

SILHOUETTES AND CAMEOS

---

ANCESTORS AND DESCENDANTS  
OF  
EDMOND WARD BOTSFORD



BY  
HIS GRANDSON  
ELI HERBERT BOTSFORD, L. H. D.

THE McCLELLAND PRESS  
Williamstown - Massachusetts

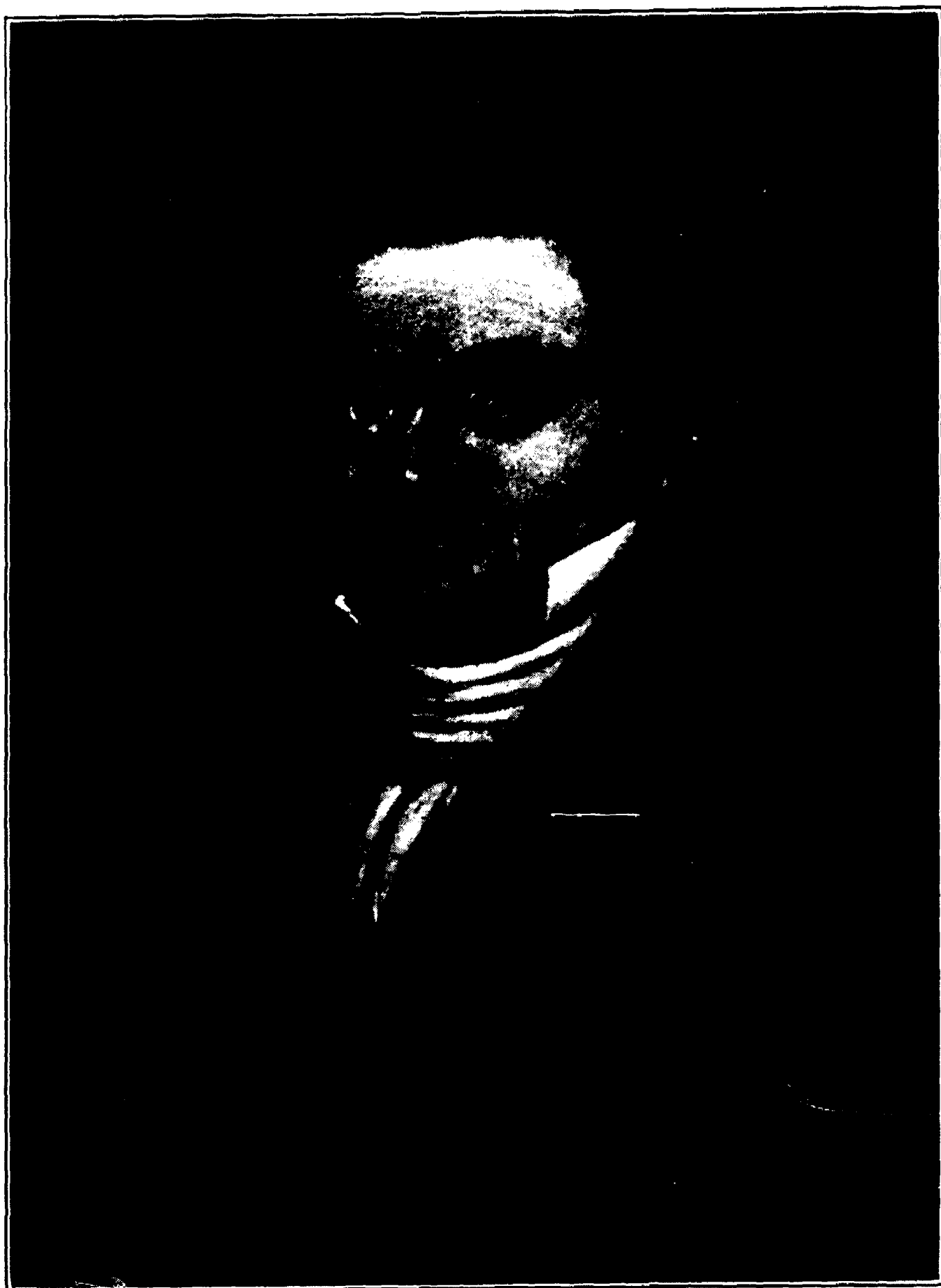
—1932—





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EDMOND WARD BOTSFORD

born 18 June, 1798; died 16 November, 1836

From a portrait in the home of Alice Faith Botsford Synnott



## FOREWORD

“If only we had asked Grandmother about the early family history and had jotted down the story as she remembered it, how much she could have told us and how many questions she could have answered!” How many families have made this comment! And now in every town and hamlet the personalities that “knew the story” from participation in it are gone, and there is no one left to fill the gap.

It is with this thought in mind that I have jotted down the facts of our family history so far as I have been able to gather them together. This little volume does not attempt to cover the genealogy of the Botsford family but simply that portion which is of interest to the descendants of Grandfather Edmond Ward Botsford.

For very helpful and valuable assistance, acknowledgment is gratefully made to Margaret A. Older, genealogist, and Marion Botsford Weatherill, assistant genealogist, of the Botsford Family Association.

ELI HERBERT BOTSFORD

Williamstown, Massachusetts  
1932





## BY WAY OF INTRODUCTION

I never saw my paternal grandfather, but learned my letters, my first lessons in reading and spelling, at my Grandmother Botsford's knee. She was Mary Ann Clark Botsford, born in Skaneateles, N. Y., in 1802, one of the nine children of Eli Clark and Ann Pomeroy, of Northampton, Mass. The Clark family were descendants of Lieutenant William Clark, born in England in 1609, settled in Dorchester, Mass., as early as 1638, where his name occurs as a member of the Dorchester church. He removed to Northampton five years after its settlement and became a "pillar" of the church founded there in 1661. He lived to be eighty-one years old and surrounded himself with a family of nine or ten children, one of whom became Deacon John Clark, and another Captain William Clark. Of Deacon John's children, four lived to be ninety, three above eighty, and three above seventy. The youngest son lived to be ninety-eight years old, and at the time of his death 960 out of 1145 descendants were living. He was a representative at the General Court, and was called both Sergeant and Deacon.

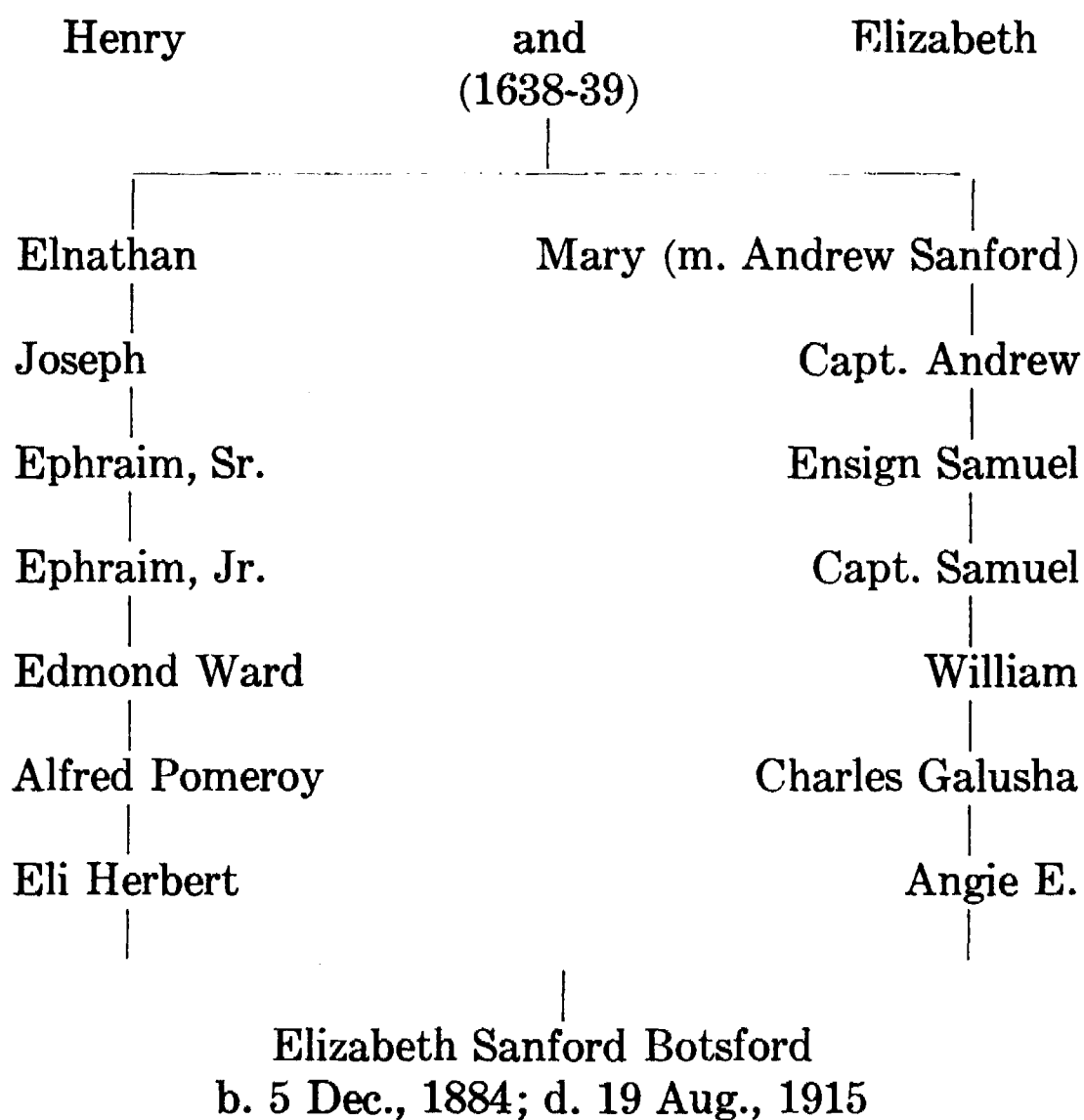
His son Increase lived to be ninety-one. He was a Northampton farmer with a family of nine children, the youngest being Deacon Elijah. Among the children of the fifth generation from the English-born ancestor was Eli Clark, who married Ann Pomeroy — and removed to New York State in 1801.

Just how Grandfather Edmond Ward Botsford, the youngest son of Ephraim Botsford, Jr., of Sharon, Conn., and baptized 16 September, 1798, according to the records of the Sharon church, happened to meet Mary Ann Clark of Skaneateles, N. Y., is a bit of unsolved family history. His father was, of course, the son of Ephraim, Sr., whose father Joseph was the son of Elnathan, only son of Henry Botsford of Milford, Conn., the first Botsford to settle in America.

This pioneer progenitor of the Botsfords of America must have been somewhat of a rover. Exactly where his parents lived in England has not yet been established by actual records, although the search is being constantly narrowed as his friends and neighbors of the Milford settlement are being definitely placed on the map of England.

Although five daughters were born to Henry and Elizabeth in America, Elnathan was the only male in this group of children. Three of the girls married sons of neighbor Baldwin, one chose a Wheeler, and Mary, the oldest, married Andrew Sanford, Jr. in January, 1667.

On 1 January, 1884, more than two centuries later, Eli Herbert Botsford, seventh generation from Elnathan, married Angie Sanford, seventh generation from Andrew Sanford, son of Andrew Sanford, pioneer. The genealogy runs thus:



# THE BOTSFORD ANCESTORS AND DESCENDANTS OF EDMOND WARD BOTSFORD

## THE BOTSFORD LINE

*Edmond Ward Botsford*, youngest son of the 12 children of Ephraim Botsford, Jr., of Sharon, Conn., born 18 June, 1798, was baptized 16 September, 1798, according to the records of the Sharon church. His father, Ephraim Botsford, Jr., was the son of Ephraim, whose father, Joseph, was the son of Elnathan, only son of Henry Botsford of Milford, the first Botsford to settle in this country.

### I. HENRY BOTSFORD

Whether *Henry Botsford* came directly from England to Milford, Conn., in 1638, bringing with him his wife Elizabeth and son Elnathan, born in 1636, or whether he came first to the Northampton, Massachusetts, group, is uncertain. He became Number 45 in the list of Free Planters in Milford and is included in the personnel of Weponaug (Indian name for Milford) in the records of 1639-46. He became a member of the Milford church, 25 June, 1644. From the New Haven Colonial Records we find that "Henry Botsford was chosen corporal in the 133 from New Haven Colony for protection from the encroachments of the Dutch, at a General Court held at New Haven for the jurisdiction, the 23rd of June, 1654." He died sometime between 1 February and 15 April, 1686, and his wife Elizabeth, 4 October, 1690.

Their children were:

1. Elnathan, b. Eng. 1636; bap. 14 Aug., 1641.
2. Elizabeth, bap. 21 May, 1643; m. Dan'l Baldwin, 27 June, 1665.
3. Mary, twin to Eliz.; m. Andrew Sanford, 28 Jan., 1667.
4. Hannah, b. Dec. 1645; m. Nathan'l Baldwin, 12 Mar., 1671.
5. Esther, b. 2 July, 1647; m. Nathan'l Wheeler, 1665.
6. Ruth, bap. 6 July, 1649; m. John Baldwin, about 1686, and removed to Newark, N. J.

## II. ELNATHAN BOTSFORD 1. 1.

*Elnathan Botsford*, son of Henry and Elizabeth, born in England, 1636; m. (first wife) 12 Dec., 1665, Elizabeth Fletcher, dau. of John Fletcher, who died 1666; m. (second wife) 12 Dec., 1667, Hannah Baldwin, dau. of Timothy and Mary, bap. Aug., 1644; d. 7 Aug., 1706.

His signature on a deed in 1667 is one of the oldest in Milford. He joined the Milford church 17 Dec., 1669; died 10 Sept., 1691. His children were:

1. Elizabeth, b. 22 Oct., 1666 (by first wife); m. Jos. Baldwin.
2. Esther, b. 18 Oct., 1668 (by second wife).
3. Samuel, b. 30 July, 1670; m. Hannah Camp; d. 1744.
4. Mary, b. 2 Feb., 1672.
5. Joanna, b. 30 April, 1674; d. 1674.
6. Hannah, twin to Joanna; m. John Pringle.
7. Henry, b. 12 Sept., 1676; m. Christian Gunn, 12 Nov., 1700; d. 1747.
8. Timothy, b. 10 Nov., 1678; m. Mary Peck, 14 Feb., 1704.
9. John, b. 8 Jan., 1680; m. Hepzibah Camp 1708; d. 6 May, 1745.
10. Sarah, b. 12 Aug., 1683; m. Daniel Merwin.
11. Ruth, bap. 2 June 1686; d. early.
12. Joseph, b. 30 Sept., 1688; m. Mary Bennett, 9 Jan., 1718; d. 5 April, 1774.

## III. JOSEPH BOTSFORD, 1.1.11.

*Joseph Botsford*, son of Elnathan and Hannah, born 30 September, 1688, married 9 January, 1718, Mary Bennett, daughter of Thomas and Mary (Clark) Bennett. He settled in Newtown, Conn., where his name frequently appears upon the town records. We find a record wherein Joseph deeds a certain piece of land "for and in consideration of paternal love and affection which I bear to my son, Ephraim Botsford, of afore-said Newtown." His will is dated 2 February, 1766, and inventory 5 September, 1774. He died 5 April, 1774.

The Newtown records contain twelve pages of transfers of land affecting the Botsford name, often in amounts exceeding £1000, a very considerable sum in colonial days. Samuel Sanford held land adjoining the Botsford holdings. A deed of 11 April, 1717, transfers land from Sanford to Botsford.

His children were:

1. Joseph, b. 13 Feb., 1719; m. Ella Northrup, 5 Jan., 1760.
2. Ephraim, b. 25 June, 1720; m. Sarah Hawley, 5 Nov., 1741.
3. Abram, b. 13 Nov., 1723; m. Mary Chauncy, 1 April, 1755.
4. Mary, m. Joseph Fairchild, 25 Dec. 1754

#### IV. EPHRAIM BOTSFORD, SR. 1.1.11.2.

*Ephraim Botsford*, son of Joseph and Mary, born 25 June, 1720, Newtown, Conn., married 5 November, 1741, Sarah Hawley, daughter of Gideon and Anna (Bennett) Hawley. On 4 October, 1742, Ephraim deeded back a certain parcel of land to his father in these phrases: "... return him my unfeigned humble thanks that I, Ephraim Botsford (execute this quit claim deed) to my honored father, Mr. Joseph Botsford, together with my honored mother, Mrs. Mary Botsford," etc. In 1749 Ephraim acquired more land in Newtown. In 1763, according to Sharon Land Records, he purchased a farm in Sharon of Dan'l Baldwin, one of the first settlers of that town. That same year, he deeded to his father, Joseph, of Newtown, thirty acres of that land. In 1765, Ephraim, with his family, removed to Sharon where he lived until his death, 5 December, 1795, at the age of 74. He is buried in the Sharon cemetery with the following epitaph upon his tombstone: "In memory of Mr. Botsford, who departed this life 5 December, 1795, aet. 74.

"When my friends this tomb draw near,  
Bedew my urn with one kind tear,  
Then look by Faith to realms above,  
Where all is harmony and love."

All of the following children are mentioned in his will:

1. Abiah, b. 20 July, 1742; m. James Fuller.
2. Ephraim, b. 16 March, 1750; m. Marib Dowd, 16 July, 1772.
3. Esther, b. 5 Jan., 1752; m. Elijah Williams of Amenia, 21 July, 1785.
4. Elnathan, b. 4 Dec., 1757; m. Tamar Palmer about 1780; d. 1782.
5. Mary, m. Phineas Roe of Salisbury, 15 Feb., 1779.
6. Sarah, b. 29 Feb., 1759.

## V. EPHRAIM BOTSFORD, JR. 1.1.11.2.2

*Ephraim Botsford, Jr.*, son of Ephraim and Sarah, born 16 March, 1750, Newtown, Conn.; married 16 July, 1772, in Sharon, Marib Dowd, daughter of Peleg and Marib (Ward) Dowd.

On 12 April, 1773, he received by deed from his father "for the consideration of the natural love that I have and do bear my son, Ephraim Botsford, Jr. of Sharon aforesaid and for other good causes and considerations me thereunto moving, etc., etc.," four pieces of land, one of which had a well and "a Dwelling House on the Premises." Until 1803 the names of the two Ephraims appear constantly in the town records as buying and selling land, until they must have owned considerable real estate. Ephraim, Jr. died in 1821.

His large family consisted of:

1. Dulana, b. 21 Feb., 1773; d. unmarried 20 Sept., 1848, Jordan, N. Y.
2. Wolcott, b. 1774; d. 11 Sept., 1785, Sharon, Conn.
3. John, name appears in Sharon Records till 1804; went west.
4. Warren, b. 19 Feb., 1780; m. Cynthia Lane, 1801, Lanesboro, Mass.; d. 10 Feb., 1856, Burke, N. Y.
5. Ephraim Bennett, res., Arcade, N. Y., 1834.
6. Marib, m. Morris Bishop, res. Coudersport, Pa., where she died, April, 1839.
7. Parmela, m. — Bishop.
8. Betsey, b. 7 June, 1789; m. Simeon R. Curtis, 2 Aug., 1807, at Lanesboro, Mass., res. Elbridge, N. Y.
9. Anner, b. 9 Oct., 1791; m. Dennis T. Hall, res. Coudersport, Pa., 1836.
10. Wolcott, bap. 17 Aug., 1794; m. Sabrina Madison. Went to Canada, thence to Michigan, where he died, 1836.
11. Alvah Dowd, bap. 23 Oct., 1796. Went to Jordan, N. Y., 1823, where he died unmarried, 20 Aug., 1836.
12. Edmond Ward, bap. 16 Sept., 1798; m. 30 Jan., 1821, to Mary Ann Clark; d. 6 Nov., 1836.

## VI. EDMOND WARD BOTSFORD 1.1.11.2.2.12

*Edmond Ward Botsford*, son of Ephraim, Jr. and Marib, born 18 June, 1798; baptised 16 September, 1798, Sharon, Conn.,

married 30 January, 1821, Mary Ann Clark, born 24 November, 1802, daughter of Deacon Eli and Anna (Pomeroy) Clark, originally of Northampton, Mass., but at that time removed to Skaneateles, N. Y. She died 6 September, 1892, at Wenonah, N. J.

\*Edmond Ward Botsford, his wife, and small son Chas. Sedgwick, b. 1 January, 1823, and Dulana Botsford, eldest sister of Edmond Ward, and Alvah Dowd, her lame, unmarried brother, all left Sharon in 1823 and settled in Jordan, N. Y. There they became very closely associated with the church. In an historical sketch of the Jordan Presbyterian Church, the Botsford family is described thus: "They were all eminent Christians, earnest and liberal supporters of the cause of Christ in this place. To no other family does the Presbyterian Society owe more grateful regard and remembrance, for they were pillars of the church and steady supporters of all her enterprises. The family removed from Jordan in 1852." Edmond Ward was an original member of the Jordan church and one of its first board of trustees, also was elected an elder when the first session was chosen. His wife was an earnest worker in the Sunday school in which she was a teacher. It was his dear desire that his sons enter the ministry. He was not robust in health, and after travelling around in a vain effort to find a climate suitable to the requirements of his constitution he returned to Jordan, where he died 6 November, 1836, at the early age of 38. His burial place is not definitely known. He left his widow and three small sons to the devoted care of his maiden sister Dulana, who faithfully and creditably performed the trust until her death 6 September, 1848, at Jordan, N. Y.

Their children were:

1. Charles Sedgwick, b. 1 Jan., 1823; d. 20 Oct., 1839.
2. Alfred Pomeroy, b. 21 April, 1827; m. (1) Elizabeth Miller, d. 24 Feb., 1855; (2) Mary Pardee, b. Jan., 1832; d. 30 May, 1907; d. 4 Sept., 1925.
3. Eli Clark, b. 10 Oct., 1829; m. 6 Sept., 1853, Rosamond Hull, b. 5 July, 1830; d. 7 Feb., 1863; d. 31 Dec., 1860.
4. Edmond Dowd, b. 4 Dec., 1831; d. 4 June, 1836.

\*Edmond and Edmund are variant spellings, as also Dulena, Dulina, Dulana.

## VII. ALFRED POMEROY BOTSFORD, D.D., L.H.D.

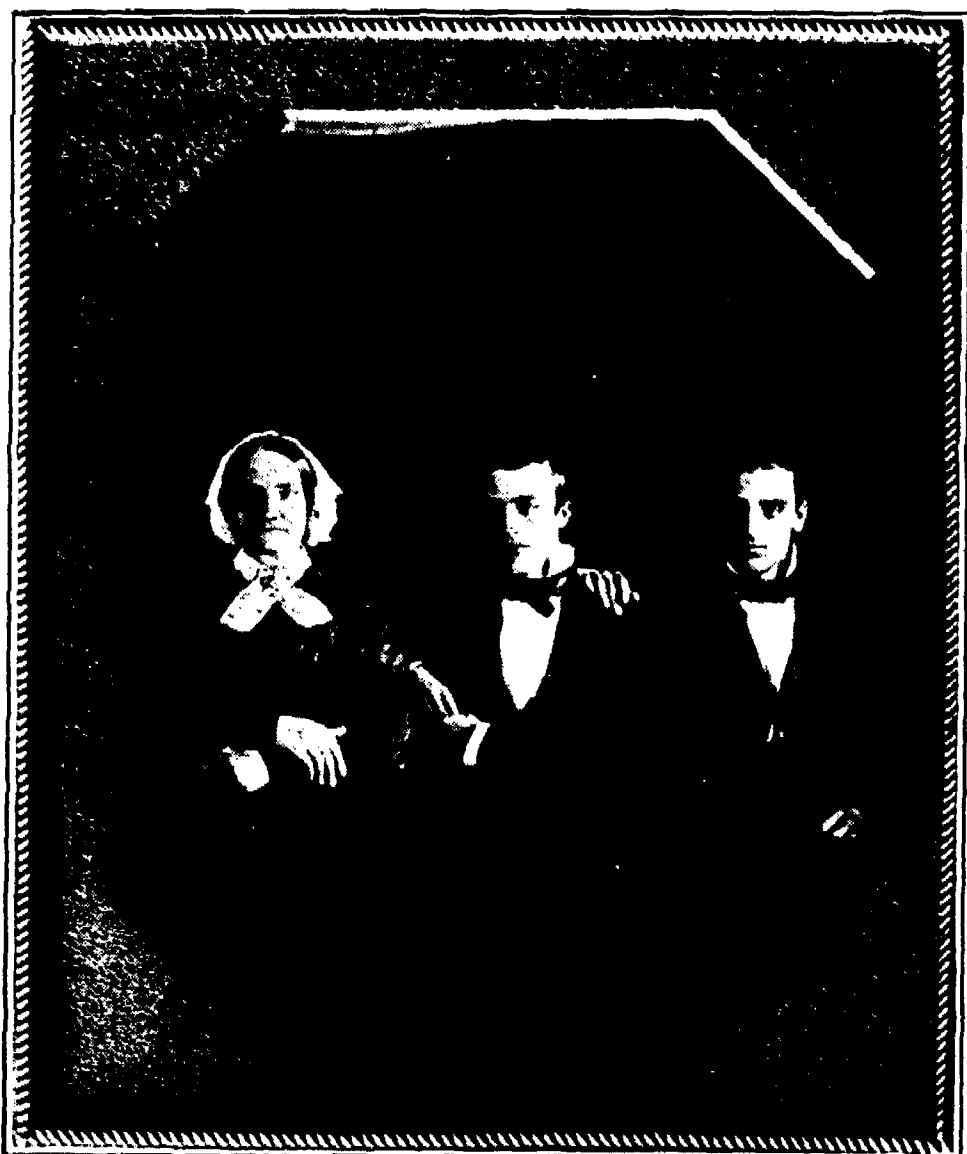
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*Alfred Pomeroy Botsford*, son of Edmond Ward and Mary Ann, b. 21 April, 1827, Jordan, N. Y.; m. (1) 8 Sept., 1851, Elizabeth Miller, b. 14 Feb., 1830, dau. of Deac. Charles Miller, of Ligonier, Pa., she died 24 Feb., 1855; m. (2) 4 June, 1856, Mary A. Pardee, b. 18 Jan., 1832, dau. of Bela and Mary (Thayer) Pardee of Vernon, N. Y., she died 30 May, 1907, Woodbury, N. J. He died 4 Sept., 1925.

Alfred Pomeroy Botsford and his younger brother, Eli Clark, left fatherless at the age of 9 and 7 years, did not lack oversight and direction in their lives. Aunt Dulana and Uncle Alvah took upon themselves that task. How two young farm boys attended the academy, mastered their Greek and Latin, algebra and history, under competent and severe training, were prepared to enter college at 17 and 15 years respectively, is in itself a marvel, but when it is recalled that they were entered in the sophomore class and graduated at the top of a class of 100 students in 1847, three years later, it is almost unbelievable.

When the boys were ready to leave the farm at Jordan, they took their books and blankets and boarded a grain boat, wending its way along the recently constructed Erie Canal — “De Witt Clinton’s ditch” — across the State toward Schenectady, the seat of Union College. The boys slept in their blankets on the heaped-up grain. Saturday night they had not reached their destination, but that was the beginning of the Sabbath, so they left the boat, made their way to a neighboring farmhouse, and offered their services as chore boys in return for meals and lodgings, with the privilege of attending church and Sunday school. Sunday evening, they embarked upon the express packet to overtake the grain boat and, transferring back to their original conveyance, at last reached the College. President Eliphalet Nott received the boys. “Where did you spend the Sabbath?” was his first question. Satisfied on this point, he reached for a copy of Vergil’s *Aeneid*, opened it at random, and called for scansion, translation, and comment. The *Odes of Horace* came next,

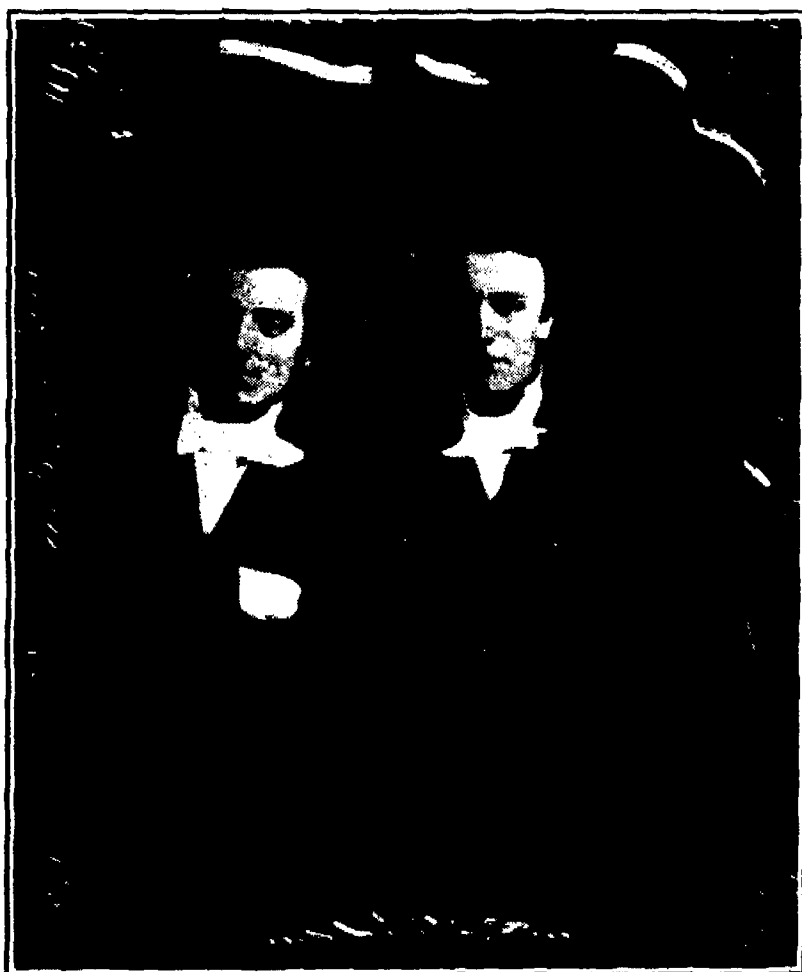




GRANDMOTHER  
BOTSFORD  
AND  
HER SONS

ALFRED  
POMEROY  
BOTSFORD

ELI  
CLARK  
BOTSFORD







REV. ALFRED POMEROY BOTSFORD, D.D., L.H.D.

born 21 April, 1827; died 4 September, 1925



then the *Anabasis* and *Iliad*, with Ancient History. The President was well satisfied. "You have had excellent instruction. You are enrolled in the sophomore class." Three years later the boys were graduated with Phi Beta Kappa rank, leaders in their class. Alfred Botsford delivered an Italian oration at the commencement. Eli was perhaps the more brilliant but not as studious as his older brother. They were both members of the Delta Upsilon fraternity, at that time an anti-secret organization.

In May, 1852, Alfred Pomeroy was graduated from the Princeton Theological Seminary. He served churches at Red Mills, Hughsonville, and Port Byron, N. Y. Eli Herbert Botsford was born at Port Byron, 18 December, 1860. A few days later the father was suddenly called to New York City by the illness of his brother Eli, who had been pastor of the 86th Street Presbyterian Church during the exciting years just before the outbreak of the Civil War. Eli died in Alfred's arms on the last day of the year. Alfred was called to carry on the pastorate, which he did most acceptably for a period of seven years — perhaps the most difficult years in the history of the country.

Eli had been an ardent advocate of the abolition of slavery and an outspoken champion of the northern cause, in a city where opposition to the draft was rampant. When the draft riot broke out, before the federal troops could reach the city, there were stirring times in the 86th Street neighborhood. The home of the police captain, situated near the church property, was ransacked and fired. The rabble recalled some of the sharp denunciations of disloyalty by Eli Botsford and ascribed them to the newly installed pastor. There was a threat to burn the church and hang the minister to the nearest lamp-post. Only the friendship and the controlling influence of the Catholic priest of the neighborhood saved the church from the flames and the minister from mistreatment. The priest summoned a carriage and driver from the nearest livery stable, bundled father, mother, and lusty babe, objecting strongly to the proceedings, into the coach, and sent it with an extra guard out of the city by way of Harlem. That carriage

was said to have been the last one allowed by the rioters to leave the city. Is it any wonder that Alfred Botsford was always very broadminded in his relationships with Catholic and Protestant leaders, Jew and Gentile? Throughout the pastorate at Port Jervis, N. Y., his most intimate companion among the men was the pastor of the local Baptist church.

He served at Port Jervis for sixteen years. From 1884 to 1896 he was pastor of the Memorial Presbyterian Church in Wenonah, N. J. At the end of this pastorate, at his own request he was put upon the retired list but continued to supply churches when called upon. He removed to Woodbury, N. J., where two married daughters are still living, and there he spent his remaining years.

In 1897, at his 50th college-class anniversary, at Union College, his Alma Mater conferred upon him the degree of Doctor of Divinity. In 1901 he was chosen stated clerk of the West Jersey Presbytery, in which office he served for twenty years. Upon his resignation of this post in 1921, the Presbytery paid him high tribute. In 1922, the 75th anniversary of his graduation, he was present on the college campus as the only surviving member of a class of 100 members. The College conferred upon him the degree of Doctor of Humane Letters, upon which occasion the President paid him this tribute:

“You have been a minister of the gospel for half a century; for twenty years stated clerk of the West Jersey Presbytery. Seventy-five years ago you were graduated from Union College. On that occasion you delivered the Italian oration. Those were the days of the gift of tongues. In this your ninety-sixth year, after an active service greater in length than the whole allotted period of three-score years and ten of human life, you are here to receive at our hands the homage due your distinguished worth. With the exception of Washington Bissell of the class of 1846, who has passed his 102nd year, you are our oldest living graduate. Your years have been a harvest of blessings and your whole life a benediction. Man of liberal culture, of broad and generous learning, and of pure and radiant spirit, your Alma Mater honors herself in honoring you.”

Until the time of his passing, the 4th of September, 1925, at the age of ninety-eight years and five months, he was in full possession of all his faculties and was active in both mind and body, ever maintaining an alert interest in the things around him and especially in the affairs of the Church and the Presbytery with which he was so closely associated for such a span of years. Brought up on a farm, he loved the ways of nature. When vegetable gardens were in vogue, he planted his own; he knew how to make things grow.

He was a preacher with a living message; his sermons were thoughtfully wrought out and delivered with an earnest eloquence which carried conviction to his hearers. His own beliefs were deep seated but he shrank from controversy. He served a God of Love and served Him joyously.

He was gentle in his nature and delegated to Mother the discipline of the family — and when worried over parish problems or brain-weary from the long hours spent in prayerful study, he himself became a child in Mother's hands and was often lulled to sleep by her ministrations.

Family prayers held an important place in the family life and gave the children a training in the very fundamentals of religion. Everyone had a part, repeating a verse or reading from the Bible, and all joined in the familiar hymns. Father had a good voice and there was musical ability in the family.

There were thoroughly good times with plenty of fun mixed up with the lessons and the other duties of the day. The individuality of each member of the family was given opportunity to express itself. Young people from outside found something very attractive in this home life. Especially where the pastorates were long, the minister's home became a center for many gatherings.

He trained his children to write weekly letters when away from home and this was continued when they were married and scattered, all writing "home letters" up to the very end.

His children, all of whom received a college education, are as follows:

1. Edmond Miller, b. 6 Mar., 1853 (by first wife), Red Mills,

- N. Y.; grad. Princeton 1874; m. 31 Aug., 1880, Caroline Butterworth; d. 18 Jan., 1918.
2. Mary Rawson, b. 30 April, 1857 (by second wife), Hughsonville, N. Y.; grad. Vassar 1878.
  3. Eli Herbert, b. 18 Dec., 1860, Port Byron, N. Y.; grad. Williams 1882; m. 1 Jan., 1884, Angie E. Sanford.
  4. Helen Culbertson, b. 11 Aug., 1864, New York City; grad. Vassar 1886; d. 17 April, 1887.
  5. Franceina Hutton, b. 5 Oct., 1870, Port Jervis, N. Y.; student at Wilson College; m. 17 Sept., 1891, H. H. Clark.
  6. Alice Faith, b. 31 Aug., 1872, Port Jervis, N. Y.; student at Wilson College; m. 16 Sept., 1897, C. E. Synnott.

#### VIII. EDMOND MILLER BOTSFORD, 1.1.11.2.2.12.2.1.

*Edmond Miller Botsford*, son of Alfred and Elizabeth (Miller) Botsford, b. 6 Mar., 1853; m. 31 Aug., 1880, Caroline Butterworth, b. 28 Feb., 1855, d. 6 Sept., 1927; d. Quincy, Ill., 8 Jan., 1918.

He spent his early youth in New York City and Port Jervis, N. Y. While a student at Princeton University, where he graduated in 1874, he wrote many articles for the *Princeton Collegian* and received senior prize in essay writing, in competition with one hundred students.

His first year out of college he taught Latin and Greek in Hillsboro Academy but decided to study law and went to Rochester, N. Y., where he entered a law office. He made up his mind, however, to venture west and, via Marengo, Ill., where he stopped to visit an uncle, he went to Rockford and became a clerk in law offices there. Because of his rapid and accurate transcriptions, he was soon employed as court clerk.

Through contacts with newspapers and newspapermen, he became a reporter for the *Rockford Register* and later local editor. In 1881 he bought out an interest in the newspaper, continuing the editorial work. He was widely known for his wit and brilliancy and for a literary style which was far superior



to that usually found in the columns of a western news paper. Ten years later, together with C. L. Miller and H. J. Eaton, he bought the *Quincy Daily Herald*. After two years, Mr. Botsford became editor-in-chief of the *Herald* and president of the company — positions which he held until he retired in 1914.

Edmond Miller Botsford was good company wherever he happened to be. He had musical ability and was prominent in amateur theatricals, often taking the feminine roles.

His children:

1. Katherine Mary, b. 19 Aug., 1883; grad. Vassar 1904; m. 8 June, 1908, Charles W. Gay, grad. Dartmouth 1902, who d. 1932.
2. Alfred Miller, b. 9 Aug., 1884; grad. Williams 1906; m. (1) 17 Oct., 1914, Ruth Gardner, and (2) 20 Sept., 1925, Ruth S. Imlay.
3. Faith Elizabeth, b. 3 Nov., 1893; d. Mar., 1894.

Children of *Katherine Mary Gay*:

1. Caroline, b. 4 June, 1911; grad. Vassar 1932.
2. William Edmond, b. 25 Jan., 1913; Dartmouth 1934.

#### IX. ALFRED MILLER BOTSFORD, 1.1.11.2.2.12.2.1.2.

*Alfred Miller Botsford*, son of Edmond Miller and Caroline (Butterworth) Botsford, b. 9 Aug., 1884; m. (1) Ruth Gardner, dau. of J. Willis Gardner of Quincy, Ill., from whom he was parted in 1920, (2) Ruth Sexton Imlay, of New York City.

After various business ventures he became associated with the Famous Players Lasky Corporation, New York City, and was for a long period advertising director for the Paramount Publix Theatres. He is now chairman of the editorial board of the same organization, with headquarters at Hollywood, Calif.

Children:

1. Robert Gardner, b. 7 July, 1917 (by first wife).
2. Stephen Blakeslie, b. 5 Nov., 1919.
3. Ruth, b. 18 Dec., 1928 (by second wife).

VIII. *Mary Rawson Botsford*, 1.1.11.2.2.12.2.2, b. 30 April, 1857. B.A. Vassar 1878; Phi Beta Kappa rank; M.A. Vassar 1899; graduate student at Leipzig and Columbia universities; summer courses at Oxford. Teacher of English language and literature in secondary schools and in Wilson College. Retired 1927 to make her home with her brother in Williamstown, Mass. During the World War she was active in canteen work and Red Cross work. She served in the Sugar Department of the Food Administration group in New York City.

VIII. ELI HERBERT BOTSFORD, M.A., L.H.D.

1.1.11.2.2.12.2.3.

*Eli Herbert Botsford*, son of Alfred Pomeroy and Mary Abigail (Pardee) Botsford, b. 18 Dec., 1860, Port Byron, N. Y.; m. 1 Jan., 1884, Angie E. Sanford, dau. of Charles G. Sanford and direct descendant of Andrew Sanford who married Mary Botsford, daughter of Henry and Elizabeth Botsford of Milford, Conn. She was born 1 Jan., 1862, at Stamford, Vt., and died 28 Nov., 1926, at Williamstown, Mass.

Eli Herbert Botsford was prepared for college at Port Jervis, N. Y., and graduated from Williams in 1882 with honor rank. He taught in the public schools of Port Jervis 1882-1883, and was principal and superintendent of the borough schools of Hawley, Pa., 1883-1886; called back to Williamstown, he was principal of the high school 1886-1891. The following year he held a fellowship in chemistry at Williams College, in preparation for a year of study at Göttingen and Heidelberg, Germany, after which he returned to secondary school work and served as principal of Burr and Burton Seminary, Manchester, Vt., 1894-1900. In 1900 he established the Northside College Preparatory School at Williamstown, which he conducted for a quarter of a century. During this period, he was called to the Department of Mathematics at Williams, where he remained 1912-1919, relinquishing this position to become alumni secretary of Williams College, secretary-treasurer of the Loyalty Fund Association, and editor of the



*Three Generations—*

ALFRED POMEROY BOTSFORD	<i>(seated)</i>
EDMOND MILLER BOTSFORD	<i>(left)</i>
ELI HERBERT BOTSFORD	<i>(right)</i>
ALFRED MILLER BOTSFORD	<i>(center)</i>





*"The Man from Mexico"*

ALFRED MILLER BOTSFORD

Class of 1906, Williams College



*Williams Alumni Review*, a monthly publication of The Society of Alumni. In 1914 he became a member of the Athletic Council and its graduate treasurer, a position he held for sixteen years. In addition, he has been active in civic affairs of the college town, and is at present chairman of the town Finance Committee.

The class of 1914 voiced the appreciation of the entire alumni body when it printed these words in the class publication: "Of unfailing good nature, yet forceful in personality, a hard worker, painstaking and careful, Botsy is at one time handling, and handling well, the positions of alumni secretary, editor-in-chief and managing editor of the *Alumni Review*, graduate treasurer, secretary-treasurer of the Loyalty Fund Association, and numerous other tasks which carry plenty of work but no title and but little recognition."

This last statement is subject to revision. Eli Herbert Botsford was honored by his Alma Mater in 1931 with the degree of Doctor of Humane Letters. He has addressed alumni associations throughout the United States and been entertained by alumni groups in the great cities of Europe.

He is the editor of the annual College Bulletins dealing with alumni history, of the *General Catalogue of 1930*; and has found time to publish three volumes of college history: *The Story of Paul Ansel Chadbourne, 1928*; *Franklin Carter, Administrator, Builder, 1930*; *John Haskell Hewitt and Henry Hopkins, 1932*. He is now working on Book IV, *The Administration of Harry Augustus Garfield*. A final volume *Characters and Stories of a College Town* will complete the story of *Fifty Years at Williams*.

Angie Sanford Botsford, his wife, as already stated, was a direct descendant of Captain Andrew Sanford. The family removed from Stamford, her birthplace, to Williamstown, Mass., where she attended the Glen Seminary. She continued her education at a school in New Haven, Conn.

On 1 January, 1884, she was married to Eli Herbert Botsford. They had one daughter, Elizabeth Sanford Botsford, born 5 December, 1884, graduated from Vassar College in 1905. She taught in her father's school, specializing in German and

French, until her death 19 August, 1915, following an automobile accident.

Angie Sanford Botsford was intensely interested in church and community work in Williamstown, and became a leader in the women's organizations through her remarkable executive ability. She died suddenly 28 November, 1926, from heart failure.

#### A CHURCH MEMORIAL

A memorial presented at the annual meeting of the First Congregational Church, 1 January, 1927, gave the following fitting tribute:

"It rarely happens that any church loses in one person a contributor to so many forms of church service as we have lost in the death of Mrs. Angie Sanford Botsford.

"For long years her good judgment and business ability have helped to solve all the financial and social problems of the women's organizations; her warm interest in children has kept her constantly in touch with the Sunday School; her social instincts have made her open her home freely for the cordial entertainment of friends and strangers.

"Her personal affairs were always set aside for the demands of practical church needs, or rather, she made such needs so much her personal care that they were never outside her daily plan.

"So fully alive was she that the handicaps of uncomplained-of illness never kept her out of the circle where the interest was deepest, the call on invention keenest, and where the work was hardest.

"Life, to her thinking, was to be *lived*, with all the powers of mind and body, originally granted or won by experience, and if it might be so lived to the very end, why, thank God for that.

"So, in the midst of *Life*, abundant, rewarding, human life, she opened the door and passed out, unafraid, to that life which is infinite and eternal."

VIII. *Helen Culbertson Botsford*, 1.1.11.2.2.12.2.3.4, b. 11 Aug., 1864; grad. with honor rank Vassar College 1886; d. 17 April, 1887.





*Then*

*and*

*Now*

The upper photograph was taken soon after graduation from Williams College in 1882.

*A*

*Recent*

*Photograph*



ELI HERBERT BOTSFORD





ANGIE SANFORD BOTSFORD

born 1 January, 1862

died 28 November, 1926

married Eli Herbert Botsford, 1 January, 1884





ELIZABETH SANFORD BOTSFORD

born 5 December, 1884

died 19 August, 1915





CHILDREN OF MARY PARDEE AND ALFRED POMEROY BOTSFORD





*Franceina Hutton Botsford*, 1.1.11.2.2.12.3.5, b. 5 Oct., 1870; Rockford College; Wilson College '91; m. 17 Sept., 1891, Henry Herbert Clark, M. D., Woodbury, N. J.

Actively interested in Woman's Club movement; for many years serving as member of the State Board of the New Jersey Federation of Women's Clubs; as vice-president of the First District of the State; later as southern vice-president. Actively interested in establishment of a college for women in New Jersey, serving three years on the college committee of the Federation and as director of the endowment fund of that organization and as advisor on the Publicity Committee. In 1926, was state chairman of arrangements for the Eighteenth Biennial Convention of the General Federation in Atlantic City. In local club work, she has served as president of the Woman's Club of Woodbury and as chairman of its Garden Department, in that capacity organizing and conducting very successfully a yearly Flower Show for both commercial and amateur growers. Through membership in the club chorus and twenty-five years' membership in the choir of the Presbyterian Church she maintains her interest in music. Recently, she was the organizer of the Central Welfare Association of Woodbury, which serves as a clearing house for the welfare work of the town, and has served as its head for four years.

One daughter:

1. Helen Botsford, b. 17 Dec., 1892; m. Cantwell Clark, III, 13 April, 1918.

Children of Helen Botsford Clark:

1. Cantwell, IV; b. 23 June, 1920.
2. Henry Herbert, II; b. 9 Mar., 1926.

*Alice Faith Botsford*, 1.1.11.2.2.12.2.3.6, b. 31 Aug., 1872, Port Jervis, N. Y. Wilson College '92. m. 16 Sept., 1897, Clayton Eldridge Synnott, Woodbury, N. J.

Children:

1. Marion Botsford, b. 27 July, 1898, Woodbury, N. J. m. 16 Oct., 1926, Robert Thomas Weatherill.
2. Thomas Whitney, II, b. 7 Dec., 1906, Woodbury, N. J.

Member Society of Colonial Dames in America; Anna Whitall Chapter D. A. R.; the Philadelphia Music Club. She has maintained a continued interest in woman's club work and in the N. J. S. Federation, serving as chairman of hostesses for the Eighteenth Biennial Convention of the General Federation in 1926, and, more recently, on the Committee on Public Welfare of the N. J. S. Federation of Women's Clubs. Interested in social welfare and the Emergency Aid organization for several years before the World War, she became instrumental in organizing the Gloucester County Chapter A. R. C., serving as chairman of production during the period of the War and the years of reconstruction that followed. A valuable member of the county committee, upon which she has served continuously since its organization, she is at present in charge of distribution of garments, etc., for the emergency relief in the County. Upon the organization of the Cooper Hospital Auxiliary in Camden, she was chosen its first treasurer. Since 1918, a director of the Training School at Vineland, N. J.; a director of the Presbyterian Home at Belvidere, N. J., since its inception; and for the past twenty years, a trustee of the Deptford Institute Free Library.

Children of Marion Botsford Synnott Weatherill:

1. Thomas Clayton, b. 20 July, 1927.
2. Jared Thayer, b. 12 Oct., 1928.

## VII. ELI CLARK BOTSFORD, 1.1.11.2.2.12.3.

*Eli Clark Botsford*, son of Edmond Ward and Mary Ann (Clark) Botsford, born 10 Oct., 1829, Jordan, N. Y.; m. 6 Sept., 1853, Rosamond A. Hull, b. 5 July, 1830, d. 7 Feb., 1863.

He was graduated from Union College in 1847 and from Princeton Theological Seminary, 1853. After serving as pastor of the 86th Street Presbyterian Church, New York City, for seven years, he died suddenly, 31 December, 1860, while pre-

paring an anniversary sermon. He left three sons and an infant daughter three months old.

1. Charles Hull, b. 20 Sept., 1855; d. 28 Dec., 1930.
2. Alfred Clark, b. 27 Oct., 1857; d. 17 Feb., 1930, Denver, Colo.
3. William Rufus, b. 10 May, 1859; d. Sept., 1862.
4. Mary Wakeman, b. 21 Sept., 1860; m. 26 Dec., 1900, John S. Charlton, who d. 19 Oct., 1915, N. Y. C.

#### VIII. CHARLES HULL BOTSFORD, 1.1.11.2.2.12.3.1

*Charles Hull Botsford*, son of Eli C. and Rosamond (Hull) Botsford, b. 20 Sept., 1855; grad. from Princeton University, 1875; m. 19 Oct., 1892, Florence H. Topping. A man of brilliant intellect, he lived much of his life abroad, and d. 28 Dec., 1930, in New York City.

Children:

1. Rosamond, b. 18 Oct., 1893; m. 26 Dec., 1914, Dr. Pierro Antonio Gariazzo, Turin, Italy.
2. Willard, b. 27 July, 1897.

#### IX. WILLARD BOTSFORD, 1.1.11.2.2.12.3.1.2

*Willard Botsford*, son of Charles Hull and Florence (Topping) Botsford, b. 27 July, 1897; student at Columbia University; m. 6 July, 1921, Lena Romani, and lived for a time in Brussels, Belgium, later moving to London, England.

Children:

1. Richard Van der Zee, b. 21 July, 1923.
2. Keith, b. 31 Mar., 1927.

#### VIII. ALFRED CLARK BOTSFORD, 1.1.11.2.2.12.3.2

*Alfred Clark Botsford*, son of Eli C. and Rosamond (Hull) Botsford, b. 27 Oct., 1857, New York City. Member of the class of 1879 of Princeton University. He never married; made his home upon a ranch at Ragged Mountain, Colo., coming east annually to visit his relatives in New York City. He d. 17 Feb., 1930, in Denver, Colo.

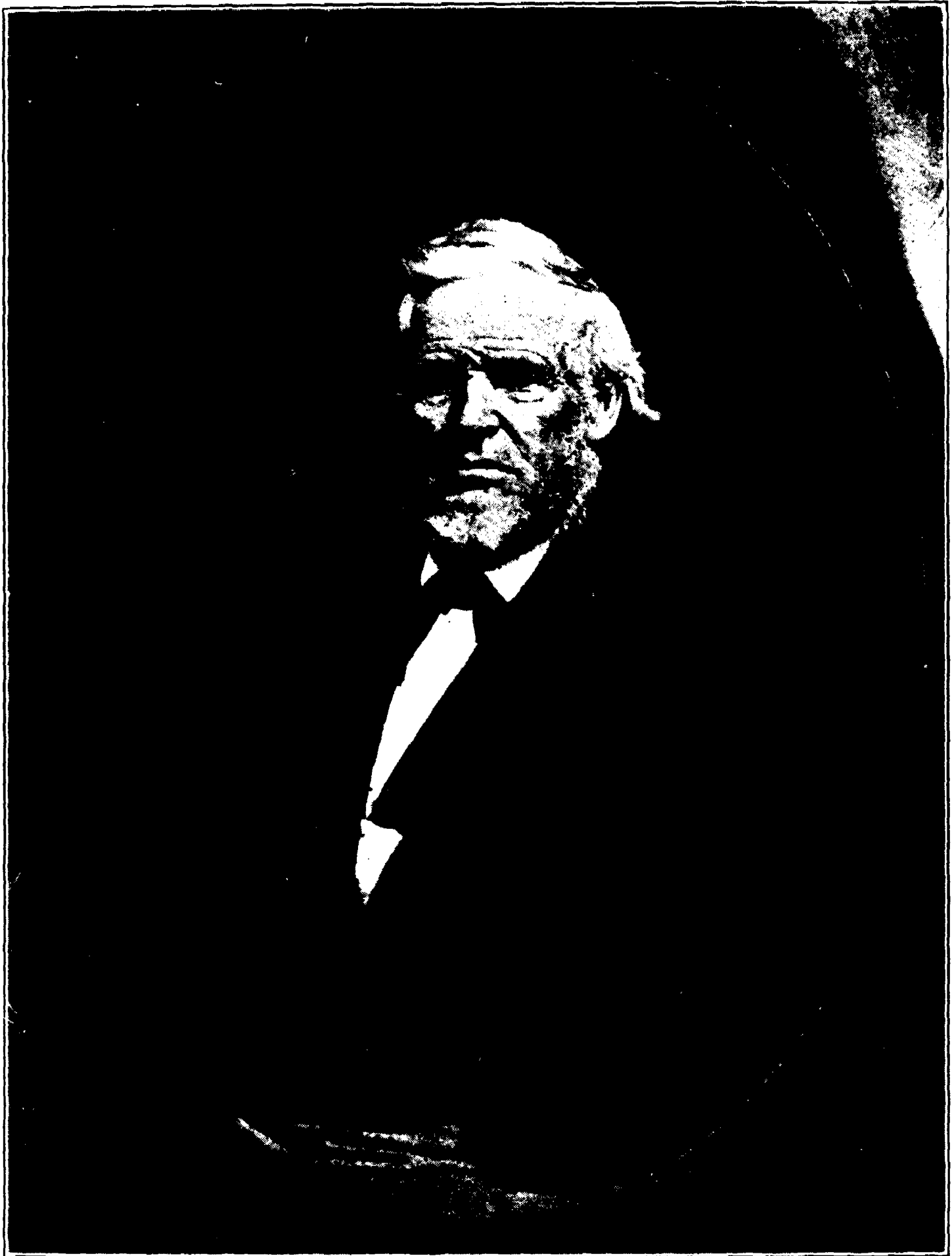
## GRANDFATHER PARDEE

No figure stands out, in the memories of my boyhood days, more clearly than that of Grandfather Pardee. His sturdy frame was the setting for a rugged character and personality. His features were like the page of an open book, whereon were written clear vision, sterling integrity, and a keen understanding of human nature. The broad forehead was slightly wrinkled. The clear blue eyes were deeply set beneath shaggy eyebrows. A well shaped nose and firm, clean-shaven lips completed the picture. A shock of gray white hair and a beard somewhat closely clipped for those days, set off the features.

There was something intriguing about his quaint, biblical, given name — Bela. Bela Pardee stood for all that was worth while in a region where man was wresting his livelihood from the soil. How he did hate sham and hypocrisy! And his admiring grandson was later to learn that Bela Pardee stripped himself of his splendid New York State farm to meet financial obligations which he could easily have sidestepped, when the failure of an Albany commission house which he had supplied with the butter and cheese from not only his own farm but a wide section of the surrounding country, left many unpaid notes holding his endorsement. The farm was sacrificed and the notes paid, to the last dollar. He saved a few acres of detached land and enough money to purchase a very modest home on the edge of the village.

It was this home which welcomed "Mary's boy" for the long summer vacations, where Grandma's cooky jar was always filled to overflowing at the Saturday baking and quite often found nearly empty when the Sunday supper was spread. Grandmother always expressed surprise at the discovery, but her eyes twinkled and never a frown appeared on her placid countenance. Cookies were baked for boys, and if the boys displayed unusual appetites, that was nothing out of the ordinary.

Picking hops in Walt Wright's hopyard supplied the boys with about the only pocket money available. One summer the hop pollen started for Mary's boy a real case of hop-picker's itch, an invention of the devil, if his satanic majesty

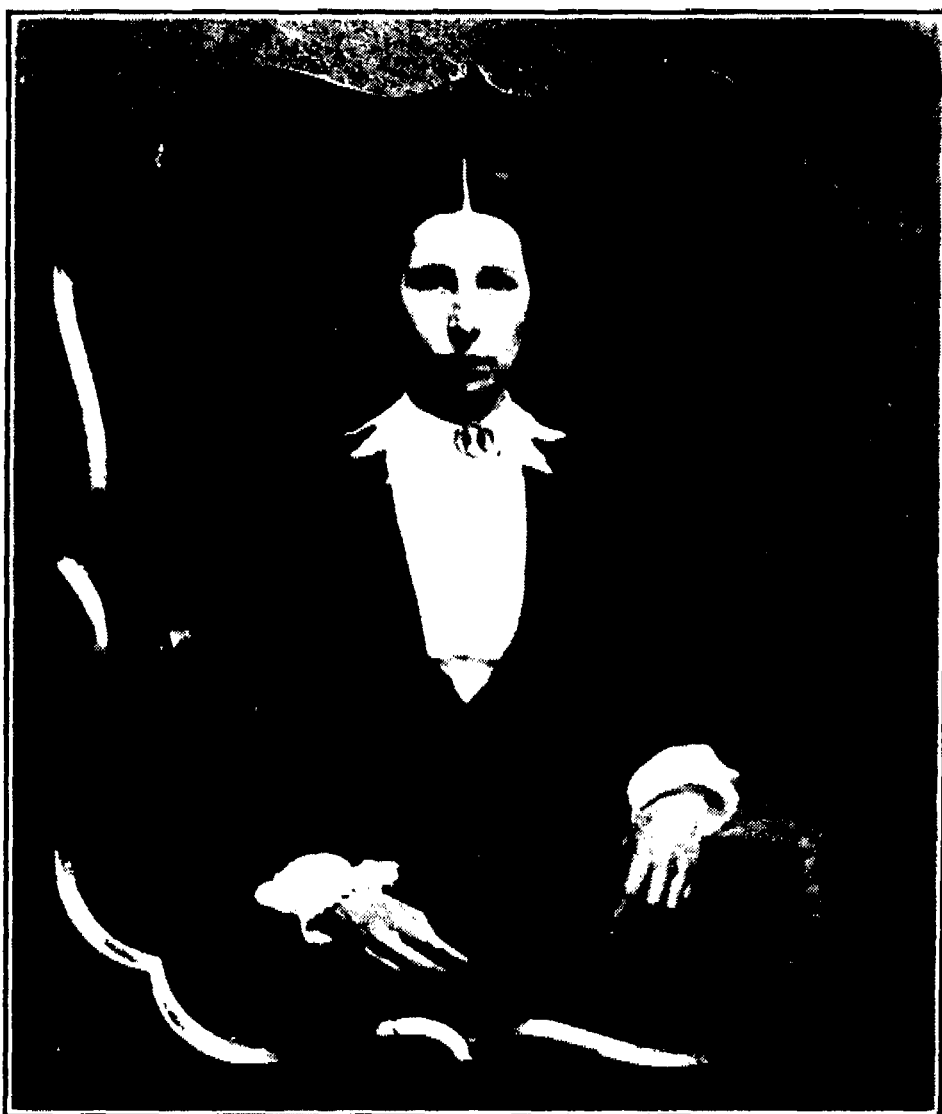


BELA PARDEE

born 1798; died 1886

buried in Vernon, N. Y.





EMILY THAYER PARDEE

born 9 March, 1818

married 21 Sept., 1840

died 13 April, 1884

*(See page 25)*







MARY ANN CLARK BOTSFORD

born 24 Nov., 1802

married 30 Jan., 1821

died 6 Sept., 1892

*(See page 26)*





MARY PARDEE  
married Alfred Pomeroy Botsford, 4 June, 1856  
(see page 27)



Her eldest daughter  
MARY RAWSON BOTSFORD



Her only son  
ELI HERBERT BOTSFORD



did invent the different forms of bodily torture. He was sent to the old doctor of the region, who simply laughed at his discomfiture and told him to "scratch it out." A younger and more sympathetic practitioner prepared a soothing lotion to relieve the itching.

One other episode stands out sharply in memory. Did you ever volunteer to feed an old fashioned threshing machine, of the sort that meandered from farm to farm, with an outfit hardened to attack any crop, light or heavy, and rush the threshing to completion? Well, Grandfather's barn was filled to the rafters with wheat awaiting the advent of the threshers. They arrived unexpectedly. Grandfather was supposed to supply an extra helper besides doing his part on the job. I was fifteen years old and rashly volunteered. How Grandfather's eyes glowed his approval! The gang objected to the young greenhorn. Grandfather insisted — "He can do it" — and he never quite allowed the gang to smother the youngster who was feeding the bundles to the machine. When it was all over, a quiet word of commendation: "I knew you could do it!" paid for all the toil and sweating and aching muscles. Grandfather understood men and he understood boys.

Grandfather was slightly deaf — "hard of hearing." His workshop was out in the barn, where, with my two uncles, Howard, of my own age, and Henry, a few years younger, we fashioned many a water wheel or other mechanical device of boyish interest. Too often we disputed over points of construction. "Father can't hear us," said the boys, but Grandfather would frequently pause to observe our operations and sagely remark that "a little more agreement and less argument" would perhaps produce better results.

Bela Pardee married Mary Rawson Thayer on 11 March, 1824. Five boys and two girls were the fruit of this marriage. The oldest daughter, Mary, born in 1832, was my mother. The management of a great farm household, with two needle women and several farm laborers bringing up the number to be fed to more than a dozen; the raising of a large family of

children, proved too much for the strength of Grandmother Mary Rawson Thayer Pardee. She died in 1841.

Grandfather, following the custom of the day, based upon biblical teaching, married his wife's sister, Emily Thayer, the only Grandmother Pardee that I ever knew. And she was equal to the task. Eight more children came upon the scene, four boys and four girls. It was this grandmother who filled the cooky jar each Saturday which uncles Howard and Henry and myself helped regularly to empty. Four of Grandfather's children are still living, the oldest approaching ninety and all past seventy years of age. Numerous descendants are living on the Pacific Coast, since California and Oregon early attracted the Pardee boys; one of them, Uncle George, was a veritable "forty-niner."

There is one other mental picture worth recording. Grandfather Pardee was a deeply religious man. He lived up to his convictions, but had none of those peculiar religious habits so often ridiculed by the present generation. I can see him now, sitting in the dining-room with the open Bible on his knees, ready to conduct the morning family prayers, which were never omitted no matter how busy the day promised to be. He was a quiet Christian, doing his duty as he understood it and bringing up his family "in the nurture and admonition of the Lord."

After his death, Uncle Henry and several aunties continued to live in the Pardee house. For a long period after Henry's death, Aunt Gertrude and Aunt Alice lived there together, known affectionately as "the Pardee girls." Alice died in 1930. Aunt Carrie, a retired teacher, and Aunt Gertrude are still to be found in the old home.

#### THE PARDEE LINEAGE

George Pardee, b. 1624; d. 1700, New Haven, Conn.

Joseph Pardee, b. 1664; d. 1742, West Haven, Conn.

Josiah Pardee, b. 1711; d. 1766, West Haven, Conn.

Eliphalet Pardee, b. 1744; m. Rebecca Bradley of Milford, Conn.; d. 1830. Removed to Herkimer Co., New York.

Josiah Pardee, b. 1771; m. four times; d. 1846, Vernon, N. Y.  
Bela Pardee, b. 1798, Norway, N. Y.; d. 1886, Vernon, N. Y.  
Mary Abigail Pardee, b. 1832; m. Alfred Pomeroy Botsford;  
d. 1907.

#### GRANDMOTHER PARDEE AND THE THAYER RELATIONSHIP

Thomas and Margery Thayer, Braintree, Mass., 1636.

Ferdinando m. Huldah Hayward, 1652; d. 1713.

Captain Thomas m. Mary Adams, 1688; d. 1738.

William, b. 1708; m. Abigail Sumner, 1729. Served in the  
Revolution.

Increase Thayer, b. 4 Oct., 1751, was a private in the  
Revolution, enlisting 19 April, 1775; d. 3 Mar., 1813. His  
wife was Leah Wheelock, b. 15 July, 1753; d. 3 Jan., 1834.  
The children were Abigail, Jared, Sarah, Sylvia.

Jared, b. 21 Sept., 1776; m. (1) Mary Rawson, 16 Dec.,  
1802 (2) Sarah Enos. He was a soldier in the War of  
1812; d. 29 Oct., 1855, and is buried in Vernon, N. Y.

His children:

1. Mary Rawson, b. 24 June, 1803 (by first wife); m. Bela  
Pardee, 11 Mar., 1824; d. 12 May, 1840.
2. Emily, b. 9 Mar., 1818 (by second wife); m. Bela Pardee,  
21 Sept., 1840; d. 13 April, 1884, and buried Vernon, N. Y.

#### THE WARD LINEAGE

Andrew Ward, b. 1597; m. Hester Sherman; d. 1659.

Andrew Ward, Jr., b. 1645; m. Trayal Meigs; d. 1690.

Eight children.

Capt. Peter Ward, b. 1676; m. Mary Jay; d. 1763.

Nine children.

Ira Ward, b. 1704; m. 1725; d. ————. Six children.

Merab Ward, b. 1733; m. Peleg Dowd 1754; d. 1806.

Nine children.

Merab Dowd, b. 1754; m. Ephraim Botsford, Jr., 1772.

Twelve children.

Edmond Ward Botsford, m. Mary Ann Clark, 1821.

Four children.

## GRANDMOTHER BOTSFORD

Children who grow up without knowing the loving care and guidance of a grandmother in the home, have missed an influence in their lives for which there is no substitute. I can draw no picture of my boyhood home that does not include Grandma Botsford. Little did we children know of her experiences nor the chastening effect of sorrow upon a woman of remarkable spirit. She journeyed from Sharon, Conn., to Jordan, N. Y., in 1823 with husband and son Charles Sedgwick. Aunt Dulana Botsford and Uncle Alvah were in the company. Three more boys were born to her within the next eight years. Then came one dreadful year — 1836. Her youngest boy, Edmond Dowd, five years old, died on the 4th of June, "Uncle Alvah" died the following August, and her husband, Edmond Ward, in November. That same year out in Michigan, another uncle, Walcott, passed away. Three years later, Grandmother lost her first born son, Charles Sedgwick, in his sixteenth year. All this must have seemed like the wrath of God to these deeply religious people.

Then that remarkable woman, Aunt Dulana, who owned two farms and managed them too, as she did every person who came within her sway, calmly declared that the two boys remaining should become ministers of the gospel — and that is exactly what happened. But Grandmother Botsford was happy that it should be so. Elsewhere we relate the story of the preparation of Alfred and Eli for college and their journey by canal boat transportation to Union College.

My first recollection of Grandmother is the picture of a placid old lady in a lace cap who sat by the window in the living-room of the parsonage, darning the numerous stockings of the family, reading the newspaper and, more often, the Bible, which was always within reach. She could spell any word correctly, knew every Golden Text, could recite the Westminster Catechism forwards and backwards, question and answer, and was a thorough-going primary teacher, though unconscious of her powers in that field. We children did not go to the public school until we were eight years old. Grandmother had given us a splendid educational start.



She was a constant attendant at every prayer meeting and preaching service of the church. In her younger days she was a teacher in the Sunday school.

In her own mind Grandmother never grew old. Asked her age, when others were boasting of being in the 70's or 80's, Grandmother, the oldest of the group, would answer, "Past sixty." She was within two months of ninety years when she died.

This same disinclination to grow old displayed itself in another way. The records in the family Bible were telltale stories which Father kept most scrupulously. Grandmother would quietly amend the dates. She did not like an excellent photograph of herself, taken when she was eighty years old, simply because one looking at it would unconsciously ask, "How old are you now, Grandma?" She said: "It makes me look like an old woman."

## MOTHER

I was Mother's only son, but safeguarded by four sisters who saw to it that the boy of the group was not spoiled by special privileges, and Mother had no favorites among her children. She had one ambition which was dominant in her mind. Each one of the children should have a chance at a college education, and her steadfast purpose was fulfilled. For sixteen consecutive years the minister's family had one member attending college. Brother Ed, son of Elizabeth Miller, was graduated from Princeton in 1874, Mary from Vassar in 1878, Herbert from Williams in 1882, and Helen from Vassar in 1886. Then there was a resting space before the two youngest girls went away to college together.

Mother was a Pardee, and that meant a born leader and manager. The women's organizations of the church flourished under her skillful guidance; new activities were undertaken to maintain the interest. I recall distinctly how Mother, by special lessons, acquired the art of making wax flowers, then quite the vogue. Classes met at the parsonage regularly and wrought wonderfully well. At one Easter service the natural lilies were scarce and Mother augmented the display from the

product of the class, but did not tell Father of the fact. Imagine her dismay when the minister made special mention of the display of lilies, "the perfect work of Nature." Mother could not keep the secret. We children thought it a great joke but Father did not look at it in that light. Yet he never scolded and the incident was closed.

For a growing, restless boy, the Sabbath restraint and confinement in narrow bounds became very irksome. Mother soon discovered the cause of the listless behavior. Then she deliberately broke down the barriers and gave the active boy full freedom to roam during those difficult hours between the Sunday dinner and the evening meal. She was a wise mother and the upbringing and guidance of her daughters were in the same generous spirit. It was a happy family life and the head of the household himself was very often brought under the mothering spell, after a day of difficulties in the parish work, or when the Monday headache demanded relaxation from his reading and study, for Father was a thorough student of current events. At such times Mother treated Father as if he were the oldest of her brood. There are few words in the English language that connote more than the word "mother."

#### BAND OF BOTSFORD AND BOTSFORD FAMILY ASSOCIATION, INC.

On 18 Oct., 1905, Charles Woodruff Woolley, of 101 Rodney Avenue, Buffalo, N. Y., an energetic man eighty-two years of age, called together a group of the descendants of Henry and Elizabeth Botsford of England and of Milford, Conn., to organize the Band of Botsford. A list of thirty-five descendants is appended to the brief report of this meeting. Mr. Woolley was chosen as senior patriarch; his daughter, Sue Dana Woolley, as secretary-treasurer. Charles Brainerd Botsford, of West Roxbury, Mass., sent a salutation in verse. Henry Gordon Botsford submitted a coat of arms used by one branch of the family — a shield, on bay leaves, with dove and motto *Digna Sequens*. The record of the meeting states the purpose of the gathering, names the new officers,

and records the adoption of the coat of arms as the Band of Botsford emblem.

This organization flourished for a number of years, meeting annually in Buffalo. The third annual report places on record a list of some seven hundred members with addresses, fully one third bearing the actual Botsford family name. After the passing of Mr. Woolley, the organizer of the Band of Botsford, the meetings were transferred to Milford, Conn., and in due course an act of incorporation of the "Botsford-Family Association," with full complement of officers and directors, was enacted under the laws of the State. Later the Association acquired three building lots which were a part of the original grant of land to Henry Botsford. The President, Eli Herbert Botsford, after the death of "Aunt Harriet Botsford," purchased from her four children the homestead and about three and a half acres of land adjoining it, bounded by Ford and Gunn streets, in the Town of Milford.

The association members have joined in renovating and furnishing the more than century-old homestead. The President has had the exterior painted in the original (color), white and has had toilet facilities added. The grounds have likewise been improved. The homestead is true colonial in style, with fire-places in all the living rooms, including two Dutch ovens for baking.

In recent years the annual meeting has been held on the lawn back of the homestead. In 1932, the twenty-seventh annual meeting was held at the homestead and a bountiful reunion luncheon served on the lawn. This was the largest meeting on record, with an attendance just less than one hundred.

A notable feature of each annual reunion is the memorial service at the boulder erected in the Milford Cemetery in memory of Henry and Elizabeth Botsford. It is possible that the Association may arrange a Thanksgiving dinner at the homestead this year.

Fifty preliminary copies of the genealogical statistics of the family have been prepared in six sections. These show all known descendants of Samuel, Henry, Timothy, John, and Joseph, sons of Elnathan and grandsons of Henry; and the female lines.

AN EARLY BOTSFORD WILL OF SAMUEL(3)  
THE OLDEST SON OF ELNATHAN(2), SON OF HENRY(1)

The New Haven Probate Court Records, Vol. VI, page 652, show the last will and testament of Samuel Botsford of Milford, Conn. The Botsford Family Association, Incorporated, through its president, Eli Herbert Botsford, controls from three to four acres of the land mentioned in this will and the homestead, the second to be built upon the property, as the original house was early burned to the ground.

COPY OF WILL FROM THE NEW HAVEN PROBATE RECORDS

Ebenezer Botsford and David Botsford nominated executors in the last will and Testament of Samuel Botsford late of Milford Deceased, exhibited said Instrument in this court the witnesses to which being sworn before Samuel Gunn Esq.: the same is accepted and approved for Record, said executors accepted said trust.

In the name of God Amen. I, Samuel Botsford of the town of Milford in the county of New Haven in his Majesty's Colony of Connecticut in New England, considering man's mortality and my own liableness to a sudden change by Death's arrest, being of sound mind and memory through Divine favour to me-ward Do make this my Last Will and Testament as followeth: first of all, I recommend my Soul my more principal part, to the mercy of a gracious God through the merits of our Lord Jesus Christ by whom I hope for Life Everlasting and that after my Demise my body shall have a decent burial. At the discretion of my executors hereafter named and with respect to my worldly estate wherewith I am blessed I dispose thereof as follows: first that all my Just Debts which I do owe either in right or conscience with funeral charges be first paid by my executors.

Item—my will is and I do give unto my eldest son Samuel Botsford besides what I have already done for him at and for his settlement, the sum of 20 pounds as old tenor money or the Value thereof.

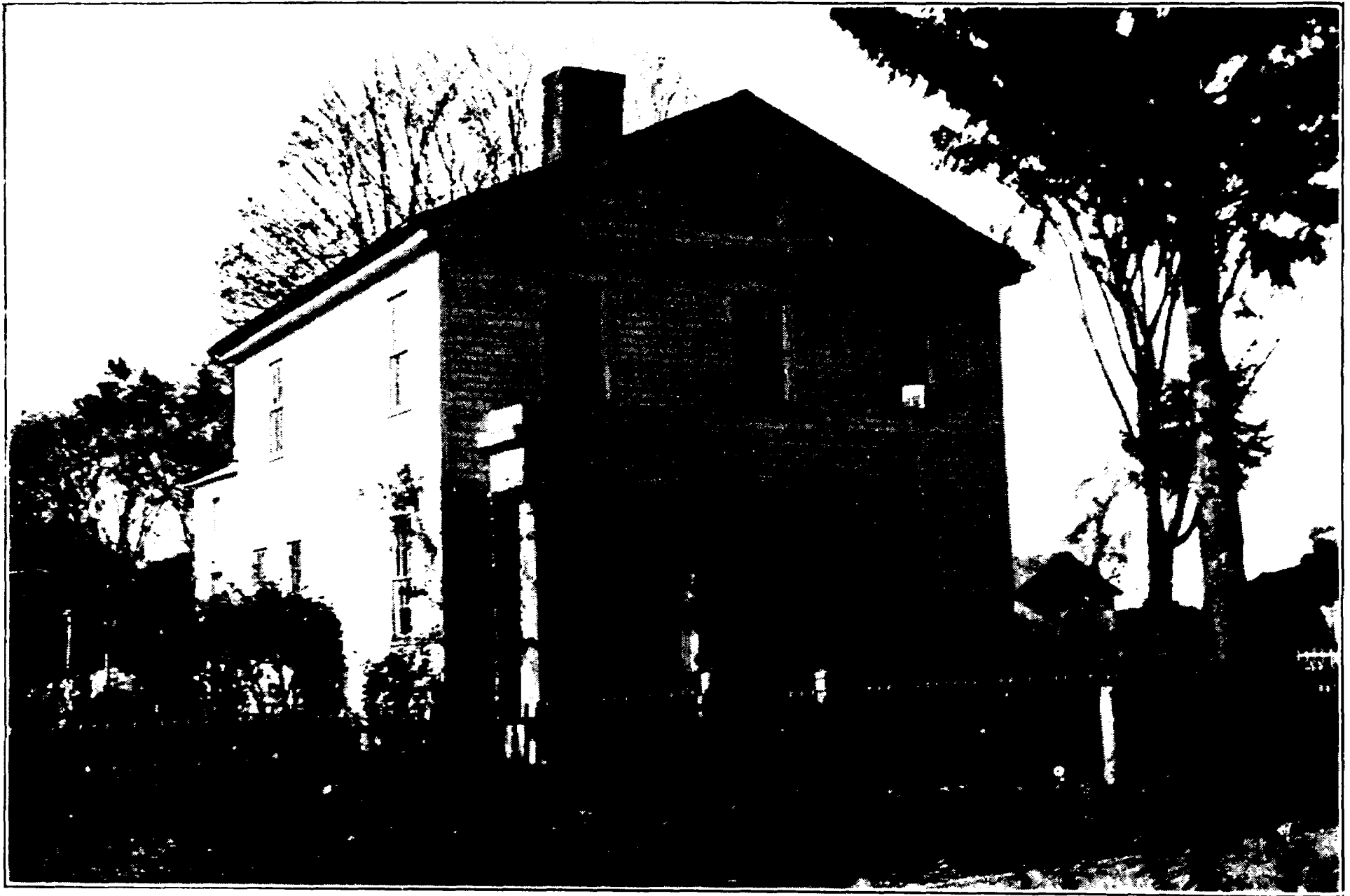


MARSHALL EUGENE BOTSFORD AND AUNT MARY OLDER  
Two active members, beloved by all.



AUNT HARRIET  
AND THE OFFICERS OF THE FAMILY ASSOCIATION





*A Century Ago — THE BOTSFORD HOMESTEAD — Milford, Conn.*





Item—my will is and I do give unto my son Ebenezer Botsford besides what I have already done for him with respect to his trades of Tanner, Currier and Shoemaker and other advantages for his settlement in the world 10 acres of Land in Milford lying in the new meadow-plains on the hill, a place commonly so called and two acres of Land at the Westward end of my land at the Hither Lots, or Dreadfull Swamp Lotts, a place usually so called, after my two daughters have had the improvement first willed to them for use while they live single (viz.) Hannah Botsford and Mehitable Botsford; also I give unto my said son Ebenezer Botsford half my right of Land in the land commonly called Sequestered land in said Milford, all described as set forth for him, I give to my said son Ebenezer Botsford and to his heirs and assigns forever and also my meadows in the New Meadows I give to him and his heirs and assigns forever.

Item—I give unto my son Jonathan Botsford besides what I have already given him, the sum of 20 pounds according to old tenor money.

Item—I give unto my two natural daughters Hannah Botsford and Mehitabel Botsford the improvement of two acres of land at the Westward end of my Lott commonly called the hither lotts or dreadfull Swamp lotts during the time that they or either of them shall live single. I also give to said daughters the use of my Westermost chamber and well and necessary use of the ovens and also needful celler room in my house for them. I also give to both of them the sum of one hundred and fifty pounds apiece or to them equally between them the sum of 300 pounds according to old tenor money or the value thereof out of my estate.

Item—my will is and I do give unto my son David Botsford and to his heirs and assigns forever besides other gifts for him for settlement my homelot where I now dwell, House, Barns and c. with all my other Land of right belonging to me, surveyed and unsurveyed whatsoever, besides the half of my sequestered lands given to my son Ebenezer Botsford, with all my meadows of all sorts and one pair of oxen and my cart and plow, chain, and all my other tackling for husbandry:

my will further is that if it so happen that I should make any conveyance of any part of my land by Deed, notwithstanding the Remainder shall stand and abide as willed for my Will nevertheless.

Furthermore my will is and I do nominate and make and appoint my two sons Ebenezer Botsford and David Botsford executors of this my last Will and Testament hereby making null and void any and all other Will and Wills at any time heretofore by me made. In confirmation whereof I do hereunto put my hand and seal this 23d day of January A. D. 1744-5.

SAMUEL BOTSFORD (*Seal*)

*Witnesses*

George Clark Junr.  
Richard Bristol  
Samuel Gunn

The above named Samuel Botsford the subscriber and sealer of the above written, published, pronounced and declared all the above as and for his last Will and Testament in the presence of us the subscribing witnesses.

Milford in the County of New Haven, Nov. 28, 1745. Then there personally appeared George Clark and Richard Bristol and made solemn oath that they saw Mr. Samuel Botsford late of said Milford Deceased sign and seal and heard him publish pronounce and Declare all the above written as and for his last Will and Testament and that he was of sound mind and memory when he so did and that they and each of them with the other named person Samuel Gunn signed in the presence of the said Testator as witnesses.

Sworn (sg.) SAMUEL GUNN, *Just. Peace*

## A CHURCH TRIAL — AND A SCOTCH VERDICT

How jealously the men and women of the pioneer days guarded their honor and reputation and how, in the absence of newspapers, local gossip, both true and false, held sway in the villages and agricultural communities, is clearly shown in the records of more than one church.

Searching the records of a Presbyterian church in central New York for family data, we stumbled upon this most illuminating story of something that happened more than a century ago:

Brother Botsford exhibited a complaint against Sister Sally Osborn for false and scandalous reports against the said Botsford, which complaint is in the words following — viz.

The Church of Christ against Sally Osborn to wit, S. A. Botsford, a member of the church comes into the session now here and for and in behalf of said church gives us to understand and be informed that Sally Osborn of this place, not having the fear of God before her eyes did on or about the twelfth of November in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty four and at other times subsequently in the presence and hearing of many, speak, publish and declare of and concerning Brother Botsford the following “false, feigned, scandalous and malicious words” to wit: That she believed that said Brother Botsford was guilty of carnally knowing one Margaret Hancock to the evil example of others and the great scandal of our holy religion and contrary to the laws of Almighty God. Therefore the said S. A. Botsford in behalf of the said church prays the session to look into the matter and cause process to be issued against the said Sally Osborn to make her answer to the church touching the premises aforesaid.

S. A. BOTSFORD, *Complainant*

Sally was duly summoned and the meeting opened with prayer. The minister as moderator and four elders signed the records. But the parties were not ready for the trial at the first date set and a postponement was ordered.

A month later, witnesses were produced, sworn, and examined and the parties heard in the argument.

“After due deliberation it is adjudged and determined by the session that the said complaint is supported (as to the substance of the words spoken) by the confession of Mrs. Osborn and by the testimony of witnesses. It is adjudged by the session that the complaint is sustained with respect to the falsehood of the report charged therein. It is determined and adjudged that the complaint is not supported in reference to the words charged therein being feigned. It is also determined and adjudged that the complaint is supported as to the scandal of the words but that it is not supported in respect to the words being maliciously spoken. It is ordered by the session that (the minister and an elder) make known the determination of the session to Sally Osborn the defendant and endeavor to reclaim her.”

This record was in due time examined, approved, and signed by the moderator of the Presbytery.

#### A DESCRIPTION OF AN OLD BOTSFORD HOMESTEAD

*by Elsie Persis Botsford*

“The old long kitchen was a most interesting place, especially the great fire place with stone hearth and big brick oven. Above the fire place a wooden shelf, and over the shelf small cupboards. The iron crane hung in the fire place, on which Grandmother had hung her pots and kettles over the crackling log fire, and boiled the dinners of home-grown vegetables and home-grown and cured pork and corn-beef. She had put shovelfuls of red-hot coals into the great oven to heat it. When the oven was hot, she brushed the cooled coals and the ashes carefully out, and put the puffy loaves of bread, the cake and the juicy pumpkin and mince pies in for long, slow baking.”

“There were only two rooms partitioned off on the second floor; to get to the other one, we passed thru the big open part, between grain bins, wooden chests, a hair trunk, boxes, etc., on the left, and the spooky, open attic stairs on the right; past the two beds where we girls usually slept, and here, to the front was the boys' room, partitioned off with boards. In the attic was the big, discarded spinning wheel, the flax wheel and carding combs, and a very attractive bin — in the day-time — for in it Tabby raised her family of kittens.”

LOIS BOTSFORD TO DULANA BOTSFORD AND MARY BOTSFORD

Arcade, N. Y., March 28, 1838

Dear Aunts

Your letter was duly received and I can assure you it was read with pleasure. We were very glad to hear that the Lord is pouring out his spirit there. I hope the good work will not cease until many are brought to Christ. You say you wish to hear from all our friends this way. We have not heard from our friends in Pa. since last fall. They were all in usual health then. Aunt Hall's health has not been very good for two or three years. Cousin Philander has married and gone to Michigan. Alexander is with him. Mary lives in Pennsylvania yet. She has two children. I spent about four months there last spring in teaching. They have not a very good society there. Father had a letter from cousin Miles he is in Michigan and well.

Brother Alva is in Illinois near where Deac. Curtis is. Ozro is in Oberlin yet. Sister Dulina has moved to Michigan, she has a daughter about ten months old and we think it is as smart as anyboddy's. Sister moved when it was six months old.

We had not heard of Cousin Betsy's death until we received your letter but we have since received a paper from Mr. Bliss containing an account of her death. I think Mr. Lyons must feel very lonely.

You said you expected some of us there this winter. Father did think he should visit you but he has been very sick. He was taken the first of Dec. with the inflammation on the liver. He was so very sick for a few days we did not expect he would live but God in mercy spared him to us. He is not as well as he was before he was sick but he is able to work some. My youngest brother was sick with the bilious fever at the same time.

We have no regular preaching here now. The minister who preached here when father was in Jordan has left. We hope to have another soon but it is rather doubtful as the

church are not very much united. The church generally are very cold but I think there are some who are engaged in the cause of Christ.

We received a letter from our friends in Franklin Co. yesterday Uncle Warren's family are all well. We have not heard from cousin William since he was here.

We should like to have you all visit us.

Father mother brothers and sisters send their love to you. Give my love to (the) cousins.

I remain your affectionate niece

LOIS BOTSFORD

(Daughter of Ephraim Bennett Botsford)

### WHAT CONSTITUTES PATRIOTISM?

George Washington became the Father of his Country by heading rebel forces against the forces of the mother country, which were being used to enforce upon the Colonies laws and regulations objectionable to the people. The American Revolution was finally successful. The Colonies cast off their allegiance to England. Washington is acclaimed the greatest American patriot.

Scarcely a hundred years later Abraham Lincoln became the Savior of his Country in a civil war which denied to the Southern States the right to secede and set up a separate Confederacy. Suppose the American Revolution had failed; suppose the Southern Confederacy had been established — whom would we name as the patriots in each conflict?

Throughout the Revolution, not a few English settlers maintained their allegiance to the British flag. They became objects of suspicion because they made every effort to support the attitude of the mother country. Just as in the Civil War families were split upon the questions at issue, with brothers fighting on opposite sides, so in the earlier contest. The Botsford family were English to the core. Some members migrated to Canada; some had their property confiscated; and others became ardent revolutionists. The Botsford name has been written into Canadian history as well as into the story of the Colonies and the States.

The following Memorial spread upon the archives in the State Library at Hartford illustrates this point. The story of Amos Botsford:

#### MEMORIAL OF CHARLES CHAUNCEY TO THE LEGISLATURE

The Memorial of Charles Chauncey of New Haven showeth that his intimate friend Amos Botsford, Esq., late of New Haven was induced through fear of his life to leave his country and connections and reside with the enemy, his estate has been confiscated and sold sufficient to pay his just Debts and the same is nearly settled, and as he is now in circumstances to obtain a support, and nothing more, your memorialist, from the friendship that subsisted between them, upon his request has accepted the charge of the education of his children, which he willingly shall undertake without expectation of any Reward, assuring himself that the same would have been done for his children, had he been in indigent circumstances and his friend able to afford assistance, but as he knows that some hundreds of pounds are now due to sd. Botsford, which have never come to the knowledge of his administrator and cannot be ascertained without sd. Botsford's notes and accounts, he prays your Honors to grant your memorialist Leave and Liberty to collect the Debts due to sd. Botsford and to apply them for the Benefit of his Family, under such Restrictions and Regulations as your Honors shall affix that they may be of some benefit, and not lie unjustly concealed and nobody receive anything from them, and as in Duty bound shall ever Pray.

CHARLES CHAUNCEY

*(Note: This petition was granted.)*

#### A FEW ITEMS OF "HUMAN INTEREST"

Item—Marshall Graves of Winamac, Ind., a descendant in the Henry line, writes: "I run a shoe cobbling shop and have my shop on my own lot; I have two lots, so I haven't any overhead expense. I am also Justice of the Peace and have been for over 30 years, and that brings me in a little; and I deal some in real estate, but haven't been active for a number of years, as it got too hard to consummate a deal without stooping to underhand things which many do, and this is a

thing I would never do, and I have no one kicking me on any transaction I ever put over, — and this reminds me of an amusing incident which occurred some years ago. I was negotiating a deal with a woman in Marion, Ind., for a property that I owned, and she wanted to exchange another one for it, and letters passed back and forth, and finally she wrote me a very sharp letter and gave it to real estate agents in general, and said I was trying to beat her. I wrote back and said to her: ‘Yes, that is true; I am trying to get the best of this trade, and if I can get \$500 the best of the deal, I am going to do it, and I consider it perfectly legitimate, so long as I do not misrepresent things to you; and now,’ I said, ‘aren’t you trying to do the same thing to me? If you can get the best of the bargain in this deal and do so legitimately, aren’t you willing to do so?’ And she wrote back: ‘I guess you are right,’ and we closed up the deal.”

Item—Ezra Botsford writes of his great-grandfather, Timothy Botsford: “My great-grandfather, Timothy, was said to be a very strong man. Some feats of his strength were shown in his intercourse with Indians. At one time he heard an outcry at a neighbor’s and knew there were none but women and children at the house. He ran to see what was the matter, found an Indian attempting to kill them. The Indian turning, threatened his life; as soon as he was near enough, the old man gave him a blow with his fist, under his left ear, that laid him helpless at his feet. He drew him to the street where he lay next morning, a lifeless corpse; his neck was broken. At another time he was met by eight Indians who said to him: ‘Now, Timothy, we fight.’ The old man coolly laid down his axe and jacket and said: ‘Send on your best man.’ The best man came forward, ready for action. When near enough, Timothy hit him with his right hand under the left ear and laid him helpless on the ground, unfit for further action; then said: ‘Send on your next best man.’ The next came forward and said: ‘You can’t hit me such a blow,’ showing he was able to defend himself. The old man gave him a like blow with his left hand, under the right ear, with like results. The Indians said: ‘Now, Timothy, you our master.’”





MEMORIAL BOULDER TAKEN FROM THE HOMESTEAD LOT

*See Page 29*



## OTHER CLARK-BOTSFORD RELATIONSHIPS

We have already related the story of Grandmother Botsford's Clark ancestry. It was natural enough that members of the pioneer families should intermarry, but that intermarriage should re-occur so often in the later generations is not so easy to explain.

Grandfather Edmond Ward was not the only Botsford to be attracted by the Clarks of Skaneateles, N. Y. Charles S. Botsford of Toronto, Ontario, married Sara Allie Clark in that village 27 Feb., 1878. Sara's grandmother was Sarah Ann Botsford. Three children of this marriage are living in England today:

1. Robert, who has two daughters.
2. Archie, who has four children—Graham Archibald, b. 1917; Laura, 1918; Charles, 1919; Robert C., 1921.
3. Gladys Eileen — unmarried.



THE MEMORIAL STONE ON THE MILFORD BRIDGE

