

A
Narrative History
of the
Harrington Family

in Worcester, Massachusetts

BY
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WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS
1963

Genealogy Chart of the Harrington Family

Robert ¹ Harrington 1616 - 1707 England Watertown	Susan George 1632 - 1694 Watertown
Edward ² Harrington 1668 - 1736 Watertown Waltham	Mary Ockington (1) Anna Bullard (2) 1669 - 1725 Waltham Waltham
Francis ³ Harrington 1709 - 1793 Watertown Worcester	Prudence Stearns (1) Deborah Brigham (2) 1713 1751 1715 1799 Watertown Worcester Worcester
Nathaniel ⁴ Harrington 1742 - 1831 Worcester Worcester	Ruth Stone 1718 1817 Watertown Worcester
Francis ⁵ Harrington 1777 - 1841 Worcester Worcester	Lydia Perry 1778 1869 Worcester Worcester
Daniel ⁶ Harrington 1802 - 1863 Worcester Worcester	Charissa Gray 1809 1885 Worcester Worcester
Hon. Francis Alfred ⁷ Harrington 1846 - 1922 Worcester Worcester	Roxanna M. Grout (1) Lillia D. Leighton (2) 1850 - 1900 1852 - 1924 Spencer Worcester Augusta, Me. Worcester
May Emily ⁸ Harrington - James P. Gray 1878 -	
Charles A. ⁸ Harrington 1874 - 1963 Worcester Worcester	Luella Crook (1) - Ethel Ford (2) 1872 - 1941 1890 - 1957 Columbus, O. Worcester Martha's Vineyard
	Frank C. ⁸ Harrington 1876 - Worcester
	Leora Leighton 1879 - Pepperell

Charles Arthur⁸ Harrington 1871 Worrester 1863 Worrester 1872 Columbia, O. 1911 Worrester 1880 Martha's Vineyard

Louella Crook (1) 1872 Columbia, O. 1911 Worrester 1880 Martha's Vineyard

Ednah Ford (2) 1880 Martha's Vineyard 1914 Miami, Fla.

Warren Aldrich Ellsworth III
1860- Worrester, Mass.
Valerie Harrington Ellsworth
1862- Hartford, Conn.
Christie Ann Ellsworth
1864- Hartford, Conn.

Warren A. Ellsworth
1861- Worrester
Nancy Cushing Ellsworth
1866- Worrester, Mass.
Joyce Ellsworth
1868- Worrester, Mass.

David Harrington Ellsworth
1870- Worrester, Mass.
Camilla Ruth Carlson
1871- Springfield, Mass.

Warren Aldrich Ellsworth, Jr.
1878- Worrester, Mass.
Ann Patricia Partridge
1877- Suffield, Conn.

Robert Howard Wetzel
1837- Buffalo, N.Y.
Mark Robert Wetzel
1861 Boston, Mass.
Laura Anne Wetzel
1862 Boston, Mass.

George Harrington McEvoy
1838- Worrester, Mass.
George A. McEvoy
1889 Toronto, Can.

Harvey Conant Peterson
1840- Washington, D.C.
Christopher Carl Peterson
1861 Middlebury, Vt.

Francis Alfred¹⁹ Harrington, Jr.
1836- Worrester, Mass.
James Harley Harrington
1839- Worrester, Mass.

Francis A.²⁰ Harrington
1860- Worrester
Francis A.²¹ Harrington
1860- Worrester

Frank Chester⁸ Harrington
1876 Worrester

Leora Leighton
1879 Pepperell

Robert D.² Harrington
1863 -
Worrester

Anne V. Harrington (1)
1868 - 1861
Worrester

Mary A. (Halgood)
Montgomery (2)
1866 - Bradford, Pa.

Joseph C. Molder
1890 Columbus, Ga.

Frank L.¹ Harrington
1862- Worrester

Louise Conin
1864 -
Worrester

Robert Dudley¹⁸ Harrington, Jr.
1832- Worrester, Mass.

George Chester¹⁰ Harrington
1839- Worrester, Mass.

Thomas Barth¹⁰ Harrington
1831- Worrester, Mass.

Frank Leighton¹⁵ Harrington III
1855- Albuquerque, N. Mex.
Brooks Chester¹¹ Harrington
1857- Albuquerque, N. Mex.
Andrew Heathman¹⁶ Harrington
1860- Worrester, Mass.

Louise Harper Harrington
1838- Milford, Conn.
Thomas Barth¹¹ Harrington, Jr.
1859- Stamford, Conn.
Jonathan Eaton¹¹ Harrington
1862- Stamford, Conn.

Roxanna Louise Harrington
1830- Worrester, Mass.

John Mote Stevenson
1830- Cincinnati, Ohio

Frank Earl Stevenson II
1855- Cincinnati, Ohio
John Mote Stevenson, Jr.
1857- Cincinnati, Ohio
Any Louise Stevenson
1859- Cincinnati, Ohio

Frank Leighton¹⁵ Harrington, Jr.
1828- Cambridge, Mass.

Joseph Leighton Molder
1832- Worrester, Mass.

Elizabeth Birky McElroy
1833- Providence, R.I.

Marjorie Birky Molder
1862- New York, N.Y.

Alan David Baird
1825- Lapeer, Mich.

Sarah Anne Harrington
1836- Worrester, Mass.

Susan Lilla Baird
1853- Ithaca, N.Y.

David Alton Baird
1855- Ithaca, N.Y.

Margaret Louise Baird
1864- Arlington, Mass.

Martha Lara Baird
1862- Concord, Mass.

Frederick W. Mosher
1894- Rosindale

Alan Whitecomb Mosher
1831- Worrester, Mass.

Steven Harrington Molder
1860- New York, N.Y.

Mary Lou Molder
1829- Worrester, Mass.

Anna G. Harrington
1866- Worrester

PREFACE

The writer of this historical and genealogical narrative of the Harrington family presents it, confident that whatever are its merits or faults they will be recognized and properly estimated.

No effort at elaboration has been attempted, but a plain and concise statement of facts in chronological order, compiled from old town and courthouse records of the early settlers up to the present day.

Errors in some particulars may have occurred, but from the pains and labor which have been employed to guard against them, it is believed that they are few and unimportant.

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A NARRATIVE HISTORY
OF THE HARRINGTON FAMILY
In Worcester, Massachusetts

I.

ROBERT HARRINGTON, 1616-1707

ROBERT HARRINGTON, the first of the pioneer Harrington family to come to America, was born in England in the year 1616, and embarking from Ipswich at the age of eighteen, came to Boston in the ship *Elizabeth* on April 10, 1634.

He was one of that pious and hardy group of Puritans who settled here to seek the religious liberty denied them during the reigns of James the First and Charles the First of England. He located in Watertown, Massachusetts, where he lived with Deacon Thomas Hastings for the next eight years. This Deacon Thomas Hastings, who had arrived on the same ship in 1634 and had been granted six acres of land by the General Court, must have been either a relative or a generous benefactor, for he gave his homestead to Robert Harrington as a gift in 1642. By that time, Thomas Hastings had acquired another farm and several other small grants of land.

Watertown at the time comprised all of what is now Watertown, Waltham, Weston and part of Lincoln, and was founded in the latter part of 1630 by Sir Richard Saltonstall (the progenitor of the present-day Saltonstalls of Massachusetts), John Oldham and a minister by the name of Philips.

In 1634 John Oldham was granted by the General Court five hundred acres of land bordering the Charles River, and after he

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was killed by the Pequot Indians in 1636, this land was later acquired by Richard Dummer, who sold two hundred and fifty acres to Richard Gale in 1661, and in 1694, his son Jeremiah Dummer sold the remaining two hundred and fifty acres to Robert Harrington.



The grave of Robert Harrington, in the old
Arlington Street Cemetery, Watertown, Mass.

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When Robert Harrington died in 1707 at the age of ninety-one years, his estate had grown to about seven hundred acres. Part of this land was where the Perkins Institute for the Blind now stands, and where the U.S. Arsenal at Watertown is located.

He married Susan George on October 1, 1648 (an orphan who was at the time under the guardianship of the widow of Henry Goldstone), the daughter of John George of Watertown; she bore him thirteen children, all born in Watertown. Susanna, born August 18, 1649; John, born August 24, 1651; Robert, born August 31, 1653; George, born November 24, 1655 (killed by Indians at the massacre at Lancaster, Massachusetts, on February 10, 1675/6)*; Daniel, born November 1, 1657; Joseph, born December 28, 1659; Benjamin, born January 26, 1661/2*; Mary, born January 12, 1663/4*; Thomas, born April 20, 1665; Captain Samuel, born December 18, 1666; Edward, born March 2, 1668/9*; Sarah, born May 10, 1671, and David, born June 1, 1673 (died at the age of two years).

Evidently Robert Harrington was a man of ability and integrity for he was elected as a selectman for fifteen consecutive years, besides serving in other capacities. His will, probated at Watertown, January 1, 1707/8*, provided as follows:

To his eldest son John, he left one half part of the two hundred and fifty acres of land he had purchased on December 24, 1694 of Jeremiah Dummer, goldsmith of Boston, which bordered the Charles River to the south, and one third part of meadow land he had purchased of Samuel Saltonstall.

To his son Daniel, the one hundred and five acre farm of Lawrence Waters, also ten acres of the Saltonstall meadow.

To his son Benjamin, the fifty-five acre farm, "where his dwelling now stands," also the eight acres of land in Sudbury,

*The fact that the Gregorian calendar was not adopted until 1752 accounts for the double year dates in the months of January, February and March.

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purchased from Roger and Benjamin Wellington, also four acres of the Lawrence Waters purchase, also five acres of the Phebe Barnard meadow, and twelve acres of the Samuel Saltonstall purchase.

To his son Samuel, one hundred and twenty-five acres of farmland "where his dwelling now stands" being part of the Jeremiah Dummer purchase, also the land known as Brown's meadow.

To his son Thomas, the fifty-five acre farm purchased of David Church, also one third of the Saltonstall meadow, and twenty acres of the Lawrence Waters meadow.

To his youngest and favorite son Edward, he left the homestead of six acres with its imposing mansion thereon, the mill house, cider works, barns and orchard lands, also other grants of eighteen, twelve, five and eight acres of land in Watertown.

To his eldest daughter Susanna Beers, forty pounds.

To his daughter Mary Bemis, forty pounds.

To his daughter Sarah Winship, forty pounds.

To his grandchild Joseph, son of Joseph deceased, about six acres of the Phebe Barnard meadow, and to his daughter in law, Joanna Ward, wife of said Joseph Harrington deceased, five shillings.

This Joanna Ward, three years after the death of her husband Joseph Harrington, married in 1693, Obadiah Ward, a wealthy land owner of Watertown, who purchased here in Worcester in 1716—three years after the third and final settlement of Worcester—from Leonard Hoar, a proprietor of the town, thirty acres of the most valuable land on Main Street across from the Common, between Pleasant and Austin Streets and running up to near Crown Street. Obadiah Ward built one of the first sawmills here, on lower Green Street, which later became the site of the old

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Crompton Loom Works. He died in 1717 and his widow Joanna, who was living in Sudbury after his death, inherited his estate which she deeded in various lots to her children.

Most of the valuable land on Main Street, she left to her son, Captain Daniel Ward, who was to build his home on the corner of what is now Barton Place and Main Street. In 1725, Captain Daniel Ward sold the lot at the corner of Main and Pleasant Streets to the Reverend Isaac Burr, the second pastor of Old South Church. Here Isaac Burr built his home. In 1750, Captain Daniel Ward sold the remainder of this land to Gardiner Chandler, of the distinguished and socially prominent Chandler family. Gardiner Chandler erected his imposing mansion (on the site of the old Daniel Ward home) and this passed to various owners, the last being the Hon. Judge Ira Barton, for whom Barton Place was named.

It is worthy of note, that Robert¹ Harrington's son John², was the grandfather of Henry⁴ Harrington, whose son Jonathan⁵ was killed by the British on the Common at Lexington, and was also the grandfather of Moses⁴ Harrington, whose son Caleb⁵ was also killed near the Meeting House on the same day, April 19, 1775. His (Robert¹ Harrington's) son Daniel², was the grandfather of Jonathan⁴ Harrington, whose son Jonathan⁵ (the fifer of the Minutemen at Lexington) was ninety-five years of age when he died on March 27, 1854, and was the last survivor of the Minutemen at Lexington.

Robert¹ Harrington, through his son Daniel², was also the ancestor of William⁶ Harrington, of the sixth generation; and through his son Thomas², was the ancestor of Gilbert⁸ Harrington, of the eighth generation. We shall learn more later of both William and Gilbert in Worcester.

II.

EDWARD HARRINGTON, 1668-1736

EDWARD HARRINGTON, of the second generation, the ninth son of Robert, was born at Watertown on March 2, 1668/9 and died at Waltham on January 21, 1736 in his sixty-eighth year. He married first at Watertown March 30, 1692, Mary Ockington (also spelled Ocington), the daughter of William and Mary Ockington. He married second, Anna Bullard, the widow of Jonathan Bullard of Weston.

He was a selectman of the town and one of its most prominent and highly respected citizens. He had nine children by his first wife: Mary, born in 1692; William, born in 1694; Mindwell, born in 1697; Johanna, born in 1699; Captain Edward, born in 1702; Lt. Samuel, born in 1704; Nathaniel, born in 1706; Francis, born in 1709; and Susanna, born in 1711. Susanna married Samuel Barnard and their son Samuel took part in the Boston Tea Party and later became a Major in the Revolutionary War.

III.

FRANCIS HARRINGTON, 1709-1793

WE SHALL CONTINUE with the line of Francis Harrington of the third generation (the youngest son of Edward²), who is the progenitor of the Harrington line in Worcester, the only early family living today in Worcester still in possession of the original land since 1741, a period of two hundred and twenty-two years.

Francis³ Harrington was born in Watertown June 11, 1709 and died in Worcester on July 18, 1793 in his eighty-fourth year. He married first, at Watertown, November 16, 1736, Prudence Stearns, born in Watertown April 27, 1713, died in Worcester in 1751, the daughter of Lieutenant Samuel and Mary (Hawkins) Stearns; he married second, at Westborough November 14, 1752, Deborah Brigham, born in 1715, who also died in Worcester in 1799, in her eighty-fourth year.

Deciding to follow the early settlers who were moving westward, he purchased on September 2, 1736, of Isaac Barnard, for five hundred pounds—a small fortune in those days—fifty acres of land with the buildings thereon, in Grafton, Massachusetts, and after improving the property and making the necessary preparations, he returned to Watertown for his coming marriage to Prudence Stearns in November. (This Isaac Barnard from whom he had purchased the land, was married to Sarah Stearns, the older sister of Prudence, and was the great-grandfather of Lewis Barnard, the senior member of the original Barnard, Sumner and Putnam Company, one of Worcester's oldest department stores.)

The deed to this property which was recorded in the Worcester Registry of Deeds, in Book 8, Page 175, on September 24, 1736, and signed in the presence of Mehitabel and James Cutler was notarized by Judge John Chandler, and describes the land as

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“bounded on the northwest by Jonathan Morse’s land, on the southeast by Phineas and Ami Printer’s land, and also by land of Nathaniel Wilder.”

It is interesting to note the wording on the bottom of this deed, which is as follows: “Whereas Isaac Barnard set his hand and seal on this document in ye tenth year of ye reign of our Sovereign Lord, George, King Defender of ye Faith.”

Four years later on the fifth day of January 1740, apparently deciding that his future interests lay best in the faster growing community of Worcester, Francis³ Harrington sold this property to a Nathaniel Adams of Grafton for nine hundred and fifty pounds, which was recorded in the Worcester Registry of Deeds, Book 18, Page 298, on May 9, 1740, and notarized by Judge John Chandler. (The same John Chandler who had notarized his deed when he had purchased this land before, and the father of the John Chandler who later became noted in 1775 as “The Honest Refugee”, the famous Tory of Worcester who had all his lands here confiscated.)

It appears in all probability that he paid rent to the new buyer Mr. Adams while he stayed in Grafton, for it was not until a year and three months later, on April 14, 1741, that he purchased for one thousand pounds, ninety-three acres of land in Worcester from a Joseph Dana of Pomfret, Conn. and his wife Mary, who was the widow of Jonathan Moore. (This Jonathan Moore being the brother of Nathaniel Moore, the third settler here after Jonas and Gershom Rice in the third and final settlement of Worcester.)

This land with the dwellings thereon, was south of the junction of Plantation Street and Bloomingdale Road (now Franklin Street), and was bounded on the north by land of Palmer Goulding, on the east by land of Samuel Andrews, southwesterly by land of Matthew Gray (an ancestor of the present-day Harring-

A24

To all people to whom these Presents shall come, Greeting
 Know Ye, That We Joseph Dana of Northford in the County of
 Windsor and Colony of Connecticut yoman and Mary his
 wife

For and in Consideration of the Sum of one Thousand pound
 to ~~me~~ in Hand before the Ensaing hereof, well and truly paid by Francis Harrington of Boston
 in the County of Worcester and province of the Massachusetts Bay

in New England yoman - the Receipt whereof we do hereby acknowledge,
 and our selfe therewith fully satisfied and contented; and thereof, and of every Part
 and Parcel thereof, do exonerate, acquit and discharge ~~him~~ the said Francis
 Harrington Heirs, Executors, and Administrators,
 forever by these Presents: HAVE given, granted, bargained, sold, aliened, conveyed and
 confirmed; and by these Presents, Do freely, fully and absolutely give, grant, bargain, sell,
 please, convey and confirm, unto ~~him~~ the said Francis Harrington
 Heirs and Assigns forever, ~~all that certain messuages or~~

~~tenement of housing and land situate lying and being in~~
~~the County of Worcester~~ where Charles Davenport now dwelleth and contains ~~about~~
 three acres and bounded as follows: ~~to the north~~ by on Land of Thomas
 Goulding ~~to the south~~ by on Land now in the possession of Samuel and
 South by the Land of Mr Gray and ~~to the west~~ by on Land
 lately in the possession of Edward Flagg ~~to the east~~ and partly on
 Land of Mrs: Cutler or however others wife ~~to the south~~ or reputed
 to be ~~his~~ and it being the Land we formerly sold to D. Davenport
 and this Day conveyed back again by the said Charles Davenport
 to us the Grantors

To have and to hold, the said granted and bargained Premises, with all the
 Appurtenances, Priviledges and Commodities to the same belonging, or in any wise apper-
 taining to ~~him~~ the said Francis Harrington his
 Heirs and Assigns forever. To ~~him~~ and their only proper Use, Benefit and behoof forever.
 And we the said Joseph Dana ~~and~~ Mary Dana
 for ~~us~~ our Heirs, Executors and Administrators, do covenant, promise and grant to and with
 the said Francis Harrington his

Heirs and Assigns, that before the Ensaing hereof we are the true sole and lawful Owner of
 the above bargained Premises and are lawfully seized and possessed of the same in our own
 proper Right, as a good perfect and absolute Estate of Inheritance in Fee Simple: And have in
 our selfe good Right, full Power and lawful Authority, to grant, bargain, sell, convey
 and confirm, said bargained Premises in manner as aforesaid; And that ~~the said Francis~~
 Harrington his
 Heirs and Assigns, shall and may
 from Time to Time, and at all Times forever hereafter, by Force and Virtue of these Pre-
 sents, lawfully, peaceably and quietly Have, Hold, Use, Occupy, Possess and Enjoy the said
 demised and bargained Premises, with the Appurtenances, free and clear, and freely and
 clearly acquitted, exonerated and discharged of, from all and all manner of former or other
 Gifts, Grants, Bargains, Sales, Leases, Mortgages, Wills, Entails, Joyntures, Dowries,
 Judgments, Executions, or Incumbrances of what Name or Nature soever, that might in
 any Measure or Degree obstruct or make void this present Deed

Furthermore, We the said Joseph Dana & Mary Dana
 for our selfe, our Heirs,
 Executors, and Admiaistrators, do Covenant and Engage the above-demised Premises to ~~him~~,
 the said Francis Harrington his
 Heirs and
 Assigns, against the lawful Claims or Demands of any Person or Persons whatsoever, forever
 hereafter to Warrant, Secure and Defend by these Presents. In witness whereof we have hereunto

Signed sealed and Delivered
 in presence of us
 Joseph Dana - (Seal)
 Mary Dana - (Seal)

In presence of us
 Jonathan
 John Chandler Junr
 Elephat Ingham
 Mary Lyon

Worcester Woodstock march 9th 1741 the
 within named Joseph Dana and Mary Dana
 severally acknowledged the within written Instrument
 to be their free and voluntary act and deed before John Chandler Junr Justice
 now at the 17th day of June and duly entered

Deed of land in Worcester from Joseph Dana to Francis Harrington in 1741.

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tons) and westerly, partly by land of Ebenezer Flagg and partly by land of Benjamin Gates, and was at the time occupied by a Charles Davenport, who had previously purchased same from the Danas and had conveyed it back to them; this deed is recorded at the Worcester Registry, Book 20, Page 426.

We would like to correct an impression as to where the original Harrington homestead was located. It had always been assumed that the homestead stood at the junction of Plantation Street and Bloomingdale Road (Franklin Street). However, we know that this could not be so, for as shown on the map on page 34 of this part of Worcester in 1741, the land and dwelling of Francis³ Harrington was south of the land of Palmer Goulding, which in turn was south of the land of Jonathan Gates on Bloomingdale Road.

Francis³ Harrington, by his first wife Prudence, had three children: Francis, born in Grafton in 1737, died in Worcester in 1768, aged thirty; Anna, born in Grafton in 1740; and Lieutenant Nathaniel Harrington, born in Worcester in 1742, the first Harrington to be born in Worcester.

Evidently Francis³ Harrington had great faith in the future of Worcester, for he devoted himself wholeheartedly to the affairs of the town, serving as a constable, school committeeman for four years, surveyor of highways and collector of taxes, while increasing his land holdings to about three hundred acres.

When Francis³ Harrington first settled here in 1741, the only established routes of travel to the center of the village—to attend either town meeting or Sunday worship at the meeting house of the first Parish—were, either the northerly route by way of Plantation Street (first named Love Lane in 1719) to the head of Lincoln Street, then down Lincoln Street, past Ephraim Curtis' former dwelling, to Main Street; or by way of Plantation Street,

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south to the Grafton Road and then by Heywood Street, passing by the dwellings of Jonas Rice and Nathaniel Moore, to what are now Vernon and Green Streets to the Common.

These routes were long and devious, so the early settlers seeking a shorter way, followed a trail over part of what was later named Bloomingdale Road in 1849, and thence to where East Worcester Street is now, to Front Street. When the railroad tracks of the Boston and Worcester Railroad were laid out in 1835, this necessitated the re-location of this road to where Bloomingdale Road is today.

What is now known as Shrewsbury Street (first named Pine Meadow Road) was at that time only marsh land, through which flowed Pine Meadow Brook from its source at Bladder Pond (now Bell Pond) above Chandler Hill to the Blackstone Canal.

This brook was covered over in 1828 and Shrewsbury Street laid out to connect with Turnpike Road (now Belmont Street). Turnpike Road had previously been established in 1806, as a shorter route from the head of Main Street at Lincoln Square to connect with the floating bridge at the Lake.

In 1750, there was only one house on Front Street, that being the dwelling of Palmer Goulding (Francis Harrington's former neighbor) on the corner of what is now Salem Square, and seven on Main Street; Judge John Chandler's, Col. Timothy Bigelow's, William Jennison's, Isaac Burr's parsonage, Daniel Heywood's tavern, Thomas Stearns' tavern (afterwards known as the "Kings Arms Tavern") and one believed to be the Nathan Baldwin house. In addition to the above, was Capt. Daniel Ward's house, across from the Common, which passed to Gardiner Chandler that same year.

On April 6, 1743, Francis³ Harrington made his first purchase, of ten acres of land, for twenty-two pounds and ten shillings (recorded in Book 20, Page 437), from his neighbor Benjamin Gates, whose

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land was west of the Harrington estate on Plantation Street and bordered the land of Palmer Goulding. This Palmer Goulding settled here in 1718 (on land left to him by his father, Peter Goulding, who was driven off by Indians) and later built his new home on Front Street, at the corner of Salem Square.

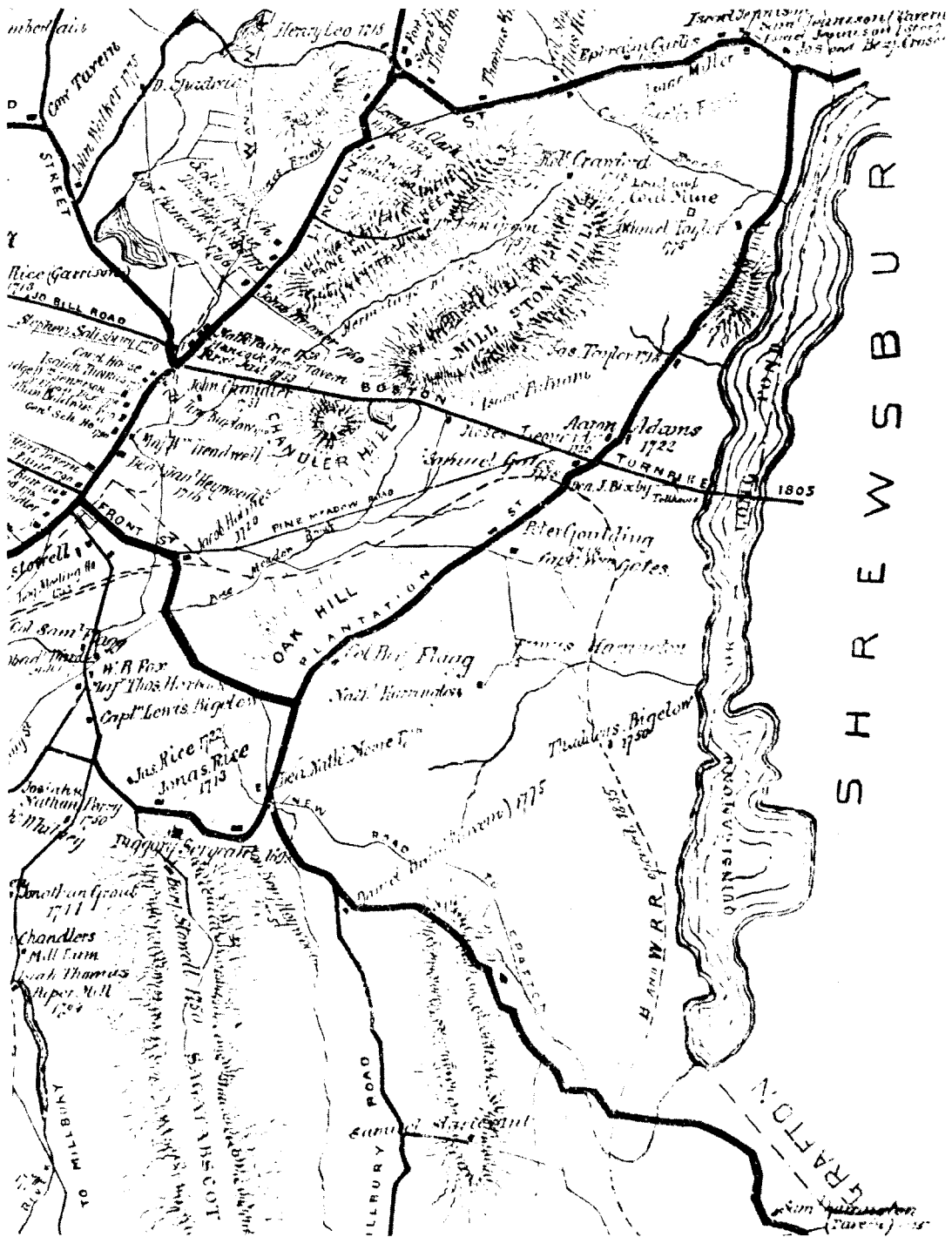
The rigors and hardships involved in the development of this land must have taken their toll on Francis³ Harrington, for in 1743 he had great sickness in the family and his tax for that year was repaid to him, amounting to one pound, three shillings.

Francis³ Harrington's wife, Prudence, died in August of 1751, and was buried in the "Old Burial Ground" on the Common, the first Harrington to be buried in Worcester. He married on November 14, 1752, Deborah Brigham of Westborough, who also bore him three children: Mary, born in Worcester in 1753; Prudence (in memory of his first wife), born in Worcester in 1755; and William, born in Worcester in 1756.

In 1755, his second wife, Deborah, received as her legacy from the will of her father David Brigham, late of Westborough, twenty-two acres of land in Shrewsbury, bounded by land of Timothy Wheelock, and by lands of Solomon Wren, Stephen Parker and Joseph Sherman, which the Harringtons sold that same year to an Obadiah Wheelock of Shrewsbury, for twenty-seven pounds, six shillings and eight pence, recorded in Book 35, Page 569, at the Worcester Registry.

There must have been some flaw in the title to this property, for when Obadiah Wheelock died on May 10, 1758, Francis³ and Deborah Harrington had to convey this land back again to the two sons of Obadiah, Obadiah, Jr. and Joseph Wheelock, recorded in Book 44, Page 420.

It was not until November 5, 1761, that Francis³ Harrington purchased more land in Worcester, from the brothers Judah and



the dwellings of the early settlers.

Eliphalet Moore, sons of Jonathan Moore—which was east of the Harrington estate and bordered on Lake Quinsigamond—one tract of fourteen acres, for eleven pounds and four shillings, which was land recovered by an “action of ejectment against Joshua Bigelow”, and one smaller tract for two pounds, twelve shillings and eight pence, recorded at the Worcester Registry in Book 46, Page 226.

Then the following year in 1762, he purchased of Joshua Bigelow, for five pounds, two and one-half acres of land, described as being on “Snake Hill”, running from the Harrington house to said Bigelow land, recorded in the Worcester Registry, Book 47, Page 182, and one and one-half acres of land from a Thomas Stearns, for four pounds, Book 48, Page 591. This was the land that Thomas Stearns had purchased from Palmer Goulding, who in turn had bought from Jonathan Moore.

Three years later on March 21, 1765, Francis³ Harrington increased his acreage by purchasing for eighty pounds the large farm of Thomas Sterne, consisting of forty acres, recorded in Book 53, Page 507. This land ran from the house of William Gates to Jonathan Gates’ land.

This Thomas Sterne was the Thomas Stearns who had previously sold Francis Harrington land in 1762, although the names are spelled differently on the deeds; this was no doubt due to the fact that Mr. Stearns could not write his name and the Register of Deeds (Timothy Paine) in 1765, wrote the name as it sounded to him. Thomas Stearns owned one of the first taverns in Worcester in 1732, called the “Kings Arms Tavern”, which stood on Main Street between Elm and Walnut Streets, and was later replaced by the mansion of Governor Levi Lincoln. The Workman Building stood on this site until recently, when it was torn down for a projected hotel office building.

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On the sixth day of April 1768, Francis³ Harrington suffered the loss of his first born, Francis⁴ in his thirtieth year, leaving only Nathaniel old enough to help manage the growing estate and assist with the farm chores, William being only a child of eleven years.

Therefore, Francis³ Harrington waited until 1771 to add to his holdings, by purchasing together with Simon Hayward from Isaac Morse, another large farm of eighty acres, described as lying between Worcester, Grafton and Sutton, bounded by lands of John Willard, Samuel Wesson, Amos Holbrook and Joshua³ Harrington (the son of John² Harrington and first cousin to Francis) and also by Gardiner Chandler's pond, giving him "permission to drain his pond over the premises if need be." (This Gardiner Chandler, the son of Judge John Chandler, was Sheriff of Worcester at the time.) This deed was recorded in Book 65, Page 4, at the Worcester Registry of Deeds.

On February 4, 1773 Francis³ Harrington purchased for forty pounds another large farm of forty acres from John Barnard. This farm was bounded on the south by land of Simon Gates, north by land of Jonas Holbrook, west by land of Joseph Wiley and northerly by land of William Young and Eben Lovell. Strange as it seems, the deed was not recorded at the Court House until ten years later, in 1783, Book 87, Page 407.

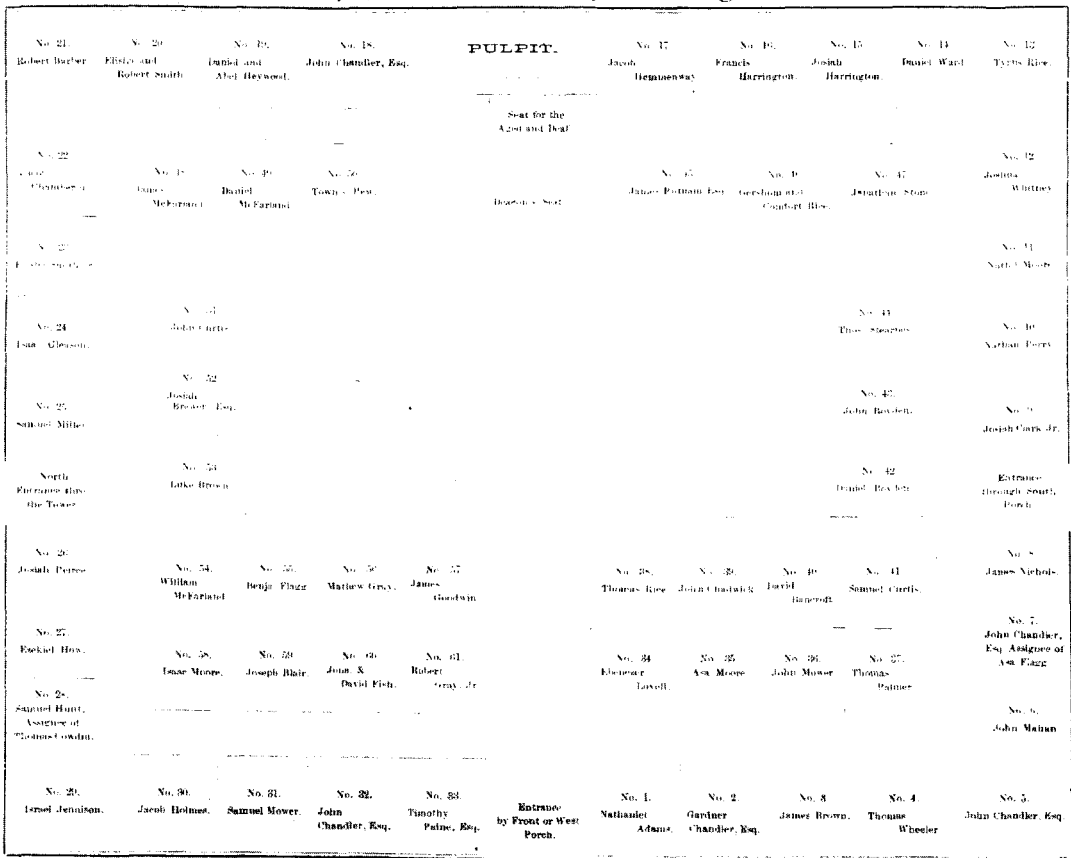
In those days when travel over the narrow winding roads was difficult and distances afoot great, it was customary after a sale or purchase of property to place the signed deed or document in the family strong box to be recorded the next time they had occasion to go to town, and sometimes forgetting to do so, as probably happened above.

On July 2, 1776, the first wedding in the Harrington family of Worcester took place, when Nathaniel⁴ in his thirty-fourth year

THE HARRINGTON FAMILY IN WORCESTER

married Ruth Stone, the daughter of Jonathan Stone of Auburn. As a wedding gift, Francis³ Harrington gave them one half of the farm; that part that was bounded by land of Ebenezer Holbrook on the north and partly by the road leading from William Gates'

Ye Plan of ye Lower Floor of ye Meeting-House, 1763.



Entered from ye Original and Compared therewith, Pr J. Chandler, Town Clerk.

Floor plan of Old South Meeting House in 1763, showing location of pews.

THE HARRINGTON FAMILY IN WORCESTER

land to land of Joshua Bigelow, easterly by land of Joshua Bigelow, southerly by land of Matthew Gray and westerly, partly by land of Benjamin Flagg and Samuel Brown.

In December of 1781, Francis³ and Deborah Harrington conveyed to their son Nathaniel⁴, one hundred and twenty more acres of land for four hundred pounds, as described on the deed in the Worcester Registry, Book 88, Page 164, which also included his pew in Old South Meeting House. The Harringtons along with the Flaggs, the Grays and the Perrys, all ancestors of the present-day Harringtons, were prominent holders of important pews in Old South. Francis³ and Deborah Harrington also conveyed to Nathaniel⁴ twenty-five more acres of land, bounded by land of Stephen Salisbury, who had purchased same from Ebenezer Holbrook. (This Stephen Salisbury, the first, settled in Worcester in 1767, opening a small store north of Lincoln Square, and for three generations the Salisburys were one of the most prominent and influential families of Worcester. It is unfortunate that his grandson Stephen Salisbury, the third, never married, for the continuation of a famous name in Worcester for one hundred and thirty-eight years has been lost to posterity.)

Francis³ Harrington died on July 18, 1793, at the age of eighty-four and his descendants today have good reason to be proud of him. He was buried in the "Old Burial Ground" on the Common beside his first wife Prudence and his son, Francis, Jr.

IV.

NATHANIEL HARRINGTON, 1742-1831

THIS HARRINGTON LINE now continues with Nathaniel, of the fourth generation, born here in 1742, who, after the death of his father, inherited the rest of the estate, which at that time consisted of two hundred and seventy-nine acres.

Nathaniel⁴ Harrington became a successful and prosperous farmer and devoted himself to the affairs of the town, serving as a selectman for six years, on the school committee for eight years, and also as surveyor of highways and collector of taxes.

In the Revolutionary War he was a Sergeant in the Company of Minute Men under Captain Timothy Bigelow, Colonel Artemas Ward's regiment which marched from Worcester to Cambridge on that memorable day of April 19, 1775. Later he became a Second Lieutenant in Captain William Gates' Company on October 7, 1775 and a First Lieutenant in Captain Joshua Whitney's Company on July 2, 1777; he was later in Captain Jesse Stone's Company when they marched to Bennington.

Nathaniel⁴ and Ruth Harrington had three children, all born in Worcester: Captain Francis, born May 15, 1777; Jonathan, born October 31, 1779; and Sarah, born August 14, 1786.

On February 6, 1783, ten years before the death of his father, Nathaniel⁴ had purchased seven acres of land from a Daniel Baird for thirteen pounds, six shillings, which was confiscated land that Daniel Baird had purchased from John Trefenden and Caleb Ammidown of the State Committee; this land was bounded by land of Matthew Gray and by land of Benjamin Flagg; recorded in Book 88, Page 209. (This Daniel Baird's son,

THE HARRINGTON FAMILY IN WORCESTER

John, married Lucretia⁶ Harrington, the daughter of Samuel⁵ Harrington, descended from Edward².)

Five years later on March 12, 1788, Nathaniel⁴ Harrington and Reuben Gray paid off a mortgage of seventy-three pounds that Noah Harrington had on land of widow Holbrook, which evidently had become due; this mortgage recorded in Book 103, Page 453, at the Worcester Registry.

The year following his father's death, on the eighteenth day of August 1794, Nathaniel⁴ purchased from Thomas Chandler for four hundred pounds and thirteen shillings, part of the real estate of Joshua Bigelow, lately deceased, comprising nine and eight-tenths acres of land, which Thomas Chandler had bought at public auction from Asa Bigelow as executor of the estate; this land recorded at the Worcester Registry in Book 122, Page 365, was bounded and described as follows: "beginning at a grey oak tree on the corner of the Harrington land to Thaddeus Bigelow's land and partly on land of Asa Bigelow, thence to land of Reuben Gray, thence to a heap of stones on a large rock and thence to the point of beginning; reserving the right to pass and repass to and from the Meeting House in Worcester, through the westwardly part of said estate and liberty to a wood lot at the southwardly part of said estate."

Up to this time, the early settlers in this part of Worcester had no schoolhouse for their children, so on Christmas Day, December 25, 1796, Nathaniel⁴ Harrington, Benjamin Flagg and Samuel Gates purchased from William Gates for 24 shillings, the land described as follows in a deed in Book 127, Page 484: "a triangular piece of land for the use and benefit of such of the inhabitants of said town of Worcester, living in that part of the town belonging to a school squadron of which the said Nathaniel, Benjamin and Samuel are also inhabitants, to them and their

THE HARRINGTON FAMILY IN WORCESTER

heirs for the purpose of erecting a school house in said school quarter, in the crotch of the road leading from the South Meeting House in Worcester to William Taylor's and to said Nathaniel Harrington's and bounds west on said Taylor's road, south on said Harrington's road and on my own land." The location of this schoolhouse was on the northeast corner of Plantation Street and Franklin Street.

On May 9, 1799, Nathaniel⁴ Harrington purchased of Aaron Flagg for one hundred and sixty-three pounds, six shillings and seven pence, three tracts of land which he (Aaron Flagg) had purchased of Stephen Salisbury. The first tract of thirteen acres described as being "opposite Captain William Gates' house." This William Gates and Nathaniel⁴ Harrington were sergeants in Captain Timothy Bigelow's company of Minute Men who marched from Worcester on the alarm of April 19, 1775; William Gates became Captain the following year in 1776. His father, Jonathan Gates, had purchased this house from a Nathaniel



The old Jonathan Gates house.

THE HARRINGTON FAMILY IN WORCESTER

Jones in 1731. This old Gates homestead is still standing, now numbered 713 Franklin Street, opposite Harrington Way, and is reputed to be the oldest house in Worcester today.

Captain William Gates' sister, Persis Gates, married Adonijah Rice, the son of Jonas Rice (Worcester's first settler in the third and final settlement of Worcester). Adonijah Rice, born in 1714, was the first white child born in Worcester. William Gates' daughter, Anna Gates, married William Eaton, and three generations of Eatons lived in this old Gates house until 1900, since when it has had various owners. The second tract contained five acres, one quarter and fifteen rods, "beginning at Daniel Rand's land at the road", then easterly to a road from the schoolhouse to Col. Benjamin Flagg's land; the third tract contained five acres, two quarters and nineteen rods, but according to said Salisbury's deed, "only four acres more or less", bounded by lands of Phineas Flagg deceased, Samuel Chandler and Daniel Rand; recorded at the Worcester Registry in Book 135, Page 587.

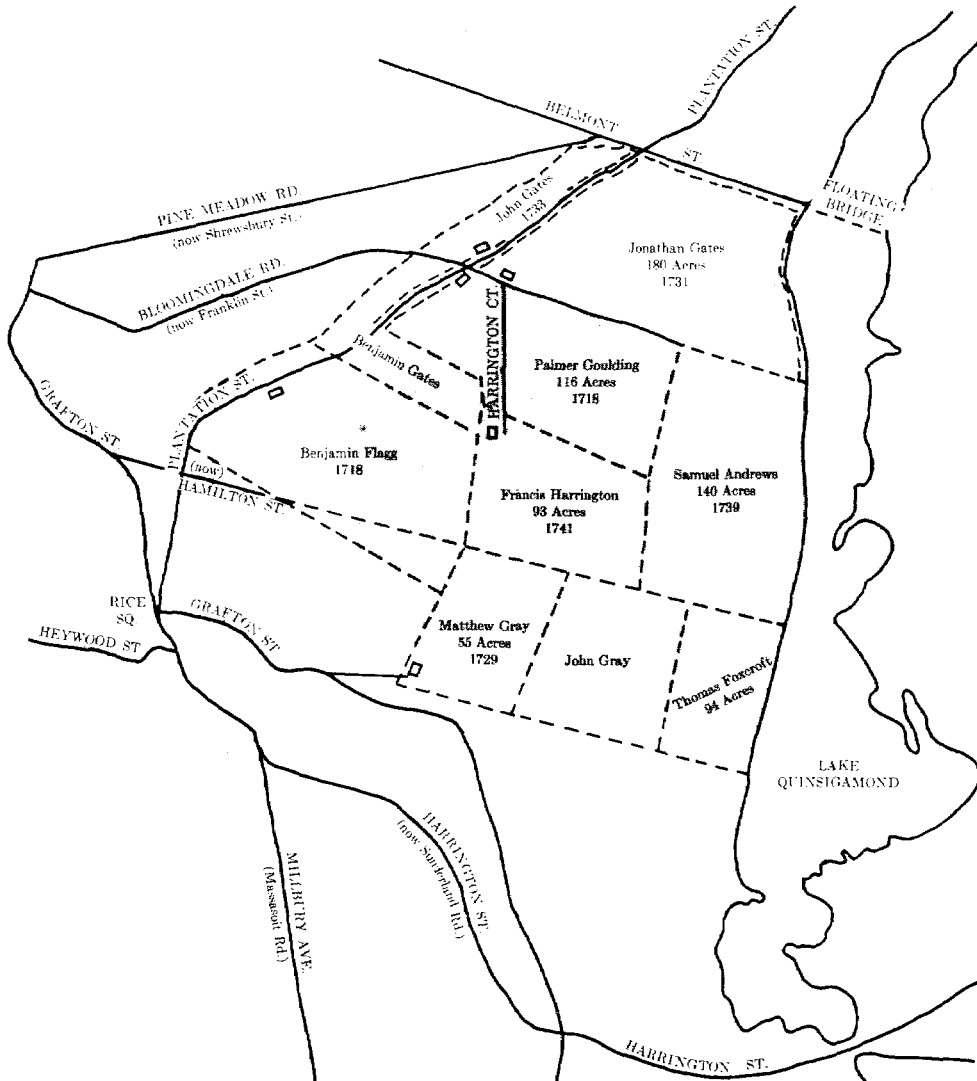
Of Nathaniel's⁴ three children, the first to marry was his oldest son, Francis, who on May 13, 1801, married Lydia Perry, the daughter of Josiah and Lydia (Flagg) Perry; his second son, Jonathan, in 1803, married Mary Flagg (also called Molly), and on August 24, 1808, his daughter, Sarah, married a John Gleason. (The early records do not give much information on this John Gleason, except that he had a son named John, born August 4, 1812, and that the father died on October 21, 1837.)

On August 20, 1810, Nathaniel⁴ Harrington purchased of Thomas Gates for two thousand dollars, two large tracts of land with the buildings thereon; the first tract of ninety acres was bounded eastwardly on Long Pond (Lake Quinsigamond), southwardly on land formerly of Joshua Bigelow, westwardly on the Harrington land and northwardly on land of "William Gates to

the Pond"; the second tract containing "twenty acres, more or less" situated in Shrewsbury on the "opposite side of Long Pond", bounded northwardly on land of Ephraim Hapgood, eastwardly on land of Ephraim Hapgood and Drury, then southwardly on land of Elijah Rice to the Pond. This tract was formerly the estate of Jonathan Gates, the father of Thomas Gates, and is recorded in the Worcester Registry, Book 177, Page 255.

With the purchase of these two tracts of land, the Harrington estate had now grown to comprise all the land lying between the junction of Plantation Street and Bloomingdale Road (Franklin Street) to Lake Quinsigamond, and south to near Grafton Street, and also twenty acres more on the Shrewsbury side of the Lake, a total of four hundred and thirty-four acres.

Nathaniel⁴ Harrington, having now reached the age of seventy-two years, and apparently deciding to retire from active management of his large estate, made several transactions on June 16, 1814, for the benefit of his children; the first, to his daughter Sarah and her husband John Gleason, in consideration of two thousand dollars, the two tracts of land with the buildings thereon which he had previously purchased of Thomas Gates in 1810. This deed was recorded that day at the Registry of Deeds in Book 199, Page 395. Nathaniel⁴ took back a mortgage of two thousand dollars, but on that same day he signed another deed, agreeing to cancel this mortgage at a later date; this conveyance which was not recorded until June 30, 1821, in Book 225, Page 513, reads as follows: "Whereas John Gleason and wife Sarah, a daughter of Nathaniel, and an expectant heir after his decease, received a warranty deed for two tracts of land, one for ninety acres in Worcester and one for twenty acres in Shrewsbury, valued at two thousand dollars, which we consider our full share of the estate,



Dashes outline approximate boundaries of the lands of early settlers in 1741. Court House records were very vague as to defining exact locations on these old deeds, as surveyors at the time used any means to determine boundaries, such as tree stumps, large boulders, small streams or other identifiable marks, which have long since disappeared.

Shading indicates approximate land boundaries in 1810, after Nathaniel Harrington had increased his acreage to 434 acres.

except one third of the house furniture which it is proposed by him that he shall hereafter have."

In the second transaction, in consideration of fifty dollars, he conveyed to his oldest son, Francis⁵, two quarters and nine rods of land (this being part of the Aaron Flagg purchase); and to both his sons, Francis⁵ and Jonathan⁵, the bulk of his farm, containing three tracts of land; one of one hundred and twenty acres "where my dwelling now stands", one of ninety-eight acres which he had purchased of Thomas Chandler, and another of thirteen acres which was the remainder of the Aaron Flagg purchase. Both of these deeds, which were signed June 16, 1814, were also recorded in Book 225, Pages 513 and 514, seven years later on June 30, 1821, at the Worcester Registry of Deeds.

Later that year on November 29, 1814, Nathaniel⁴ Harrington and his sons, Francis⁵ and Jonathan⁵, purchased from Samuel Read, Ebenezer Read, Jr. and Benjamin Read, in consideration of two hundred and fifty dollars, six acres and fifty-two rods of land, bounded by land of Aaron Flagg, that was mortgaged to a Mary Wheeler. This deed was recorded at the Worcester Registry in Book 225, Page 515, and Theophilus Wheeler was the notary. (This Theophilus Wheeler, an early settler in Worcester, was one of the founders and a charter member of the Worcester Fire Society.)

Nathaniel⁴ Harrington made his last purchase of land when he and his sons, Francis⁵ and Jonathan⁵, on February 22, 1817, purchased the fifteen acre farm of Isaac Tucker for two hundred and eighty-three dollars; this farm was bounded by land of Matthew Gray to land of Samuel Harrington (a cousin of Nathaniel⁴) and recorded at the Worcester Registry in Book 205, Page 228. This was land Isaac Tucker held by deed from Thomas Stephens; the notary was Judge Nathaniel Paine, a prominent and

THE HARRINGTON FAMILY IN WORCESTER

influential citizen of Worcester who lived at the corner of Main and Pleasant Streets where the Rogers Block now stands.

On August 24, 1817, Nathaniel⁴ Harrington's wife, Ruth, died at the age of sixty-nine years and was buried in what is now called the "Old Burial Ground" on the lower end of Mechanic Street, which had replaced the burial ground on the Common in 1795.

In 1829, his daughter, Sarah, and her husband, John Gleason, must have moved away from Worcester, for after increasing his estate by an additional purchase of forty-eight acres, John Gleason suddenly disposed of all his holdings for a consideration of fifty-five hundred dollars to his brothers-in-law, Francis⁵ and Jonathan⁵ Harrington, and to a Reuben Monroe who held a seven hundred dollar mortgage on same; recorded in Book 265, Page 630.

Worcester records and history are not too clear as to what happened to the Gleasons; it may be that he was in declining health, for he died a few years later in 1837, and there is no record of his widow, Sarah.

Lieutenant Nathaniel⁴ Harrington died at the age of eighty-nine years, and his estate which had grown to over four hundred and fifty acres, one of the largest in Worcester at the time, was divided between his two sons, Francis⁵ and Jonathan⁵. He was buried beside his wife, Ruth, in the Mechanic Street burial ground, on February 28, 1831.

With Nathaniel's decease, the Harringtons now branch off into two separate lines, so before we continue with Francis of the fifth generation, let us briefly follow the line of Francis' brother Jonathan, who inherited half of his father Nathaniel's estate.

V.

JONATHAN HARRINGTON, 1779-1858

JONATHAN HARRINGTON of the fifth generation, after his marriage to Molly Flagg, occupied part of the homestead. He became a successful farmer and started a model dairy farm which was kept in the family for three generations. He died on May 4, 1858, at the age of seventy-eight years, and was buried in Rural Cemetery. He had only one child, a son named Benjamin.

Captain Benjamin Harrington, of the sixth generation, was born on April 8, 1815, and inherited his father's half of the farm. He built his own dwelling near the corner of Bloomingdale Road and Harrington Court. He successfully continued the dairy business that his father had established, and later became a Captain in the State Militia. On November 16, 1836, his father assigned to him all rights and title to the estate his mother, Molly, had inherited from her father, Benjamin Flagg, consisting of one hundred and thirty acres of land, also eighteen acres on the Grafton Road. Benjamin Harrington married Lucretia Flagg, the daughter of Abel and Susanna (Harrington) Flagg, on March 18, 1834. They had five children: Benjamin Franklin; Henry Augustus; Mary Elizabeth, who married Samuel Curtis; Sarah Amelia, who married Dr. Gonzalo Buxton; and Hannah, who died at the age of two years.

Captain Benjamin⁶ Harrington died on August 13, 1873, and his estate was divided between his two sons, Benjamin Franklin⁷ and Henry Augustus⁷ Harrington.

Benjamin Franklin⁷ Harrington, of the seventh generation, was born in Worcester on September 2, 1838 and died on November 22, 1924 at the age of eighty-six years. He continued as a successful farmer and dairyman, and erected modern farm buildings and a

new dwelling at what is now 271 Harrington Way in 1891. He married in Worcester on November 18, 1875, Harriet Ann Harrington, a cousin, the daughter of Francis and Harriet W. Harrington. They had only one child, a son named Francis Benjamin.⁸

Francis Benjamin Harrington, of the eighth generation, was born at the farm on September 4, 1878. Besides farming he had a milk route and continued living at 271 Harrington Way until he sold the property in 1926, moving to Shrewsbury, Mass. He married Rena Hamilton and they had two sons, Ralph B.⁹ and Robert F.⁹, who today run a successful florist business in Shrewsbury.

Henry Augustus⁷ Harrington, the younger brother of Benjamin Franklin⁷ Harrington, who succeeded to half of the farm of his father, Captain Benjamin⁶, was born at the homestead on September 8, 1846, and died January 23, 1914, leaving no issue. On October 15, 1872, he married Delia Griggs, a graduate of the old Oread Institute which stood on what was once called "Goat Hill" at Main, Piedmont and Oread Streets. (The Oread Institute was established by Eli Thayer, as a college for women in 1848, and was closed in 1881.) Henry Augustus⁷ built the present house at 105 Harrington Way in 1872-3. This he shared with his wife's sister, Carrie Griggs and her husband, John Scott, a well-known Worcester lawyer. This property is now in the possession of the Richards family, purchased by Rufus Richards in 1915.

A few years before Henry Augustus⁷ Harrington died, he gave to the City of Worcester the land for the extension of Hamilton Street to Lake Quinsigamond and opened Harrington Way (formerly Harrington Court) to Hamilton Street; he was also instrumental in securing the extension of the street car line to this section of the city. He served as a member on the board of Aldermen in 1900-1901, and was an overseer of the poor for nine years.

THE HARRINGTON FAMILY IN WORCESTER

This completes this branch of the Harrington line descended from Jonathan Harrington to the present day. Earlier, we mentioned two other Harringtons, William⁶ Harrington descended from Robert¹ through Daniel², and Gilbert⁸ Harrington descended from Robert¹ through Thomas.²

WILLIAM HARRINGTON, 1788-1871

William Harrington of the sixth generation, for whom Harrington Corner at Main and Front Streets was named, was born on February 25, 1788, and died in Worcester, February 12, 1871. He was the son of Noah and Lois (Kingsley) Harrington who were living in Shrewsbury, but it is uncertain as to when they moved to Worcester, although the 1790 census shows them living on Grafton Street near the present depot. He had a wooden leg, the result of an accident while working on the old Exchange Building on Main Street, when a staging collapsed and he had to have his leg amputated; he was confined to his home for five years after which he entered Leicester Academy and became a school teacher, teaching at the old schoolhouse which then stood at the south end of the Common. He later kept a tavern at the corner of Park (now Franklin Street) and Salem Streets, and also opened a store in the lower part of a two-story building, which stood on the southeast corner of Main and Front Streets. The upper part of this building was occupied by the *National Aegis*, a weekly newspaper. On January 1, 1839, William⁶ Harrington bought from Frederick William Paine and Charles Paine, the land and old one-story wooden building known as the "Old Compound," which stood

across the street on the northeast corner of Main and Front Streets.

This Frederick William Paine, mentioned above, was the son of Dr. William Paine and the grandson of Timothy Paine, noted loyalists during the Revolutionary War. Timothy Paine built his stately mansion, called the "Oaks" on Lincoln Street, where he and his son, Dr. William Paine, lived before they were banished in 1778, and their property confiscated.

After the war they were allowed to return, by a special act of the Legislature of Massachusetts, and their property was returned to them.

Frederick William Paine lived at the "Oaks" where his son, James Perkins Paine, was born in 1827. F. W. Paine's granddaughter, Alice Paine, now in her eighty-eighth year, unmarried, who now resides at 32 Melrose Street, is the last of this famous old family.

The historic "Old Compound" was built by Judge John Chandler (the third by this name and title) before 1750, and used as an office, store and warehouse, and was subsequently occupied by his sons, Clark, Charles and Samuel Chandler.

After Judge Chandler and his sons were banished for their Loyalist activities during the Revolutionary period, it was later occupied by the Hon. Emory Washburn (who became the eighteenth Governor of Massachusetts in 1853) and other prominent businessmen. This building was later removed to the north side of Pleasant Street—next to where the present Rogers Block now stands, at the corner of Main and Pleasant Streets—and was finally destroyed by fire in 1871.

In 1850, William⁶ Harrington erected the present four-story building known as the "Harrington Block", where he moved his tavern and opened a general store and office.

THE HARRINGTON FAMILY IN WORCESTER

There is an interesting story of how William⁶ Harrington acquired this property. The story told by Lt. Samuel Hathaway in his book, *Old Worcester*, published in 1897 reads as follows: "I remember William Harrington, Esq., telling his experience in buying the property at the corner of Main and Front Streets, probably the most valuable ground per square foot within the city. He called upon him (it is not clear whether the reference is to Frederick William Paine or to Charles Paine) and asked if he wished to sell the property consisting of the land and a block of one-story wooden buildings—and he answered, 'Yes; what is your price?' 'Thirty-five hundred,' and he said he fairly trembled when he heard the price, it was so much lower than he expected. And he asked, 'Will you give me the refusal for a certain length of time at that price?' And he answered, 'Yes.' 'Will you please put it in writing?' 'Yes;' but he need not have asked that, for when he had passed his word it was as good as a covenant under seal. Mr. Harrington said when he got that paper in his hands, he felt he had got a fortune, and so he had, which his worthy descendants are now enjoying, while the good old man is gone from all pains of earth save the name, which lives in the hearts of all who knew him."

William⁶ Harrington's widow deeded this property to her son, Chauncy⁷ Harrington, on November 11, 1891 (Book 1366, Page 34), and in 1910 the trustees of the Chauncy⁷ Harrington estate gave a long term lease to the Riker-Jaynes Drug Co., now the Liggett Drug Co. (Book 1927, Page 62).

Chauncy⁷ Harrington had built his home in 1886, at what was formerly 972 Main Street (between Maywood and Beaver Streets). This house is still standing, having been turned to face Maywood Street, and is now numbered 3 Maywood Street. He died in Worcester on September 28, 1908, at the age of eighty-two years.

GILBERT HARRINGTON, 1845-1897

Now let us refer to Gilbert Harrington, of the eighth generation, descended from Robert¹ through Thomas², who was born in Shrewsbury on October 17, 1845, and died in Worcester on June 22, 1897. He was the son of Henry Henderson⁷ Harrington and Cornelia Bush Wesson, and a nephew of D. B. Wesson of the firm of Smith and Wesson, famous manufacturers of firearms. He married, first, Christine Dibble, who died on February 1, 1875; he married, second, Charlotte Maria⁹ Harrington, a cousin, and the daughter of Isaac⁸ Harrington, who died on August 26, 1885; he married, third, Myrtis S. Sigourney of Oxford, in 1886.

In 1871, as a boy he went to work for his uncle Franklin Wesson at 18 Manchester Street in Worcester, and was admitted as a partner under the firm name of Wesson and Harrington in 1874. He later became sole owner and then formed a partnership with William A. Richardson and moved the plant to 31 Hermon Street. In 1894, finding the need of more manufacturing space a necessity, they built the present plant on Park Avenue at Chandler Street under the firm name of The Harrington and Richardson Arms Co.

Gilbert⁸ Harrington resided at 938 Main Street, where the present Clark University library now stands, and where he also kept a store. By his second wife, he had two sons, Edwin Chester⁹, born on September 18, 1877, who later became president of The Harrington and Richardson Arms Company, and John Walter⁹, born February 21, 1880, who became treasurer of the company. Edwin⁹ Harrington's residence was at 1010 Main Street and is still standing, the property of the Assumption College Trustees. His brother John⁹ resided at 1014 Main Street, but this building has since been demolished.

VI.

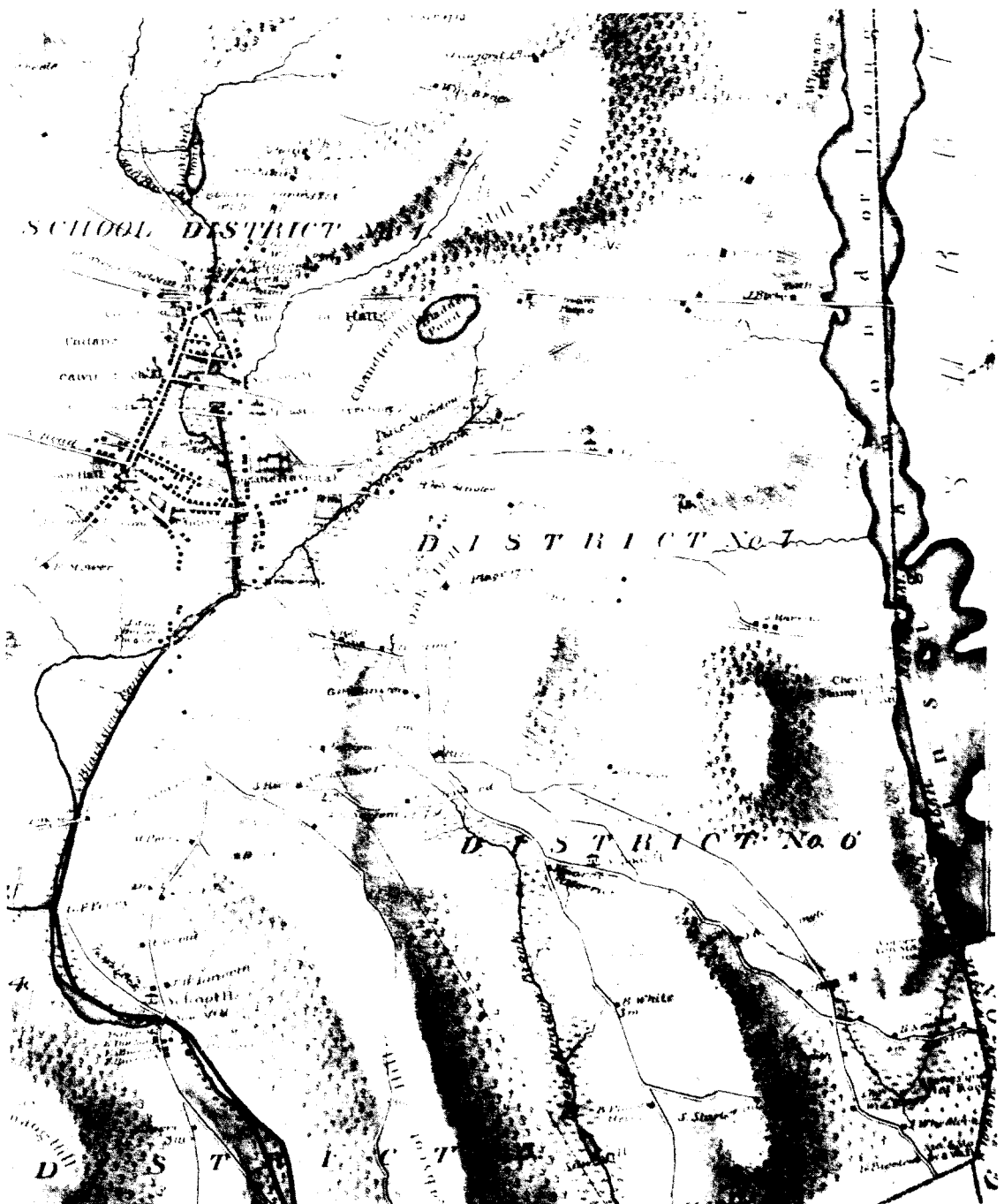
FRANCIS HARRINGTON, 1777-1841

WE NOW RETURN to the branch of the Harrington family descended from Nathaniel⁴ and continue with his son, Francis Harrington of the fifth generation.

Francis⁵ Harrington was born at the homestead, on May 15, 1777, and came into his half of the estate when it was divided by Nathaniel⁴ between his two sons, Francis⁵ and Jonathan.⁵ He continued to operate successfully the farm which had become, through fertilization and crop rotation, one of the model farms of the town, and he also found time to devote himself to the affairs of the community, as a member of the school committee, surveyor of highways and collector of highway taxes; during the war of 1812 he was made a captain of the Worcester Military Company.

He married in Worcester, on May 13, 1801, Lydia Perry, the daughter of Josiah and Lydia Flagg Perry, and by this marriage, three prominent families in Worcester history were united, as Lydia Perry, on her paternal side, was the granddaughter of Nathan Perry, an early settler, and one of the founders of Old South Church, who served as deacon for twenty-three years; and on her maternal side, she was the granddaughter of Col. Benjamin Flagg, of Revolutionary fame, who settled here in 1718, and was one of Worcester's most noted citizens as well as one of the founders of the town. His homestead was on Plantation Street and bordered the land of the Harringtons.

Francis⁵ and Lydia Harrington had six children, all born in Worcester: Daniel, born October 4, 1802; Mary, born March 20, 1804; Hannah, born February 12, 1806; Joseph, born February 27, 1808; Francis, born August 11, 1811; and Lydia, born



1833 map of the eastern section of Worcester after Nathaniel Harrington had divided his estate between his two sons, Francis and Jonathan.

THE HARRINGTON FAMILY IN WORCESTER

December 12, 1814, who died in 1900 at the age of eighty-five years.

Lydia Harrington, youngest child of Francis⁵ Harrington, married Nahum Flagg and lived on Grafton Street—next to the old Rice homestead—where she died in 1900; this dwelling built about 1851, a long odd-shaped red brick house, is still standing at the corner of Grafton Street and Pilgrim Avenue.

In 1829, Francis⁵ Harrington made his first land transaction, when he and his brother Jonathan⁵ purchased the estate of their brother-in-law, John Gleason, which we mentioned earlier; then on December 2, 1829, they (Francis and Jonathan) purchased from Emory Washburn (Governor in 1853), for one hundred and sixty dollars, land in Ward (now called Auburn) containing eleven acres, which was land received by execution against John Gleason and Jonathan Stone; and is recorded in Book 272, Page 384.

Francis⁵ and Jonathan⁵ sold portions of their land to the Boston and Worcester Railroad on January 30, 1834, in consideration of three hundred dollars, with the stipulation that the railroad build two passageways over said tracks, also two dry bridges under said tracks, for cattle to pass through. This sale was recorded that same day at the Worcester Registry of Deeds in Book 298, Page 140.

This railroad was formally opened July 6, 1835, the first through train from Boston arriving in Worcester that morning. The passengers, consisting of a large number of prominent citizens from Boston and vicinity, were met at the terminus by several hundred of the local citizens, and under the escort of the Worcester Light Infantry Band marched through some of the main streets, after which a gala celebration was held, and several hundred ladies of the town were given a ride to Westborough and back. It must have been an exciting day for the Harringtons and their neighbors,

the Flaggs, the Gateses, the Gouldings, the Gleasons and the Bigelows, to see this wood-burning engine come chugging along, for they had never before seen a train.

On April 23, 1835, Francis⁵ Harrington purchased for forty-five hundred dollars his brother Jonathan's⁵ half of the two tracts of land in Worcester and of the twenty-acre tract in Shrewsbury, which three tracts they had purchased of John Gleason in 1829, with Jonathan reserving for himself the following privileges, "the one half of the cider mill standing on the first described premises, with the necessary privilege to go to and from; also to pass and repass over the said Francis⁵ Harrington land, and the privilege of turning my cattle to the brook in dry time when there is not sufficient water for my cattle, also the necessary privileges on the barn floor for feeding my cattle, getting in hay and threshing grain on same, and I also reserve all public road through the same for public uses." This deed was recorded at the Worcester Registry in Book 298, Page 405.

This deed had been subject to a seven hundred dollar mortgage to Reuben Monroe, which must have been nearly paid off, as Reuben Monroe discharged this mortgage for a consideration of ten dollars on December 29, 1835 (recorded in Book 312, Page 279).

It appears at this time, in the latter part of 1836, that Francis⁵ Harrington must have been in ill health, or chose to retire from active management of the farm, for he and his son, Daniel⁶, on January 16, 1837, executed two deeds and signed an agreement which reads as follows: "That whereas the said Francis Harrington has this day deeded and conveyed to the said Daniel the farm on which the said Francis now lives in said Worcester, together with two other tracts of land, one in said Worcester, and the other in Shrewsbury, in said County, and has taken back from said Daniel a deed of one half of said real estate to hold to him

the said Francis and Lydia Harrington his wife, for and during the term of their joint lives and the life of the survivor of them, the said Daniel, in consideration thereof, hath and doth hereby, for himself, his heirs, executors and administrators covenant and agree to and with the said Francis Harrington, his heirs, executors and administrators, that he will carry on and cultivate and improve said farm and tract of land in a good and husbandlike manner, so long as the said Francis and Lydia, or either of them shall live, as well the half reconveyed to the said Francis and Lydia as the other half, and that he will account to the said Francis so long as the said Francis shall live, for one third part of the clear annual income or profits of said real estate, annually, by delivering to the said Francis annually, of the various articles of produce raised on said farm and tracts of land to that amount, or by paying the said Francis said one third part in such other manner as the said Francis and Daniel shall agree, and the said Daniel further covenants as aforesaid, that he will at all seasons of the year have at the house a suitable and sufficient quantity of good fire wood to keep one fire, so long as the said Francis and Lydia or either of them shall live and will fit the same for the fire and bring it in and make the fire if required, and will also furnish said Francis and said Lydia so long as they or either of them shall live, with a horse and chaise, and also when necessary, with a horse and sleigh to ride in, and tackle the same for them whenever required.

“And in case the said Lydia shall survive the said Francis, the said Daniel further covenants and agrees that he will account with the said Lydia annually, so long as she shall live for one sixth part of the clear profits or income of said estate in the same manner as he is to account to the said Francis for one third part during his life, and that he will also provide the said Lydia with

firewood and with a horse and chaise and sleigh as before specified. And in case of the sickness of the said Francis and Lydia or either of them, the said Daniel further covenants as aforesaid, that he will provide for them all necessary and suitable medical aid and advice with suitable nursing and attendance, and pay the expenses thereof, and in case of the death of either of them defray all the expenses of a decent and Christian burial. It is however understood and agreed between the parties, that in case the said Lydia shall survive the said Francis, and elect to take her dower in the estate of the said Francis that then the said Daniel is not to be under obligation to account to her for one sixth part of the income of said estate, or to provide her fire wood, or horse and chaise and sleigh as before provided.

“And the said Daniel further covenants and agrees with the said Francis that he will pay to Francis Harrington Jr. son of said Francis the sum of eight hundred dollars, as follows, to wit: one hundred dollars thereof on the first day of April, next, and one hundred dollars on the first day of every succeeding April until the whole sum of eight hundred dollars is paid. And the said Daniel further covenants as aforesaid that he will pay to Mary Perry, daughter of said Francis, the sum of fifty dollars at or before the decease of the said Francis.

“And the said Daniel further covenants with the said Francis, as aforesaid, that he will pay to his daughter Lydia Flagg Harrington the sum of four hundred dollars, to be paid on her marriage, or at the decease of said Francis, whichever event may first happen, and also that he will permit his said daughter Lydia F. to have a home in the dwelling house so long as she shall remain single and unmarried, in the same manner she now has, and has heretofore had.

“And the said Francis in consideration of the covenants afore-

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said of the said Daniel and to enable said Daniel to carry on, cultivate and improve said farm and tracts of land as aforesaid, hath agreed to sell and convey, and doth hereby sell and convey to said Daniel one undivided half of all the stock, to wit, cattle, horses, sheep, swine and poultry, which he the said Francis now owns, to be owned by them in common and undivided so long as the said Francis shall live, the said Daniel however, is to take all the care and charge of said stock, and to account to the said Francis for one half of all the net proceeds of the same, or net income arising therefrom. And the said Francis further covenants and agrees with said Daniel that in case said Daniel survives him that the said Daniel shall have the whole of the stock which may be in existence at the time of the decease of said Francis, or may be raised from, or exchanged for, or bought by the proceeds of the present stock, that is to say, the half which would otherwise belong to the estate of said Francis at his decease, shall then become the property of the said Daniel.

“And the said Francis in consideration of the covenants aforesaid of the said Daniel hath and doth hereby sell and convey to said Daniel one half, undivided, of all the farming tools, carts, wagons, chaise and sleighs included, to be held by them in common so long as both live, and at the decease of said Francis the whole property of such as may then remain to be the sole property of the said Daniel.

“In witness whereof the parties to these present have hereunto set their hands and seals the day and year first above written.”

These deeds and agreement, signed and recorded in Book 320, Pages 378 and 379, were witnessed and notarized by Abijah Bigelow. (This Abijah Bigelow lived at the corner of Front and Church Streets, and his residence later became the City's first hospital in 1871.)

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The Harringtons in the past had been noted for their longevity, but when Captain Francis^s Harrington died on October 17, 1841, it was at the early age of sixty-four years. He was buried in Rural Cemetery, which was opened in 1836, when the Honorable Daniel Waldo donated nine acres of land on Grove Street, to be used as a "rural cemetery."

VII.

DANIEL HARRINGTON, 1802-1863

THIS HARRINGTON LINE now descends to Daniel Harrington of the sixth generation, the first born of Francis⁵ Harrington, who succeeded to the estate after his father's death. Daniel⁶ Harrington was born at the homestead on October 4, 1802, and followed the Harrington tradition of successful farming and dairying. He was a Captain in the State Militia, deeply interested in public affairs, and recognized as a man of sound judgment and of unimpeachable integrity; he could have had almost any honor within the offering of his townsmen, but he was content to remain in private life, and with the exception of serving as a member of the school committee, surveyor of highways, member of the Common Council and alderman in 1848 and 1849, he declined to be a candidate for higher office.

Daniel⁶ Harrington was an active and devoted member of Old South Church, and one of the founders of Union Congregational Church (incorporated on March 11, 1835), which was located at the time on Front Street opposite the Common. Union Congregational later built a new church on this site in 1880, and on February 19, 1896, it united with Salem Street Church, while building the present church on Chestnut Street, opposite Pearl Street, formerly the site of the Kinnicutt estate.

He married in Worcester, on March 27, 1828, Clarissa Gray, the daughter of Nathaniel and Patty (Dickman) Gray, and the great-great-granddaughter of Matthew Gray, one of the first settlers here, who in 1729 purchased land south of the Harrington estate, the fifty-five acre nucleus of the John Gray farm. Matthew Gray lived on what is now Hyannis Place, off Grafton Street, in a

THE HARRINGTON FAMILY IN WORCESTER

house that was still standing until a few years ago; the foundation and cellar hole are all that remain today.

Clarissa Gray's grandfather, Reuben Gray, was the subject of an interesting article by Caleb A. Wall, editor of the *Worcester Spy*, in his *Reminiscences of Worcester* published in 1877. Reuben Gray's first born, Reuben, Jr., was drowned on July 12, 1807, aged twenty years; his second son, Moses, was killed by a fall from a tree, March 26, 1808, aged eighteen years, and he (Reuben Gray), on May 23, 1814, was killed by a stroke of lightning on his farm.

Mr. Wall related in this connection an incident which occurred at Reuben Gray's funeral at Old South Church. Taking those three sudden and tragic deaths in the family as not merely accidental, but Providential, the then pastor of Old South Church, Rev. Dr. Austin (this Rev. Dr. Austin's home was at the corner of Main and Austin Streets, and Austin Street was named for him) made a very peculiar allusion to the deceased. Leaning over the pulpit, in front of which were the remains of the unfortunate man, while the widow, children, and other mourning relatives were around the coffin, the minister said, "In all probability my hearers, our friend whose body lies before us, is at this moment suffering the torments of the damned."

The consternation among the mourning relatives may be better imagined than described.

The Grays seemed to have been born to trouble, for, in addition to the above tragic occurrences, the original Matthew Gray homestead, which had been in the family for four generations, and was at the time in the possession of Reuben Gray's son, Matthew 3rd, was lost to the family under foreclosure in 1829.

Daniel⁶ and Clarissa Harrington had nine children, all born in Worcester: Joseph Austin, born October 1829, died December 4, 1875 (he served in the Civil War with the 51st Massachusetts

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Volunteer Infantry Regiment); Emily Augusta, born October 23, 1831, died in 1883; Charles Augustus, born May 20, 1834, died in 1905 (he was a partner in the firm of Garfield and Harrington, dealers in coal and ice); Henry Martyn, born March 30, 1836, died August 6, 1837 (he lived only sixteen months); Delia Amanda, born March 21, 1841; Maria Antoinette, born September 2, 1843, died November 25, 1880 (she married Lt. Edward W. Wellington, Civil War Officer); Francis Alfred, born November 17, 1846, died August 28, 1922; George A., born July 8, 1849, died in 1883; and Daniel Araetius, born May 8, 1851, died June 17, 1916.

The letter "A" must have had some significance for Daniel⁶ and Clarissa Harrington, for the middle names of all their children, with the exception of Henry Martyn, began with the letter "A."

Daniel⁶ Harrington's land holdings at the time amounted to over two hundred and twenty acres, and except for the following three transactions that he made with Leonard Flagg (son of Aaron Flagg) in 1837, which appear to have been to his disadvantage, he never again bought land, and his large estate gradually dwindled down to under ninety acres.

In the first transaction, on October 26, 1837, Daniel⁶ Harrington purchased of Leonard Flagg for nine hundred and twenty-five dollars, nine acres and twenty-one rods of land, bordering on Plantation Street, which was recorded the next day in Book 328, Page 192; then one week later, on November 3, for no apparent reason, he sold this land back to Leonard Flagg for only one hundred dollars; this deed recorded in Book 327, Page 614. Then he re-purchased the same land, on the same day, for the original price of nine hundred and twenty-five dollars, recorded at the Worcester Registry, Book 328, Page 394.

It may seem strange that the second transaction, which occurred a week later, should have a lower book number than the



Geo. E. Gladwin

123 HARRINGTON WAY
The Harrington homestead, built by Daniel Harrington in 1852.

first transaction; however, in those days it was not unusual to have three or four books being hand copied at the same time, and a deed or mortgage that was recorded a week or two later could be given a lower book number.

Daniel⁶ Harrington must have gone to considerable expense when he built his new barn in 1841 and his residence later in 1852, for he went heavily into debt and had to borrow an additional sixteen hundred dollars from his uncle Jonathan⁵ and cousin Benjamin⁶, and gave them back a mortgage on his property, recorded at the Worcester Registry in Book 508, Page 159; this mortgage with interest was paid back in annual payments, the last payment made on February 21, 1866. In 1853, he had to pay twelve dollars for the right and privilege of drawing water by pipe line from two wells on the estate of his uncle Jonathan⁵, and also to pay one half the expense of keeping this pipe line in repair.

On October 1, 1855, his two oldest sons, Joseph⁷ and Charles⁷ Harrington, in consideration of twelve hundred dollars, mortgaged six acres of their land for the benefit of their father, Daniel⁶ (Book 558, Page 309), which mortgage was assigned by Nahum Flagg, the guardian of Daniel⁶ Harrington, on February 13, 1861 (Book 637, Page 316), to Benjamin⁶ Harrington and was not repaid until August 22, 1870.

It is difficult to understand just what happened to Daniel.⁶ He had inherited a large and well managed farm and dairy business which was free and clear of all debts, but whatever the reason, we do know that on September 18, 1860, it was found necessary for him to receive assistance in managing his affairs. Therefore, Mayor William W. Rice of Worcester, on the petition of Captain Daniel's⁶ brother, Alderman Francis⁶ Harrington, his brother-in-law, Nahum Flagg, his uncle, Samuel Perry and cousin, Benjamin⁶ Harrington, appointed Nahum Flagg as his guardian.

On May 31, 1861, Nahum Flagg petitioned the court for the right to sell some of Daniel⁶ Harrington's real estate to wit: "a certain tract of land situated in Shrewsbury, containing twenty acres—and that it would be for the benefit of said ward, that the aforesaid real estate, which is not part of the homestead of said Daniel Harrington, be sold, and the proceeds thereof be applied to the payment of debts due from the said ward, Daniel Harrington, as aforesaid, and for charges of sale, as this real estate can be sold without injuring the remainder of the balance, if any be."

That same year, on September 2, 1861, Nahum Flagg resigned as guardian of said Daniel⁶ Harrington.

On October 1, 1861, Daniel⁶ Harrington sold to his daughter, Emily Harrington Battelle, the valuable twenty acre tract he owned in Shrewsbury, for only five hundred dollars; this was land formerly owned by John Gleason, that Daniel⁶ had inherited from his father, Francis⁵ Harrington. This deed is recorded in Book 646, Page 37.

These were the war years of 1861–1865, and with Captain Daniel's⁶ health failing fast, it was necessary in April of 1863, for Henry Chapin, Esq., Judge of Probate Court, on the petition of Clarissa Harrington, to appoint Anthony Chase, the county treasurer and president of the Worcester Mutual Fire Insurance Co., as guardian over the four youngest Harrington children: Maria A., Francis A.⁷, George A.⁷ and Daniel A.⁷

On September 11, 1863, Captain Daniel⁶ Harrington died at the homestead, at sixty-one years of age, and was buried in Hope Cemetery. In his will, probated October 6, 1863, he bequeathed five hundred dollars to each of his five sons, and three hundred dollars to each of his three daughters; the remainder of his estate, including the farm and dwelling, he left to his widow, Clarissa Harrington.

Daniel's⁶ aged mother, Lydia, was still living with him at the time of his death (she was nearly eighty-six years) and his widow, Clarissa, found it very difficult to keep out of debt; her oldest son, Joseph⁷, was still in the Union army and her only income was derived from the dairy business and farm produce, which had been neglected, and was at its lowest state.

On September 29, 1868, Clarissa Harrington found it necessary to mortgage her property for one thousand dollars, with the People's Savings Bank, recorded in Book 774, Page 383; part of this money was no doubt used to finance her son, Charles⁷, who went into business with William S. Denny and opened the Bay State Livery Stable.

On April 1, 1873, Clarissa Harrington assigned this mortgaged property to her three sons, Joseph⁷, Charles⁷ and Francis⁷, "for one dollar and other valuable considerations", recorded in Book 898, Page 96. This mortgage was finally paid off by her son, Francis Alfred⁷, on February 6, 1893.

Lydia Perry Harrington died on October 27, 1868, at the advanced age of ninety years and eight months, and was buried beside her husband, Francis⁵ Harrington, in Rural Cemetery.

Clarissa Harrington's oldest son, Joseph⁷, died in Worcester on December 4, 1875, and his mother deeded his share of the farm to her three sons, Charles⁷, Francis⁷ and Daniel⁷ in 1876; recorded in Book 972, Page 139. (This deed was signed in the presence of Isaac Davis, who served three terms as Mayor of Worcester, and whose residence was on Elm Street, the building occupied by the Worcester Club since 1888.)

On May 11, 1882, Charles Augustus⁷ Harrington (he had bought out his partner, William Denny, and taken his younger brother, Francis Alfred⁷, into the firm under the name "Harrington and Brother" in 1872) conveyed to his two brothers, Francis⁷

and Daniel⁷, his one undivided third part of the farm, which is fully described in the deed from Clarissa Harrington to said Charles A.⁷, Francis A.⁷ and Daniel A.⁷ This conveyance was recorded in Book 1121, Page 181. On that same day, in Book 1121, Page 183, articles of an agreement were signed by Clarissa Harrington and her sons, Francis A.⁷ and Daniel A.⁷, which is described as follows:

“Articles of an agreement made and entered unto this 11th day of May, 1882 by and between Francis A. and Daniel A. Harrington, both of Worcester, of the one part and Clarissa Harrington of said Worcester, widow of Daniel Harrington, late of said Worcester, deceased of the other part, witness that whereas the said Daniel Harrington by his last will devised certain legacies to said Francis A. and Daniel A. Harrington and also other legacies to his other children and by said last will devised the remainder of his estate to his said widow, the said Clarissa Harrington, the mother of said Francis A. and Daniel A. Harrington; and whereas the said Clarissa Harrington on the 1st. day of April 1873, conveyed to one, Charles A. Francis A. and Daniel A. Harrington the Home Farm which she now occupies which belonged to said Daniel Harrington, her late husband which said deed is recorded in Worcester Registry of Deeds, Book 898, Page 96, and whereas the grantees in said deed of the Home Farm, in consideration of said conveyance, promised and agreed to and with the said Clarissa Harrington, that they would pay out certain sums of money, and do and perform other acts and things and said Grantor in said deed had promised and agreed to do certain acts and things, all of which were reduced to writing and were signed and sealed by said Grantees and Grantor of said deed.

“And whereas, on the 11th. day of May 1882, said Charles A. Harrington sold and conveyed to said Francis A. and Daniel A.

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Harrington, all his right, title and interest in said Home Farm and said Francis A. and Daniel A. for in consideration of said conveyance among other considerations, agreed to and with the said Charles A. Harrington, that they would assume all payments still unpaid and do and perform all the conditions of said agreement with said Clarissa Harrington, yet unperformed, which the said Grantees in said deed of the Home Farm had agreed to do and perform; and whereas in consequence of said sale by said Charles A. Harrington of his interest in the said Home Farm, said original agreement between said Grantees and Grantor of said Home Farm has this day been given up and cancelled by the agreement of all parties thereto. Now therefore it is agreed by and between the parties of this agreement as follows to wit; The said Francis A. and Daniel A. Harrington hereby covenant and agree with the said Clarissa Harrington that they will pay up the balance due on the mortgage which was held by the People's Savings Bank; principal sum now due being \$700.00; that they will pay to the two heirs who have not been paid the amounts of their respective legacies due them, that they will pay to said Clarissa Harrington, the sum of \$200.00 per annum during her life in equal quarterly payments, that they will pay the amount of note given for stock and personal property which was on said Home Farm amounting to \$400.00 and interest, and that they will pay to the other children of their said mother, Clarissa, within five years after her decease the sum of \$2000.00 in such sums and proportions to each as she may by her last Will and Testament direct, interest on the same not to commence until two years after her decease; and they further agree that said Clarissa Harrington shall have whatever room in the house she may select for her own use, that she shall have from the crops raised on said farm, all the milk, eggs and vegetables she may wish

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to use on her table for herself and friends, that she shall have the use of a horse and carriage whenever she may desire to use the same; that she shall have firewood sufficient for her own fire, if enough remains on said farm, if not, she shall obtain her firewood from her own wood lot, known as the 'ten acre lot' separate from said farm. The above privileges to continue during her natural life.

"And said F. A. and D. A. Harrington agree to keep the buildings on said farm in good repair, as they are now in, and the said Clarissa Harrington covenants and agrees on her part to settle and pay up all the claims justly due from the estate of her late husband Daniel, which are not already paid, except herein stated; that she will preserve and keep all the receipts of the Heirs of said estate having claims against the same in such a manner that the other parties to this agreement may have free access to them in case of need, that they may sell and convey a portion of said Home Farm if they so desire, but not to sell and convey so much as to impair the security of her rights under this contract; That she will appoint said Francis A. and Daniel A. Harrington the executors of her last Will and Testament and said executors shall have five years whereas to settle her estate.

"Witness our hands and seals this day and year first above written.

"Signed and sealed in presence of
S. B. Goddard

Signed:

Francis A. Harrington
Daniel A. Harrington
Clarissa Harrington"

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VIII.

FRANCIS ALFRED HARRINGTON, 1846-1922

THIS HARRINGTON LINE of descent now continues with Francis Alfred Harrington of the seventh generation, the son of



THE HON. FRANCIS ALFRED HARRINGTON
1846-1922

Daniel and Clarissa (Gray) Harrington, who was born at the homestead on November 17, 1846. He was a man of exemplary character and benevolence, and one of Worcester's most influential and distinguished citizens.

Although in his early years he took an active part in the operation of the farm, he was destined to become a successful businessman and political leader, establishing a reputation that has been unsurpassed in the annals of Worcester history. He received his early education here at B. C. Howe's Business College, and at Worcester Academy, class of 1862. When he was twenty-one years of age he entered the employ of his older brother, Charles⁷, at the Bay State Livery (in the rear of the Bay State Hotel), which was established in 1869. He became a partner in 1871, under the firm name of "Harrington and Brother", and five years later they removed to Central Street where a carriage shop was added. On the retirement of his brother, Charles⁷, in May of 1882 (Charles⁷ went into the coal and ice business with a Mr. Garfield, under the firm name of Garfield and Harrington, at 96 School Street), he took into partnership his younger brother, Daniel⁷, to whom he sold out his interests in 1896.

On November 16, 1871, Francis Alfred⁷ Harrington married first, Roxanna Maria Grout of Spencer, the daughter of Silas and Eliza (Draper) Grout. (By this union the Harrington family was again united with a prominent early colonial family, as Roxanna Grout was a direct descendant of Captain John Grout, who came from England and settled in Watertown in 1640. This Captain Grout was the progenitor of all the Grouts in this country, and the ancestor of Lieutenant John "Willie" Grout, who gallantly fell at the battle of Ball's Bluff and was Worcester's first martyr in the Civil War. His death inspired Henry Stevenson Washburn to write the famous poem, "The Vacant Chair," which was later

put into song.) They had three children, all born in Worcester: Charles Arthur⁸, born January 26, 1874; Frank Chester⁸, born February 6, 1876 and May Emily, born May 9, 1878 (who married James P. Gray). Francis Alfred⁷ Harrington married second, at Worcester on May 28, 1902, Lillia Hanna (Dudley) Leighton, the daughter of Joseph Smith Dudley and Sarah Ann (Lamson) Dudley of Augusta, Maine, and the widow of Frank Leighton of Pepperell, Mass.

Papers were passed on November 10, 1882, whereby Daniel Araetius⁷ Harrington conveyed his half of the farm to his brother, Francis Alfred⁷ Harrington, in consideration of "one dollar and other valuable considerations", with the exception of the "ten acre lot", lying between Hamilton and Grafton Streets, which was formerly owned by Joseph Harrington. Francis Alfred⁷ Harrington in turn conveyed this half of the farm to his wife, Roxanna Harrington; recorded in Book 1134, Pages 83 and 84.

The following year in 1883, Francis Alfred's⁷ younger brother, George⁷, died in his thirty-fourth year; he had been in ill health all his life and was living with his sister, Delia Harrington Andrews, in Clinton, Mass. Another sister, Emily Harrington Battelle, who lived in Shrewsbury, Mass., also died that same year.

On the sixth day of June, 1885, his mother, Clarissa Harrington, died in her seventy-sixth year, and was buried beside her husband, Captain Daniel⁶, in Hope Cemetery.

After the death of his mother, Francis Alfred⁷ Harrington moved back to 123 Harrington Way in 1886. (When first married, he and his young wife had been living at various addresses in the city, including 16 Windsor Street, which he shared with his brother, Charles⁷.) Francis⁷ lived at the farm until 1902 when, after his second marriage, he moved to 856 Main Street.

Francis Alfred⁷ Harrington entered into politics in 1887, and

was elected Alderman from Ward 3 on the Republican ticket, defeating Andrew Athy, Democrat, and in 1889, he was elected President of the Board. In December of 1889, he was elected Mayor of Worcester, defeating A. George Bullock, the Citizens Democrat candidate; he served three terms, for the years 1890 to 1893, defeating Benjamin W. Childs in 1891 and Joseph S. Perry in 1892.

During his three terms as Mayor, he put into operation the new sewage disposal beds in Quinsigamond, created the office of superintendent of street lights, had two new fire engine houses erected at Lake View and Quinsigamond, and finished the new public library on Elm Street. He had the English High School built on Irving Street (now Classical High School), also the new school-houses on Millbury and Canterbury Streets. With all these civic improvements, the tax rate was lower during his administration than for many years previous; he was later rewarded by the voters of the city by being elected to the State Legislature as State Senator for the years 1899, 1900 and 1901.

On October 1, 1896, Daniel⁷ Harrington conveyed to his brother, Francis Alfred⁷, in consideration of "one dollar and other valuable considerations" the "ten acre lot" lying between Hamilton and Grafton Streets. With this purchase, Francis Alfred⁷ and Roxanna Harrington became sole owners of the Harrington homestead, consisting of eighty-five acres. This deed is recorded in Book 1521, Page 440, at the Worcester Registry of Deeds.

On the twenty-fourth day of December 1900, after a short illness, Roxanna Harrington died in her fiftieth year, and was buried in Hope Cemetery.

In fraternal organizations, the Honorable Francis Alfred⁷ Harrington was a member of Athelstan Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons, serving as Master in 1889; a member of Eureka Chapter Royal Arch Masons; of Hiram Council Royal and Select Masters,

THE HARRINGTON FAMILY IN WORCESTER

and served as Commander of Worcester County Commandery, Knights Templars in 1884–1885 and 1886. He was a member of the Massachusetts Consistory and received the thirty-third degree in the Supreme Council at Boston on September 17, 1907. He also took the degree of the Royal Order of Scotland in 1912.

Francis Alfred⁷ Harrington was a trustee of Aletheia Grotto, a member of the Royal Arcanum, Past Patron of Stella Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star and a member of the Odd Fellows Society. He was also Past Master of Strong Worcester Grange, Past Master of the County Grange and served as treasurer of the State Grange for twenty-nine years. He held a commission as First Lieutenant in the Massachusetts State Militia, and was one of the first honorary members elected to George H. Ward Post 10, of the Grand Army of the Republic.

With Frank M. Heath and others, he organized two insurance companies: The Ridgely Protective Association in 1894 and The Masonic Protective Association in 1895.

They opened offices in the Knowles Building at 518 Main Street, with the services of only one clerk. Needing more office space they moved in 1915 to 18 Franklin Street, in the Worcester Trust Building, using two entire floors and employing the services of seventy persons. It was fortunate that they moved, as five years later the Knowles Building was entirely destroyed in one of Worcester's worst conflagrations.

They soon outgrew these quarters and, in 1923, The Massachusetts Protective Association Inc. (the name had been changed in 1918 from The Masonic Protective Association) purchased the Dr. Charles Wheeler estate at 18 Chestnut Street and erected a modern two-story office building, which it further enlarged in 1924 by adding two more stories.

The Paul Revere Life Insurance Company was founded in 1930

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by the officers of The Massachusetts Protective Association Inc. Most of its stock is owned by The Massachusetts Protective Association Inc.

The growth of these two companies was phenomenal, for after the purchase of the Rufus Woodward estate at 20 Chestnut Street in 1929, three additions to the main office building were made to take care of their growing business, besides the two floors added in 1924; the first addition in 1938, when they added the eastern wing; the second addition in 1948, when they added the northwestern wing; and in 1958, the new south wing, extending their property from Elm Street to Walnut Street, making it one of the city's most modern and attractive office buildings, employing 850 persons.

Today, The Massachusetts Protective Association Inc. and The Paul Revere Life Insurance Company are among the largest writers of non-cancellable Health and Accident Insurance in the United States, doing business in all fifty States, the District of Columbia and Canada. The total face amount of life insurance held by policyholders of The Paul Revere Life Insurance Company passed the billion dollar mark in 1961, and translating the combined disability insurance premium income of both companies into the life insurance equivalent, produced a figure of more than three billion dollars of life insurance in force.

Among the present officers of the companies are the following Harringtons:

Frank Chester⁸ Harrington, Chairman of the Finance
Committee

Frank Leighton⁹ Harrington, President

Robert Dudley⁹ Harrington, Vice-president and Treasurer

Francis Alfred⁹ Harrington 2nd, Vice-president

Frank Leighton¹⁰ Harrington, Jr., Vice-president and
Personnel Director

THE HARRINGTON FAMILY IN WORCESTER

On June 1, 1922, Francis Alfred⁷ Harrington conveyed to his oldest son, Charles Arthur⁸ Harrington, the homestead at 123 Harrington Way, which comprised the main part of the farm of seventy-five acres and the ten acre lot, before mentioned. Francis A.⁷ had acquired title to the homestead under the will of his wife, Roxanna Harrington. This deed is recorded in Book 2270, Page 214. On that same day, he conveyed to his son, Frank Chester⁸ Harrington, about eleven acres of land, lying southeast of the farm, between Hamilton and Grafton Streets. Recorded in Book 2270, Page 213.

The Honorable Francis Alfred⁷ Harrington died suddenly, on August 28, 1922, of complications resulting from a cold he had for several days. The funeral, with most of the dignitaries of the City and State attending, was held at the Masonic Temple, under the direction of the Knights Templars, and he was buried beside his wife, Roxanna Harrington, in Hope Cemetery.

Perhaps the best tribute to Francis Alfred⁷ Harrington is contained in the words of his business associate, Mr. William C. Johnson, on the bronze memorial tablet now in the lobby of The Massachusetts Protective Association Incorporated.

FRANCIS A. HARRINGTON

1846

1922

“As a memorial to one who in his
life exemplified the worth of industry
the virtue of fidelity and the
grace of loyalty”

THE HARRINGTON FAMILY IN WORCESTER

IX.

CHARLES ARTHUR HARRINGTON, 1874-1963

THE CONTINUOUS OCCUPANCY of the historic Harrington homestead since 1741 follows with Charles Arthur Harrington of the eighth generation, the oldest son of the Honorable Francis Alfred⁷ and Roxanna (Grout) Harrington.



CHARLES ARTHUR HARRINGTON

THE HARRINGTON FAMILY IN WORCESTER

Charles Arthur⁸ Harrington was born in Worcester on January 26, 1874, and received his early education in the local schools. He entered Worcester Polytechnic Institute in 1891, where he was prominent in athletics, playing football and earning honors in the quarter-mile run. He served as president of the Tech Athletic Association, was class orator and graduated in 1895 with the degree of Bachelor of Science.

He taught in the evening schools for two years, and was mathematics teacher in Worcester High School for five years. He then became associated in the management of the Masonic and Ridgely Protective Associations, and later became secretary. He served as general manager of The Massachusetts Protective Association Inc., from 1918 to 1922, and, after the death of his father, the Hon. Francis A.⁷ Harrington, became president, with William C. Johnson as vice-president, L. G. Hodgkins as secretary, and his brother, Frank Chester⁸ Harrington as treasurer.

In politics, Charles Arthur⁸ Harrington was a member of the Common Council from 1908 to 1914, and President in 1912 and 1913; he served on committees on finance, streets and sewers, and was on the Board of Overseers of the Poor for three years. He was a trustee of the Worcester Public Library and chairman of the Hope Cemetery Commission.

He was a member of Athelstan Lodge, Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons, and served as Master in 1901 and as District Deputy Grand Master in 1910 and 1911. He was also a charter member of Isaiah Thomas Lodge.

In the York Rite Bodies, he was a member of Eureka Chapter Royal Arch Masons; of Hiram Council Royal and Select Masters and a member of the Worcester County Commandery No. 5 Knights Templars, serving as Commander in 1913 and 1914.

In the Scottish Rite Bodies, he was a member of Worcester Lodge

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of Perfection; of Goddard Council, Princes of Jerusalem, having served as Sovereign Prince in 1912, and of Lawrence Chapter Rose Croix and the Massachusetts Consistory. On September 17, 1918, he was elevated to the thirty-third degree. He served as a trustee of the Worcester Masonic Charity & Educational Association.

He was one of the organizers of Aletheia Grotto, having served as Monarch, and was also a member of Aleppo Temple, Ancient Arabic Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine of Boston and of Stella Chapter No. 3 Order of the Eastern Star.

He was a member of the Worcester Club and of the Worcester Country Club and served as president of the latter.

Charles Arthur⁸ Harrington married, first, on July 27, 1900, Luella Blanche Crook, the daughter of David and Frances (Cushing) Crook of Columbus, Ohio (she died July 29, 1941); they had three children: Ruth Anna, born July 23, 1901, married May 12, 1925, Warren Aldrich Ellsworth of Worcester; Mildred Elizabeth, born March 4, 1903, married June 21, 1934, George Ambrose McEvoy of Toronto, Canada; and Francis Alfred⁹ Harrington 2nd, born August 28, 1909, married December 27, 1934, Jacquelyn Harley of Miami, Florida. He married, second, Ethel Champlin (Lawton) Ford, the widow of Austin L. Ford and the daughter of Frank B. and Molly Turner (Child) Lawton (she died April 9, 1957).

On April 30, 1923, Charles Arthur⁸ Harrington sold to John W. Kemp, enough land for a house lot (7952 sq. ft.) at what is now 269 Harrington Way. This lot bordered the land of Francis Benjamin⁸ Harrington, where his (Francis Benjamin's⁸) father had built his home at 271 Harrington Way in 1891. This deed is recorded in Book 2296, Page 457.

On June 14, 1927, Charles A.⁸ purchased fifteen acres of land from Francis Benjamin⁸ and Rena Harrington; this land was

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west of his own estate near Plantation Street. This deed recorded in Book 2439, Page 302.

He donated to the City of Worcester, on May 26, 1933, six acres of land, to be used as a city playground, for the children of the neighborhood and now called Harrington Field; this land is situated at the corner of Franklin Street and Harrington Way, and the transaction is recorded in Book 2583, Page 244.

In 1962, part of the Harrington land was acquired by the City of Worcester as the site for a new Junior High School.

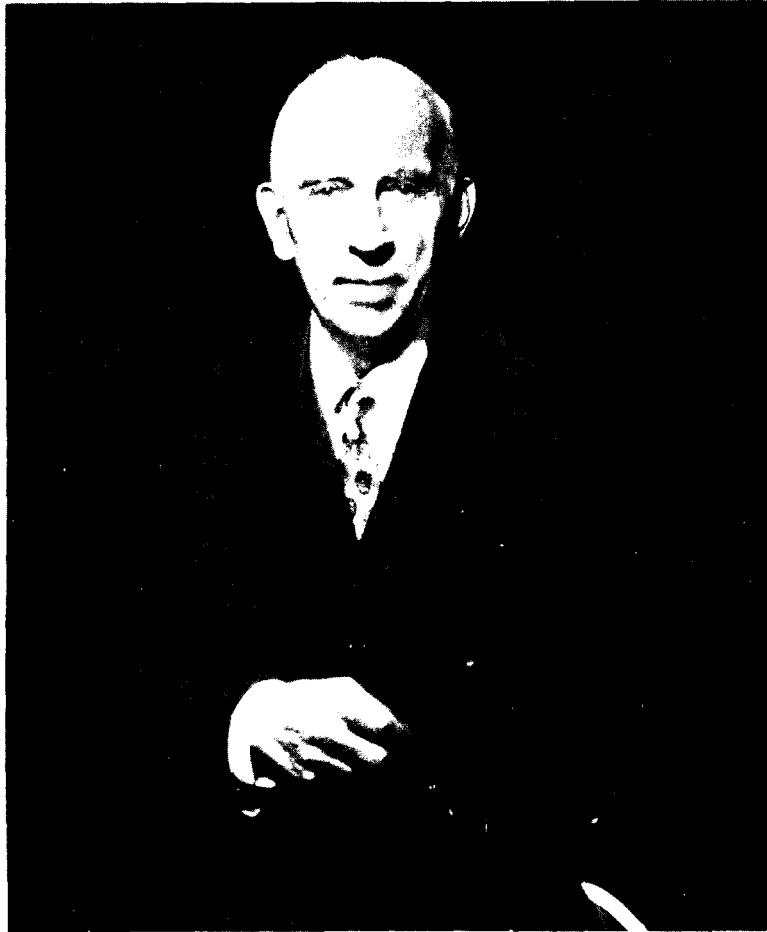
Charles Arthur⁸ Harrington died in his 89th year at the Harrington homestead on February 19, 1963 and was buried in Hope Cemetery. His was a life of dignity and benevolence. His death ends a career dedicated to the principles by which he had been raised.

THE HARRINGTON FAMILY IN WORCESTER

X.

FRANK CHESTER HARRINGTON, 1876-

FRANK CHESTER HARRINGTON of the eighth generation, the younger son of the Honorable Francis Alfred⁷ Harrington, was born in Worcester on February 6, 1876. He spent his early



FRANK CHESTER HARRINGTON

THE HARRINGTON FAMILY IN WORCESTER

youth at the homestead, living there from 1886 to 1901, when he removed to 856 Main Street after his marriage.

He attended the local schools and entered Worcester Polytechnic Institute in 1894, where he was an outstanding athlete as fullback on the football team and in the pole vault and running broad jump. He graduated in 1898, with the degree of Bachelor of Science. He served as a trustee of W.P.I. from 1939 to 1949, and also served as a member of the finance committee. In 1945 he was awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Engineering.

After engaging in the manufacture of specially designed machinery and in the wholesale plumbing business, he became associated in 1908 with The Masonic Protective Association and was elected secretary of the company in 1909. He then served as treasurer for The Massachusetts Protective Association Inc., and The Paul Revere Life Insurance Company, and is now Chairman of the Finance Committee of both companies.

Frank Chester^s Harrington has been a director of the Worcester Bank and Trust Company from June 1929, and of the successor bank, the Worcester County Trust Company which in January 1959 became the Worcester County National Bank. He is a director of the Y.M.C.A., having served as vice-president; the Frank C. Harrington Center in Boylston was named in his honor. He is also a member of the Worcester Club and of the Worcester Country Club, having been a member of the original Board of Governors and served as president.

He is a member of Athelstan Lodge, Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons, having served as Master in 1905 and as District Deputy Grand Master in 1921-1922 and 1923. He is also a member of Isaiah Thomas Lodge.

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In the York Rite Bodies, he is a member of Eureka Chapter Royal Arch Masons; of Hiram Council Royal and Select Masters, and served as Commander of Worcester County Commandery No. 5 Knights Templars in 1913 and 1914.

In the Scottish Rite Bodies, he is a member of Worcester Lodge of Perfection, and was Thrice Potent Master in 1917; of Goddard Council, Princes of Jerusalem, and served as Sovereign Prince in 1915, and of Lawrence Chapter Rose Croix and the Massachusetts Consistory. On September 16, 1924, he was elevated to the thirty-third degree. He served for many years as a trustee of the Worcester Masonic Charity & Educational Association.

He is a member of the Royal Order of Scotland; of Aleppo Temple, Ancient Arabic Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine of Boston; of the Aletheia Grotto and of Stella Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star. He is a member of Quinsigamond Lodge No. 43, I.O.O.F., and of the Worcester Grange. He is also a member of the Newcomen Society.

Frank Chester⁸ Harrington married on April 25, 1900, Leora Leighton, the daughter of Frank and Lillia (Dudley) Leighton of Pepperell, Mass. They had four children, all born in Worcester: Frank Leighton⁹ Harrington, born January 17, 1902, married July 9, 1927, Louise Cronin, the daughter of Dr. Thomas J. and Louise (Schwegler) Cronin; Robert Dudley⁹ Harrington, born October 17, 1903, married October 3, 1931, Anne Victoria Harrington (she died March 16, 1961), the daughter of Everett J. and Louise (Colwell) Harrington; he married second, on November 23, 1962, Mary Ann (Habgood) Montgomery; Lillia Leighton Harrington, born November 4, 1904, married April 2, 1927, Joseph Carson Molder; and Anna Grout Harrington, born March 6, 1906, married June 1, 1929, Frederick Whitcomb Mosher.

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On March 28, 1925, he sold the eleven acres of land lying between Hamilton and Grafton Streets, which he had received from his father, to Camille Trahan, an Alderman-at-Large of the City, who later divided this land into house lots. (This Camille Trahan is worth mentioning because he had purchased the old Matthew Gray homestead, aforementioned, in 1914, and was living there on Hyannis Place, when he purchased the surrounding eleven acres of land.) Frank Chester⁸ Harrington is presently residing at 12 Monadnock Road, where he has lived since 1904.

EPILOGUE

During the years, the Harringtons have played a conspicuous part in the growth of Worcester and have always been considered one of the prominent families of the city.

It is hoped that this historical and genealogical narrative about this Harrington family of Worcester will serve as a monument to the past and a legacy to future generations.

In conclusion, it is interesting to note again some unusual facts about the continuity of this family in Worcester. It is believed these Harringtons are the only family living in Worcester today who are still in possession of their original land which comes down from their ancestor Francis Harrington, of the third generation in this country, who first bought land and settled in Worcester in 1741.

It is also believed they are the only family with nine consecutive paternal generations who have lived in Worcester, six of which generations, as mentioned above, having lived at the same homestead. Also, today, there are living in Worcester, three eleventh generation Harringtons in a direct line from their paternal ancestor Robert¹ Harrington, who settled in Watertown, Massachusetts in 1634, namely, Frank Leighton¹¹ Harrington 3rd, born August 23, 1955; Brooks Chester¹¹ Harrington, born April 29, 1957, and Andrew Heathman¹¹ Harrington, born April 27, 1960.

