

# Founders Of Plainfield, New Hampshire

Information compiled by:

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THE REVEREND JONATHAN CRAM, the Elder

[l:115] KM

age ca 16 in 1761

Reverend Jonathan<sup>5</sup> CRAM [Jonathan<sup>4</sup> 1708, Benjamin<sup>3</sup> 1666, Benjamin<sup>2</sup> 1640, John<sup>1</sup> ca 1596 ENG] was born ca 1745 and died Plainfield NH 12 August 1835 at age 90 and buried in Mill Cemetery. He first married Lucy \_\_\_\_\_ of Deerfield. He married second to Anna [surname perhaps Leading].

CHILDREN of Jonathan<sup>5</sup> and Anna \_\_\_\_\_ CRAM:

Son<sup>6</sup> died young; Levi<sup>6</sup> b 1769; Jonathan<sup>6</sup>; Abigail<sup>6</sup>

#### ANCESTORS:

Jonathan<sup>5</sup> CRAM thought to have ancestral ties to Oliver Cromwell.

Jonathan<sup>4</sup> b Hampton Falls NH 1708 was a housewright in Exeter NH. He mar 1739 Elizabeth Rogers and signed 1738 to make "Brentwood a new parish".

Benjamin<sup>3</sup> b Hampton Falls NH 1666 was in the French & Indian War and received 12 shillings for 2 weeks of scout duty in Capt Green's Company. He married Sarah Partridge.

Benjamin<sup>2</sup> married 1662 to Argentine CROMWELL, probable great-niece of Oliver.

John<sup>1</sup> CRAM b ca 1596 mar Esther/Hester White was the first CRAM *emigrant* to Boston - Muddy River area, then to Exeter and Hampton NH. He was in the congregation of the Reverend John Wheelwright, famous in NH for the Exeter Combination, which John<sup>1</sup> Cram signed. He was called, "Good old John Cram", a man of sound and discriminating mind, a judicious and honest man. John<sup>1</sup> was a planter of "good citizenship".

#### NOTES:

Jonathan<sup>5</sup> CRAM, Elder was chosen "to find out the minds of the people respecting Building a meeting house." He was one of the leading founders of the Baptist Church in Meriden 6 September 1792. He was ordained as the first settled Baptist minister in 1795. His church services often lasted for 4 hours and were held in different school houses around the town. He lived on High Street at the foot of Cram Hill.

CORPORAL BENJAMIN CUTLER

[I:122]KM

age ca 14 in 1761

Benjamin<sup>5</sup> CUTLER [Beach<sup>4</sup>, Jonathan<sup>3</sup>, Thomas<sup>2</sup>, James<sup>1</sup>] was born Pomfret CT 6 August 1747 and died Meriden NH 5 November 1828. He mar Mary DUNLAP of CT. He is buried in the Coryville Cemetery, west side of Ladieu Rd. His brother Hodges Cutler is buried there, as well.

CHILDREN OF Benjamin<sup>5</sup> and Abigail<sup>4</sup> [HODGES] CUTLER:

William<sup>6</sup> b 1777; Betsy<sup>6</sup> b 1778 & m Leonard D DANIELS; Sally<sup>6</sup> b 1780 & m Thomas GALLUP; Mary<sup>6</sup> m Reuben TRUE; Benjamin<sup>6</sup> b 1787 sold the old Cutler homestead of 630 acres in 1840 and built a brick mansion in Meriden.; Eunice<sup>6</sup>.

ANCESTORS:

Benjamin's father Beach<sup>4</sup> CUTLER b Colchester CT 1716 mar 1746 to Abigail<sup>4</sup> HODGES. Abigail<sup>4</sup> HODGES [Benjamin<sup>3</sup>, Henry<sup>2</sup>, William<sup>1</sup>] had a mother named Abiah<sup>5</sup> DEANE [Isaac<sup>4</sup>, John<sup>3</sup>, William<sup>2</sup> of Chard, Walter<sup>1</sup> b 1545 S. Chard, ENG]. There is much documentation about Beach's mother's line. Beach's mother was Abigail<sup>3</sup> BIGELOW b 1687 Watertown MA daughter of Samuel<sup>2</sup> BIGELOW b 1653, and grand-daughter of John<sup>1</sup> BIGELOW the *emigrant* blacksmith 1617-1703].

Samuel's surname has been spelled several ways: BIGELOW, BIGLO, BEAGLEY, BEGILO, BIGGALOUGH, BIGULAH. Photos of his headstone are online in the Grove Hill burial ground in Waltham MA. Samuel<sup>2</sup> married to Mary FLAGG. John<sup>1</sup> BIGELOW the *emigrant* came on the ship named the ARBELLA in the Winthrop Fleet. His wife was Mary WARREN, married 1642 Watertown MA, the earliest wedding on the town's records. They belonged to the established church, but he was cited and paid fines for not attending public worship. He sympathized with the Quakers and their beliefs. Mary Warren's ancestry includes royalty, which can be easily traced. Mary's father, John Warren<sup>1</sup> signed his will with an x.

Jonathan<sup>3</sup> CUTLER b 1688 mar Abigail Bigelow.

Thomas<sup>2</sup> b ca 1648 mar Abigail Beach.

James<sup>1</sup> CUTLER, the *emigrant* was b ca 1605.

NOTES:

Benjamin<sup>5</sup> CUTLER grew up in Plainfield NH, having come with his parents from Plainfield CT in 1770. He inherited his father's estate and was well-to-do. Even after his money and house were lost in a fire, he was financially successful and kept his treasures outside in a hollow log. [See I:122KM for explanation about the housekeeper sweeping near the hearth with a hemlock broom which caused the house fire.] He was in Captain Josiah<sup>5</sup> RUSSELL's Company [Revolutionary War] which left Plainfield NH 3 May 1777 for Saratoga. He was out in 48 days in New York against Burgoyne. Several sources cite his character as being kind, generous, and giving to the poor. In the 1790 census Benjamin owned 2 slaves, [one may have been called Drock/Darock] and probably buried in Coreyville Cemetery. Benjamin's town jobs included: surveyor of highways, constable, tax collector, tything man. Before any grist mill existed on the Meriden side of town, Benjamin took his bag of corn to Fort #4, now Charlestown NH, for grinding. He walked over Black Hill to the Connecticut River and then went south by canoe. Cutler Road is named for him. In 1787 his was the 8<sup>th</sup> highest tax bill in town. In 1799 the 5<sup>th</sup> highest, indicating his amount of wealth.

CAPTAIN JOSIAH RUSSELL SECONDARY PROPRIETOR [II:157]

age 26 in 1761

Captain Josiah<sup>5</sup> RUSSELL [Josiah<sup>4</sup>, James<sup>3</sup>, Philip<sup>2</sup>, William<sup>1</sup>] b Westborough MA, 17 Mar 1735 and d Tolland CT 1817. He married Plainfield Ct 1758 to Lydia<sup>5</sup> KINGSBURY [Ephraim<sup>4</sup>, Ephraim<sup>3</sup>, James<sup>2</sup>, Henry<sup>1</sup>]. Lydia died in Ohio.

CHILDREN of Josiah<sup>5</sup> and Lydia<sup>5</sup> Kingsbury RUSSELL:

Josiah<sup>6</sup> b Plainfield CT 1759; Asa<sup>b</sup> Plainfield NH 1767; Lydia<sup>6</sup> b Plainfield NH 1770 m Zebulon Whipple and went to Ohio.

ANCESTORS:

Father Josiah<sup>4</sup> RUSSELL b Lexington MA 1711 and mar Mercy<sup>6</sup> Estey/Easty of Salem MA whose grandmother was Mary Towne Easty, accused at age 58 of being a witch. Mary was executed 9 Sep 1692. The government compensated the family in 1711 [with 20 pounds] for Mary's wrongful execution.

Grandfather James<sup>3</sup> Russell b ca 1681.

GGrandfatherPhilip<sup>2</sup> Russell b 1650.

GGGrandfather William<sup>1</sup> Russell

NOTES:

Josiah<sup>5</sup> RUSSELL was one of the two first settlers of Plainfield NH. He and Littlefield Nash spent the winter of 1764-65 in a hut very probably at the foot of Freeman Hill. He was a secondary proprietor of the town. His land on the original map was listed as pitch 17. In 1768 he purchased land on the River Road [more recently owned by Nicolaisen] from Thomas Gallop where his son built a blacksmith shop. In the summer of 1776 Josiah Russell was elected Captain of the "Second Company of Rangers in the regular command by Col Jonathan Chase of Cornish". The group of soldiers was dismissed Nov 1776. He is listed on the DAR list as a soldier in the American Revolution. Town offices which he held included: brander of horses [perhaps a Vermont job], deer reef, moderator, sealer of leather, selectman, surveyor of highways, tythingman. He was issued a warning out of town notice in 1779 as the selectmen felt that he harbored "hearber trenchant Parsons". See Choice White Pines page 419. In 1781 he was elected, with John Stevens, to be a representative to the General Assembly under the laws of Vermont. Several Plainfield NH families were choosing to become part of Vermont rather than comply with NH laws. In 1782 General George Washington wrote a letter to the Vermont governor requiring that he abandon all territory east of the Connecticut River. Before leaving Plainfield before 1801 for Tolland CT, Josiah sold land to nephew Asa Kingsbury where Asa and his father Jeduthan built the Kingsbury Tavern [near cemetery in Plainfield] on Route 12A. [Later known to have harbored a ghost, an old woman who froze to death while sitting near the wall in an upstairs room and could be seen sitting and rocking in front of a downstairs fireplace.]

A Littlefield<sup>6</sup> NASH was born in 1739 in Rhode Island. He perhaps married a Native American woman. He is thought to most likely have been the Littlefield NASH who, accompanying Captain Josiah<sup>5</sup> Russell, spent the winter of 1764-1765 in a hut in Plainfield NH, the first white men to live in the area.

CHILDREN of Littlefield<sup>6</sup> NASH and wife:

Jonathan<sup>7</sup> b 1777 and married to Eunice Cory; Mercy.

#### ANCESTORS:

Littlefield<sup>6</sup> Nash born ca 1739 in Rhode Island was the grandson of Thomas Grinnel [1711-1758/60]. Thomas' line can be traced back to Matthew<sup>1</sup> Grinnel b 1590 and his wife Rose French, *emigrants* to Newport RI. Littlefield Nash had siblings named = Jonathan, Isaac, Ann.

#### NOTES:

Littlefield Nash came from Plainfield CT via canoe. He later went south to Charlestown NH for winter supplies, making the journey by marking trees. Perhaps he was employed as a servant to Captain Josiah<sup>5</sup> Russell as the two of them are considered the first settlers of Plainfield, wintering over 1764-65. He and his family lived on Freeman Rd and the on land, a part of the Gallup Orchard [south of Norman Williams]. Littlefield Nash enlisted 25 Nov 1755 and was on the garrison rolls at Fort Edward. Discharged May 1756. Also a private in the French and Indian War under Colonel Bagley of CT, in Captain Israel Putnam's Company of Windham CT in which he was "occupied in scouting and ranging". He earned 50 Spanish dollars for his "extraordinary services and good conduct in ranging and scouting this winter past for the annoyance of the enemy near Crown Point." "Lt. Simon Stevens ordered by Rogers to scout down Lake George in 2 whaleboats to Northwest Bay. Left 1 am. Landed on a small island at daylight. Surrounded by 4 canoes and French and Indians numbering 80. Lt. Stevens surrendered his 18 men to Langy on the promise of good quarters. Bound and taken to Ticonderoga. 4 of the 18 men that surrendered were recorded to have returned to the British: Lt. Stevens escaped 1 May 1759; Lt. Stevens was sold to the French and exchanged 15 Nov. 1759; Pvt. Isaac Rice was exchanged 1759; Pvt. Littlefield Nash was exchanged 1759.

He participated in the American Revolution and signed the Association Test three months prior to the Declaration of Independence. "It was, in one view of it, treason to the King on the part of his subjects. Had the people failed to make good their pledge every signer would have been held as a traitor" "...that we will, to the utmost of our Power, at the Risque of our Lives and Fortunes, with ARMS, oppose the Hostile Proceedings of the British Fleets, and Armies, against the United American COLONIES." VHp291

Daniel<sup>6</sup> KIMBALL [Benjamin<sup>5</sup> b CT 1722, Joseph<sup>4</sup> 1701, Joseph<sup>3</sup>, Henry<sup>2</sup>, Richard<sup>1</sup>] was born in Preston CT 1753 and died Plainfield NH 1817, buried in Hill Cemetery. He married Hannah<sup>7</sup> CHASE 1777, daughter of Moses<sup>6</sup> and Hannah [Brown] CHASE of Cornish. They had no children.

#### ANCESTORS:

Daniel<sup>6</sup> KIMBALL's father was Benjamin<sup>5</sup> who brought the family to Meriden in 1768. Benjamin's wife was Hannah RICHARDS. His grandfather and great-grandfather were both named Joseph<sup>4-3</sup> and were born in Massachusetts. Daniel<sup>6</sup>'s gt-gt- grandfather was the *emigrant* Henry<sup>2</sup> who arrived and settled in Watertown MA. He was the son of Richard<sup>1</sup>, presumably a wheelwright who died 1619 in England.

Hannah<sup>7</sup> CHASE born Sutton MA 1758 has an ancestral line that includes Munroes of Lexington MA, Marches of Newbury, Browns of Watertown with lines of Royal descent. Her father Moses<sup>6</sup> was a member of the Provincial Congress of NH and commanded a Company to reinforce the garrison at Ticonderoga. He is listed in the DAR records. His uncle, Hugh March, remained a Tory. All through their lives they discussed and disagreed over the war. Moses<sup>6</sup> owned mills and a large store.

#### NOTES:

Daniel<sup>6</sup> marched during the American Revolution to Fort Ticonderoga and kept a Journal from 8 February – 27 May 1776. VH p317... excerpts follow: "20 mil and snowed sum and vary bad going and all most tired" "Dr Lin examined us Concerning Noculation and ordered all not fit for duty to the hospital" "last night swet very much to Day had the head aitch and a good deed Porely" "my pock turned and I went out of doors" "paid two dollars for taking care of us in the small pox and the French began to be very stingy let us eat nothing but soup". He and others signed the Association Test in April 1776. "It was, in one view of it, treason to the King on the part of his subjects. Had the people failed to make good their pledge, every signer would have been held as a traitor." "...that we will, to the utmost of our Power, at the Risque of our Lives and Fortunes, with ARMS, oppose the Hostile Proceedings of the British Fleets, and Armies, against the United American COLONIES." VH p291. Daniel<sup>6</sup> was also at Fishkill and went to the relief of the massacred in Royalton VT. In 1780 he marched on a scouting expedition to Haverhill, Newbury, Windsor, and to West Point under General Benedict Arnold. He was part of the Meriden Parish Militia Training Company in 1781.

In 1777 he built his house on Meriden Hill [now the parish house] with a nearby sheep barn [KUA snack bar]. It was called, "the grand house" and became the acknowledged headquarters for church and library meetings. Hannah did the cooking for all meetings and ordinations. Daniel and others petitioned the NH Legislature to establish a circulating library in Meriden Village, 11 Dec 1797. He was a man of decided literary tastes and very patriotic. He was a leading business man and merchant, a selectman, Town Clerk, Justice of the Peace, Moderator from 1795-1805 and 5 other times and for 7 years a Representative . He did some preaching beginning in 1780.

Daniel<sup>6</sup> gave much of his estate and \$6000 to help establish an academy [KUA] in 1814. His wife Hannah later gave \$10,000 to KUA for women.

COLONEL JOSEPH KIMBALL PROPRIETOR

[II:21]KM

age 29 in 1761

Joseph<sup>5</sup> KIMBALL [a brother to Benjamin<sup>5</sup>] [Joseph<sup>4-3</sup>, Henry<sup>2</sup>, Richard<sup>1</sup>] born Preston CT 1732 and died Plainfield NH 22 Oct 1822, buried in Gilkey Cemetery. He married 3 times: 1754 Hannah Morgan; ca 1766 Mary Clift; 1775 Eleanor Dunlap.

CHILDREN of Joseph<sup>5</sup> KIMBALL and wives:

Hannah b CT 1775; Willis b CT 1775; Hannah b 1761; Benjamin b 1763; Elisha b 1765; Mary Clift b NH 1767 the 2<sup>nd</sup> white child born in Plainfield; Sarah Maine b 1769; Lydia b 1771; Joseph jr b 1775; Eunice b 1783; Betsey b 1784; Robert b 1786. 4 of his children died very young.

ANCESTORS:

Joseph<sup>5</sup>'s father and grandfather were both named Joseph<sup>4-3</sup> and were born in Massachusetts. His gt-grandfather was the *emigrant* Henry<sup>2</sup> who arrived and settled in Watertown MA. He was the son of Richard<sup>1</sup>, presumably a wheelwright who died 1619 in England. Joseph<sup>5</sup> is Uncle to Daniel<sup>6</sup>, another leader in early Plainfield.

NOTES:

Joseph<sup>5</sup> was a prominent early proprietor who settled in Plainfield in 1764. Called a "kind neighbor" and successful hunter, he held offices of selectman, constable from 1766-1792, town clerk 1785-1792 and he was a Representative in favor of adopting the Federal Constitution in 1788. During the American Revolution in Capt. Josiah<sup>5</sup> Russell's Company. He was on the committee to settle the line between the West and East Societies. He lived in a house [Shipman] near the Gilkey Cemetery. In 1794 he built a house [Brooks] in Meriden on the hill [now through the covered bridge].

LEMUEL WILLIAMS PROPRIETOR

[II:303]KM

age 34 in 1761

Lemuel <sup>4</sup>WILLIAMS [Joseph<sup>3</sup>, Thomas<sup>2</sup>, Thomas<sup>1</sup>] was born Plainfield CT 14 Nov 1727 and died 1813 in Plainfield NH. He married 1759 to Sarah<sup>4</sup> LAWRENCE born 1741 daughter of Daniel<sup>3</sup> and Sarah [Williams] LAWRENCE.

CHILDREN of Lemuel <sup>4</sup>and Sarah [Lawrence] WILLIAMS:

Phoebe b CT 1760; Job b CT 1762; Elisha b 1764; Charles b NH 1766; Sarah b NH 1768; Lemuel b 1770; Lucy b 1772; Zeruah b 1775; Sibbel b 1779; Molly b 1782.

ANCESTORS:

Lemuel's wife Sarah<sup>4</sup> LAWRENCE's ancestry and Lemuel<sup>4</sup>'s mother's ancestry can both be traced back to the *emigrant*, John<sup>1</sup> Lawrence who settled about 1635 in Watertown MA and then Groton CT.

Lemuel<sup>4</sup> was the son of Joseph<sup>3</sup> and Susanna [Lawrence] Williams. He was the grandson of Thomas<sup>2</sup> and Sarah [Foster] WILLIAMS and Peleg<sup>2</sup> and Elizabeth [Morse] Lawrence. Sarah<sup>4</sup>, also shared Thomas<sup>2</sup> and Sarah [Foster] WILLIAMS as one set of her grandparents, which then made Lemuel<sup>4</sup> and wife Sarah<sup>4</sup> first cousins.

NOTES:

Lemuel WILLIAMS came to Plainfield with the first group in the summer of 1763 to clear land as directed in the charter. He was granted his 100 acres as a proprietor. He was on the first board of selectmen for Plainfield NH. He moved his family to Plainfield in 1765 and was one of the 4 leading founders of Plainfield, with Francis Smith, Thomas Gallup and John Stevens. He held the office of Town Clerk from 1777-1783. In 1785 he still wanted Plainfield to be a part of Vermont, rather than NH, even though General Washington earlier had directed the governor of VT to relinquish any control of lands east of the Connecticut River. Lemuel voted with others NOT to furnish beef to the Army. The "Sheriff seized and took a pair of oxen and a cow from Lemuel Williams to satisfy the town's allotment." Later the town paid Lemuel the compensation of 20 pounds. In compliance with a NH Colonial Law of 1669, he warned "tranchant persons" out of town.



CAPTAIN ABEL STAFFORD

[II:206]KM

age 13 in 1761

Capt. Abel<sup>6</sup> STAFFORD [Amos<sup>5</sup>, Amos<sup>4</sup>, Amos<sup>3</sup>, Samuel<sup>2</sup>, Thomas<sup>1</sup>] born Coventry RI, 6 April 1748. He died 1841 at age 91 in Oswego NY. Married 3 October 1770 Killingly CT to Rebecca SHORT, daughter of ?Daniel SHORT. Rebecca was born ca 1756 Tioga NY.

CHILDREN of Abel<sup>6</sup> and Rebecca [SHORT] STAFFORD:

Sarah<sup>6</sup> b 1771, Frederick<sup>6</sup> b 1773, Samuel<sup>6</sup>, Zeruah/Zeriah<sup>6</sup> b 1776, Experience<sup>6</sup> b 1778, Keziah<sup>6</sup>, Moses<sup>6</sup> b 1780, Amos<sup>6</sup> b 1785, Abel<sup>6</sup> b 1790 and d 1860.

ANCESTORS:

Father Amos<sup>5</sup> STAFFORD married to Experience<sup>4</sup> Spalding [ 1727-1756] daughter of Nathaniel<sup>3</sup> and Johannah SPALDING. [Nathaniel<sup>3</sup>, Joseph<sup>2</sup>, Edward<sup>1</sup> SPALDING].

Grandfather Amos<sup>4</sup> STAFFORD b 1702 married to Catherine<sup>4</sup> CARTER/CARDER [John<sup>3</sup>, John<sup>2</sup>, Richard<sup>1</sup> CARTER].

GGrandfather Amos<sup>3</sup> b 1665 m Mary Burlingame.

GGGrandfather Samuel<sup>2</sup> b 1635 m Mercy/Mary Westcott.

GGGGrandfather Thomas<sup>1</sup> STAFFORD *emigrant* b 1605 m Elizabeth.

NOTES:

Abel<sup>6</sup> STAFFORD was on the committee in 1766 to lay out the meeting house lot and the burying ground. He was in most of the Revolutionary War battles from Saratoga to Yorktown. Served in Colonel Chase's regiment in Sept 1777 with Lieut. Reuben Jerold. [I:264]KM. He was paid for "three days of Sarves of his horse". Abel was brother to Nathaniel and Stukely [in the American Revolution]. In 1781 Abel<sup>6</sup> was a member of the Meriden Parish Training Band, a militia, the earliest known organization in Plainfield NH history. Town jobs included: surveyor of highways, selectman, tax collector, tythingman.

LIEUTENANT JOHN STEVENS , called Senior ORIGINAL PROPRIETOR [II:213]KM age 41 in 1761

Lieut. John<sup>3</sup> STEVENS [John<sup>2</sup>, Thomas<sup>1</sup>] born Plainfield CT, 8 January 1720. Died Plainfield NH 17 October 1797. He m1 Experience COIT [1726-1767] age 41. Hers was the first death of record in Plainfield NH. Her gravestone is now in the Village Cemetery. She was the daughter of Joseph and Experience [Wheeler] COIT. He m2 Sabra Young.

CHILDREN of John<sup>3</sup> and Experience [COIT] STEVENS :

John Jr. b 1743 and d 1839, buried Penniman Cemetery, Abel b 1747, Experience b 1728 mar Daniel Short, Ruth b 1750, Job b 1752 and d 1812 buried Penniman Cemetery, Isaac b 1754, Olive b 1756, Elizabeth b 1758.

John<sup>3</sup> and Sabra [YOUNG] STEVENS had the following child:

Benjamin b 1792 kept the tavern with his mother.

ANCESTORS:

His father John<sup>2</sup> [1694-1728] m ca 1719 to Elizabeth HOWE, daughter of Samuel and Mary [NUTTING] HOWE. His grandfather Thomas<sup>1</sup> m Ruth HALL.

Experience COIT born 1726 is sister to other girls who married Plainfield men: Martha COIT b 1713 m Lemuel SMITH. Abigail COIT b 1716 m Thomas GATES.

NOTES:

This family lived on the River Road [Earle property]. John<sup>3</sup> was chosen to be a petitioner from Plainfield CT to NH's governor Wentworth for a grant of land for Plainfield NH. He actually carried the charter to Plainfield NH. The 56 proprietors each paid 6 pounds to defray the cost of his journey and allow him some 'bribe money'. Active in proprietors' meetings and in town and church government, he was one of Plainfield's main leaders with much land and power. He was the 2<sup>nd</sup> Moderator of the town in 1767, and also in 1769 and 1773. He was a surveyor of highways, assessor, and deer reef. He was a soldier in the French and Indian War and in the American Revolution. In 1790 he was on the committee to settle the line between the West Society and the East Society. In March 1781 he was chosen as a Plainfield Representative in the General Assembly under the laws of Vermont. Widow Sabra Stevens was approved to sell "mixt liquor at her house" near the Connecticut River.

John is sister to Mary STEVENS born 1723. Lt. John was grandfather of the Rev. Siloam Short [born 1772], the 2<sup>nd</sup> minister of Meriden Congregational Society who was ordained in 1799. Rev. Short died 1803 in the scarlet fever epidemic. Stevens Hill [south of Home Hill] was named for John<sup>3</sup> Stevens, SR. His land on the original town map bordered the Connecticut River and the Cornish line.

Francis<sup>5</sup> SMITH [Lemuel<sup>4</sup>, John<sup>3</sup>, John<sup>2</sup>, Francis<sup>1</sup> *emigrant*] born 9 January 1737 in Voluntown CT. He died 24 March 1818 Plainfield NH and was buried in River Road Cemetery, for which he gave the land. Francis married to Eunice SPALDING, born ca 1743. A letter survives stating that Eunice Smith in 1765 was “terribly homesick”.

CHILDREN of Francis<sup>5</sup> and Eunice [SPALDING] SMITH:

Anna/Nancy b 1765 – As the first white child born in Plainfield NH, she was given a grant of 100 acres from the king.; Martha b 1767; Lucy b 1768; Sarah b 1771; Experience b 1773; John b 1775; William Coit b 1780; Charles b ca 1782.

ANCESTORS:

Francis's father was Lemuel<sup>4</sup> SMITH [II:117]KM who died 1759 at age 49, so did not emigrate to Plainfield NH. However, his wife Martha [COIT] SMITH became an original proprietor, also travelling to Plainfield to clear land in the summer of 1763. His grandfather was John<sup>3</sup> [1659-1752] who m Susannah HALL. His GGrandfather was John<sup>2</sup> of Taunton MA, born 1644 who m Elizabeth Tisdale. His GGGrandfather was Francis<sup>1</sup> *emigrant* b England 1614 who m Agnes.

NOTES:

Francis<sup>5</sup> SMITH came with the first group of settlers in 1763 to clear land. He was an Original Grantee and drew a lot on the River Road, later buying seven additional lots nearby. He invested heavily in the venture and settled in Plainfield in 1765. He owned 8 of the 66 original property shares. Was a planner for an early [1766] cemetery which was never used. Francis was elected the first Town Clerk in 1766, an office which he held through 1774. He was the wealthiest taxpayer in Plainfield NH in 1775 and for several years, was one of the elite who controlled local affairs. In July 1775 he was part of a “Committee to meet other Committees of the Naboring Towns ... to act in Congunkion with other Committees in what Shall be Best for the Defence of our liberties.” “...in order to Consult Such Measures as may be Proper Secure these frunteers against a futer Invation.” Francis<sup>5</sup> was an assessor, the first delegate to the NH State Constitutional Convention, a selectman, surveyor of lumber, the town treasurer and the first town clerk. With others in town, he signed the Association Test in April 1776, before the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Declaration of Independence was signed. These men were taking a chance at being considered traitors. Major Francis SMITH was commander of Col. Jonathan Chase's Regiment of NH Militia which in 1777 reinforced the garrison at Ticonderoga. Francis was elected to meet at Exeter for the Fourth Provincial Congress, the transition of the government of the Colony from the King to the people.

In 1780 he was a member of the committee that settled the line between the “West Society” and the “East Society”. The East Society to include “Mr. Abraham Roberts and Mr. Joseph Spaulding to the East of Sd Line”. The Westerly part of Grantham and the easterly part of Plainfield became Meriden in 1782. In 1779, as selectman, he warned a woman and child out of town [CWP p419]. In 1787 and in 1799 his tax bill was the highest in town. His property, the house built in 1796, was located where the McNamara farm stands and where Paul Franklin lives. In 1781-1785 he wanted Plainfield to be part of Vermont and supported the following decisions: that Plainfield pay no tax to Exeter and furnish no beef to help the army. In 1805 he was chosen deacon of the parent organization of the now Plainfield Community Baptist Church.

He had two brothers who studied at and graduated from Princeton. One of their professors was Dr. Witherspoon who signed the Declaration of Independence.

MARTHA COIT SMITH [ widow of Lemuel <sup>4</sup>SMITH] ORIGINAL PROPRIETOR [II:177]KM age 48 in 1761

Martha<sup>4</sup> COIT was born 1713 in Plainfield CT, daughter of Rev. Joseph<sup>3</sup> and Experience [WHEELER] COIT. Martha died 1779/1788 at the home of her son Major Francis<sup>5</sup> SMITH in Plainfield NH. She m1 ca 1733 to Lemuel <sup>4</sup>SMITH who died 1759. She m2 to Humphrey AVERY in the fall of 1763.

Lemuel <sup>4</sup> and Martha [COIT] SMITH's children:

Francis b 1737; Benjamin b 1738; Lemuel b 1740; Joseph b 1742; Isaac b 1744; Willard b 1746; John b 1749;  
Martha b 1751; Mary b 1753; Luther 1755; Experience b 1757.

#### ANCESTORS:

Martha's father the Rev. Joseph<sup>3</sup> COIT graduated from Harvard University and in 1697 earned a master's degree from Yale. He was minister at First Congregational Church, Plainfield CT for 43 years. Historian FC Chapman says: "He was an ornament to his profession, not only as preacher of the gospel of peace, but a zealous promoter of peace among his hearers and others.... He used to pray with great simplicity that his 'descendants might be the children of God as long as grass should grow and the brooks should run.'" His wife's will "reads like poetry".

Martha's line: Rev Joseph<sup>3</sup> COIT b 1673 m Experience WHEELER, Deacon Joseph<sup>2</sup> COIT b 1639 m Martha HARRIS, John<sup>1</sup> COIT *emigrant* b 1592 Wales m Mary Jenners. They were deeply religious and followed their minister to America. Experience<sup>3</sup> WHEELER's line [Isaac<sup>2</sup> WHEELER b 1667 m Martha Park, Thomas<sup>1</sup> WHEELER *emigrant* b 1616] is online.

Fyi: 22 generations back = 2,097,152 ancestors, or 19 sets of Great grandparents.

#### NOTES:

Martha<sup>4</sup> [COIT] SMITH was the only woman to be a Plainfield NH proprietor, a close-knit group mainly from Plainfield CT. Of the 56 original proprietors, 32 of the families had intermarried. Her inclusion was probably allowed by the others because of her money and family influence and that she had two sons who also were original proprietors: Major Francis SMITH and Joseph SMITH. Her husband Lemuel <sup>4</sup>SMITH had been given 644 acres of land and 100 cattle from his father, John<sup>3</sup>. He had sold everything in 1759 to have funds to purchase property, equipment and animals for a new farm in Plainfield NH. Then he died suddenly. At least 5 of their sons came to Plainfield NH in the early 1770's. Martha's minister brother Isaac advertised in 1770 for his runaway negro, 'Boston'. Her grandfather, Isaac WHEELER, at the time of his death in 1711 'owned' "1 negro male servant, 1 male indian and 1 female indian". Her son Lemuel<sup>5</sup> was listed 14<sup>th</sup> in the 1787 state tax bill and 9<sup>th</sup> in 1799, an indication of his wealth. He was a proprietor in 1763.

## DAROK / DROCK

In 1776 a man called Negro Darak/Darok/Drok was engaged in Colonel Scilley's Regiment under Captain House.[American Revolution].

Enlisted May 1777 for 3 years [under Captain House] Darok, a Lemuel Dean, and a Wilder Willard with Captain Josiah<sup>5</sup> Russell. [Josiah<sup>5</sup> Russell was an Original Proprietor of Plainfield NH.]

"September 4 1777 A Return of the men of Plainfield [NH] that is in the Continental sevis Wilder Willard Darick a Negro Lemuel Dean in Cap' Houses Compe."

Perhaps there was a connection to Simon DROCK, the only free 'person of color' in Goshen NH -1790 census – Heads of Family Newport NH. According to research under The Drock Story by Roddy there were DROCK families:

Guy DROCK b 1726-1742 [baptized 1742 First Church Norwich CT]. He died 1787. Blacksmith. He was owned by Benajah Bushnell of Norwich CT and then purchased by another Bushnell servant named Sarah Powers of Rhode Island.

Guy and Sarah [POWERS] DROCK had the following children born ca 1750/1759:

Simon married to Susannah [and in 1785 had a child named James Peter DROCK]; Sarah; Polly; Guy.

Plainfield granted a bounty of 14 pounds to every man who enlisted in the Continental Army for 3 years. In late summer 1777 Drock/Darick enlisted. He may have been one of Benjamin<sup>5</sup> Cutler's two slaves, now buried in Coreville Cemetery.

Captain Charles<sup>4</sup> SPALDING born 12 Dec 1735 Plainfield CT., son of Philip<sup>3</sup> and Ann [CLEVELAND] SPALDING. Charles died 15 March 1807 Plainfield NH and is buried in the River Cemetery. He married 25 December 1764 to Abigail<sup>5</sup> GATES born 1735 Plainfield CT, daughter of Thomas<sup>4</sup> and Abigail [COIT] GATES.

CHILDREN of Charles and Abigail [GATES] SPALDING:

Dutee/Duty b 1765; Daniel b 1768; Elisabeth b 1771; Dorothy b 1773; Anna mar to Solomon Kimball; Eunice b 1772; Experience called Speedy b 1774; Abigail b 1776.

ANCESTORS:

Charles<sup>4</sup> SPALDING's father was Philip<sup>3</sup> SPALDING b ca 1700 and m Ann CLEVELAND. His grandfather was Edward<sup>2</sup> SPALDING who m Mary Brackett. His GGrandfather was John<sup>1</sup>.

Abigail<sup>5</sup> GATES's father was Thomas<sup>4</sup> GATES b 1709 who m Abigail COIT [ daughter of Rev. Joseph and Experience [WHEELER] COIT]. Abigail's grandfather was Thomas<sup>3</sup> GATES who m Mary GEER. Her Ggrandfather was Stephen<sup>2</sup> GATES *emigrant* b 1634 England who m Sarah WOODWARD. Her GGgrandfather was Stephen<sup>1</sup> GATES *emigrant* b ca 1600 who m Anne Veare. Abigail's ancestor, *emigrant* Stephen GATES owned considerable property in Stowe MA and Preston CT. The earlier *emigrant* Stephen GATES [b ca 1600] was very verbal in his beliefs in church and town meetings. Nearly all GATES in America descend from this first Stephen GATES family.

{another ancestor to Abigail<sup>5</sup> GATES was George GEER. George and his brother were orphaned in England at an early age. Their parents left a valuable estate. The uncle became their guardian and arranged to ship them to America, without any money. The note to the ship's captain, which accompanied the boys, directed that he keep them on board. Both youngsters were put ashore in Boston. They had had no schooling. However, as adults, they held prominent positions in their towns, although neither could read nor write.}

NOTES:

After the birth of first child Duty, Charles<sup>4</sup> and Abigail moved to Plainfield NH in 1769. He served in the NH Militia and marched to Ticonderoga and "to Sallatogue" {Saratoga} during the American Revolution and is listed in DAR records. Both he and his horse were in Colonel Chase's Regiment in 1777. He served as the proprietor's clerk, surveyor of highways, fence viewer, lister, tax collector and tything man. His tax bill in 1787 was 15<sup>th</sup> on the list, meaning that he was considered the 15<sup>th</sup> wealthiest man in Plainfield. He was elected Moderator in 1783.

Lieutenant Thomas<sup>5</sup> GALLUP born 20 August 1727 in Stonington CT. He died 1777 at age 53 and was buried in the Gilkey Cemetery, the earliest stone there. He married 11 Aug 1748 to Hannah DEAN born 1722, the daughter of Jonathan and Sarah [ALCOTT] Douglas DEAN.

CHILDREN of Thomas<sup>5</sup> and Hannah [DEAN] GALLUP:

Captain Thomas<sup>6</sup> b 1750 who mar Rebecca GILKEY and was is the American Revolution; Asa b 1752 [12<sup>th</sup> wealthiest man in Plainfield in the 1787 tax list]; Alma b 1754; Margaret; Benjamin b 1758; Martha b 1761.

#### ANCESTORS:

Thomas<sup>5</sup>'s father was Nathaniel<sup>4</sup> b 1692 who married 1717 to cousin Margaret Gallup, daughter of Benadam GALLUP. His grandfather was John<sup>3</sup> born 1646 who m Elizabeth Harris. He was a man of prominence in Stonington CT, an interpreter for Indian guides.

His Ggrandfather was Captain John<sup>2</sup> *emigrant* [born 1615] who came on the ship the "Griffin" in 1633, who married Hannah Lake. He was an Indian interpreter and in the King Phillip's War.

His GGgrandfather was John<sup>1</sup> the *emigrant* who was born England 1590 and *emigrated* on the famous ship "Mary and John" in 1630. John<sup>1</sup> [born 1590] was a farmer and a mariner in the coastal trade and piloted the "Griffin". He also 'began' the Pequot War with a naval battle.

#### NOTES:

Lieutenant Thomas<sup>5</sup> GALLUP, an original grantee, signed the charter in 1761 for Plainfield. His was the 7<sup>th</sup> signature. He was a selectman for Plainfield NH and came during the summer of 1763 to clear land with 17 others. Known as Lieutenant Thomas GALLUP, he was on the 1<sup>st</sup> assessor's board in 1768. He was the 1<sup>st</sup> town moderator in 1766, also holding that office in 1768 and 1776, surveyor, held several town offices, including 'sealer of leather', town clerk, tax collector, constable. He purchased several lots of land. His home was in the area where the Sundell home is located. [The Thomas Gallup Tavern, run by his son Thomas<sup>6</sup> who was in 1796 approved to mix and sell spirituous liquor at his dwelling house, is now Home Hill, with its ornate ceiling moldings carved by woodcarver James Gilkey.] Thomas<sup>5</sup> was on the committee ca 1766 to lay out "Ye North and South County Road" probably on the west side of town and a part of the Great Road cleared beginning 1763, of trees, rocks, branches and stumps, from Charlestown to Lebanon. Roads planned to be six rods wide. In 1768 he sold land on the River Road to Josiah Russell, the blacksmith. In April 1775 he met to decide upon Liberty. In May 1775 the town organized and diverted tax money from going to Exeter to instead be used for the town's "Stock of Ammunition". Of the 85 men in town in 1775, only 36 had guns. To each gun owner was issued 1 pound powder, 4 flints, and a sufficient portion of lead. Thomas<sup>5</sup> was a Plainfield soldier in the American Revolution. In April 1776, 3 months before the Declaration of Independence was signed in Philadelphia, Thomas<sup>5</sup> signed The Association Test, a measure indicating loyalty to the colony. These men could have been held as traitors. He was a notable citizen at the town's beginnings.

Related to Gallups = George Horace Gallup [Gallup poll], Emily Dickinson, and George Bush.

SERGEANT BENJAMIN KIMBALL

PROPRIETOR

[II:19]KM

age 39 in 1761

Sergeant Benjamin<sup>5</sup> KIMBALL [Joseph<sup>4-3</sup>, Henry<sup>2</sup>, Richard<sup>1</sup>] born Preston CT, 15 April, 1722, died Plainfield NH 24 Aug 1796, after falling from his mill dam. He married Hannah RICHARDS on 5 Nov 1745. She was born CT 1717 and died Sept 1783. She was the first to be buried in Mill Cemetery.

CHILDREN of Benjamin<sup>5</sup> and Hannah [RICHARDS] KIMBALL:

Sarah b CT 1746; Daniel<sup>6</sup> b CT 1753; Mehitable b CT 1757 and mar Daniel Chase of Cornish; Raume b 1759; Elizabeth b 1760.

ANCESTORS:

Benjamin<sup>5</sup> KIMBALL was the son of Joseph<sup>4</sup> KIMBALL b Boston 1701 and Bethia Mackelwithe [varying spellings] b ca 1693 in Dedham MA. His grandfather was Joseph<sup>3</sup> son of Henry<sup>2</sup> the *emigrant* from England. Richard<sup>1</sup> KIMBALL/Kembold [varying spellings] died in 1619 in England.

NOTES:

Benjamin<sup>5</sup> Kimball brought his family from Preston CT to Plainfield NH in 1768/79. He purchased about 800 acres on the easterly side of town which included the hill in Meriden and by 1780 had built a grist and saw mill on "ye Brook Called Bloods Brook". The mill later burned and he felt that a church member had "had a hand in it". Other settlers built homes near his mill. Vernon Hood, page 166, noted that he believed that minister Dr. Wood named Meriden after the Connecticut town, Meriden. Benjamin<sup>5</sup> was a selectman, town clerk, Representative, and held several other town offices. His house was at the top of the hill. In April of 1776 he signed The Association Test. "It was, in one view of it, treason to the King on the part of his subjects. Had the people failed to make good their pledge every signer would have been held as a traitor." "...that we will, to the utmost of our Power, at the Risque of our Lives and Fortunes, with ARMS, oppose the Hostile Proceedings of the British Fleets, and Armies, against the United American COLONIES." VH p291.

Benjamin was elected Town Moderator in 1778, 1782, 1806, 1810, and 1812.

At four town meetings, Plainfield gave itself varying names:

1778 – Plainfield, Province of New Hampshire;

1779 – New Hampshire Grants, Plainfield;

1780 – voted that Plainfield NOT under the jurisdiction of New Hampshire;

1781 – State of Vermont, Plainfield.



LIEUTENANT DANIEL FREEMAN

OWNER CASSEDY HOUSE

[l:193]KM

age ca 30 in 1761

Lieutenant Daniel<sup>5</sup> FREEMAN [Deacon Joseph<sup>4</sup>, Joseph<sup>3</sup>, Sergeant Joseph<sup>2</sup>, John<sup>1</sup>] born Plainfield CT, 16 March 1727 or 1733, died Plainfield NH 8 May 1806. He married Mercy GATES 1758. She was born Plainfield or Preston CT 16 May 1739 and died Plainfield NH 1806.

CHILDREN of Daniel<sup>5</sup> and Mercy<sup>5</sup> [GATES] FREEMAN:

Mehitable, Tamerson, James, Deborah, Cyrus, Mehitable, Sabra, Olive, Daniel Jr, Joseph, \*\*\*Benjamin<sup>6</sup> b 1782 and second owner of house, Mary.

ANCESTORS:

Daniel<sup>5</sup> FREEMAN was the son of Deacon Joseph<sup>4</sup> FREEMAN and wife Mehitable TYLER. He was the grandson of Joseph<sup>3</sup> FREEMAN and wife Hannah BREWSTER. Hannah BREWSTER's ancestors were [Captain Daniel BREWSTER, Captain Benjamin BREWSTER, Captain Jonathan BREWSTER b 1593 and the MAYFLOWER *emigrant* Elder William BREWSTER and wife Mary of Scrooby England]. Ggrandson of Sergeant Joseph<sup>2</sup> FREEMAN and wife Dorothy HAYNES. Daniel's GGgrandfather was John FREEMAN<sup>1</sup> the emigrant from England and his wife Elizabeth NOYES.

Mercy<sup>5</sup> GATES [Isaac<sup>4</sup>, Stephen<sup>3</sup>, Stephen<sup>2</sup> the emigrant and Stephen<sup>1</sup> the *emigrant* on the ship Diligent in 1638].

NOTES:

Mary Cassedy's ancestors through Daniel<sup>5</sup> FREEMAN include some notable people. There is much written about Elder William BREWSTER, an important person in Plymouth MA. His wife Mary was the 4<sup>th</sup> to sign the Mayflower Compact. She died within several months of arrival in MA. A Reverend William EDDYE graduated from Trinity Hall, University of Cambridge and was inducted as Vicar of "the parish of Cranbrooke" under the highly esteemed Archbishop Whitgift. "Wyelyam Eddyemynyster & preacher of ye gospel of our lord Jesus cryst" 1589. Mary's 8<sup>th</sup> GGgrandfather - John BENJAMIN *emigrated* in 1632 on the Lion. Her ancestor born in 1640 and named Samuel SEABURY was an early doctor in Duxbury MA. Daniel<sup>5</sup> FREEMAN, himself, was a soldier in the American REVOLUTIONARY War.

Daniel<sup>5</sup> FREEMAN moved his family to Plainfield NH after the Revolution, about 1783 and built the original part of the old Freeman house in 1784. He was elected to some town offices.

John<sup>4</sup> DANIELS [John<sup>3-2-1</sup>] born Mendon MA 1755 and d Plainfield NH 1833. Came to Plainfield 1803 and bought the farm on Black Hill [now Peter Mogielnicki's house]. He married Zipporah PIERCE b 1765 and d Plainfield 1829. Both are buried in Daniels Cemetery.

CHILDREN of John<sup>5</sup> and wife Zipporah [PIERCE] DANIELS:

Leonard b MA 1780; Charles b 1783; John b & d 1785; Lois b NH 1787; John W jr b NH 1790; Sarah b NH 1793; Joseph Warren b NH 1795; William b NH 1800; Harry b NH 1803; Levinus b NH; Increase b NH; Ozias b NH.

#### ANCESTORS:

John<sup>4</sup> DANIELS was the son of John<sup>3</sup> DANIELS b 1725 in Mendon MA who married Margaret BOYCE. John<sup>1</sup> DANIELS was the *emigrant* from England who settled in Sherborn and then Mendon MA. His wife was Sarah DUNHAM.

#### NOTES:

John<sup>4</sup> DANIELS was bound out to his uncle when quite young. He went to Boston and was present at the Boston Tea Party in 1773 and enlisted in the Revolutionary War. He was at the battles of Bunker Hill, Saratoga, Valley Forge and Bennington. After the war he moved to Chesterfield NH and ca 1801 moved to Plainfield NH. The *emigrant* Joseph BOYCE, a Quaker who came on the ship the *Expedition*, was also an ancestor to Sir Winston Churchill. Mary's grandparents were Willis Kimball DANIELS and wife Emma Jane HALL and also John Carlton WHITNEY and wife Ella Elizabeth PEASLEE. In her Peaslee/Putnam line is Thomas PUTNAM b 1652 and his wife Ann CARR who lived in Salem MA. They were the parents of Ann PUTNAM jr who was one of the leading girls in the witchcraft hysteria of 1692. Both Thomas and Ann sr signed documents of accusation against neighbors. Mary has notable ancestors in Tristram COFFIN and his wife Dionis STEVENS who, after living in Newbury MA, decided to move to Nantucket Island in 1660. Much is written about this family and the Nantucket GREENLEAF family, also related. In her Whitney/Hinckley line she is a descendant of the *Mayflower emigrant* William BREWSTER.