merrill - 1884 - 1963.

W. E. Merrill, Jr. - 1914

Addie E. Merrill - 1887 - 1981

Billy Dean Merrill - 5 Jan 1929 - 19 Jun 1979.

Titus T. (Buck) Merrill - 17 April 1895 - 23 May 1964 (also listed on the Veterans Memorial in the Pecan Gap Cemetary).

Mary Maggie Merrill - (wife of Titus) - 15 May 1903 - 29 May 1966.

I send this with the hope that it may help someone in their searches.



Next