

The
Gray Family Reunion

at

West Sedgwick, Maine

August 19, 1903

**Also Some Additional Matter
of Interest**

**PRESS OF R. P. HARRIMAN
BUCKSPORT, ME.**



MRS CHARLOTTE GRAY

Introduction

The first reunion of the Gray Family of Hancock County, Maine, was held in 1902, and the following report from the columns of the "Ellsworth American," of September 10th of that year, sufficiently indicates the nature and success of the experiment.

Gray Family Reunion

A pleasant event in the lives of those present occurred Tuesday, September 2nd, when about one hundred members of the Gray family met at West Sedgwick for a family reunion.

The place of meeting was in the oak grove belonging to James B. Gray, which was prettily decorated with flags and cut flowers.

After the wants of the inner man had been bountifully supplied, Stanley D. Gray, of Haverhill, gave a talk on the history of the Grays, which was brimful of interest.

It was voted to organize permanently, and officers were chosen.

A committee of arrangements, consisting of seven loyal and enthusiastic members, will plan for entertainment at the next reunion, which will probably be held in the same place in 1903.

The list of those present is too long to publish, but among those worthy of mention are Mrs. Charlotte Gray, aged ninety-two, and Mrs. Margaret Gray, who is in the eighties, both of whom enjoyed the day as heartily as any of their children or grandchildren.

After the business of the day was over, the time was spent in social greetings, and in making plans for future meetings. All left the grove at an early hour, well satisfied with the success of the first Gray reunion.

The officers chosen were: President, Dr. Otis Littlefield, Bluehill; Vice President, Stanley D. Gray, Haverhill; Secretary, Josie M. Gray, East Surry; Committee on Arrangements, Charles P. Gray, South Penobscot; Wilbur L. Gray, North Penobscot; Roscoe D. Gray, West Sedgwick; Miss Gertrude M. Gray, East Surry; Mrs. Margaret Wasgatt, Rockland; Mrs. Maria L. Gray, North Penobscot; Wilford Grindle, Bluehill.

So much interest was shown in the matter and so many expressions of regret were heard from those who did not learn of the first meeting in season to attend, that in the summer of 1903 the following notice and programme was printed and widely circulated:

The Second Annual Reunion of the Gray Family will be held in the Grove on the farm of James B. Gray, at West Sedgwick, Maine, Wednesday, August 19, 1903.

PROGRAMME:

12 M.—Picnic Dinner.

1 P. M.—*Opening Remarks* by Dr. Littlefield, Bluehill.

Historical Address by Stanley D. Gray, Haverhill, Mass.

Remarks by S. D. Gray, Esq., Harborside, Me.

Five-minute Speeches by Members of Association.

3 P. M.—Business meeting and election of officers.

Dancing afternoon and evening. Picnic Supper.

The public is cordially invited to attend.

If stormy, postponed to next fair day.

CHARLES P. GRAY, South Penobscot,

Chairman Committee of Arrangements.

Again having recourse to the "American," the following account is found of the Reunion of 1903:

Gray Family Reunion

Not often is an assembling of friends and relatives productive of more pleasure than was felt on the occasion of the second annual reunion of the Gray family which was held at West Sedgwick, Wednesday, August 19th.

The enjoyment reported by those who attended the first meeting in 1902, and the many invitations sent out by the committee of arrangements induced a large number to make an effort to be present.

For several days before the 19th the committee in charge was at work in the oak grove. A pavilion was built with a raised platform at one end. The whole was decorated with flags, bunting, evergreen, and the always appropriate word, "Welcome."

The heavy fog on the morning of the appointed day somewhat delayed those interested, but with the first lifting of the



MISS JOSIE M. GRAY

clouds, parties began to arrive, and they continued to come until at noon it was estimated that about four hundred were assembled.

It was a very cheerful scene, albeit a trace of sadness mingled in the greetings, as old neighbors met after years of separation and families were reunited who had been widely scattered.

The forenoon was spent entirely in making or renewing acquaintances among the older people, while the younger ones enjoyed the swings placed among the trees.

After a picnic dinner the music of the piano and violin, attracted the crowd to the pavilion, where the programme of the afternoon was carried out.

After a verse of "America" had been sung, prayer was offered by Rev. Clifton M. Gray, of Charleston, S. C. The president, Dr. O. Littlefield, of Bluehill, gave an address of welcome which contained many reminiscences of the older members of the Gray family.

The next speaker was Stanley D. Gray, of Haverhill, Mass., and the applause with which his appearance was received showed that he was well known and appreciated.

His address, which was a sketch of the history of the Gray family, gave briefly an idea of the wanderings and achievements of the ancestors of those assembled.

He was followed by S. Decatur Gray, an aged member of the association, whose address was founded on the memory of talks with his grandfather, and was rich in traditions and reminiscences of olden times. Five-minute talks by Rev. Clifton Gray and Capt. R. G. F. Candage concluded the entertainment of the afternoon.

A short business meeting followed, in which the officers of last year were re-elected, and some arrangements were made for the next meeting which will be held in the same place in August, 1904.

During the afternoon exercises the platform was occupied by some of the older members, the seat of honor being granted by common consent to Mrs. Charlotte Gray, who is ninety-three years old. Dancing filled the remainder of the afternoon.

In the evening the pavilion, lighted by Japanese lanterns, was again filled, and music and dancing made the night merry

until a sudden shower drove the dancers to shelter, notwithstanding which, the day was voted by all a success.

In response to a generally expressed desire that the addresses given at the Second Reunion be preserved and made accessible for reference, the speakers of the day have been induced to permit the printing of what they said on that occasion.

In addition to the addresses and letters, the self-appointed editor has taken the liberty to include some other matter in the way of biographical sketches, and to insert a few portraits.

Invocation

BY THE REV. C. M. GRAY

O, God, we have heard from of old, our fathers have told us, what deeds thou didst in their days, what thou didst in the days of old. With a strong hand and an outstretched arm thou didst guide the people across the sea; thou didst scatter the inhabitants before them, and didst cause our fathers to prosper. Not by their swords obtained they the land, not did their own arms give them the victory; but thy right hand and thine arm, because thou hadst favor unto them.

When they went forth as pilgrims to a strange land thou wast with them. Thou didst reprove kings for their sakes, and when they were very few in number, when they were wanderers in the wilderness and found no city to dwell in, when they were hungry and thirsty, and their souls grew faint within them, they cried unto thee, and thou didst hear and comfort them.

O, thou, who wast to our fathers the cloud by day and the pillar of fire by night thou wilt still be to their children a guide and friend.

Bless us as we meet here together. Teach our feet new paths in which we may walk to serve thee better.

Take our little imperfect lives up into thine own life of light and love, and bless and strengthen and make them more nearly complete. And may that peace which passeth all understanding, that peace which the world can neither give nor take away, be and abide with us forever. Amen.

Address of Welcome

BY DR. OTIS LITTLEFIELD, OF BLUEHILL

MY FRIENDS,—

As President of this Association it becomes my duty and pleasure to welcome you here to this the second annual re-union of the Gray family and to invite all who have one drop of good Gray blood in their veins to lay down their burdens for a while, forget their work and worry and come with us to enjoy the pleasure of meeting their kindred and friends once more.

We especially welcome those who have come from a distance. Let us hope that the pleasure of the day will amply repay them for all their trouble in getting here.

Here we unfurl the family banner and welcome our neighbors and friends. We are glad to see you. Our latch-string is out to-day. If you don't see what you want ask for it and help yourselves to anything that isn't nailed down. We welcome you to this beautiful grove and its pleasant surrounding. These grand oaks are a type of our family which has always thriven best on rocky soil, and whose roots only strike in the deeper when the storms of life pass over them.

These family gatherings are being held all over New England. The Foggs, the Bracketts, the Tracys and many others have their meetings from year to year and I am glad that our family has come into line.

I was somewhat surprised to find that at your last meeting you had elected a president outside the family name, but while riding over here this morning I recalled my pedigree and will say that my great-grandmother was a Gray my grandmother was half Gray and my mother was a Gray. So I figured a while and unless I made some mistake, I am one whole Gray and a fraction over.

There are three objects for which this Association was founded. First to promote harmony and good will among its members, second to provide a day for an annual outing when we and our friends can have an old-fashioned good time, and third to search out and put in order our family history, so far as we can, especially that part relating to this Eastern Maine branch of it.

The first object, that of promoting good will and harmony



DR. OTIS LITTLEFIELD

among its members is right in line with that great spirit of fraternity which is slowly spreading throughout the world. In the ancient days men were continually at war. Every man's hand was against his neighbor, "might made right" and the weakest went to the wall. But a new day is dawning upon us. Ernest men, call them dreamers if you will, are hoping, trusting, praying for a time to come "when the war drums shall beat no longer and every flag be furled," when individuals and nations shall recognize that Supreme Fact, "The Fatherhood of God and Brotherhood of man." Whatever tends to *encourage* good will and harmony and to *discourage* strife and discord is helping to hasten that great day when the sun shall rise on a world at peace.

The second object, that of providing an outing day for us is a worthy one. Too many men and women are wearing themselves out and dying before their time just for the lack of a little rest and recreation. A day spent as we are spending this one will benefit all of us.

We often turn the old tired horse out to pasture, and I see men and women nearly every day who would be benefited by the same treatment. Hard work seldom kills, but it is the monotonous weary round of daily duties without change or break of any kind which in time will wear out the strongest body and mind ever created.

The third object, that of searching out and putting in order our family history is one in which most of us are interested. It is a difficult task to undertake. But I believe that with a united effort we can accomplish something along that line.

What were the names of the pioneers of our family who hewed their way into this Eastern wilderness and on these rocky hillsides carved out homes for themselves and their children? Where did they come from and what manner of men were they? We are fortunate in having one with us to-day who can enlighten us on those points. We are all anxious to hear him and I will detain you but a moment longer.

There are some names of Gray that I love to recall, one, that of Thomas Gray a great English poet, whose "Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard" will live as long as the English tongue is spoken. That great English general, Wolfe, who gained the victory at the battle of Quebec, as he floated down the river the

evening before, gazing on the heights of Abraham with perhaps a premonition of his coming death on the morrow repeated these lines from that famous poem,

"The boast of heraldry, the pomp of power,
And all that beauty, all that wealth e'er gave,
Await, alike, the inevitable hour;
The paths of glory lead but to the grave."

Turning to his comrades he said, "Gentleman, I would rather have been the author of that poem than to take Quebec to-morrow."

In the year 1770 an event took place in Boston known as "The Boston Massacre." Here the fires of liberty were lighted to burn until America was free. A company of British soldiers fired on a body of townspeople. Among those who fell that day was one of our name, Samuel Gray, a citizen of Boston. So I say that the blood of a Gray made part of that first bloody sacrifice to be offered on the altar of American Liberty.

I will mention one more, Judge George Gray of Delaware, whose name and fame have gone throughout the United States.

If there is one virtue in which our family excels, it is the virtue of humility. I sometimes think that we are *too* humble. We are more apt to be led than to lead. Let us make ourselves deserving of the good things in this life, and then reach right out and get them.

I remember, as many of you do, a minister of the Gospel, a man of our name, Andrew Gray. He was an earnest man and loved his calling. Late one afternoon in the fall he was here to hold a meeting at the Corner above. Right over there near the well we were digging potatoes, and my grandfather was afraid he wouldn't have them dug in time to go to meeting. Off came the elder's coat, and grabbing a hoe, he said "Come on boys, dig hard and you will get there all right." Now I want to say the same thing to these young men. Success in life depends upon your ability to stick to what you undertake and a firm belief that you *will* succeed. "Come on boys, dig hard and you will get there all right."

"'Tisn't always to the strongest
That the battle goes, my friend;
'Tis the man that *holds out* longest,

That will get there in the end.
 If you're hankerin' to gobble up the victory,
 Just grin when reverse and trouble meets you,
 Up your fists and come agin."

My friends, in all your striving, in all your battling with this stormy, noisy, boisterous world, do not forget the old home. Let the young man return to it that he may drink again at the fountain of parental love and affection.

Let the middle aged man return that he may smooth the pathway of that aged father or mother, whose dim eyes are gazing on the western hills of life, and who must soon pass over into the Great Beyond.

Yes; and let the old man return, whether laden with riches and honors or bearing the burdens of misfortune and adversity. As he approaches the old home, the place seems strange to him. The passer-by sees only an old cellar with crumbling walls. But the old man sees more; he sees his home. For although friends and family are gone, although the very roof that sheltered him has disappeared, yet it is still his home; for the old trees wave out their welcome to him. The rocks salute him and right there near the corner of that crumbling wall he sees an old rose bush planted and nurtured by the loving hands of a mother long since moldered into dust. How kindly the old hollyhocks and tiger lilies greet him as he passes by! Here he sees a clump of wormwood. Surely he remembers that and the patch of thoroughwort beyond. Here on the southern side of the crumbling wall is the old lavender bed, its green leaves upspringing as a token to him that although family and friends are gone, yet somewhere beyond the bounds of time, love and affection shall bloom again. As in a vision he sees the faces and hears the voices of friends long gone. He is indeed at home.

O! tired, weary, homesick soul, kneel down on that grassy bank under the summer sky, and dream again the happy dreams of childhood and youth.

Historical Sketch

BY STANLEY D. GRAY

Perhaps a thousand years ago, there was in France a town of Croy. Robert, Duke of Normandy, bestowed the castle and honors of the place upon one of his followers whose family took DeCroy as their name, afterwards changed to DeGray, and lastly to Gray.

Grays were with William the Conqueror, when, in 1066, he invaded England, and from them have descended the numerous families of the name in England and Scotland. Many of the proudest titles of England have for centuries been borne by them. A sister of Henry VIII married the Duke of Suffolk, who was of that family, and their daughter, Lady Jane Gray wore for a few days the crown of England, her life being the price of the undesired honor.

The Grays came to America early. They were at Plymouth, Boston and Salem among the first settlers. It is said that Mrs. Desire Kent, daughter of Edward Gray, was the first woman to step ashore at Plymouth Rock.

From 1620 to 1720, twenty or more distinct families of Grays came to America, a fact which accounts in part for the great difficulty of tracing the ancestry of the immense number bearing that name.

There were Grays among the Scotch-Irish Presbyterians who came in 1719 and subsequently from the north of Ireland. Prof. Asa Gray, the famous botanist, was of this line. Descendants of some of these are in Maine,—at Paris, Oxford County, in Foxcroft, and formerly at Prospect. Grays are found at Yarmouth, Mass., as early as 1648, some of whose descendants settled at North Yarmouth, Maine, where they still continue. In the early times there were Grays all along the Maine coast from Kittery to the Kennebec River.

M. D. Raymond, of Tarrytown, N. Y., in 1887, issued a Gray Genealogy, giving an account of a large number of branches of the family.

The origin of the Grays who settled upon the Bagaduce River, and their connection, if any, with others of the name mentioned, I am unable to give. Family tradition tells of



STANLEY D. GRAY

"three brothers who came from England," but the "three brother" tradition is found in so many families that it is always looked upon with suspicion.

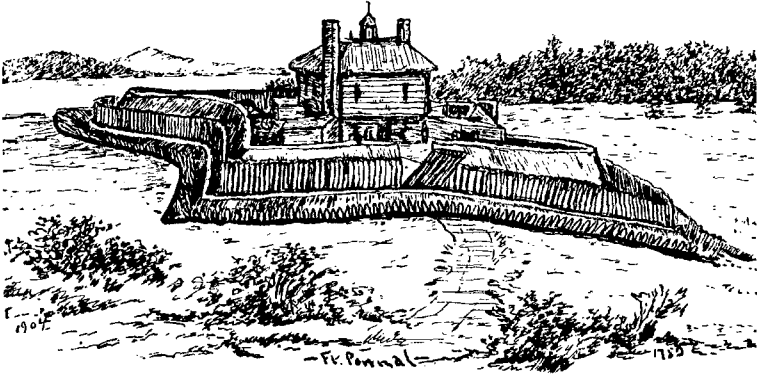
Prior to 1759, the Penobscot River was the outlet of the French and Indians to the sea, and no English were settled above Rockland. Gov. Pownall of Massachusetts, early in that year urged the building of a fort on the Penobscot for the protection of the eastern settlements. As a result it was decided to take possession of the Penobscot region; and Falmouth, now Portland, became the rendezvous for the expedition. Here, during the winter, a blockhouse was framed and made ready to take to the Penobscot. Men were enlisted, largely it is said from Falmouth, Cape Elizabeth, Scarborough, Biddeford and Georgetown, all under the command of Col. Jedediah Preble.

March 7th, 1759, Gen. Samuel Waldo wrote to Capt. James Milk, of Falmouth, directing him to call his men together and make known to them the advantages "that attend engaging in an Enterprise that must be attended with so great Benefit and advantage to their Country." Several of Milk's men evidently enlisted for the Penobscot expedition, among them Joshua and Andrew Gray.

The Muster Rolls preserved in the Colonial archives at the State House, Boston, show that among the four hundred men who joined the expedition were Joshua Gray and four of his sons, Reuben, John, Andrew, and James, all of whom enlisted April 1, 1759. Unfortunately the place of residence is nowhere given.

Of such importance was it considered that the Governor of Massachusetts himself accompanied the expedition, and his Journal is the best if not the only account of the Penobscot campaign of 1759. By it we learn that they left Falmouth, May 4th, and arrived at Wasaumkeag, now Fort Point, May 17th. A strong fort was planned and its construction pushed so diligently that by July 28th it was completed, the expense being five thousand pounds. It was 90 feet on each side within the breastworks which were ten feet high. There was a moat with drawbridge, and palisades. The accompanying illustration is supposed to give a very correct idea of its appearance, with the blockhouse already mentioned within. On the completion of the fort the military force was reduced to about ninety men.

The building of this fort was an important event in the history of the region around. It marks the beginning of English settlements on the Penobscot. To it came Indians for conferences and terms. Here treaties were made and hostages were held to insure good faith on the part of the redskins. Also they exchanged their furs for such articles of traffic as were usually offered at frontier trading posts.



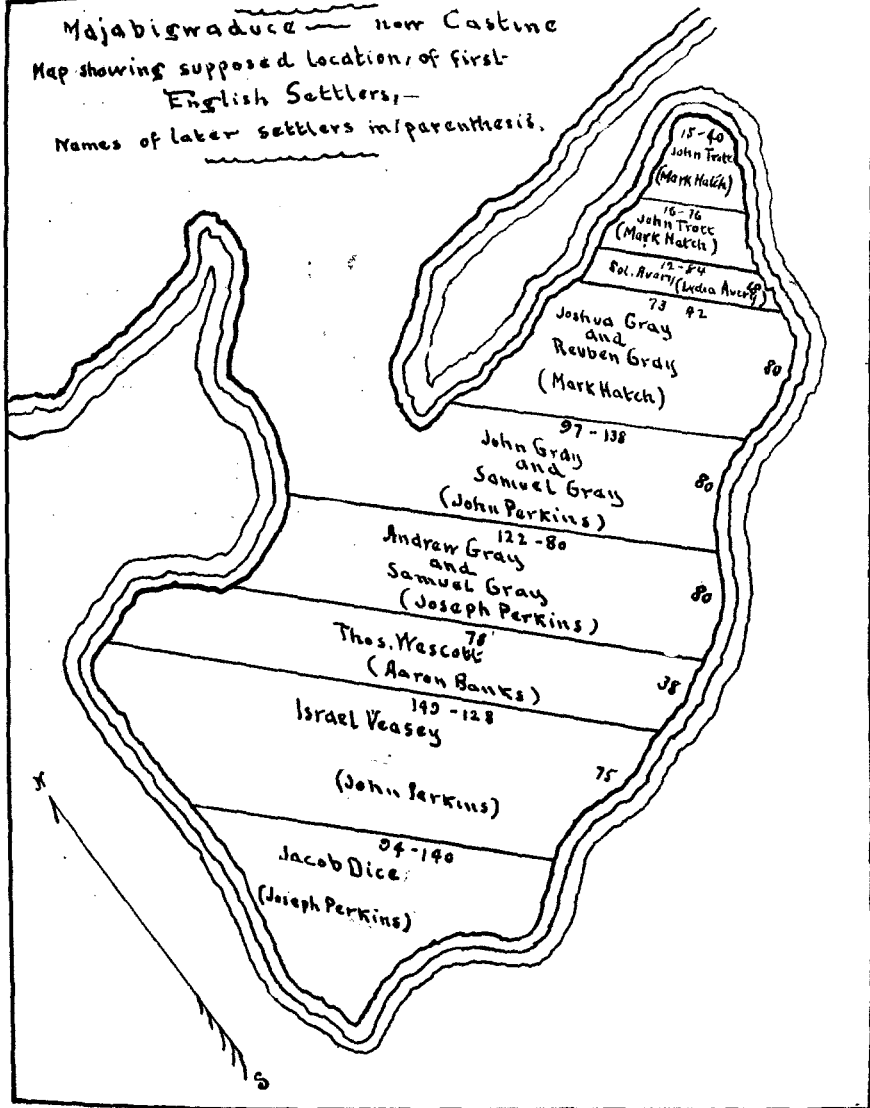
In preparation for their first winter on the Penobscot, the commander asked for the following named supplies, which were forwarded:

"Thirty-five Beds with Pillows and Blankets, Twelve Pots that will hold two Pailfuls each, and twelve Frying Pans, Twenty or Thirty Pare of good snow shoes and two pare Morgisons to each Pare, one good Spy-Glass which will be realy necessary to make Discovery of the Enemy, Pot-hooks to each Pot, and a tramel and one bb Pitch for the Whale Boats, necessaries for the sick this winter as nothing of that kind can be come at in this remote Part of the Province."

The soldiers were enlisted for a term which expired July 16th, when three hundred or more of them were discharged. The Grays, however, re-enlisted for a service which continued fifty-eight weeks to August 24, 1760. and then for another term which expired April 6, 1761, making a continuous service of over two years.

Through with soldiering, they crossed the Bay to what is now known as Castine, then Majabagaduce, and long a French Post of importance. Here their families were brought, and home making begun.

Majabigwaduce — now Castine
 Map showing supposed location of first
 English Settlers,—
 Names of later settlers in parenthesis.



The map, a copy of one prepared by a gentleman who has given much attention to the early history of the place shows the probable location of the Grays at Majabagaduce.

Evidently there was trouble about land titles for "October ye 3rd, 1763," the inhabitants of "Majabagadoos" petitioned to Gov. Barnard for relief, stating, "that most of your petitioners were soldiers in his Majestic's Service, in the Pay of this Province and were dismissed from the service after the peace was settled and being Humbly of Opinion that some of the lands they had conquered would be as likely to fall to their share as to others, they settled upon the aforesaid Tract of Land, a place where no English Inhabitants had ever before settled, and at great peril, Labor and Expense they have cleared and cultivated some small spots of Land, and have got themselves comfortable houses. Suffering beyond expression, the Last Winter, and after having grappled through these Difficulties they have been able this summer to Raise Sauce and a few necessities to support their families and have been in hopes to have had their settlements confirmed to them, and accordingly Petitioned to the general court for this purpose long before the said land was granted to others but your petitioners being poor and not being able to attend and further their petition they are informed it never reached the General Court, and that now the fruit of their heavy toil and labor is like to be reapt by others unless your petitioners will submit to very hard terms offered them by the new proprietors."

A recent examination of the original, shows that among the signers were Joshua, James, Andrew, Reuben and John Gray, and after the name of each is written the word *soldier*. [The petition has been printed at least once, with the list of signers incomplete, and not giving the names of Reuben and John Gray.]

It is a family tradition that Reuben Gray lived for a time in the Old French Fort, and that his son Reuben was born (probably in 1763) in the dwelling formerly occupied by the Baron Castin. Many years had passed since the latter left the place; though according to some authorities, one of his sons had been at Majabagaduce but a few years before the coming of English settlers.

Gov. Pownal visited the peninsula in 1759 and found "the

ruins of a French settlement, which from the site and nature of the houses, and the remains of fields and orchards, had once been a pleasant habitation." From this it would seem possible that Reuben Gray was really born in the house of the French Baron or of his son.

In June, 1766, Joseph Holt embarked from Haverhill, Mass., in company with Capt. Jonathan Buck and others for a trip to the Penobscot. Though there is no mention of the Grays, he describes Majabagadoose, where they were then living. June 23rd they came to anchor above the head of Fox Island. "24th when the tide served, we set sail rowing with all up to against Margabagadoose, then six of us, viz., Mr. Duncan, Capt. Parker, Lt. Wiar, Mr. Morse, Jonathan Buck, Jr., and myself took the whale boat and went around an island into Casteene river or Margabagadoose; viewing along the coves and shores, found a saw mill on Goose falls, and on the north side of sd River a number of settlements; sd river runs easterly; we went ashore at those houses and viewed the land, and found Indian corn, flax, Rye, Wheat, Potatoes, Cabages, and sundry sorts of herbs; and I eat strawberries, the largest I ever saw; and there I saw apple trees of a large size, and apples growing on them, etc.; there we dined and then steered for our vessel again, and about 2 o'clock arrived safe at anchor at Fort Pownal on Penobscot River, and there went ashore and drunk good Punch with Brigadier Prebble."

Among the farms that he saw at "Margabagadoose" must have been those of the Grays, who remained there until about 1768, when, for some reason not known, but probably because trouble about land titles, they decided to go elsewhere.

Whether they lost "the fruit of their heavy toil and labour," or received some remuneration for years of pioneer work is uncertain. Perhaps they voluntarily relinquished their hold upon the Majabagadoose lands believing that greater advantages awaited them in some other location.

In Wheeler's History of Castine it is stated that Aaron Banks was said to have bought the farm first settled by Reuben Gray. Mr. Hosea B. Wardwell says that this was the case, and that by the deed from Gray, Banks held the land. This would locate Reuben Gray differently from what is indicated on the map; but more in accord with family tradition.

Certain it is that they left the peninsula overlooking the Penobscot Bay and River, where they had first established themselves after leaving Fort Pownal, had lived upwards of half-a-dozen years, and where many of their children were born, to again subdue the wilderness and make homes.

No doubt they had explored the Bagaduce River and the land bordering upon it. All was forest. The great pines called to them. Hunting, fishing and lumbering promised well and were congenial occupations. Moose and deer were plentiful; otter and beaver abounded. Smelts and alewives choked the streams in their season. Discharging into the southern branch of the Bagaduce was the beautiful lake, Winneway. Upon its shores the Indians had had their settlement. Here was the council house where their warriors assembled to discuss important matters, and where they invoked the Great Spirit. Their dead slept upon the summit of a low bluff overlooking the smiling waters. Hard by, their corn grew and ripened. To them came at last sudden destruction. Maj. Church or some other English enemy fell upon the Indian village and utterly destroyed it. Only the clearing remained, and—in the blackened soil where their wigwams had stood—the fire preserved kernels of corn which may be found to this day.

From Majabagaduce came our ancestors. Tradition has it that when, probably in 1768, the Grays ascended the river, they made their first encampment by a great boulder on the east side of the outlet from the pond, on a knoll of moderate extent formerly called "the Island," probably from the circumstance of its being surrounded by low land—so low that possibly at certain seasons it might actually have been an island.

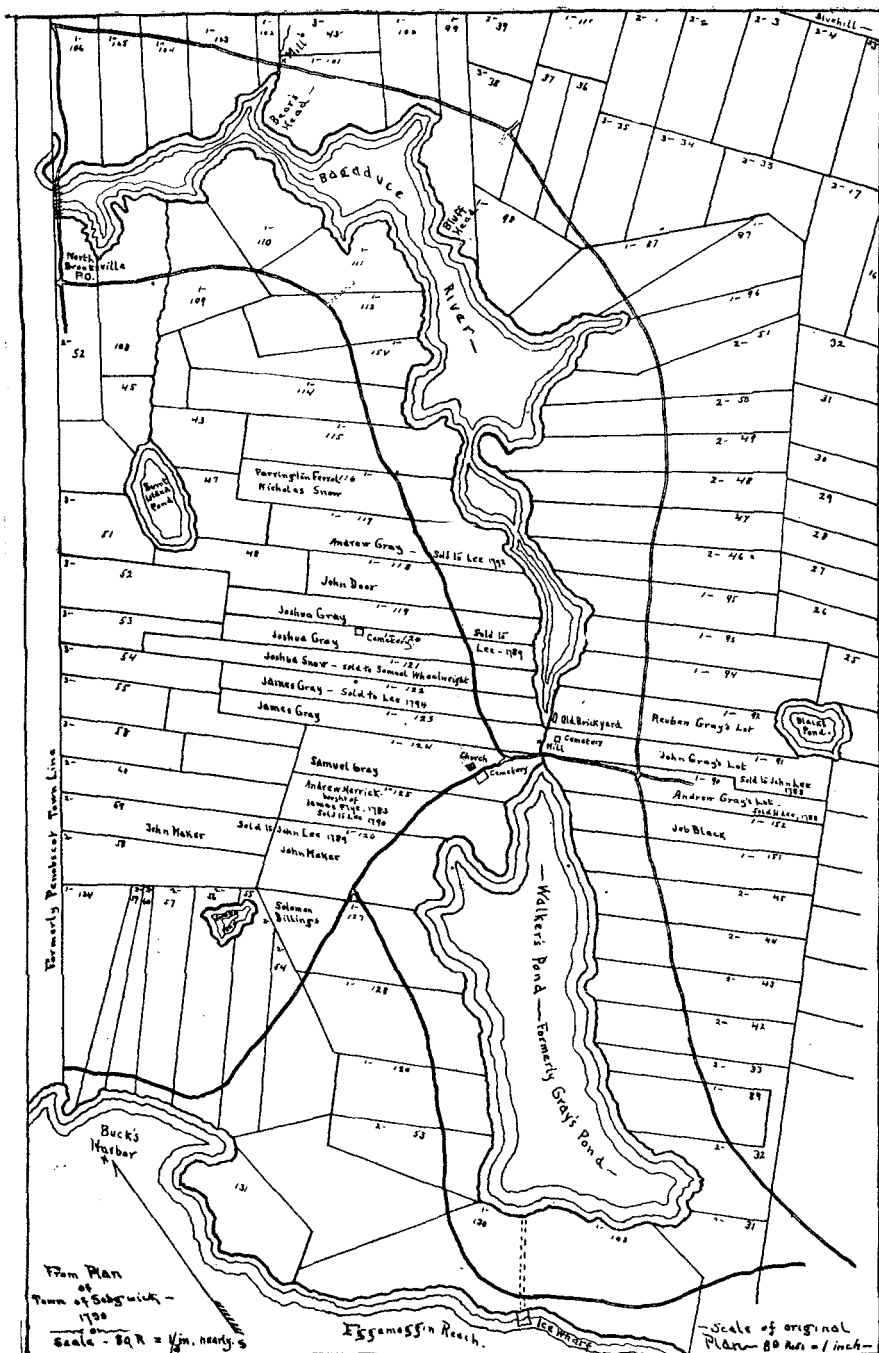
Near this boulder Reuben Gray built his log-house. Later another was erected a few rods away on higher land, in which he continued to live until a few years before his death, when he and his son John put up a frame house which became in turn the home of Reuben, of his son John, grandson Levi, and great-grandson Merrill. Frequent plowing has removed all traces of the first dwelling; but a thriving black-cherry tree standing upon the same spot as an earlier one which grew beside the house, marks its location. The foundation of the second may be seen, and a few steps away the cellar and chimney of the frame house, the dwelling itself having been burned a few years ago.

A short distance from the "Island" is the site of a brick yard operated by the Grays,—perhaps the earliest upon the Bagaduce. The date of the first brickmaking here is not known. There are no traces of brick about the foundations of the first houses of the settlers. Stone fireplaces, and chimneys of sticks, clay plastered, probably served them.

The map shows the location of the other brothers. John's farm was next to Reuben's, though he seems at one time to have lived on that occupied by Andrew Herrick, and the foundations of the house said to have been his, show very plainly in the rocky pasture opposite, and some rods away from the Brooksville schoolhouse. His lot on the east side was sold to John Lee, July 16, 1788, the consideration being "sixty-six pounds lawful money."

Andrew settled south of John on the east side of the pond and the site of his house too, is easily distinguished. Selling his farm in 1788, to John Lee, he appears to have taken another lot on the west side, some distance down the river, his land being bounded on the south by John Door's, and on the north by that of Nicholas Snow. This lot also, he sold to Lee in 1792. Besides his lot on the east side, he sold, to John Lee, October 26, 1788, "Land situated on the South side of the River and Harbor, and bounded as follows:— South on land of Archibald Henney (Haney?), and north on land of Nathaniel Perkins, fronting on the water seventy rods, and running back a Southeast course till one hundred acres is completed," The consideration was fifteen pounds. This was at what is now West Brooksville.

James settled on the west side, his farm abutting on that of Reuben and Andrew, from which it was separated by the stream. His first log house was on the west side of the present highway, and a short distance north of the Post Office. His frame house still stands, and is occupied by Mr. Albert P. Friend. The present owner has removed the shaved shingles that formerly covered the walls, but to quite an extent the interior must preserve its original appearance. James Gray sold "the northeastern half of the farm whereon I now live," for sixty pounds, "IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal (together with my wife Elizabeth in token of relinquishing her right of Dower in the said premises) this 25th day



of March, 1794." But "my wife Elizabeth" did not sign! Again John Lee was the purchaser.

The youngest brothers have not yet been mentioned. These were Samuel and Joshua. Samuel is buried in the cemetery opposite the church, and the inscription on the headstone states that he died April 28, 1843, his age being 93, which would make the date of his birth 1750. His farm was on the west side of the pond, at its outlet, and included the land upon which the church and cemetery opposite, are located. His house, built of logs, stood near the foot of his lot on an elevation overlooking the pond and very near its banks.

It is related that Samuel's wife, Mercy, did not like living in the house by the pond. She "heard noises," and believed it to be haunted. At last he built another near where the church now stands. On tearing down the old house it was discovered that what had been supposed to be a root in the side of the cellar, and had long served for a step, was the thigh bone of a man, probably an Indian; though it is said that a rusty sword was found lying across the breast of the skeleton. Perhaps it was one of Church's men killed when he made his raid upon the Indians here. Or it may have been that of some French *voyageur*, priest, or soldier, for like enough this was the route of travel from Majabagaduce eastward. Whoever it was the groaning of whose bones disturbed "Aunt Mercy," he seems to have slumbered quietly since his mortal framework ceased to be put to such unseemly use. May his ghostship rest in peace!

Joshua, the youngest son must have been a boy when his parents and brothers came to the head waters of the Bagaduce. When he became of age to claim a settler's lot he selected one next south of John Door's, already mentioned; and adjoining that of his father, Joshua Gray, Senior.

Nov. 21, 1789, Joshua Gray sold his farm which is described as follows:—"Land in Sedgwick, on the west side of the southern branch of Majorbigwaduce River. Beginning at the northeast corner of a lot of land that was sometime since sold by Joshua Snow to Samuel Wheelright, thence running northerly as the shore runs about one hundred and sixty rods to the southeast corner of a lot of land owned by and in possession of John Door, thence running back a northwest course adjoining to the said Door's land on the one side and upon said Wheelright's lot

of land upon the other side until two hundred acres is completed, being two lots of land the southernmost of which lots I purchased of my father, Joshua Gray, the other I settled myself." "My wife Lydia," was to sign but did not. The purchaser was John Lee and the consideration, "Sixty Pounds Lawful Money to me in hand paid."

The deed from Joshua Gray to his son Joshua, an exceedingly quaint and interesting document, follows,—

Know all men by these Presents that I Joshua Gray of a Place Called Numbar fore at the head of Majerbigwaduce Rivar yeoman Do for and in Consideration of the Sum of one hundred and thorty Pounds hallafax Corencey to me in hand Paid by Joshua Gray Juner of a Place Called Numbar fore yeoman the Reseipt whareof I Do hereby acknowledge have therefore Given Granted Bargined & Sold a Sarting trackt of Land Said Land Lies at the head of Majerbigwaduce Rivar Buted and Bounded as followeth.

Begining at the Soutwest Corner at an oke tree markt Joining to Joshua Snow Runing a Northwest Course the Lot aCrost Being about Eaightly Rods Joining to Joshua Snow on the North East Side Runing Back a Northwest Course till it Contains two hundred acres be it more or Les together with a Peace of Solt Marsh Lying Below Said Land and a Peace fresh meddow that I have in Partnership with Ruben Gray one Eaight Part of a Saw mill a Dwelling house and Barn Chatls axes hoes Sithes Plow Chanes and all the articals that I now have in my Posesion for Laboring with to have and to hold the Said Granted Premises with all the Privalages and apporternances the Same appartaining to him the said Joshua Gray Juner his heirs and assings to his and thare only Proper Use and Benift for Ever and I the said Joshua Gray for my self my heirs Executors and Adminestrators Do hereby Covenant Grant and agre to and with the said Joshua Gray Juner his heirs and assings that untill the Delivry hereof I am the Lawfull owner of said Premisses and am Lawfully Sezed and Possed thareof in mine own Rite in fee Simple and have full Power and Lawfull athority to Dispose of the Same in manner aforesaid and that Said Premisses are free and Clear of all and Every Incumbarances whatsoever and that I and my Executors and administrators Shall and will warant the Same to him the Said Joshua

Gray Juner against the Lawfull Claims and Demands of any Person or Persons whomsoever Lying Clame thareunto from by and under me in witness whereof I have here unto Set my hand and Seal this the thortyeth Day of octobar one thousand Seven hundred and eaight one

Singd Seald and Delivared

in Presents of

Joshua Snow

John Corsen

his

Joshua X Gray

mark

Hancock ss At a Court of Common pleas began & held at Penobscot within and for the county of Hancock on the third Tuesday of September Anno Domini 1790 Joshua Snow one of the subscribing witness to this deed personally appeared and made oath that he wrote this deed at the request of the said Joshua Gray the grantor who is now dead and that he the said Snow saw the said Joshua Gray the Grantor Sign Seal & deliver this deed as his free act and Deed and that he and one John Corson subscribed the same deed as witnesses to the same It is therefore Considered by the said Court that this deed is fully proved.

Done in Court of Common please on the 22d day of Sepr 1790

attest Thos Phillips Clerk of C of C Pleas

Hancock ss Rec'd 26th July, 1791, and entered with the Records for Deeds for Said County Lib 1 Fol 176

attest W. WEBBER Rgr

This old deed, stained and frayed by the vicissitudes of nearly a century and a quarter, was found among the papers of John Lee, and presented to your historian by Mr. John Lee of Bucksport, the grandson of him who bought so much land around the Bagaduce. The wavering, uncertain strokes that constitute "his mark" upon this instrument are such as one would ascribe to a very aged and infirm person; and are the only absolutely certain product of the hand of Joshua Gray now known.

In addition to the sons named, Joshua Gray had, it is believed, at least three daughters. One, Mary, married Joshua Snow, whose farm adjoined that of her father. There is a tradition that two had husbands whose course during the Revolution was such that along with many others, they were compelled at the close of the war to leave the country, going to Sherborne, N. S.

It is only fair to state that at one time a different opinion from that here set forth was held regarding the coming of Joshua Gray the elder to this region. A grandson of the soldier Reuben, born 1797, thought that his grandfather, and his great uncle Andrew, were soldiers at Fort Pownal, and that after their discharge and settlement at what is now Castine, their brothers and parents came, the latter being even then, quite aged. The first inspection of Muster Rolls containing the names of the Grays did not greatly disturb this tradition, for not all the Rolls bearing their names have the statement that Reuben, Andrew, John and James were sons of Joshua; and it is not on those first examined. This made it natural to suppose the soldier Joshua to be a brother to the others. But when the names were found with Joshua's heading the list, and all but his followed by "son to Josh. Gray," it seemed safe to assume that it was the father whose name stands first. Again the age of the younger Joshua's wife and children, his settlement of land adjoining his father's, and purchase of the latter's farm, all seem to indicate that he was the youngest son, and much too young to have been a soldier in 1759.

The sheet of water now called Walker's Pond was long known as Gray's Pond and is so described in all the early deeds. At its outlet the brothers and their father built a mill, which, in time they sold, along with much of their land, to Mr. Lee. It is to be hoped, and is a natural supposition, that whatever the circumstances attending their departure from Majabagaduce, they received for their labor there at least sufficient remuneration to equip the mill at the outlet of Gray's Pond.

From the records in the Massachusetts Archives of settlers in Sedgwick in 1785, the following statistics are gleaned.

Names.	No. in family.	No. of years in town.
Andrew Gray	8	17
Joshua "	1	"
Reuben "	9	"
Nathaniel "	3	12
Joshua "	4	16
James "	10	17
Samuel "	4	"
Reuben " 2nd	3	"
John "	4	"

A few people had been settled 22 years, showing that as early as 1762 some had gone to Sedgwick, but probably not to the Bagaduce region.

No traditions of Joshua Gray the elder seem to survive other than that he was from England, and one of three brothers. Regarding his wife, the following has been gathered from various sources, all being of the nature of family tradition. Her name is thought to have been Jane Elliott, and she is supposed to have been Irish. It is quite probable that she may have been of the Scotch-Irish who began to come to this country in large numbers in 1719, being actually Scotch. Also she was skilled in the healing art, as shown by the following tradition.

During the English occupation of Castine in the Revolution, Nathaniel Corsen, along with many others in the region around had taken an oath of allegiance or neutrality; but, being a patriot at heart had been accused of giving aid to the American cause. He was captured, brought to Castine, and condemned to receive five hundred lashes! He was permitted the services of an English army surgeon to dress the wounds caused by his punishment, but preferred the ministrations of old Mrs. Gray. As showing the uncertainty of family tradition it may be remarked that this story has sometimes been told with her son Reuben's wife playing the *role* of surgeon.

A grandson of Reuben, son of the soldier Reuben, recalls the following incident related by his grandfather, which indicates that the wives of some of the soldiers were at Fort Pownal.

"One evening his mother went a short distance outside of the fort for the purpose of milking her cow and on her way back she was seized by an Indian in ambush, but being a very powerful woman she dragged the savage to the gate and entered with the loss of her skirts. That seemed to be the signal for a general attack and the fort was instantly surrounded by savages, but after a severe contest which lasted several hours the Indians were forced to retire with the loss of several of their number."

There is a persistent tradition that Reuben was wounded sometime during his military service. One account is that he was at Majabagaduce on a scouting expedition, and stumbling down a bank his gun was discharged. Another is that the accident occurred at the fort,—that he was a sentry posted on the

top of the blockhouse, and on being relieved and starting to descend fell down the stairs discharging his gun,—and that he was taken in a whaleboat to “Old York,” for treatment.

It is told that during the Revolution he had a cabin in the woods far back toward the eastern end of his lot, near Black's Pond; to which he and his family used to retire when the English soldiers from Castine came that way raiding the farms of the known or suspected adherents to the patriot cause.

Andrew Gray is said to have piloted one of the ships of the American fleet which in 1779, attempted the capture of Penobscot, now Castine, from the British.

Jane and Rebecca, two of his daughters lived during the Revolution in the family of a man of Troy proclivities, whose home was at what is now West Brooksville. On one occasion some English soldiers from Castine, who had been raiding the patriot inhabitants at Naskeag, and had secured a large number of cattle, having reached this place at dusk fastened their prizes in the Troy's barnyard; after which they were regaled in his kitchen. At last, sunk in drunken slumber on the floor, they became quiet, when Rebecca, a girl of fourteen, despite the protests of her more timid sister, crept down the stairs, softly made her way to the yard, unfastened and lowered one of the bars and stole back to her room. Soon the uneasy herd found the opening—with heads and horns made it larger—broke through, and galloped madly off. Roused from their slumbers by the commotion, the soldiers on discovering the escape of their prizes suspected the girls, but they were found to be fast asleep!

Samuel was desired for a pilot by the British at Castine, and to avoid serving them abandoned his home at Gray's Pond. With his family he went first to Owl's Head, where a child died. The English learning his whereabouts pursued, and he went to Little River, where he remained until the war closed. His household goods were scattered, his brother James having some. A flax wheel which he buried, was recovered on his return, and is now in the possession of Mr. William Cousins of Brooksville.

As before stated, Samuel Gray rests in the cemetery opposite the church, Reuben is buried on the east side, Andrew at Deer Isle, where in his old age, he went to live with his son

Jeremiah. The elder Joshua, his wife, and probably some of his children, sleep on a hill formerly a part of his farm, overlooking pond, river and settlements. It is a beautiful spot and has continued until recent times to be used as a burial place. None of the graves of the "rude forefathers" who were first interred there are marked other than by a rough field stone. Not even "the low green tent" is found for instead of grassy mounds there are slight depressions. So rich is the soil with the crumbling bones of our ancestors and their friends and neighbors, that it has been difficult of late to find six feet of earth not preempted by these pioneers.

It may occasion some surprise that no mention has been made of the place of residence of our ancestors prior to 1759. This is a perplexing matter. There is the statement of one who had seen and talked with the first Reuben, that they had been living on Peak's Island, Casco Bay. Some have said that they were from Brunswick, others Harpswell, others Old York. There were Grays at all of these places, but their connection, if any, with our line, is not shown. There is a family tradition that the wife of Andrew was Lydia Brown, and Falmouth records show that an Andrew Gray did marry Lydia Brown, October 5, 1759.

The frequent repetition of names is confusing. There was an Andrew Gray at North Yarmouth, who enlisted in Capt. Cobb's Company, Col. Preble's Regiment (he who commanded at Fort Pownal) April 10, 1759. The year before, John and Joseph Gray were soldiers from the same town. Joshua Gray of Wells, enlisted in 1758 in Sir William Pepperell's Regiment being then twenty-two years of age. This is probably a Joshua who was born at Kittery in 1736. There was a Joshua Gray born at Yarmouth, Mass., 1743, supposed to have settled at Barnstable; Reuben Gray from New Hampshire, was a soldier in 1745; Joshua Gray was born at Harwich, Mass., 1713; Joshua Gray was born at Kittery, November 17, 1714; Capt. John Gray commanded Fort Mary, at the mouth of Saco River in 1720; Joshua Gray was a pewholder at Wells in 1767; also there was a Joshua at Saco in 1800 who was a pewholder.

None of these Grays were of our branch of the family, unless Joshua, born at Kittery, November 17, 1714. There is a *possibility* that this was the soldier of 1759 at Fort Pownal, though

if family tradition is not at fault, our ancestor Joshua was not born in New England at all, being as before stated one of "three brothers who came from England." In several families the tradition exists that he was from London.

Many volumes of English Parish Records have been printed and in nearly all the name of Gray is found. There are many in all parts of London, ranging from Lords to denizens of "Frying Pan Alley." Joshua, son of John and Elizabeth Gray, was christened at St. James Church, Clerkenwell Parish, London, September 6, 1678. No further record of him is found; but unless he had children when over seventy, was a soldier at eighty, and lived to be over a hundred, he could not have been the Joshua whose descendants have so largely peopled Hancock County.

In all the one hundred and forty-four years since the Grays came to the Penobscot there have been but few offshoots from the Hancock County settlement. Over a hundred years ago, William Gray, son of Andrew, went to Columbia, Washington County, and his descendants are numerous in several towns in that vicinity. More recently they have scattered somewhat, and Grays from Hancock County may now be found from Maine to California, and from Texas to British Columbia; but in general a marked characteristic of our race is the strong attachment to the home of our fathers. Let our President have no doubt—the old man will surely come back; the only question is—Will the young man go away? Our ancestors crossed 3,000 miles of sea to these shores—their sons cruised along the coast to the Penobscot in 1759, later paddled their log canoes up the Bagaduce to mirror-surfaced Winneway; and ever since we have betrayed a strong disposition to keep to these quiet waters—to till these familiar acres. The sons clear a corner of the home pasture—build, delve, and so prolifically multiply that in several towns around we have become the most numerous family. They marry kindred and thus perpetuate and strengthen family traits in a race always of very distinctive characteristics. When we stay too close at home we grow self-sufficient, and have nothing to learn from anybody. We forget that "He who thinks he accomplished much yesterday is doing little to-day."

If this seems a pessimistic note it is due to a belief that we

have not made the most of ourselves. Nature has not been niggardly of her gifts. The Grays are noted for iron constitutions, great longevity, and have intellectual capacity of no inferior order. In certain lines they have often developed qualities of leadership. In days gone by they were prominent as officers in the local militia. They have frequently held town offices; but have too often consented to fill a minor place, and work to elect to the more desirable one, a candidate of no greater worth but more assurance. They have sometimes served in the State Legislature; they are skilful mariners and have been successful sea captains. Whatever has required hardihood, exposure, contempt for personal danger they have been ready to undertake; but have also been prone to let the man who held back in time of stress, step forward at the distribution of rewards. They have broken the ground but let others reap the harvest.

We need to fare forth into the world—if of the right temper, friction against our fellowmen will sharpen all our faculties and enable us to cut our way to success. If we do not measure up to accepted standards—if we cannot hold our own in the rush and rivalry of the day—we must unflinchingly face the truth and patiently seek the remedy. Do we prepare our sons and daughters for successfully making their way? What was good enough for sire is *not* good enough for son. Occupations are more technical than formerly, special training is necessary, and a good general education is an essential foundation. Let us not think we are able to dispense with the aids that others find necessary—to do so is folly and that way lies disaster. Give to the boy and to the girl the well grounded confidence that comes from adequate preparation—in that be cautious—*then*

“Write on your doors the saying wise and old,
 ‘Be bold! be bold!’ and everywhere—‘be bold!
 Be not too bold!’ yet better the excess
 Than the defect; better more than less.
 Better like Hector in the field to die,
 Than like a perfumed Paris turn and fly.”

Reminiscenses

BY S. DECATOR GRAY

Reuben Gray was born in what is now the town of Castine, June 3, 1762, in the old Baron de Castin's house, and as he claimed was the first male child of English parentage born east of the Penobscot River.

His father Reuben came to that place from Fort Point together with his brothers. They took up farms where the village of Castine now is. Here they resided for a time but finally left and settled in the vicinity of what is now Walker's Pond at the head of the Bagaduce River, where they lived and died.

When the war of Independence broke out, Reuben was too young to take any active part, but with other boys used to travel through the woods to Cape Rozier and climb one of the high hills that then, as now, overlooked the surrounding country, and witness the fighting going on at Castine between the English and rebels.

After fighting ceased and the English retained possession of Castine a transport ship arrived from England loaded with supplies and anchored in the river just below the old French fort. Capts. Perry and Thomson hearing of the same conceived the plan of taking and making a prize of her. They accordingly fitted out two whale boats with twelve men each and engaged young Reuben as pilot. Starting from the carrying place on Eggemoggin Reach in the latter part of the night by daylight they arrived at Goose Falls, where they concealed their boats and ascended one of the high hills where they could see their coveted prize and all that was going on at Castine. Waiting until the lights disappeared at Castine, they reembarked and with paddles instead of oars, they silently and swiftly prepped their boats through the darkness without moon or stars into the mouth of the river.

Here everything became expectation for they knew well that a few strokes would bring them alongside of their foe. Every man was armed with a musket and cutlass and each had his work, some to rush on board and strike down the watch on deck, others to secure the companionway, and others to cut the cable and make sail, and as there was a fresh breeze blowing out of

the harbor together with a strong ebb tide everything seemed to be favorable for them to accomplish their undertaking. Silently they moved along until a dark object came into view. They then diverged one boat to board on the starboard side, the other on the port. No sooner had this move been made than they ascertained that the transport had been hauled alongside of Commodore Mowatt's ship and the hail rang out, "Who goes there?" the answer was, "Boats, bound up the Penobscot river." They were called liars and the alarm given.

Nothing daunted Capt. Perry ran his boat alongside and proceeded to board, when a broadside was delivered directly over their heads. Capt. Thomson dare not risk being taken prisoner as the English had promised him death for some former trouble he had made for them, so retreated.

Capt. Perry, seeing the hopelessness of the case recalled his men, who emptied the contents of their guns into the enemy's side and then retreated. The English kept up a brisk firing for some time but owing to the darkness none of their shots took effect. The boats leisurely proceeded down river and landed on Nautilus Island where the English had a large lot of valuable spars moored. These they cut adrift and let go to sea with fair wind and tide.

Grandfather said he was a large boy before he saw a sheep or wool of any kind, their clothing being made of tow and linen and with the aid of wild skins they managed to keep themselves comfortable in winter. He married Miss Sarah Herrick, by whom he had eleven children, Solomon, Benjamin, Abigail, Samuel, Betsey, Patience, Abner, Abner, Andrew, Reuben and Ezra, who all lived to be men and women.

In politics he was a Democrat and voted at every presidential election from George Washington to James Buchanan. In religion he was a Methodist. His eight sons were also Democrats, taking an active part in the politics of their day. They could hardly be anything else under the vigorous training of their mother, who always designated the opposite party as Torys for whom she always expressed the utmost dislike, not without a cause, for, as she always affirmed, the Torys under the direction of a neighbor by the name of Robinson, made a raid on her father's home, where after seizing and binding him, they proceeded to search the house and take such things as suited them.

Miss Herrick being then a small girl had received a few days previously, very serious and dangerous wounds from falling on a scythe and at the time was lying entirely helpless. Seeing Robinson go to a drawer where she kept some little valuables, she called him by name and requested that the things be not taken. With an oath and a kick he denied his name. The oath was harmless but the kick started the wound bleeding and she nearly bled to death before they would let her father go to her assistance; and it was only through the urgent request of one of the gang who appealed to their feelings under like circumstances that this was allowed. Is it any wonder that she carried through life the memory of this bitter night, the cruelty of which she often related to her children and grand children?

Reuben lived to be nearly ninety-six years old, retained his reason to the last, and would relate many incidents of his early life, and the hardships that had to be encountered in a wild and uncultivated country.

The forests abounded with wild animals some of a savage nature, so it was of the utmost importance that every man understand the use of firearms. In this he was very proficient and many fine moose, buck and bear have gone down before his trusty flintlock King's Arm.

The bears often made sad havoc among the stock. One very large and bold bear became so aggressive that it was decided by the few neighbors to put a stop to his depredations. They accordingly turned out with such weapons as they could muster. Mr. Gray having a long stake or pole and being stationed on the border of a salt marsh saw the bear approach with the intention of passing to the opposite side. Charging the bear with his club and running up behind, he dealt him a severe blow across the back. Bruin not liking such treatment instantly turned on his haunches and made for his adversary. In stepping back he slipped and fell; the bear came on and seized one of his legs which he lacerated horribly, Mr. Gray in the meantime kicking him with the other vigorously in the face without effect.

The situation had become serious for without any weapon, loss of blood and tremendous exertions began to tell upon him fearfully, when a very small dog belonging to him made his appearance and vigorously seized the bear by the hindquarter



S. DECATOR GRAY

which caused him to leave the leg he had been chewing and give his attention to the dog. Mr. Gray regained his feet and club and with one well directed blow over the head fell bruin to the earth never to rise again. He was laid up with his wounds six months and carried the marks of them to his grave.

After his marriage to Miss Herrick he moved into the northern part of Bluehill, where he had many more encounters with bears. Once he crept some fifteen or twenty feet into a bear's den and shot the inmate when he began to growl and show his teeth. While living there he thought he obtained the greatest victory over them by trapping. His father-in-law who lived on the borders of Camp Stream, Sedgwick, sent word to him that bears were killing all his sheep and wanted him to come and set traps for them. He went and set several. This was early in the fall and before winter came on he captured sixteen large bears. I have been with him and seen him make and set these traps which would be a curiosity to many of the present day.

He was a man of medium height, deep blue eyes, light hair, broad high forehead and fine cut features. He was very calm and mild as a general thing, but when aroused was quick and active—a stranger to fear—and capable of doing much in a short time.

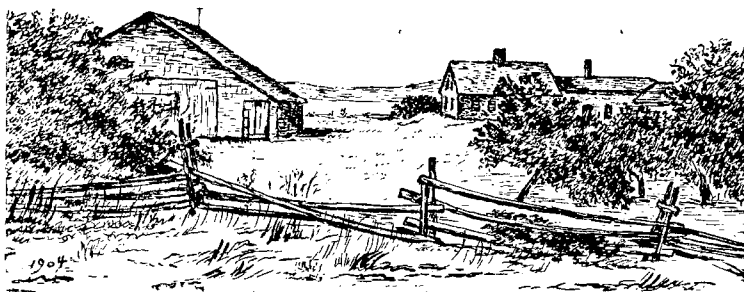
Solomon, the oldest son of Reuben, was of medium height, light complexion and good features. He was a Baptist in religion, democrat in politics, and farmer and millman by occupation. Steady and industrious in his habits he aspired to make his home pleasant and its inmates happy. In this he was successful, always making a good living and leaving quite a little for his family. He spent the most of his time at home cultivating and improving his farm, and operating his saw-mill, located at the outlet of Camp Stream. He was quite interested in the affairs of the country but took no active part, other than to vote for his favorite candidate.

Benjamin, the second son was of a very different make-up from his older brother. He had a firm determination to go ahead—would call no man master and was better fitted to lead than to be led. Always on the lookout for financial gain however poor the opportunity, he together with his brother Andrew, engaged in land-buying and ship-building, soon outstripping the rest of the family in this respect. He was a fine looking

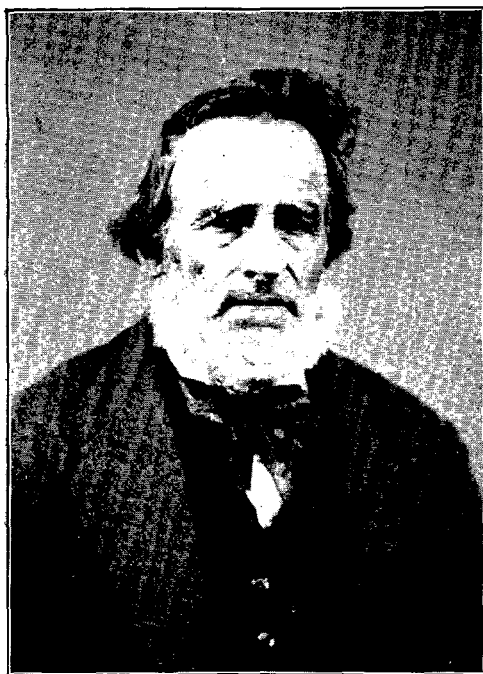
man. He served his town in many ways and once was sent by his district to represent them in the State Legislature. In his early manhood he was a Methodist, but became a Universalist in later years.

Samuel was a farmer but was much given to gunning. Of a rather flighty disposition, yet he managed his farm with care and thrift, and troubled himself but little about the outside world. He was an adherent to the Methodist faith, in which he died—the first of the family to go.

Abner, too was a farmer, but in his younger days followed the sea somewhat. He inherited from his mother a rather impetuous disposition and it was not always prudent to cross him—the men who could successfully do so being scarce indeed. Yet he was tender-hearted, and generous to a fault. He took great interest in military affairs and rose to the mark of Lieut.-Colonel in the Militia of the day [He held commissions successively as Ensign, Lieutenant, Major, Lieut.-Colonel and lastly as Captain of a Company of Cavalry. He at one time conducted a granite business at South Brooksville, was owner in part or whole of several small vessels, and held various town offices. First a Methodist, he later became a Universalist.]



Andrew the fifth son possessed a well balanced head but being without the necessary education was debarred from using the world as he otherwise would. He was married when only



ABNER GRAY

eighteen, but before he was twenty-five had built a house and barn and an eighth of a large coasting vessel called the Maine, and a fourth of another, the Cadiz. Notwithstanding his lack of education he was an original and deep thinker, with a quick comprehensive mind. He was a great home body but was always posted on what was going on in the country; always looking on the bright side and hoping for the best he made a success of life.

Stephen, physically the stoutest and smartest of the brothers lost his wife early in life, after which his ambition and interest in practical affairs lessened. He was a strong Methodist and after this misfortune came to the conclusion that earthly affairs were of minor importance. Notwithstanding Nature had done so much for him he let his faculties degenerate for the want of cultivation.

Reuben was of a lively, cheerful disposition, interested in the world and would have traveled had his means permitted. He took great interest in Military affairs and as Colonel made a fine appearance on horseback at the head of a regiment of the State Militia, his commands ringing out far over the field in clearest tones. He was a fairly successful farmer who made a comfortable living.

Ezra, the youngest of the family was also the best educated. He was a very handsome boy, quick to learn and a fine mechanic. He had a good ear for music, which was rather a characteristic of the family. He was given to making rhymes and one of his productions on the defeat of Gov. Huntoon of Reedfield, I recall, though only a child at the time.

Hark! from Reedfield a doleful sound—
 Mine ears attend the cry;
 Gov. Huntoon is in the ditch,
 By your mistake must die.
 You brought him to the Council Board,
 And what a blushing shame!
 You told the people he was fit
 For Governor of Maine;
 You struck a vowel from his name,
 A letter to hunt on;
 You spread deception through the State
 And lodged it with Hunton;
 But when the sovereign people said

Huntoon should never rule,
 You trampled on their sacred rights
 And made the man your tool.
 But retribution rolling on—
 A glorious day for Maine—
 With ballot boxes, not with sword,
 The *Federalist* was slain.

Letters

GALVESTON, TEXAS, Aug. 13, 1903.

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen, and all my Kinsmen,
 GREETING,—

I am very sorry, it is so I cannot be with you on this memorable occasion. It would be the delight of my heart to greet once again my uncles, my cousins, and my aunts, especially my cousins. I used to think no better cousins ever lived. I loved them then; I love them still.

Although I am getting along in years, I feel as though I would enjoy skating, sliding down and walking back, and sleigh-riding, and running the toll bridge across the old Bagaduce River, as well as ever.

I expect Uncle Billy is still wondering who those reckless people were who did him out of fifty cents.

If we never meet again this side the river, I hope to meet you all in Heaven. Good-bye all.

L. R. GRAY.

ALDEN STATION, ALAMEDA CO., CAL.,

August 9, 1903.

To all Friends assembled at the Gray Reunion,—

I have been requested, although 3,000 miles away, to send you a few lines of greeting, to let you know that I still live and have not forgotten the land of my birth.

In June, 1864, I left with my dear companion to find a new home in the far west, leaving behind all my dear relatives and friends. At that time our country was engaged in the blood-



MARTIN L. GRAY

jest conflict that history has ever recorded. All of this we have survived.

On the old meadow opposite the spot on which you propose to celebrate, I have spent many an evening skating.

In my mind's eye I see things and faces as they were forty years ago when I left. Retrace those steps and what would meet the eye—changes on every hand. My dear father gone, my brother in the far south—dear sister only, left of the family.

Glad to learn of the welfare of my dear friend Nathaniel A. Gray, for with him I spent more of my time than any other one. To him I am indebted more than to anyone else, for what education I may have gotten. I especially send greeting to him.

To the younger cousins who are to take the place of the older ones in the business affairs of the country,—Keep up the standard of honesty, sobriety, and integrity that was inculcated in those who have preceded you.

Here the State of Maine man is found in every branch of business, and always in the lead.

We have a State of Maine picnic every spring, and have fine reunions, but I have never met anyone that I knew at home. Now I hope you will keep up these gatherings and turn them to the general welfare.

My business prevents my being with you on the occasion of the Reunion.

With the best of wishes to you all, I remain a bona-fide Gray, representative of the Old Guard.

MARTIN L. GRAY.

Address

BY REV. CLIFTON M. GRAY, OF CHARLESTON, S. C.

MR. PRESIDENT, RELATIVES AND FRIENDS,—

I wish to say to this audience at the start, that I have no ambition on this occasion to make myself immortal by being eternal. But your President has set my bounds. In one hand he holds his watch, and the Lord only knows what he holds in the other to enforce his warning that the length of my speech shall be but five minutes. It is better of course, considering

the lateness of the hour, that I should be so limited, but I cannot help feeling much the same as the temperance orator, who complained that five minutes was all too short for an address on "The Evils of Alcohol," when he was so "full of the subject."

In these few moments allotted me I wish briefly to set forth three important features of these gatherings. In the first place there is a social significance which ought not to be overlooked. It was, I think, Socrates who said that a man who loved solitude—who did not meet and mingle with his fellow-man must either be a demon or a beast, and sociologists tell us that those races that have developed the highest social instincts, are the most civilized and progressive, while those that have been exclusive have advanced but little beyond barbarism. Friendliness, kindness, and co-operation all grow out of people getting together on such occasions as this. I am proud to say that the Grays as a family have one characteristic that is very commendable, and that is, they are as a whole a social, hospitable people. I have yet to discover a man or woman bearing the name of Gray, to whose table a stranger is unwelcome. As I listened to the interesting address of our historian, I did not hear him say, that he had discovered our family coat-of-arms, but when he does find it, it will I am sure have for some of its symbols something to represent the fact that our latchstring hangs on the outside, and that there is always room for one more in the circle of our home.

Closely related to and growing out of these meetings is an educational factor which cannot be over-estimated. The day we have spent here together has had for its object, not only to bring us into closer contact with each other that we might renew old friendships, and cement more firmly our family ties, but to stimulate an interest in our family history. We owe a great debt of gratitude to the careful, pains-taking investigation of our historian. His aim is a far higher attempt than to find some possible connection between our name and the name of those who have worn crowns and titles. His work has been that of an honest investigator, who seeks to know the truth, who believes that the facts will be of more value to us than any amount of traditional hearsay, no matter how flattering it sounds. He has this afternoon hewn straight to the line.



REV. CLIFTON M. GRAY

He has told us that our forefathers were plain, honest, hard working people who earned their daily bread by the sweat of their brows; that they were among the first of those brave pioneers who laid the foundation of civic and religious freedom in America.

We should be proud to know that we are descendants of a people, no matter how humble their origin, who have done something of permanent worth for the world. Nothing could make us more ashamed of our ancestors, though they bear a thousand titles, than to realize that they lived upon the fruits of other men's endeavors. Abraham Lincoln said that God must love common people, he made so many of them. God be praised for Abraham Lincoln! one of nature's noblemen, a son of the common people, who rose from the ranks by his own exertions, who lived and died that a government of the people and for the people should not perish from the earth.

The address of our historian this afternoon is valuable, not only for the amount of historical data presented, but it has psychological significance, which to me seems the most important of all, and this leads me to the third and last division of my address, which for a better name I will call the value of analysis or self examination.

Now among other important lessons to be drawn from this gathering is that which comes from examining the traits and characteristics shown by our family history. It is well for us to discover if we can our strong and weak points, that we may cast out the chaff and preserve the wheat. We have already learned that we are descended from sturdy pioneers, endowed with a goodly share of plain, common sense and rugged honesty,—who, like Abraham of old, went forth into a strange country, not knowing whither they went. But we have been reminded that the sour grapes of adventure in which our fathers indulged have not set their children's teeth on edge; that our most glaring fault is inertia; that we lack personal initiative; that we are too prone to travel in the paths laid out by those who have gone before. If this is true then we should try to correct it; we should examine ourselves and if timidity is our sin, then let us obey the command which Jesus, two thousand years ago gave to his disciples: "Push out into the deep,"—out of the shallows of land-locked opinions and customs; out of

I cannot conceive of one who is not interested in his family descent and in the toils, hardships and privations of those who toiled not for themselves alone, but for those who should come after them to reap the fruits of their labor. Our ancestors, who settled this eastern country with its unproductive soil, cleared the forests, built homes, and gave to their children and descendants a better start in life than they themselves had, and did their part in building up our grand State of Maine, and also in the development of our great nation, deserve our heartfelt thanks and should receive our cheerful admiration. Let none of us be counted lacking in appreciation of the deeds and heroic acts of our sires; but rather let us joy to do them honor on all suitable occasions, and when gathered for that purpose, to drink in the inspiration that comes therefrom.

"Honor thy father and thy mother," is a divine command, in obedience to which one is repaid with joyous satisfaction, which the disobedient can never feel, nor ever know.

You are greatly indebted to your chief speaker to-day, the gentleman from Haverhill, Mass., who by much painstaking and study has brought to you as a harmonious whole, the isolated and widely scattered parts of your family history, which he has related in your hearing and which, perhaps, without his aid you never would have known. To one not familiar with the amount and kind of labor, it would be difficult to realize the earnest thought he has given to the subject, the authorities and records he has consulted, and the numberless letters and enquiries he has written and made to acquire the facts he has laid before you. Such facts do not volunteer to put in an appearance when wanted, but must be diligently sought for by painstaking investigation; and often much labor of that nature comes to naught before the reliable and desired information is obtained.

It would be desirable for every community to form family reunion societies like this to become a yearly event to be looked forward to with pleasurable anticipation, and where local and family history may be talked of and gathered for the benefit of all interested, and add to the store of historical knowledge and to the enjoyment of all in attendance.

The Gray Family Reunion has been well begun—keep it up and don't be weary in well-doing.

Biographical Sketches

OTIS LITTLEFIELD, M. D.

Dr. Otis Littlefield was born in West Sedgwick, Sept. 29, 1861. He attended the town schools, Bluehill Academy, and Bucksport Seminary. His degree of M. D. is from Bowdoin College, 1885. After practicing his profession for several years in the South and West, he established himself at Bluehill where he has been in active practice since 1889.

He is a member of Ira Berry Lodge No. 185, F. and A. M., of Bluehill, and served as W. M. for three years, of Minnewaukon R. A. Chapter of Sedgwick, and other fraternal orders. He served four years as U. S. Pension Examiner at Bucksport, during the second Cleveland Administration, and was a delegate to the Democratic National Convention at Kansas City in 1900. He is a ready speaker in Conventions and other gatherings.

Dr. Littlefield is a trustee of Bluehill Academy, President of the Bluehill Historical Society, and of the Gray Family Association, which owes much of its success to his interest and enthusiasm.

He is known not only as one of the most successful physicians in the County, but as a broad-minded, cultivated gentleman, interested in all that tends toward good citizenship and the uplifting and advancement of the community in which he lives.

His mother was a daughter of the late Asa H. Gray, of West Sedgwick and his wife Lorana, whose mother also was a Gray.

Mrs. Littlefield was Miss Mary O. Saunders of Gloucester, Mass., and they have four children.

CAPT. ALVARADO GRAY

Capt. Alvarado Gray was born October 9, 1848, in Brooksville, son of S. D. Gray, Esq. In the spring of 1861, when but twelve years of age, he made his first trip to the Grand Banks of Newfoundland, and continued going as hand until the winter of 1868, when he was given command of the fishing schooner Abby H. Swazey of Gloucester, Mass., in which he sailed for



CAPT. ALVARADO GRAY

the Grand Banks after fresh halibut. He made the unusually quick trip of twenty-three days, returning with a full load of fish.

Capt. Gray sailed as master of fishing vessels for ten years, until 1878, commanding successively, the schooners Abby H. Swazey, Henry L. Phillips, George Clark, Lottie F. Babson, Knight Templar and Plymouth Rock. During this time he became acquainted with the Grand Banks in all seasons. He was always remarkably successful, never failing to bring in a full load of fish, and making very quick trips.

Tiring of the fishing business, in 1879, he took command of the coasting vessel Annie Whiting, later sailing the Kate Wentworth, the Hope Haynes, and lastly the Emma S. Briggs. In 1894 he retired from the sea with a record unmarred by any shipwreck or disaster, and without ever having made an unsuccessful trip.

Capt. Gray was married July 19, 1868, to Miss Flora Gray, daughter of Mr. Chelcias Gray, a well known and highly respected citizen of Penobscot.

They have two children, Irving N., who was educated at the Seminary at Bucksport from which he graduated in 1892, now a salesman for the Rufus Deering Co., Portland; and Edith M., educated at the State Normal School, Castine, from which she graduated in 1896, a successful teacher in Millbury, Mass.

Capt. Gray's home has always been at Cape Rozier where he now resides.

DR. ROLAND J. WASGATT

Dr. Roland J. Wasgatt is the youngest of the four children of Charles W. and Margaret Gray Wasgatt. He was born at North Ellsworth, March 9, 1873, where he lived on a farm and attended school until fourteen years old, when he entered the Seminary at Bucksport. For the next five years he alternately taught school, worked on the farm and attended the Seminary from which he graduated in 1892, at the age of nineteen. He taught the following year, and entered the Hahnemann Medical College, Philadelphia in the autumn of 1893, graduating in 1896. During his college course he was assistant in the office of Herbert L. Northrop, M. D., Professor of Anatomy in the

College. On his graduation he secured, by competitive examination, the appointment as House Surgeon in Hahnemann Medical College Hospital, where he remained a year, and then began private practice in Union, Me. After a year at Union he moved to Rockland, in 1898, where he has practiced medicine and surgery for the last six years.

Overwork making a rest necessary, in the winter of 1903, Dr. Wasgatt made a trip to Porto Rico, returning via New Orleans and the South.

He has also taken a post graduate hospital course in New York.

Dr. Wasgatt has a double share of the Gray blood, his mother's father being John, son of Abner, son of the soldier Reuben, and her mother, Eliza, daughter of Solomon, son of Reuben, son of Reuben.

He has two brothers, Chas. R., holding a government position in the Navy yard at Kittery, and Vernon, who is in a bank at Bar Harbor. A widowed sister lives with the doctor and his mother at Rockland. Two of the family were educated at the Normal school at Castine, two at Bucksport Seminary, and all taught school for a while.

THOMAS BALDWIN GRANT

BY GEORGE A. MERRILL

Dr. Thomas B. Grant was a man of simple tastes and virtuous deeds. To him the essentials of happiness were an upright, useful life and contentment with one's lot. He used to say that it was sacrilegious for a person to complain of his lot if he had enough to eat, even though it were mainly potatoes and salt. Nor was this the mere dictum of a man who had not experienced his share of hardship. I know but little of his career before marriage, except that he learned the trade of ship-caulking, worked in the lime-kilns at Rockland, Me., and followed the sea to some extent, but from my mother, his oldest child, I learned something of the burden he carried for a number of years thereafter. Off the shore of Maine, opposite Blue Hill on one extreme and North Brooklin on the other, is Long Island. Here he was engaged, not long after his marriage, in the occupation of burning kelp for iodine. The work was la-



THOMAS BALDWIN GRANT.

borious, food was scarce, and other necessities of life were none too plentiful. When the family removed to the mainland, a few miles distant, their household effects were transported in a rowboat. The rock they landed on (the first point east of the steamboat wharf at Brooklin) and the very unpretentious house in which they took up their residence, were shown to me by my mother in evidence of the little they had to be contented with at that time. Just before removing from Long Island to the mainland, misfortune had come to them through the death of the two infant sons, leaving only a daughter, to whom was afterwards added another daughter and a son. These three grew up and reared families.

That was about 1845. He remained in Brooklin ten years or so, and became one of the leading citizens of this little community. He resided most of the time in that part of Brooklin adjacent to Sedgwick, then known as the Birch-land and now called North Brooklin. While there he followed his trade, ship-caulking, but made occasional voyages and engaged in trading to some extent.

From Brooklin he removed to Surry in 1854, thence to Frankfort and back to Surry, engaging in voyaging and trading as his principal occupation. During the Civil war he located at Cape Elizabeth, now South Portland, where he was the first postmaster, soon after 1870. In 1875 he removed to California, whither his oldest daughter had gone a year or two before. Throughout his life he had studied homeopathy with his characteristic earnestness, and in that line he was a successful practitioner both at Cape Elizabeth and in California. He died of pneumonia at San Francisco, May 26, 1891, at the age of 77 years. He was hale and hearty, but exposed himself by answering night calls in inclement weather. [Among his papers he left a number of memoranda containing much information in the nature of vital statistics concerning his people. It was largely due to his thoughtfulness that the members of the family now living have been able to trace our ancestors of colonial times.]

In stature he was not above the average, but was broad in body—though not to be called fleshy. He walked with a long, noticeable stride, bending forward at the hips. He had prominent cheek bones. His eyes were blue; his nose slightly aquiline.

line. He wore a full beard, except that he shaved his upper lip. That clean lip, expressive of his great firmness of character, and revealing a well-formed mouth, was perhaps his most characteristic feature. In his younger manhood he had worn a mustache, but once when it had become frozen he summarily removed it and vowed never to be "pestered" with such a useless thing.

In temperament he was sunny and happy, but extremely sensitive. He would brood for days over some trifling slight or discourtesy to which he would imagine he had been subjected. He was as tender-hearted and sympathetic as he was sensitive. When the once popular song "Pulling Hard Against the Stream" made its appearance, he heard it for the first time at a circus. He listened with tears streaming down his face. "That" he said, "exactly fits my brother; he's a good man, an able man, thrifty, provident and deserving, but misfortune has always followed him, and he's always 'pulling hard against the stream.' " He was a man of positive convictions, but he used for defense shafts of wit rather than invective or abuse. I remember that he disliked rice as a food, and he advised one of his grandsons, age 12, not to eat it, asserting with outward show of seriousness that a person could live three weeks without eating anything, but could live only two weeks if ate nothing but rice.

He was the oldest of nine children, the sons and daughters of Francis Grant and Mercy Gray. It may be that this seniority is in a way responsible for the way he is looked up to by all members of the family, but I am more inclined to think that it was his powerful personality and his eminently worthy character that earned for him the respect and veneration of all who called him "Uncle Thomas."

GEORGE A. MERRILL

George A. Merrill was born at Fort Preble, Cape Elizabeth, Maine, September 9, 1866, the youngest child of Henry F. Merrill and his wife Aurelia M. Grant, daughter of Thomas B. Grant. Soon after his birth the family moved to Boston, and in 1873 to California.

After devoting some time to a classical education he entered



GEORGE ARTHUR MERRILL.

the University of California where he took a course in mechanical engineering, graduating in 1888.

The same year he began teaching in the Cogswell Polytechnic College, San Francisco, of which institution he became principal in 1892. In 1894 he was made principal of the California School of Mechanical Arts, and in 1900 also Director of the Wilmerding School of Industrial Arts. He prepared the plans for the buildings of the former institution, and also mapped out its course of study.

Outside of his duties at the head of these two schools he has found time to write a number of text books on mechanics and similar subjects.

Mr. Grant has shown much interest in his Gray ancestors, and his aid and encouragement have helped greatly in the preparation of this pamphlet.

He was married at San Diego, California, June 11, 1895, to Miss Sarah E. McKie, and they have three children,—Grant, Aurelia Maria, and Ernest Nathaniel.

LOUIS FREEMAN GRAY

The following is condensed from the Herald, Transcript, and other Boston papers:

"Louis Freeman Gray, for many years the executive clerk of the Boston public library, and for some years practically the librarian, before the appointment of Herbert Putnam, died Sunday, August 24, 1902.

"Mr. Gray came from a long line of distinguished ancestors, his forefathers having been prominent in colonial and revolutionary days. He was born in Bluehill, Me., June 23, 1858. His father commanded for twenty-five years a clipper-ship, plying between New Orleans, Liverpool, and at times the Mediterranean ports.

"After the civil war the family moved to Boston. Young Gray attended the Franklin school, where he took one of the Brimmer prizes, and then entered Harvard, which he left to enter the Public Library.

"Mr. Gray will be best remembered from his work in the Public Library, where he worked for twenty-five years, beginning at one of the lowest rungs of the ladder, and all but reaching the

highest point—that of actual librarian. He organized the printing, binding and cataloging department of the library. He invented the card system of indexing now in use at that institution and planned the quick, easy moving of books from the old to the new building that astonished most folk. He outlined and put into effect the great system of branch libraries, and thus brought every portion of the city in touch with the central library, and incidentally with the main object for which the library was started—the people.

“He had done much work, too, in connection with private libraries, such as the Porcynian and Linonian, at Harvard and Yale, respectively. He had been in newspaper work for several years, being on the “Boston Post.” He was a member of the Cadet corps.”

While what the world calls a brilliant man, he yet lacked something of the persistence necessary to carry to completion that upon which he would embark with zeal. At one time leader of a circle of clever young men, he, lacking the patience for plodding, unceasing effort, finally saw many of them surpass him by the exercise of these slow habits of industry. Yet he showed great force and courage to reach the high position which he attained.

There was in him the possibility of a scientific man of great promise. He early had a passion for Chemistry, and possessing the distinctly mathematical mind might have been a civil engineer. Eccentric, often shy and moody, sometimes taxing the loyalty of his friends,—witty, clever, the centre of every gathering of his associates—of that bohemian nature which made the luxuries of life of more account than its necessities,

“It is not ours to separate
The tangled skein of will and fate,
To show what metes and bounds should stand
Upon the soul’s debatable land,
And between choice and Providence
Divide the circle of events.”

CAPT. MARK GRAY

Capt. Gray was born at Cape Rozier, June 14, 1837, the youngest child of Jesse Gray, son of the soldier James. He



LOUIS FREEMAN GRAY

went to Bucksport when a boy and always made that town his home. He died August 17, 1898. Besides a wife he left one son, Hugh Ross, of Boston, and two daughters, Mrs. Alice Flint, of Spokane, Wash., and Mrs. Annie Nicholson, of Bucksport.

Capt. Gray was one of the best known sea captains on the Atlantic coast and during his active career was noted for his enterprise and daring. It is estimated that Capt. Gray sailed, built or owned no less than a hundred different vessels and at the time of his death had an interest in a dozen or more.

He represented Bucksport for one session in the state legislature and was always active in the business of the port.

CAPT. JASPER N. GRAY

Jasper N. Gray was born in Sedgwick, Dec. 1, 1833, a son of Abner Gray, (son of Reuben 2nd, son of Reuben) and his wife Betsey Stanley. The family removed to Brooksville when he was a child and his education was received in the district schools of that town. At the age of sixteen he began learning the joiner's trade at Ellsworth, but attended school winters and later taught.

He married Miss Lizzie J. Smith of Ellsworth and had three children.

In 1862 he was prominent in a movement for raising a company of volunteers for a term of nine months, and in October of that year was commissioned Captain of Co. C., 26th Maine Regiment. The Regiment left Bangor, Oct. 23, for Washington, thence to Alexandria, Fortress Munro, Newport News, and New Orleans, where they were quarantined on account of small pox.

Capt. Gray's Journal containing an almost daily record of his army life is very interesting reading. Under date of April 14th there is an account of his only battle, a skirmish in which one man of his Company was killed and ten wounded. His hat was pierced by a rifle ball, and another grazed his neck; but the climate of Southern Louisiana was to be more deadly than Rebel bullets. Characteristic of his thoughtfulness is his last letter to his wife, written April 21st, on the last remaining

sheet of the supply given him by her when he left Ellsworth. In it he makes no mention of ill health but the tone is cheerful, enthusiastic and with counsel to her to be of good courage; though his Journal shows that he was feeble and a little later despairing of ever again seeing home. The last entry is as follows:—"May 6th. I must give up! God be merciful to my dear family at home." He died, May 10, 1863, in the hospital at Brashear. His men by whom he was sincerely mourned, marked his burial place with an oaken slab bearing the name and rank of their leader; but a little later the tide of battle swept over the spot, obliterating all memorials of the dead, and he sleeps as do thousands,—none of whom gave their lives more freely—in an unmarked, unknown grave on a southern battlefield.

REV. H. W. NORTON

Harry W. Norton was born in Belfast, Me., December 4, 1854. When four years old Penobscot became his home; there he attended the common schools and later the Seminary at Bucksport, from which he graduated in 1881. In '84 he entered the Ministry of the M. E. Church, joined the East Maine Conference on probation in '85, and completing the Conference course of study was ordained Elder in that denomination in 1888, having been ordained Deacon the previous year.

His appointments have been as follows:—1884-'85, Gouldsboro and Steuben; '86-'88, Orland and West Penobscot; '89-'91, Winterport; '92-'97, Presiding Elder, Bucksport District; '98-'01, Searsport; '02-'04, Dover and Foxcroft.

He is a member of the Board of Trustees of the E. M. C. Seminary at Bucksport; Secretary of the Board of Conference Trustees; Secretary of Northport Wesleyan Grove Camp Meeting Association and of the Piscataquis Valley Camp Meeting Association; Vice President of the Conference Missionary Society, and was first Reserve Delegate to the General Conference that convened at Los Angeles, Cal., in May 1904.

He was married, July 18, 1881 to Miss Flora M. Pratt of Benton, Me., and they have three sons, Harold F., Raymond P., and Bela W.

Rev. Mr. Norton is another having a double share of Gray



CAPT. JASPER N. GRAY

blood, his father being Noah F. Norton, a well-known citizen of Penobscot, whose mother was Elizabeth, daughter of Samuel Gray mentioned elsewhere as born 1750; and his mother a daughter of William Eastman, whose wife was Hannah Gray, daughter of Joseph, a son of Samuel.

SAMUEL L. BATES, ESQ.

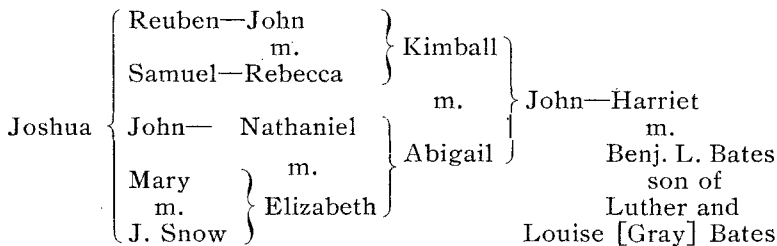
FROM "ALBUM OF THE ATTORNEYS OF MAINE."

"Samuel L., son of Benjamin L. and Harriet Ann (Gray) Bates, was born in Van Buren, Michigan, November 14, 1865. Attended common schools and Eastern State Normal School, Castine, Maine, graduating June, 1890; admitted to the bar in 1894 and is practicing in Portland. Being a Democrat in a strong Republican city and county, Mr. Bates has never held an elective office, but has several times been supported by his party for city and county offices. He has served several years as chairman of the city and also of the county democratic committees, and is well-known during political campaigns as a Democratic writer and speaker."

He taught common and High schools successfully before beginning the practice of law.

To Mr. Bates probably belongs the distinction of possessing more Gray blood than can be claimed by any person outside his family, he being descended from three certainly, and probably from four of the children of the first Joshua, while his father's mother was a Gray of another branch of the family whose connection, if any, with those of Hancock County, is unknown.

The following diagram shows the descent from Joshua:



There is a tradition that Elizabeth Snow was an *adopted* child, but if so she may have been the child of one of Mrs. Snow's sisters.

Brief Mention

Alexander McCaslin, a veteran of the Revolutionary War, whose wife was Abigail Gray, daughter of the first Reuben, served during the War of 1812, with his *four sons*, Adam, Andrew, James and Reuben.

John and Aaron, sons of Samuel Gray, brother of Mrs. McCaslin, were also in that war, and John was killed at Plattsburg.

Capt. John Gray, son of Nathaniel, son of John, was a soldier in the War of 1812, serving on the northern frontier where he was slightly wounded. He returned and became a well-known citizen of Deer Isle, representing his district in the State Legislature in 1844. Jeremiah Gray of Deer Isle, born 1802, grandson of the settler Andrew, was long in the naval service of his country, but is supposed to have lost his life in the Seminole War in Florida.

The "bloodless Arqostook War" had a victim in Sewall Gray, grandson of James, killed on the march, soon after leaving home. Of those who served during the Civil War, the list is too lengthy to be presented here.

Opposite this page are given pictures of Mrs. Lucy Spofford Fuller, daughter of Sarah J. Gray, (born January 26, 1815, daughter of Samuel Gray,) and her husband Joseph Spofford. Mrs. Fuller has never known her mother's people, her mother dying when she was a child, and her home being in New Hampshire and Massachusetts. The pictures were taken at intervals of some forty years. She has long lived in Haverhill, Mass., and it is a pleasure to make this late introduction.

During the Revolutionary War there were *one hundred eighty* enlistments of Grays into the service of Massachusetts alone, none being of the Hancock County branch. There were seven enlistments of Joshuas--and allowing for re-enlistments were five or six different persons of that name. Polk's Medical Register for 1904 shows that in the United States and Canada there are one hundred seventy-four regular physicians bearing the name of Gray. None are from Hancock County.

The cut on page 34 represents the house in which Reuben Gray, his wife Sarah, and son Abner died. It was also long the home of his son Andrew.

It is improbable that the hastily prepared records presented in this pamphlet are wholly free from error, and it is hoped that any noted may be brought to the attention of the compiler.

August 12, 1904.



MRS. LUCY M. (SPOFFORD) FULLER

