

- NOWELL FAMILY -

Being a brief account of Captain Peter Nowell
of York, Maine and some of his
descendants.

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I N T R O D U C T I O N .

The Nowell family in England dates back to about the beginning of the 13th Century.

The first one of the name was Richard Nowell of Revet alias Rede, the seat of the family being at Readhall in Lancashire.

The first patent of arms was granted to his grandson, Adam Nowell, and dated the 26th of June in the 12th year of the reign of King Edward I, or 1287. Another patent was issued to his son, Lawrence Nowell in the 42d year of the reign of King Edward III.

The grant of arms to Adam Nowell was confirmed by "Norry" King at arms at the Visitation of Lancashire in 1563. They consisted of "argent three covered cups sable, crest, an arm emboured in armor proper garnished, holding in the hand a fire ball".

Alexander Nowell, a member of this family, was Dean of St. Paul's during the reign of Edward VI. He was probably an uncle of Increase Nowell who was secretary of the Massachusetts Bay Colony and who came to New England with Winthrop in 1630.

No connection has as yet been established between the Massachusetts and Maine families.

NOWELL FAMILY

Being a brief account of Capt. Peter Nowell of York, Maine, and of some of his descendants.

Capt. Peter Nowell was born in the year 1670; the place of his birth is at present unknown. He came to New England from the Island of Jersey in the English Channel, sometime before the year 1693, being first found at Salem in the Colony of Massachusetts Bay. In the old records he is spoken of as being a blacksmith.

It seems probable that he did not remain in Salem for any great length of time for on "February 18, 1694-5" he purchased ten acres of land in York, from Joseph Banks of York, for 12 pounds, and on Oct. 14, 1695, he purchased 10 acres more in that part of York called "Scotland", for 20 pounds, from Richard Coman "taylor" of Salem. His removal from Salem to York took place during the summer of 1695.

The probability is that he had been stationed in the vicinity of York with troops which had been placed there to guard the frontier from the attacks of the French and Indians from the north; in a military order dated at "Yorke", Aug. 26, 1696, he is mentioned as "serjeant" Nowell.

Shortly after his removal from Salem to York he was summoned before the court for selling a horse on "ye Lords Day". He admitted his guilt and was fined ten shillings.

From this time on, he was a prominent man in the affairs of the town. The town of York made him a grant of 20 acres of land June 28, 1699, another grant was made to him of 40 acres Nov. 28, 1702, and several others at subsequent dates. In 1714 he was one of the selectmen of York.

Sometime during the year 1698 he married Sarah Weare, daughter of Peter Weare and Mary Davis, he had been a prominent man in the early history of the town of York and at one time was Register of Deeds for York County. He met his death at the hands of the Indians in the "Massacre of York" Jan. 25, 1691/2. His wife, Mary Davis, was a daughter of Capt. John Davis who had been Deputy Governor of Maine under Sir Ferdinando Gorges.

Sarah Weare was born in Jan. 1676 and died Sept. 13, 1729, aged 53 years, 9 mos. After her death, Peter Nowell married Mrs. Mary Preble, Feb. 19, 1730. She was the widow and fourth wife of Abraham Preble. Her maiden name was also Preble, she being a daughter of Capt. Abraham Preble.

He had six sons and three daughters, all by his first wife. From "Mr. Marshall's Record Books" we learn that Peter Nowell, born 1670, died May 10, 1740, in the 70th year of his age.

His will is dated Aug. 8, 1738, and was admitted to probate May 30, 1740. His sons John and Ebenezer were appointed administrators of the will and the inventory was returned July 14, 1740, amounting to 2035 pounds; 14 shillings; 3 pence.

The tombstone of his first wife is still standing in York on the farm of Mr. J. H. Nowell, a direct lineal descendent of his son Paul; it bears the following epitaph:-

"Here lies ye precious dust of Mrs. Sarah Nowell, late virtuous consort of Capt. Peter Nowell; a pattern of modesty & sobriety Prudence & diligence, Truth & faithfullness Eminent for serious and undissembled Devotion in ye Solemn Worship of God, Adorning her Profession by a blameless Faithful conversation. Who departed this life in the well grounded hope of a better, Sept. 29, 1729, in ye 53rd year of her age".

"The hearth of Peter Nowell his children borne unto him by Sarah his wife".

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|----|------|---|
| 2. | i | Peter. b. Feb. 24, 1698/9. d.y. |
| 3 | ii | Sarah. b. June 29, 1700. |
| 4 | iii | Mary. b. July 15, 1702. |
| 5 | iv | John. b. Mch. 18, 1705. |
| 6 | v | Peter. b. 1707. |
| 7 | vi | Ebenezer. b. Nov. 12, 1709. |
| 8 | vii | Abraham. b. Feb. 28, 1711/2. |
| 9 | viii | Paul. b. 1714. |
| 10 | ix | Silas. b. 1717. |
| 11 | x | Rather. b. July 12, 1721. |
| | 3 | Sarah NOWELL: married Capt. Jonathan Bane about 1716. |
| 12 | i | Jonathan. b. Feb. 13, 1717/8. |
| 13 | ii | Daniel. b. Oct. 27, 1720. |
| 14 | iii | Mary. b. Jan. 4, 1722/3. d.y. |
| 15 | iv | Sarah. b. July 8, 1725. |
| 16 | v | Joshua. b. Mch. 29, 1728. |
| 17 | vi | Mary. b. Oct. 7, 1730. |
| 18 | vii | Huldah. b. Apr. 1732. |
| 19 | viii | Abraham. b. Feb. 10, 1733/4. |
| 20 | ix | Ebenezer. b. Jan. 20, 1736/7. |
| 21 | x | Nehemiah. b. Mch. 17, 1740. |
| 22 | xi | Charles. b. Apr. 3, 1743. |
| | 4 | MARY NOWELL: married Capt. John Lane about 1730. |
| 23 | i | John. b. July 4, 1734. |
| 24 | ii | Henry. b. Aug. 19, 1737. d. Dec. 1737. |
| 25 | iii | Joanna. b. Sept. 18, 1738. d. Oct. 19, 1827. |
| 26 | iv | Daniel. b. May 11, 1740. d. Sept. 11, 1811. |
| 27 | v | Jabez. b. Sept. 21, 1743. d. Apr. 30, 1830. |

- 5 JOHN NOWELL: married Tabitha Came, the line of this family has not been worked out as yet.

The tombstone of John Nowell is still standing in York near that of his mother above mentioned; it bears the following epitaph:-

"Here lies interred ye remains of
Deacon John Nowell who dec'd Oct. ye
9th, 1743 in ye 39th year of his age.
Much lamented".

- 6 PETER NOWELL: married Lydia Junkins June 19, 1729.

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| 28 | i | Mary. b. Meh. 24, 1729/30. m. Ebenezer Simpson. |
| 29 | ii | Peter. Feb. 16, 1731/2. m. Sarah Gray. |
| 30 | iii | Daniel. m. Elinor Junkins. |
| 31 | iv | Shadrach. m. Joanna R. Gerrish. |
| 32 | v | Lydia. m. Israel Hodsdon. |
| 33 | vi | Mercy. m. Jotham Young. |

- 29 PETER NOWELL: married Sarah Gray.

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| 34 | i | Ebenezer. m. Abigail Emory. |
| 35 | ii | John. unm. |
| 36 | iii | Martha. m. Simon Emory. |
| 37 | iv | Lydia. m. Mr. Chick of York. |
| 38 | v | Sally. unm. |

- 30 DANIEL NOWELL: married Elinor Junkins.

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|----|-----|--|
| 39 | i | Daniel. m. Abigail Johnson. |
| 40 | ii | Isaac. unm. |
| 41 | iii | Peter. m. Patience Kingsbury, had 5 dau. |
| 42 | iv | Jeremiah. m. Sally --- |
| 43 | v | Lydia. m. William Kingsbury. |
| 44 | vi | Elinor. m. Abraham Thompson. |
| 45 | vii | Hannah. m. Jotham Junkins. |

- 28 MARY NOWELL: married Ebenezer Simpson, Jan. 16, 1752.

- 31 SHADRACH NOWELL: married Joanna R. Gerrish.

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| 46 | i | Shadrach. m. Mary Mason. |
| 47 | ii | Timothy |
| 48 | iii | Joanna. m. Mr. Young. |
| 49 | iv | Mary. m. Jos. McIntire. |
| 50 | v | Eunice. m. David Webster. |
| 51 | vi | Dorcas. |
| 52 | vii | Mercy. m. Jotham Mason. |
| 53 | viii | Margery. m. Nathaniel Simpson. |
| 54 | ix | Lydia. m. Geo. Abbott. |

- 46 SHADRACH NOWELL: m. Mary Mason.
- 55 1 Rebecca. m. Wm. Junkins.
 56 11 Mark. m. Mary Pollen.
 57 111 Shadrach. m. Eliza Hale.
 58 iv Jotham. m. Miss Plaisted.
 59 v Webster. m. Abigail Simpkins.
 60 vi Wm. Gerrish. m. Jane Robinson.
- 46 SHADRACH NOWELL:
- 61 vii Timothy.
 62 viii George. m. Martha Grant. He. d. Dec. 14, 1891.
 63 ix Charles. m. Eliza Robinson.
- 48 JOANNA NOWELL: married Mr. Young.
- 49 MARY NOWELL: married Jos. McIntire.
- 50 EUNICE NOWELL: married David Webster.
- 52 MERCY NOWELL: married Jotham Mason, Sept. 11, 1808.
- 53 MARGERIE NOWELL: married Nathaniel Simpson, Aug. 21, 1806.
- 54 LYDIA NOWELL: married Geo. Abbott.
- 7 EBENEZER NOWELL: married Patience Hamilton.
 His grave stone is still standing in York near those
 of his mother and brother John; it bears the follow-
 ing epitaph - "Here lies the body of Mr. Ebenezer
 Nowell who departed this life July the 1st, 1761".
- 64 1 Jonathan. b. 1746. d. Jan. 1821, m. Elizabeth Frost.
 d. Dec. 1829. Interred at No. Berwick, Me.
- 64 MAJ. JONATHAN NOWELL.
- 65 1 Ebenezer. b. 1768. d. 1860. m. Rachel Grant.
 2nd Sally Hayes.
 11 Patience. b. Nov. 24, 1770. m. Capt. Hobbs.
 111 Tabitha. b. Jan. 24, 1773. m. Capt. Hayes.
 iv Jonathan, Jr. b. Mar. 19, 1775.
 v George. b. Dec. 7, 1777.
 vi Theodosia. b. Mar. 2, 1788. m. Reuben Neal.
 vii Henry. b. Feb. 25, 1790.
 viii Hannah. b. Sept. 24, 1792. m. James Johnson.
 ix Mary. b. Oct. 11, 1794.
- 65 EBENEZER NOWELL: and Rachel (Grant) Nowell.
- 66 Elizabeth. b. Oct. 1, 1792. m. Dr. Charles Trafton.
 d. Nov. 22, 1843.
- 67 11 Mary. b. Jan. 14, 1795. m. William Shaw.
 d. Sept. 1877.

- 68 111 Patience. b. 1797. d. 1851.
69 iv Tabitha. b. May 26, 1799. m. Humphrey Chadbourne 1st
2nd, Ebenezer Littlefield.
d. May 1885.
70 v Sophia. b. 1802. d. 1827.
71 vi Lucretia. b. 1804. d. 1891.
72 vii Joshua Nowell. b. Dec. 1st, 1806. m. Sarah Hammond.
d. Nov. 14, 1880.
73 viii Sybil. b. Mar. 18, 1810. d. Aug. 1833.
- 72 JOSHUA NOWELL and Sarah Hammond Nowell.
- 74 i Ebenezer. b. Apr. 19, 1833. m. 1st. Har. 2nd Roach
75 ii Sybil H. b. Apr. 22, 1835.
76 iii A. Augusta. b. June 6, 1837. d.
77 iv John H. b. Jan. 6, 1840. m. Hannah A. Weymouth.
78 v Charles H. b. Feb. 18, 1842. m.
79 vi George W. b. Oct. 2nd, 1844. m. 1st Laura Roberts; 2nd-
80 vii William S. b. Jan. 18, 1847. unm.
81 viii Mary E. b. Aug. 8, 1850. m. Stephen Harvey.
82 ix Sarah H. b. Nov. 9, 1853. d.
83 x Susan A. b. Feb. 7, 1855. m. Willis Read. d.
84 xi Joshua T. b. Oct. 7, 1858. m. 1st, Fannie M. Hussey.
2nd, Carrie W. Potter.
- 8 ABRAM NOWELL: 4th son Capt. Peter Nowell.
m. Nov. 29, 1736, Humility Preble.
- 85 i Samuel B. b. 1739.
86 ii Abram. b. 1742.
87 iii Nathaniel b. 1744.
- 9 PAUL NOWELL: m. Mary Nutting.
88 i John Nowell, m. Miss Simpson.
- 88 JOHN NOWELL:
- 89 i Ebenezer. m. Mary Hill, Feb. 24, 1803. b. Apr. 28,
1785. They were buried at Mt. Hope, Sanford, near
the home where 12 children were born and 10 sur-
vived, their average age being 78 years.
- 90 Child
Susan. m. Amasa Wentworth.
Their son was the late Alonzo B. Wentworth of Bos-
ton, Mass. who began a genealogy of the Nowell fam-
ily, part of whose work is included in this paper.
- 10 SILAS NOWELL: m. 1st Hannah Came.
2nd Rachel Wallingford.
daughter of Col. Thomas Wallingford of Dover, N.H.
and Mary Pray of New York, daughter of Joseph Pray
and Mary, dau. of Peter Grant of Berwick. Little is
at present known of Silas Nowell beyond the fact
that he was dead in 1777, according to a vague fam-
ily tradition he was lost at sea. His only known
child is by his second wife -

91

1 Mark. b. Dec. 26, 1762. d. Apr. 3, 1836.

91 MARK NOWELL; was born in York, but probably after the death of his father, his mother removed to Berwick where she had relatives. In the year 1777, he ran away from home and shipped on the "Raleigh" which was then lying in Portsmouth harbor; his mother secured his discharge, but shortly after he ran away again and served both on the "Mercury" and the "Privateer" Gen'l. Sullivan, while returning to America with a prize he was captured and taken a prisoner to Ireland where he remained about a year, and was finally exchanged at the Barbadoes in the West Indies. After his return to America he enlisted in Capt. Mills Company Col. Glovers Mass. Reg't. and later in Capt. Hunt's Company Col. Prescott's Mass. Vol's. The troops with which he served were stationed most of the time in the vicinity of West Point. He witnessed the execution of Maj. Andre, at Tappan, N.Y. in 1780.

In his application for a pension he makes the statement that from the latter part of 1777 until the year 1784, there was not over ten months but what he was in service, either by land or sea. He was honorably discharged at West Point, in 1784, and returned to Berwick, Me. About the year 1789, he married Betsey Parker, b. Aug. 31, 1766. d. Dec. 8, 1834.

He was town surveyor and constable of North Berwick, Me. He and his wife are buried in a small family burying lot near the saw mill of Saml. Buffum, in North Berwick, Me.

91 MARK NOWELL:

92	1	Amos. b. Oct. 2, 1790.
93	ii	Lavina. b. May 10, 1792. d. 1868.
94	iii	Sarah. b. Nov. 13, 1793. d. July 16, 1844.
95	iv	Mark. b. Dec. 21, 1795. d. 1870.
96	v	Silas. b. Jan. 10, 1798.
97	vi	Samuel b. Apr. 24, 1800. d. July 11, 1800.
98	vii	Nathaniel. b. Feb. 25, 1804. d. Dec. 5, 1814.
99	viii	Lydia. b. Feb. 6, 1807. d. 1874.
100	ix	Eliza. b. Meh. 23, 1810. d. 1872.

92 AMOS NOWELL: in Feb. 1814 he enlisted for three years' service in the war of 1812; was wounded at the battle of Plattsburg and was in the hospital at Burlington, Vt., but was never heard from afterwards.

95 MARK NOWELL: married twice, but left no descendants.
At organization of town on April 4, 1831, member
School Committee - Selectmen in 1850.

96 SILAS NOWELL: married Nancy Hatch. Went West in the
fall of '36, emigrated with his family to Lapear
County, Michigan. Remained there about nine years;
then went to Illinois; from there to Missouri in
the spring of 1849, crossed the plains to Cali-
fornia and returned in the spring of 1851. Shortly
after his return his wife became infatuated with
the Mormon doctrines, then a new thing, and in
the fall of 1851 left him and went to Utah with
a party of Missourians; taking the children,
Rachel and Oliver, and also all his ready money
with her. They were then living in St. Joseph,
Missouri. The last thing heard of him is a
letter dated at Allentown, Missouri.

101	i	William
102	ii	Henry
103	iii	Ambrey
104	iv	Rachel
105	v	Salvina
106	vi	Oliver
107	vii	Nancy

93 Lavina. 94. Sarah. 99. Lydia. Never married.
Lived on the old homestead of their father, Mark
Nowell, in North Berwick, Me.

100 ELIZA NOWELL: m. Meh. 4, 1835, Calvin Varney. b. at
Wolfboro, N.H. July 26, 1808. d. Nov. 17, 1893.

108	i	Albert H. Varney. b. Meh. 27, 1836.
109	ii	Charles W. Varney. b. July 30, 1838.
110	iii	Eliza W. Varney. b. Oct. 3, 1841.
111	iv	Edgar C. Varney. b. May 9, 1843.
112	v	Abigail Varney. b. Meh. 1st, 1845. d. y.

111 EDGAR C. VARNEY: m. Alice L. Chase, Lynn, Massa-
chusetts, Aug. 18, 1874. She was born Meh.14,
1856.

113. i Herbert C. Varney.

114 ii Edward C. Varney.

