

From the files of Rev. Dr. Robert E.H. Peeples

REF:

Rev. John Cotton, died in Charles Town, SC 1699

Mrs. John (Avis) Adams, died in Charles Town, SC 1689

HISTORY
of the
TOWN OF DURHAM
NEW HAMPSHIRE
(Oyster River Plantation)

WITH
GENEALOGICAL NOTES

By EVERETT S. STACKPOLE
and WINTHROP S. MESERVE

IN TWO VOLUMES

Volume Two
GENEALOGICAL



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GENEALOGICAL

ADAMS

Charles Adams, born about 1623, bought land at Oyster River of John Ault, 10 April 1643. He was taxed in 1648, and took the oath of fidelity 21 June 1669. Constable in 1662. He and fourteen others of his household were slain in the massacre of 1694, and his house was burned. The mound of earth marking their graves is very near the Mathes burial place, at Durham Point.

DELIVERANCE, named in Court record, 1679.

CHARLES b. 1668; m. Temperance Benmore.

MARY m. William Tasker.

SARAH m. Henry Nock, 10 Jan. 1691/2, (2) Eleazer Wyer.

SAMUEL, slain with wife and children in 1694.

MERCY, or URSULA, b. 13 March 1674; captured 1694; bap. in Canada 6 April 1697, when she was recorded as dau. of Charles and Rebecca (Smith) Adams of Oyster River. She m. Charles Brisebois and d. before 1732, leaving at least two children.

Charles Adams (Charles), born 1668, administered his father's estate 1 April 1695, and the inventory of his own estate was rendered 9 Nov. of the same year. He married Temperance, daughter of Philip Benmore, who married, 28 Sept. 1669, Rebecca, widow of Thomas Nock, whose maiden name was Tibbetts. He left two daughters.

REBECCA m. Joseph Duda, or Durrell.

ESTHER m. Thomas Bickford.

ADAMS

On the 20th day of November, 1684, Timothy Prout, Edward Willey and Edward Willis became surety to the town of Boston for Richard Wilkins, William Stewarte, John Adams, John Langdon, Samuel Gray, John Simons, Thomas Atkinson, and Archibald Eraskin [Erskine] and their families. [See report of the Record Commissioners of Boston, Vol. X, p. 75.]

It is known that Stewarte and Erskine were Scotchmen, and it is probable that all of this company were from Scotland. They had recently arrived and somebody had to be surety for them, lest they might come upon the town for support.

The above John Adams had wife, Avis, and the next event

recorded concerning his family is the birth of their daughter, Jane, in 1686. He bought a house of Nathaniel Williams, 20 Dec. 1688, and is called "cordwainer" in the deed. He sold "tenement and shop" to Abraham Blish, 19 Jan. 1690. The deed is witnessed by Peter Barber. June 20, 1693, Mary, widow of Henry Phillips, sold to John Adams, Sr., of Boston, cordwainer, a house occupied by Samuel Gray, doubtless the same person as the one named among those who arrived with John Adams in 1684. It was on the highway leading to Roxbury, bounded east by Bishop's Lane, which is now Hawley Street. William Gibbons was one of the witnesses. June 21, 1693, John Adams, Sr., cordwainer, and Avis, his wife, mortgaged to John Richards the house last mentioned, "tenement occupied by Samuel Gray." The mortgage was discharged 23 Feb. 1693/4. The marriage bond of Peter Barbour, tailor and Sarah Willey, spinster, of Boston, was signed by John Adams, shoemaker, of Boston, 16 Nov. 1687. [See Court Files, Boston.] Peter Barbour was another Scotchman.

On 10 Feb. 1693, John Adams, Sr., cordwainer, and wife, Avis, deeded to Mathew Cary a tenement late in the possession of Mary Phillips and now in the tenure of John Adams. The deed was subscribed 9 March 1693/4. This same house was sold by Mathew Cary to Samuel Lynde, 15 Dec. 1694, "occupied by John Adams, Sr.," and 5 Jan. 1696/7 Mathew Cary sold to Andrew Belcher the same house, "now or late in the tenure & occupancy of John Adams, cordwainer."

The Superior Court of Judicature, Nov. 1699, had a case of Edward Gouge, plaintiff, and Anthony Checkley, defendant, "Whereas Edward Gouge recovered a judgment against John Adams of Boston, cordwainer, for £12 and costs of suit, and execution was returned to court with *non est Inventus*," etc. Anthony Checkley was surety for John Adams and pleaded that he never set hand to the bond, but the verdict was against Checkley and he paid the bill, which was receipted 20 Sept. 1704. It must have been John Adams, Sr., of whom it was said in 1699, *non est Inventus*, for John Adams junior was in Boston, 1699-1705. John Adams, Sr., had died. Rev. Hugh Adams writes that in 1701 "four of my young brethren and sisters were orphans left to my brotherly care," and "my own godly mother the widow Avis Adams died" in 1699 as the result of a pestilential disease

contracted in nursing the Rev. John Cotton at Charleston, S. C.

John and Avis Adams had children as follows:

2. JOHN m. Hannah Checkley, 19 Oct. 1693.
3. HUGH b. 7 May 1676; m. Susanna Winborn.
4. MATTHEW m. (1) Katherine Brigdon, (2) Meriel Cotton.
 JANE b. 21 Feb. 1686; m. 20 July 1713, Joseph Harding, at Chatham, Mass.
 ANN b. 20 Feb. 1688; m. (1) 13 Feb. 1706, Wm. Flay, (2) 23 Sept. 1714, William Ings of Boston.
 WILLIAM bapt. 8 March 1690; d. young.
 WILLIAM bapt. 12 Feb. 1692.
 EBENEZER bapt. 23 Dec. 1694.

2. John Adams (John) married, 19 Oct. 1693, Hannah, daughter of Anthony and Hannah (Wheelwright) Checkley. Her father was attorney general. John Adams, J^r., was cordwainer, shopkeeper, captain and lieutenant-governor of Nova Scotia. Jan. 8, 1700, the heirs of Henry Stevens convey to John Adams of Boston, shopkeeper, a house at the south end on highway leading to Roxbury, bounded east by Bishop's Lane, the same house that his father had once bought, lived in and sold. The next year John Adams sold this house and moved into a brick house adjoining, where he was a tenant of John Wainwright. Oct. 4, 1712, Thomas Newton wrote a letter to Capt. John Adams of Annapolis Royal saying that "Mr. Wainwright is now suing out his mortgage of the house your aunt and I live in and the house your family lives in, and creditors have a deed of the Overplus thereof when that and your mortgage are satisfied, and I am desired by the creditors to know what is due to you or yours, which I desire you will let me know by the next conveniency." [See Suffolk Court Files.]

John Adams was still at Annapolis Royal in 1718. In 1741 he was in Boston and was blind. He then sold to John Gibbons, at the end of a law suit, the brick house above mentioned, for £500. The deed is witnessed by his brother, Matthew Adams, and by Hannah Newton, who was daughter of this John Adams* and had married Hibbert, son of Thomas Newton above mentioned.

* Several persons named John Adams have been confused by some genealogists. John, son of Alexander Adams, seems to have died before 1684. See Suffolk Deeds, XIII, 222. John Adams, malster, son of Joseph Adams, malster, married Hannah Webb and died 2 Nov. 1702. His widow married 12 Dec. 1705, Samuel Winkley, and died in 1707. This John Adams had children, (1) Samuel born 6 May 1689, who married 21 April 1713, Mary Field, and had son, Samuel Adams, the patriot, born 16 Sept. 1722; (2) Hannah who married 22 Sept. 1710, Samuel

By a further study of the records it appears that Ann, wife of William Gibbons was aunt of Capt. John Adams of Annapolis Royal, son of John and Avis Adams. She was, therefore, sister to John Adams, Sr., or to his wife, Avis, or possibly William Gibbons was brother to Avis Adams. Capt. John Adams had children:

AVIS.

HANNAH m. Hibbert Newton.

ANNE.

REV. JOHN bapt. 26 March 1704/5; d. Jan. 1740, aged 36.
[See N. E. Reg. Vol. XXXIII, p. 132.]

3. Rev. Hugh Adams (John), born 7 May 1676, graduated at Harvard in 1697. The next year he went to South Carolina, where he was pastor of several churches, and remained there till 1706. In a letter he states that "our precious godly mother Avis Adams departed this life October 6th last" (1699). This was at Charleston. [See Mass. Hist. Coll. Vol. VI., 5th series, p. 12.]

He married, 1701, as he himself writes, Susanna Winborn, undoubtedly daughter of the Rev. John and Elizabeth (Hart) Winborn, and granddaughter of William Winborn.†

Holbrook of Weymouth; (3) Abigail born 6 Oct. 1691, died 4 July 1713; (4) John born 4 Nov. 1693, bound out in 1707. He chose uncle Peter Adams for guardian; (5) Joseph born 20 Dec. 1695, bound out; (6) Mary born 20 Dec. 1695; (7) Bethiah born 20 Aug. 1697, died 8 Dec. 1703; (8) Thomas born 2 March 1700; (9) Abijah born 11 May 1702, who married 1725, Deborah Cutler, and later had second and third wife. He died 9 Feb. 1768, aged 66. I am indebted to Miss Virginia Hall, genealogist, of Boston, for much information about these often confused persons, named John Adams, of Boston.

† William Winborn signed the Exeter Combination of 1639 and was Clerk of the Writs in Exeter in 1643. He and wife, Elizabeth, lived in Boston, 1641-62. He was chosen town clerk of Manchester, Mass., in 1686, where his son, John, was preaching. William Winborn of Malden, Mass., and his son, John, with wife, Elizabeth, sold land in Malden in 1687. [See Middlesex Deeds, VIII, 219.]

John, his son, was born in Boston 21 of 7th month, 1638, and married, 11 Sept. 1667, in Malden, Elizabeth, daughter of Isaac and Elizabeth Hart of Watertown, Lynn and Reading. She was born 11 Dec. 1651. Her father's will names daughter, Elizabeth Wenborne. Rev. John Winborn was minister of the church at Manchester, Mass., 1667-86. The town records show that he left Manchester between 1690 and 1693. He is said to have died in 1707. [See History of Essex County, II, 1283.] No record of his family has been found. He may have gone to South Carolina, and in that state only the name Winborn is found in the census of 1790.

Susanna Winborn had a brother, Ebenezer, of Boston, who married, 11 May 1706, Lydia Prince, born 1685, daughter of Joseph Prince of Hull, Mass., who married, 7 Dec. 1670, Joanna, daughter of Secretary Nathaniel Morton of Plymouth, Mass. Ebenezer Winborn was a watchman in the south end of Boston from 1723 till 1733. He may have married (2) Elizabeth Gwinn, 24 Oct. 1744. He had children, Prince, who married 30 Nov. 1743 Mary Rogers and probably (2), 17 June 1765, Esther Johnson in Middletown, Conn.; Elizabeth who married 29 Oct. 1739, Bozoun Allen; Susanna who married 12 July 1734, Andrew Coffin; Joanna who married 29 Dec. 1736, Nicholas Foster, and Lydia born 13 Feb. 1706/7, who was living in 1739. This last is the maiden baptized in Durham by the Rev. Hugh Adams.

Do you have any
record of the
Rev. John Winborn
in South Carolina

Under date of 1 May 1726, he records the admission to church of "Lydia Winborn, the maiden daughter of my wife's brother." April 6, 1718, he records the admission to church of "Susanna Adams, my wife. She was a member of the church in Carolina."

The Rev. Hugh Adams died in Oct. 1748, aged 72. [See chapter on History of the Church in Durham.] His widow, Susanna, was living in 1766.

Son, b. and d. at Ashley River, S. C. in 1702.

5. SAMUEL b. June 1705; m. (1) Phebe Chesley, (2) Rebecca Hall.

ELIZABETH b. 5 May 1713, in Chatham, Mass.; m. Joseph Drew.

WINBORN b. 19 April 1715 in Boston; schoolmaster in Durham; "deceased in office," 1736.‡

JOHN b. 13 Jan. 1718 in O. R.; m. in Boston 23 Dec. 1741, Anna Parker.

AVIS b. 11 April 1723; m. William Odiorne.

JOSEPH b. 22 April 1725; prob. d. young.

4. Matthew Adams (John) was a merchant in Boston, "an ingenious and amiable man, who had a pretty collection of books" and loaned the same to Benjamin Franklin, as the latter writes. He died in March 1747/8. He married (1) Katherine Brigdon, 17 Nov. 1715, and (2) Meriel Cotton, 10 June 1734.

MATTHEW.

KATHERINE.

6. JOHN b. 19 June 1725; m. Sarah Wheeler, (2) Hannah Chesley.

NATHANIEL b. 1726; d. 1766; m. (1) 1752, Deborah, dau. of Capt. John Knight, (2) 1755, Elizabeth Parker, dau. of Hon. William Parker of Portsmouth. She d. Nov. 1814, aged 80. He had son Nathaniel b. 1756, who wrote the Annals of Portsmouth and m. (1) Eunice Woodman and had 3 ch., (2) Martha Church and had 5 ch.; Mary b. 1758; Deborah b. 1759; John b. 1761; Anne b. 1763; and William b. 1765.

ELIZABETH b. 1732; m. 17 April 1749, Dea. Jeremiah Burnham; d. 2 June 1753.

Child by second marriage.

MERIEL m. (1) Winthrop Burnham, (2) Dea. Nathaniel Norton.

‡ There is in the library of the Mass. Historical Society a manuscript letter of Rev. Hugh Adams dated 22 April 1736, to Mr. Nathan Prince, Fellow of Harvard College in Cambridge, requesting the speedy return of his son, Winborn Adams, who had been sick. He says that in the space of seven months eighty-six persons had died in Durham by a "pestilential fever and Quincey."

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