

CONTRIBUTIONS TO AN ELWELL GENEALOGY
FIRST SERIES NUMBER ONE

THE FAMILY OF
THOMAS ELWELL
OF HARDWICK MASSACHUSETTS

COMPILED AND PRINTED BY

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THE FAMILY OF THOMAS ELWELL OF HARDWICK, MASSACHUSETTS.

THOMAS⁴ ELWELL, son of Joshua and Abigail (Riggs) Elwell, was born at Gloucester, Mass., Aug. 18, 1718; and his grandfather Isaac was a son of Robert, the immigrant ancestor of the family. Soon after his first marriage he removed to Dudley, where, together with a Robert Campbell, he leased lands and buildings for a term of seven years from April 15, 1743. He sold his share of this lease Aug. 16, 1748 to Mr. Campbell, and Dec. 21, 1750 bought lands in Kingsfield (now Palmer), where he still resided Jan. 25, 1752; Sept. 17, 1753 he bought lands in Quabin (now Greenwich), and was residing there Jan. 1, 1755; on May 2, 1758 he bought land lying in Greenwich and Hardwick, and thereafter was a citizen of Hardwick until his death Jan. 27, 1798. Hardwick records show that from 1761 to 1786 he was almost annually elected in town-meeting to some minor office—surveyor of roads or hog-reeve or constable.

Mr. Elwell married (1) at Gloucester, Oct. 22, 1740, Lucy, daughter of John and Ruth (Hilton) Pierce, born at Gloucester Oct. 12, 1722, and died at Hardwick Jan. 15,

1762; and he was published (2) at Hardwick, April 25, 1762, to Elizabeth, daughter of Ichabod and Elizabeth (—) Stratton of Hardwick.

At Gloucester are recorded the birth of his oldest son Thomas and the baptism of his oldest daughter Abigail; at Dudley is recorded the birth of Abigail and of Joshua; the other date-records here given are from Hardwick. The order of birth of his sons is determined by his first will, but the position of Lucy in the following list has no support. His children were:

1. THOMAS⁵ b. Feb. 22, 1741; died young.
2. ABIGAIL⁵ b. March 25, 1742; m. Moses Olmstead.
3. JOSHUA⁵ b. Oct. 15, 1744; m. Abigail Jones.
4. JABEZ⁵ m. Thankful Clark.
5. MOSES⁵ m. Hannah Marshall.
6. THOMAS⁵ m. Mary French.
7. LUCY⁵ m. ——— Rice.
8. JOHN⁵ bapt. Oct. 8, 1758; m. Judith Train.
9. JONAS⁵ b. July 16, 1759.
10. MARK⁵ b. Feb. 2, 1763; m. ——— ———.
11. ANNA⁵ b. Aug. 14, 1764; m. Noah Moody.
12. DAVID⁵ b. June 1, 1766; m. Eunice Moody.

The military services of Mr. Elwell and his sons are given in alphabetic order from the official records at Boston and Hartford. Thomas named in I. is the father; in II. is the son; in III. each is known by his residence.

I. Service in the French and Indian Wars.

ELLWELL, THOMAS, Springfield. Private, of a company in His Majesty's service under command of Capt. Zenas Huggins; muster roll dated Boston, Feb. 5, 1761; service from June 17 until Dec. 1, 24 weeks (year not given), endorsed 1760; reported 50 miles travel home allowed.

ELWELL, JOSHUA, Hardwick. Private, of a company in His Majesty's service under command of Capt. James Gray; muster roll dated Boston, Feb. 11, 1761; service from June 11 until Nov. 12, 22 weeks 1 day (year not given), endorsed 1760; reported 120 miles travel home allowed.

ELWELL, THOMAS. Private, Capt. Joseph Warner's co., Col. Timothy Ruggles's regt.; muster roll dated Hardwick, Dec. 11, 1758; company marched to Kinderhook on the alarm for the relief of Fort William Henry Aug. 9, 1757; travel 220 miles, 15½ days including 1 day to prepare.

II. Service in the Revolution.

ELWELL, JABEZ, Hadley, Amherst, or Belchertown. Capt. Thomas Waite Foster's train of artillery; list of men belonging to Hadley, Amherst, and Belchertown, in Col. Ruggles Woodbridge's regt., dated Cambridge, April 25, 1775.

ELWELL, JABEZ, Hadley. Private, Capt. Eliakim Smith's (later Capt. Moses Kellogg's) co., which marched April 20, 1775, in response to the alarm of April 19, 1775; service, 7 days; reported enlisted into the army April 27, 1775; *also*, list of men returned as serving on picket guard May 23, 1775, under Maj. Baldwin; detailed under Capt. Jonas Hubbard; *also*, Capt. Smith's co., Col. Jonathan Ward's regt.; order for advance pay dated July 24, 1775; *also*, same co. and regt.; muster roll dated Aug. 1, 1775; enlisted April 27, 1775; service, 3 mos. 12 days; *also*, Capt. Moses Kellogg's co., Col. Jonathan Ward's regt.; company return [probably Oct.,

1775]; *also*, same co. and regt.; order for bounty coat or its equivalent in money endorsed "Dec. 23, 1775."

ELWELL, JABEZ, Hardwick. Return of men raised to serve in the Continental Army from Capt. Timothy Paige's 2d Hardwick (also given 1st Hardwick) co., Col. James Converse's (4th Worcester Co.) regt., dated Hardwick, July 10, 1777; residence, Hardwick; engaged for town of Hardwick; joined Capt. Warren's co., Col. Olden's (Alden's) regt.; term, 3 years; *also*, Corporal, 3d co., Col. Brooks's regt.; Continental Army pay accounts for service from June 1, 1777, to March 10, 1778; reported discharged March 10, 1778; *also*, Capt. Benjamin Warren's co., Col. Ichabod Alden's battalion; muster return dated Albany, Jan. 12, 1778; mustered by Capt. Newell and by a Continental Muster Master; reported on furlough.

ELWELL, JABEZ. Private, Capt. Ebenezer Strong's co., Col. Sears's (Hampshire Co.) regt.; enlisted Aug. 10, 1781; marched to Albany Aug. 17, 1781; discharged Nov. 20, 1781; service, 3 mos. 10 days, at Saratoga.

ELLWELL, JOHN. Descriptive list of men raised to reinforce Continental Army for the term of 6 months, agreeable to resolve of June 5, 1780, returned as received of Justin Ely, Commissioner, by Brig. Gen. John Glover, at Springfield, July 7, 1780; age, 24 yrs.; stature, 5 ft. 9 in.; complexion, light; engaged for town of Hadley; arrived at Springfield July 6, 1780; marched to camp July 7, 1780, under command of Capt. Dix.

ELWELL, JOHN, Hadley. Private, Capt. Eliakim Smith's (later Capt. Moses Kellogg's) co., which marched April 20, 1775, in response to the alarm of April 19, 1775; service, 7 days; reported enlisted into the army April 27, 1775; *also*, Capt. Eliakim Smith's co., Col. Jonathan Ward's regt.; company order for advance pay dated Camp at Cambridge, June 8, 1775; *also*, Private, same co. and regt.; muster roll dated Aug. 1, 1775; enlisted April 27, 1775; service, 3 mos. 12 days; *also*, Capt. Moses Kellogg's co., Col. Ward's

regt.; company return [probably Oct., 1775]; *also*, same co. and regt.; order for bounty coat or its equivalent in money dated Dorchester, Dec. 28, 1775; *also*, Capt. Oliver Smith's co., Col. Elisha Porter's (Hampshire Co.) regt.; marched Aug. 17, 1777; discharged Aug. 19, 1777; service, 4 days; company marched Aug. 17, 1777, for relief of Bennington on an alarm; *also*, Capt. Samuel Cook's co., Col. Woodbridge's regt.; enlisted Aug. 20, 1777; discharged Nov. 29, 1777; service, 3 mos. 10 days, with Northern army; reported on furlough; *also*, list of men raised for the 6 months service and returned by Brig. Gen. Paterson as having passed muster in a return dated Camp Totoway, Oct. 25, 1780; *also*, pay roll for 6 months men raised by the town of Hadley for service in the Continental Army during 1780; marched July 5, 1780; discharged Dec. 10, 1780; service, 5 mos. 11 days; *also*, Private, Capt. Joseph Killam's co., Col. Rufus Putnam's (5th) regt.; muster roll for Jan., 1781, dated West Point; enlisted July 6, 1780; discharged Jan. 6, 1781; enlistment, 6 months.

ELWELL, JONAS, Hadley. Private, Capt. Eli Parker's co., Col. Leonard's regt.; enlisted May 8, 1777; service, 2 mos. 8 days; company marched from Hampshire Co. to reinforce Continental Army at Ticonderoga for 2 months; *also*, Capt. Oliver Smith's co., Col. Elisha Porter's (Hampshire Co.) regt.; marched Aug. 17, 1777; discharged, Aug. 19, 1777; service, 4 days; company marched Aug. 17, 1777, for relief of Bennington on an alarm; *also*, Capt. Moses Kellogg's co., Col. Porter's (Hampshire Co.) regt.; enlisted Sept. 23, 1777; discharged Oct. 18, 1777; service, 32 days, travel included; company marched to reinforce Northern army under Maj. Gen. Gates on an alarm; *also*, Capt. Joshua L. Woodbridge's co., Col. Nathan Tyler's regt.; enlisted June 29, 1779; discharged Dec. 25, 1779; service, 6 mos. 7 days, travel included, at Rhode Island; *also*, same co. and regt.; pay roll for Dec., 1779, allowing 1 mo. 6 days service at Rhode Island.

ELWELL, JOSHUA, New Hartford, Conn. Private, Capt. Seth Smith's co.; in list of men who marched from Connecticut towns for the

relief of Boston in the Lexington alarm, April, 1775; service, 3 days; *also*, Corporal, Ensign John Norton's co., 18th regt. militia; arrived Aug. 19, 1776; discharged Sept. 25, 1776; at New York.

ELLWEL, MARK. Descriptive list of men raised to reinforce Continental Army for the term of 6 months, agreeable to resolve of June 5, 1780, returned as received of Justin Ely, Commissioner, by Brig. Gen. John Glover, at Springfield, July 7, 1780; age, 17 yrs.; stature, 5 ft. 9 in.; complexion, dark; engaged for town of Hardwick; marched to camp July 7, 1780, under command of Capt. Dix.

ELWELL, MARK (also given MARCH), Hardwick. List of men raised for the 6 months service and returned by Brig. Gen. Paterson as having passed muster in a return dated Camp Totoway, Oct. 25, 1780; *also*, pay roll for 6 months men raised by the town of Hardwick for service in the Continental Army during 1780; marched July 4, 1780; discharged Dec. 17, 1780; service, 5 mos. 20 days, in state of New York; *also*, receipt dated Hardwick, May 2, 1781, for bounty paid said Elwell by the town of Hardwick, for 6 months service in the Continental Army.

ELWELL, MARK. Private, Capt. Ebenezer Strong's co., Col. Sears's (Hampshire Co.) regt.; enlisted Aug. 10, 1781; marched to Albany Aug. 17, 1781; discharged Nov. 20, 1781; service, 3 mos. 10 days, at Saratoga.

ELWELL, MOSES, Northampton. Private, Capt. Jonathan Allen's co. of Minute-men, Gen. Pomeroy's regt., which marched April 20, 1775, in response to the alarm of April 19, 1775; arrived home May 15, 1775; service, 26 days.

ELLWELL, THOMAS. Sergeant, Capt. Jonathan Wales's co., in a regt. commanded by Lieut. Col. Samuel Williams; engaged Dec. 20, 1776; discharged March 23, 1777; service, 3 mos. 13 days, travel included. Roll dated Morristown.

ELWELL, THOMAS. Private, Capt. Jonathan Wales's co., Col. Dickinson's (Hampshire Co.) regt.; service, 8 days; company march-

ed to East Hoosuck on the alarm of Aug. 17, 1777, thence to Pittsfield, thence guarded Hessian prisoners to Springfield by order of Brig. Gen. Fellows; *also*, Capt. Oliver Lyman's co., Col. Ezra May's regt.; enlisted Sept. 20, 1777; discharged Oct. 14, 1777; service, 30 days, travel included, on an expedition to Stillwater and Saratoga.

ELWELL, THOMAS. Private, Capt. Thomas Whipple's co., Col. Abijah Stearns's regt.; enlisted March 30, 1778; service to July 2, 1778, 3 mos. 3 days, guarding troops of Convention. Roll sworn to in Worcester Co.

III. Service in Shays' Rebellion.

ELWELL, DAVID, Hardwick. In list of men who took the oath of allegiance to the government (no date or particulars given).

ELWELL, JOSHUA, Westhampton. Pay roll of Capt. Azariah Lyman's co., 2d regt. Hampshire Co., who marched to Springfield in Jan. 1787 in defense of the government by order of Gen. Shephard and served there until Jan. 28, when an arrangement took place and they returned home; dated Westhampton, March 26, 1787; service, 13 days; *also*, pay roll of Capt. Noah Edwards's co., Col. Stebbens's regt., Gen. Shephard's division at Springfield, Hampshire Co., who served from the arrangement (Jan. 28) until they were regularly dismissed; dated Westhampton, March 26, 1787; service, 12 days.

ELWELL, THOMAS, Hardwick. In list of men who took the oath of allegiance to the government (no date or particulars given).

ELWELL, THOMAS, Westhampton. Pay roll of Capt. Azariah Lyman's co., 2d regt. Hampshire Co., who marched to Springfield in Jan. 1787 in defense of the government by order of Gen. Shephard and served there until Jan. 28, when an arrangement took place and they returned home; dated Westhampton, March 26, 1787; service, 13 days.

Mr. Elwell made two wills: the first is dated Dec. 30, 1784, and named his son Mark executor; the second is here printed in full from the executor's copy.

In the Name of God Amen!

I Thomas Elwell of Hardwick in the County of Worcester & Commonwealth of Massachusetts Yeoman being at this time weak & infirm in body tho. of a sound disposing mind & memory & Calling to mind the mortallity of my body & knowing that it is appointed for man once to die do make & ordain this my last Will & Testament Viz. Principly & first of all I give & recommend my Immortal Soul into the hands of God who gave it & my body I recommend to the dust to be buried in a decent manner at the discretion of my Executors And as Touching such wordly Estate wherwith it hath pleased God to bless me in this Life, I Give Demise Bequeath & dispose of the same in manner following Viz Imprimis, I give & bequeath to my beloved Wife Elisabeth one Cow three years old & my black Mare, which are to be kept for her use (free of expence during her widowhood) by my son David also the use of my front west room with the Cellar under it & a bed-room with the use of the Well and as many apples & as much sause as she may have occation to use with a sufficient quantity of fire-wood Cut at the Door during her widowhood provided she shall continue to live with my son David who is hereby directed to provide the sd. articles for her: also the use & Improvement of all my household furniture during her natural Life: also ten bushell of Indian Corn, five bushell of Rye, two Bushels of Wheat two hundred pounds wt. of Beef & Pork; twenty pounds of flax six pounds of sheeps wool & one barrel of Cyder to be delivered at my present dwelling house for her use annually so long as she shall remain my widow; to be paid & delivered to her by my son David

Item I give & bequeath to my beloved sons Joshua, Moses, Thomas, John & Jonas, & to their heirs forever the following tracts or parcels of Land viz about forty Eight acres being the Land which I bought of Oliver Rice also a peice Containing about thirty acres: being the Land

which I bought of John Jenney excepting out of the same about four acres, which I have given by Deed to my son David also ten acres of Land to be set off from the northerly part of my homestead farm adjoining to Capt. Warner land all to be equally divided among them at my decease

Item I give and bequeath to my beloved son Jabez six shillings which with what I have heretofore given him is his full proportion of my Estate

Item I give & bequeath to the children of my beloved son in law Moses Omstead twelve shillings which with what I have heretofore given to him & to my daughter abigail his late wife deceased is their full proportion of my Estate

Item I give & bequeath to my beloved daughter Lucy Rice twelve shillings; which with what I have heretofore given her is her full proportion of my Estate

the affore sd. Legacies to my son Jabez to Moses Omstead & to my daughter Lucy Rice to be paid to them by my Sons Joshua, Moses, Thomas, John & Jonas equally in one year after my Decease

Item I give & bequeath to my beloved daughter anna Moody all my household furniture, to be delivered to her immediately after the decease of my wife

Item I give & bequeath to my sons Joshua, Moses, Thomas John, Jonas & David all the Stock of Every kind which may be in my possession at my Decease together with all my wearing apparell not previously disposed of & I do hereby order them to pay all my Just debts & funeral charges out of the affore sd. articles & to divide the residue (if any remains) equally among them: and all debts due to my Estate, and all my property not particularly disposed of in this Will, are to be equally divided among all my sons

Item I give & bequeath to the four Children of my beloved son Mark Elwell decesed viz to Polly Elwell, Lucy Elwell Ruth Elwell & Roxany Elwell all the Land westerly of my Dwelling house not already disposed of, Containing about twenty Eight acres: & I do here by give the improvement of the sd. Land to the Widow of the sd. Mark Elwell

during the nonage of the sd. children provided she shall Continue to be his widow : & whenever the children shall arrive to the age of Eighteen years the sd. Widow is to relinquish two Thirds of Each child's respective proportion of the sd. Land & after the Children shall all arrive to the age of Eighteen years the Widow shall have the improvement of one Third part of sd. Land during her widowhood & whenever she shall decease or marry the sd. Land shall be equally divided among the affore sd. four children

And I do hereby ordain constitute & appoint my beloved Wife Elisabeth to be Executrix & my son David to be Executor of this my last will and Testament in witness whereof I have here unto set my hand & seal, this twelvth day of July Anno Domini seventeen hundred ninty

Signed, sealed, Published pronounced & declared by the sd. Thomas Elwell to be his last Will & Testament in presence of us the subscribers

Martin Kinsley
Moses Winchester
Theadeus Forbs
Ebenezer Willis

Thomas Elwell [*seal*]
her
Elizabeth X Elwell
mark